

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

THURSDAY, 22 AUGUST 1963

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DEATH OF HON. O. O. MADSEN

DEATH REPORTED

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that I have received from the Registrar-General a certified copy of the registration of the death, on 3 August 1963, of the Honourable Otto Ottosen Madsen, lately serving in the Legislative Assembly of Queensland as the member for the electoral district of Warwick.

SEAT DECLARED VACANT

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier), without notice: I move—

“That the seat in this House for the electoral district of Warwick has become and is now vacant by reason of the death of the said Otto Ottosen Madsen.”

Motion agreed to.

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier) (11.6 a.m.), by leave, without notice: I move—

“1. That this House desires to place on record its sense of the loss this State has sustained by the death of the Honourable Otto Ottosen Madsen, former Minister for Agriculture and Forestry and member for the electoral district of Warwick.

“2. That Mr. Speaker be requested to convey to the relatives of the deceased gentleman the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the members of the Parliament of Queensland in the loss they have sustained.”

It is my sad duty to move this motion paying our just meed of tribute to a former member of this Parliament and Minister of the Crown whom we all admired and respected.

The late Otto Madsen, who died on 3 August at the age of 59 years, served his constituents and the State faithfully and well for upwards of 16 years. He had a very long and honourable record of service in this House, having been first elected as representative for the electoral district of Warwick at the general election of 3 May, 1947. He sat continuously in the Thirty-first to the Thirty-sixth Parliaments inclusive.

The late Mr. Madsen was a worthy and eminent citizen of his native Warwick, where he was born in 1904. He was educated at the Tannymorel State School and the Warwick State High School and he lived in the Warwick district for the whole of his life. He was reared on a farm; he loved the countryside and the simple pleasures of life, and there was nothing that he liked more than to go back to his property at Killarney, when he had some time at his disposal.

He had a wealth of practical knowledge and experience of farming practice, which made him the logical choice for the portfolio of Agriculture and Stock on the accession of

THURSDAY, 22 AUGUST, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER (Hon. D. E. Nicholson, Murrumba) read prayers and took the chair at 11 a.m.

COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER
OATH

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that His Excellency the Administrator of the Government has been pleased to issue a commission under the public seal of the State empowering me to administer the oath or affirmation of allegiance to such members as may hereafter present themselves to be sworn, which I now direct the Clerk to read to the House.

Commission thereupon read by the Clerk.

MEMBER SWORN

MR. M. H. THACKERAY

Mr. Mervyn Herbert Thackeray, having taken the oath of allegiance and subscribed the roll, took his seat as member for the electoral district of Rockhampton North.

the present Government to power in 1957. I say without fear of contradiction that no other occupant of the high office of Minister for Agriculture and Stock in this State has had a greater knowledge of the practical side of primary industry. He had an intimate knowledge of its problems, a knowledge he gained the hard way; he gained it through his personal experiences on the land and through suffering the vicissitudes of all the problems associated with agriculture for very many years.

He was particularly well informed on the economics of the dairying industry. In fact, he was one of Australia's leading authorities on that very important industry and before his appointment as Minister of the Crown he had taken a very prominent part in various organisations, not only within the State but also on an Australia-wide basis, associated with the dairying industry and other primary industries. Among the very many leading positions he held were the following: State President of the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation, Vice-President of the Australian Dairy Farmers' Federation, member of the Queensland Butter Marketing Board, member and former executive member of the Queensland Council of Agriculture, director of the Queensland Co-operative Cold Stores Federation, and member of the Australian Dairy Produce Board, of the Australian Dairy Industry Council and of the National Farmers' Union. The wise counsel and leadership that he gave to those organisations over the years made a magnificent contribution to promoting the welfare of those very important industries.

Under the late Mr. Madsen's able and energetic direction there has been a notable expansion in the services provided by the Department of Agriculture and Stock for the man on the land. This came about as a result of his practical knowledge of the needs of the agricultural industry of this State, and that same knowledge that he brought to the administration of the Department of Agriculture and Stock was a definite advantage to the department and to all engaged in primary industry in Queensland.

I think that all hon. members will agree that no more popular man ever sat in this Parliament, and his passing, I feel sure, will be sincerely mourned by all. He was a big man, mentally and physically. He possessed that greatest of nature's gifts—a sunny personality and an amiable temperament; he was incapable of being ruffled or harassed. His was a courtly geniality that invested his personality with a warmth and kindness, refreshing and stimulating all with whom he came in contact. He was, in the literal meaning of the word, a "gentle man".

He had an impressive record of ministerial service to this State. He was Minister for Agriculture and Stock from 12 August, 1957, to 9 June, 1960, and Minister for Agriculture and Forestry from 9 June, 1960, till his resignation on 14 June, 1963. For a short

period, from 9 June, 1960, to 16 June of that year, he also held the portfolio of Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation.

Of Otto Madsen it could be said that he did much for the good of his fellow men. He left his mark on the great continuing story of Queensland's development, and we are the richer for having known him and his work. I feel that all hon. members will join with me in extending to his relatives our condolences and regret at the passing of a great Queenslander.

Mr. DUGGAN (Toowoomba West—Leader of the Opposition) (11.13 a.m.): It is customary for the Opposition to join in motions of condolence. On some occasions it is done because it is the conventional and courteous thing to do, as in many instances the persons to whom respect is being paid were not quite so intimately known to us as they were perhaps to other members. In the case of Mr. Madsen, I think that all present today, with the exception of the newly-elected members, knew him. I was absent from the State when his death occurred and it was not till some days later that I was acquainted with the sad news. I join the Premier in linking the names of Opposition members with those of Government members in expressing sincere regret to the relatives of the late Mr. Madsen.

I knew him better in a personal capacity than through his administrative work. I first came into contact with him when he was attending football matches in which his brother, Mr. Mick Madsen, was an Australian representative. I frequently met him at presentations of cups at football functions, because Mr. Mick Madsen was coach of one of the leading teams, and invariably I was left in a state of great pain for several minutes after shaking hands with him. He was a powerful man. I do not think it irrelevant to mention that his strength and fortitude were demonstrated on one occasion when he played in a test match with 12 boils, I think it was, on his leg.

It was through Mr. Mick Madsen that I became associated with Mr. Otto Madsen, and it was no surprise to me that, when there was a vacancy for a Country Party candidate, he nominated for it, because he had taken a prominent part in the affairs of primary producers for a number of years. He expressed himself temperately, intelligently, and forthrightly on occasions on which it was his responsibility to speak on behalf of primary producers.

He entered this House following the defeat of Mr. Healy, who was secretary of our party, and, apart from the agricultural content of the constituency, the success of the gentleman to whose memory we pay tribute today is possibly due to his having in some measure the qualities possessed by Mr. Healy. He had a very warm personality as well as a very kindly and friendly disposition, and everybody who knew Mr. Madsen enjoyed very much being in his company. He was

not a person who emphasised externally, or indeed in any other way, to my knowledge, the fact that he occupied a very prominent public position. He never presumed on the fact that he was a Minister of the Crown, and at public functions he always had to be pushed forward to speak or to be seen—not that that was very difficult because of his size. He was by nature of a retiring disposition, and I think that all of us who enjoyed his company valued the friendship we had with him.

I think he showed a commendable attitude in this House when introducing Bills. He frequently took the sting out of Opposition criticism by the way in which he introduced a Bill, because he always stated its contents clearly and succinctly and did not provoke any unnecessary controversy. In this place we must expect to be engaged in controversy from time to time, but Mr. Madsen always sought to avoid that unless it was absolutely necessary. However, I do not think he ever neglected to accept a challenge on any really important matter, and he was able to disarm his critics by the gentle way in which he introduced a Bill. He also had that happy knack, which I have seen particularly amongst Ministers of the Crown, of saying that he would deal with a matter later in a debate and, by the manner in which he did it, disarming a critic. I think the Premier would be the first to agree that Mr. Madsen often prevented acrimonious discussion in the Chamber because of the friendly way in which he carried out his duties, particularly when introducing Bills.

The Opposition mourns the passing of a man who served this State faithfully and well. His loss will be recognised by those who benefited from his knowledge. He spoke always with great understanding of the problems of primary industries, and Mr. Madsen, the hon. member for Fassifern, Mr. Muller, and the late Mr. Tom Plunkett, were three of the outstanding leaders of the dairying industry in Queensland. Both before and after they entered Parliament they enjoyed the confidence of primary producers and were representatives on various producers' boards throughout Australia.

On behalf of the Opposition, I join the Premier in expressing our sincere regret on the passing of a man who endeared himself to everybody and who left his mark as a Minister in charge of a very important department for a number of years.

Mr. HARRISON (Logan) (11.19 a.m.): I should like to join the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition in paying a tribute to the memory and the work of our late friend and parliamentary colleague, Mr. Otto Madsen.

I had the privilege of a very long association with him, going back to the very earliest days of field organisations in the dairy industry. It is over 20 years since I first sat with Otto Madsen; we were fellow members of the first State council which was

inaugurated under the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation in 1945, and he belonged to the organisation which preceded that statutory body.

On behalf of the dairymen of Queensland particularly, I want to express gratitude for the work that Mr. Madsen did for them over such a long period as their chief representative here in Queensland and in Australia.

Mr. Madsen was also, as the Premier mentioned, a colleague of mine in the Council of Agriculture. In that capacity he gave tremendous service to all primary producers.

I can remember very well the day in 1947 when Mr. Madsen made his decision to stand for entry to Parliament. I was with him on a deputation and I had to carry on because he had to go back and put in his nomination papers. His subsequent elevation to the Ministry did, of course, give him the fullest opportunity to serve the primary producers of Queensland as well as Queensland itself. In doing that, he earned the respect of all Queenslanders, particularly the primary producers.

As the Premier said—and I know it well—Mr. Madsen had a tremendous love of the land. I do not know anyone who had a wider knowledge of all the facets of agriculture than had Otto Madsen, so he will be long remembered by all Queenslanders, particularly the primary producers, for the very long and faithful service that he gave, and no less for his very genial personality and the way in which he so modestly carried out the very great services which he gave to Queensland.

I want to particularly associate the Queensland Farmers' Association and the Council of Agriculture with the paying of this tribute to our late friend and colleague, Mr. Madsen.

Mr. DIPLOCK (Aubigny) (11.22 a.m.): On behalf of the Queensland Labour Party, I wish to associate myself with the motion before the House and to endorse most sincerely the valedictory remarks of the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition.

Because of mutual private interests I first came to know the late Mr. Madsen about 22 years ago, and in the intervening period I had ample opportunity of observing the high esteem and respect in which he was held by all who knew him. As a Minister of the Crown I found him to be always courteous, and helpful whenever possible. One thing which impressed me always with the late hon. gentlemen was the gentleness of his character as compared with his physical stature. That was I think, one characteristic that earned him a host of friends. Because of his death this House will be the poorer and his electorate has lost a very conscientious representative.

Mr. AIKENS (Townsville South) (11.23 a.m.): On Tuesday Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of your well-merited elevation to the Speaker's chair, there was some desultory talk about the privileges enjoyed by members

of Parliament. I want to say in all sincerity that the privilege I cherish most as a member of Parliament is that of meeting very fine fellows who are elected to this House from time to time. I think it can be truthfully said that many excellent men have been elected to both sides of the House. I suppose that, if a man did not have something to commend him he would not be elected as a member of Parliament, but I want to say that of all the excellent fellows whom I have known, on the Government side, on the Opposition side, and even on the cross benches, there have been few who have impressed me more than the late Otto Madsen.

He was a very big man—big in body, big in mind, and big in heart. While the Leader of the Opposition was speaking I remembered an incident that occurred, I think, just after Mr. Madsen was elected to this Parliament in 1947. I had heard about the Madsens. Being a follower of football I had heard, of course, about the famous Mick Madsen, and I think about the first or second day that the late Otto Madsen was in the House I met him in the corridor just in front of the post office downstairs. At that time Mr. Fred Paterson represented the Bowen electorate. He was walking along the corridor and as he came towards us he began to laugh heartily, which was somewhat unusual for him. When he reached us he said, "I am not laughing at you; I am laughing because I always had the idea that Tom was a very big man, but walking along the corridor talking to Otto Madsen he looks like Otto Madsen's younger brother."

The thing that impressed me most about Otto Madsen was the virtue commented upon by the Leader of the Opposition. It is possible in this House from time to time to have an argument with almost anybody, but although it was possible to debate an issue with Otto Madsen, because of his genial disposition and his gentlemanly approach to every subject that he tackled, it was impossible to have an argument with him. He had a very fine sense of humour. I remember on one occasion after the commercial houses had started to use the slogan that I referred to him as "the large economy-size member for Warwick." No-one enjoyed it more than he did; as a matter of fact, he told the story himself in his own electorate many times.

He was a man of tremendous strength—not only physical strength but mental strength as well. He displayed that on more than one occasion in his office as Minister and here in the Chamber in debate.

The Leader of the Opposition has commented upon the tremendous physical strength of Mr. Madsen's brother, Mick. I had heard a story about the late Otto Madsen, and, as we were very firm friends and never missed an opportunity of meeting here in the House and passing some jocular comments, I asked him whether the story was true because I believed it to be true. I suppose some hon. members have previously

heard the story but it is said that on one occasion Otto Madsen was ploughing on his farm in the Warwick district when a man came along the road in a horse and sulky. He pulled up and called out to Otto Madsen, "I'm looking for a fellow named Jim Henderson. Can you tell me if he lives around here?" The story goes that Otto picked the plough up in his right hand and pointed with it to a house on the hill and said, "That is Jim's place over there." I said to Otto, "Is that story about you true?" He said, "I don't know, but I like to tell it about the fellow who had the next farm."

I am sure that the passing of Otto Madsen is something that we all deeply regret. In all sincerity I should say that the history of this Parliament has been enriched by many of the men who have been elected to it, but I do not think it has been enriched to any greater degree than it was the day when Otto Madsen was elected in 1947. I join with the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, the hon. member for Logan, the Leader of the Queensland Labour Party, and all other members of the House, in this expression of sympathy and sorrow.

Motion (Mr. Nicklin) agreed to, hon. members standing in silence.

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

GOVERNOR'S APPROVAL

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House that on 11 December, 1962, he presented to His Excellency the Governor the amendments to the Standing Orders adopted by the House on 5 December, 1962, and that His Excellency was pleased, in his presence, to approve the same.

VACANCY DURING RECESS

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House, for purposes of record, that Graham Lloyd Hart, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Mt. Gravatt, resigned on 24 January, 1963, and that no by-election was held.

PANEL OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN

Mr. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the requirements of Standing Order No. 13, I nominate the following members to form the panel of Temporary Chairmen for the present Parliament—

William Edward Baxter, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Hawthorne;

Peter Roylance Delamothe, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Bowen;

Eric John Gaven, Esquire, member for the electoral district of South Coast;

Frederick Dickson Graham, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Mackay; and

Allen Maxwell Hodges, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Gympie.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

LEAVE OF GOVERNOR; APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier) (11.30 a.m.): I desire to inform the House that on Thursday, 18 April, 1963, His Excellency the Governor, Colonel Sir Henry Abel Smith, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., D.S.O., left Queensland for the United Kingdom on a period of well-earned leave and it is anticipated that His Excellency will be absent from the State until October next.

By virtue of the powers contained in the Dormant Commission passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, appointing the Chief Justice, or the Senior Judge for the time being, of Queensland, to administer the Government of the State of Queensland and its Dependencies, in the Commonwealth of Australia, in the event of the death, absence or incapacity of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor (if any), issued by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria on the twenty-ninth day of October, 1900, the Chief Justice of Queensland, the Honourable Sir Alan James Mansfield, K.C.M.G., on 18 April, 1963, issued a Proclamation that Sir Henry Abel Smith had departed from the State and that he had taken the prescribed oaths before the Honourable Sir Roslyn Foster Bowie Philp, K.B.E., Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland, and had assumed the administration of the Government of the said State and its Dependencies during the Royal pleasure.

I lay upon the table of the House a copy of the "Government Gazette Extraordinary" of 18 April, 1963, containing the details of this proclamation.

Whereupon the hon. gentleman laid the "Government Gazette Extraordinary" upon the table.

APPOINTMENT OF MINISTRY

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier) (11.32 a.m.): I desire to inform the House that, on Friday, 14 June, 1963, His Excellency the Administrator of the Government

(a) appointed—

The Honourable George Francis Reuben Nicklin,

The Honourable Alan Whiteside Munro,

The Honourable Jack Charles Allan Pizzey,

The Honourable Thomas Alfred Hiley,

The Honourable Ernest Evans,

The Honourable Henry Winston Noble.

The Honourable Gordon William Wesley Chalk,

The Honourable Alan Roy Fletcher,

The Honourable Harold Richter,

The Honourable Alexander Tattenhall Dewar, and

John Alfred Row, Esquire,

to be members of the Executive Council of Queensland;

(b) appointed—

The Honourable George Francis Reuben Nicklin, to be Premier and Chief Secretary of Queensland;

The Honourable Alan Whiteside Munro, to be Minister for Justice and Attorney-General of Queensland;

The Honourable Jack Charles Allan Pizzey, to be Minister for Education and Migration of Queensland;

The Honourable Thomas Alfred Hiley, to be Treasurer and Minister for Housing of Queensland;

The Honourable Ernest Evans, to be Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity of Queensland;

The Honourable Henry Winston Noble, to be Minister for Health and Home Affairs of Queensland;

The Honourable Gordon William Wesley Chalk, to be Minister for Transport of Queensland;

The Honourable Alan Roy Fletcher, to be Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation of Queensland;

The Honourable Harold Richter, to be Minister for Public Works and Local Government of Queensland;

The Honourable Alexander Tattenhall Dewar, to be Minister for Labour and Industry of Queensland;

The Honourable John Alfred Row, to be Minister for Agriculture and Forestry of Queensland.

I lay upon the table of the House a copy of the "Government Gazette Extraordinary" of 14 June, 1963, containing these notifications.

Whereupon the hon. gentleman laid the "Government Gazette Extraordinary" upon the table.

LEADERSHIP OF OPPOSITION

Mr. DUGGAN (Toowoomba West—Leader of the Opposition) (11.33 a.m.): I desire to inform the House that I have been elected Leader of the Australian Labour Party, the hon. member for Kedron (Mr. E. G. Lloyd), Deputy Leader, the hon. member for Maryborough (Mr. H. J. Davies), Whip, and the hon. member for Ipswich East (Mr. J. Donald), Secretary.

PAPERS

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

- Report of the Public Service Commissioner for the year 1962-1963.
- Report of the Public Accountants Registrations Board for the year 1962-63.
- Report of the Police Superannuation Board for the year 1962-1963.
- Report of the Auditor-General under the Supreme Court Funds Acts, 1895 to 1958, for the year 1962-1963.
- Report of the Chief Inspector of Explosives for the year 1962-1963.
- Report upon the operations provided for by Part III.—and to Development of the Financial Arrangements and Development Aid Acts, 1942 to 1947, for the year 1962-1963.
- Seventy-eighth Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

- Statement in connection with the Operations of the Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Fund to June 30, 1963.
- Orders in Council under the Public Accountants' Registration Acts, 1946 to 1954.
- Orders in Council under the Public Service Acts, 1922 to 1960.
- Orders in Council under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Acts, 1938 to 1958.
- Regulations under the Public Accountants Registration Acts, 1946 to 1954.
- Regulations under the Public Service Acts, 1922 to 1960.
- Proclamations under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Acts, 1938 to 1958.
- Proclamations under the Public Works Land Resumption Acts, 1906 to 1955.
- Proclamations under the City of Brisbane Market Act of 1960.
- Proclamations under the Barron River Hydro-Electric Extension Project Act of 1958.
- Proclamation declaring Her Majesty's Assent to the Bill intituled a Bill to amend the Queensland Marine Act of 1958 in certain particulars which had been reserved in 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Criminal Code.
- Orders in Council under the Supreme Court Act of 1921.
- Orders in Council under the Elections Acts, 1915 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Companies Act of 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Supreme Court Act of 1921 and the Companies Act of 1961.

Orders in Council under the Liquor Acts, 1912 to 1961.

Orders in Council under the Queensland Law Society Acts, 1952 to 1962.

Proclamations under the Companies Act of 1961.

Proclamations under the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act of 1962.

Regulations under the Companies Act of 1961.

Regulations under the Money Lenders Acts, 1916 to 1962.

Regulations under the Business Names Act of 1962.

Regulations under the Elections Acts, 1915 to 1962.

Regulations under the Recording of Evidence Act of 1962.

Regulations under the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act of 1962.

Report and Balance Sheet of the Union-Fidelity Trustee Company of Australia Limited.

Regulations under the Apprentices and Minors Acts, 1929 to 1959.

Regulations under the Grammar Schools Acts, 1860 to 1962.

Regulations under the Electrical Workers and Contractors Act of 1962.

Orders in Council under the Grammar Schools Acts, 1860 to 1962.

Orders in Council under the Libraries Acts, 1943 to 1949.

Proclamation under the Electrical Workers and Contractors Act of 1962.

Statute under the University of Queensland Acts, 1909 to 1960.

By-laws under the Harbours Acts 1955 to 1962.

Proclamations under the Queensland Marine Act Amendment Act of 1963.

Proclamations under the Farmers' Assistance (Debts Adjustment) Acts, 1935 to 1945.

Rules under the Queensland Marine Acts, 1958 to 1963.

Regulations under the Co-operative Housing Societies Acts, 1958 to 1962.

Regulations under the Explosives Acts, 1952 to 1961.

Regulations under the Fisheries Acts, 1957 to 1962.

Regulations under the Fish Supply Management Acts, 1935 to 1959.

- Regulations under the Fish Supply Management Acts, 1935 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Land Tax Acts, 1915 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Queensland Marine Act of 1958.
- Regulations under the Queensland Marine Acts, 1958 to 1963.
- Regulations under the Racing and Betting Acts, 1954 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Stamp Acts, 1894 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Workers' Compensation Acts, 1916 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Agricultural Bank (Loans) Act of 1959.
- Orders in Council under the Co-operative Housing Societies Acts, 1958 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Explosives Acts, 1952 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Fish Supply Management Acts, 1935 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Fisheries Acts, 1957 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Motor Vehicles Insurance Acts, 1936 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Racing and Betting Acts, 1954 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Racing and Betting Acts, 1954 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Stamp Acts, 1894 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Stamp Acts, 1894 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Succession and Probate Duties Acts, 1892 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Succession and Probate Duties Acts, 1892 to 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Workers' Compensation Acts, 1916 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Main Roads Acts, 1920 to 1962.
- Report of the Herberston Hospital Commission of Inquiry.
- Regulations under the Nurses and Masseurs Registration Acts, 1928 to 1948.
- Regulations under the Health Acts, 1937 to 1962 (Poisons Regulations, Convalescent Home Regulations, and Cafe Regulations).
- Regulations under the Mental Health Act of 1962.
- Regulations under the Hospitals Acts, 1936 to 1962.
- By-law under the Optometrists Acts, 1917 to 1959.
- Proclamation under the Mental Health Act of 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Mental Health Act of 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Medical Acts, 1939 to 1958.
- Rule under the Medical Acts, 1939 to 1958.
- By-laws Nos. 902 to 914 inclusive under the Railways Acts, 1914 to 1961.
- Order in Council under the State Transport Act of 1960.
- Regulation under the State Transport Act of 1960.
- Report of Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission for year ended June 30, 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Irrigation Acts, 1922 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Water Acts, 1926 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the River Improvement Trust Acts, 1940 to 1959.
- Regulations under the Irrigation Acts, 1922 to 1961.
- Regulations under the Irrigation Areas (Land Settlement) Act of 1962.
- Regulations under the Land Act of 1962.
- Regulations under the Brigalow and Other Lands Development Act of 1962.
- Proclamation under the Lang Park Trust Act of 1962.
- Regulations under the Motor Spirit Vendors Acts, 1933 to 1934.
- Regulations under the Architects Act of 1962.
- Proclamation under the Architects Act of 1962.
- Ordinances under the City of Brisbane Acts, 1924 to 1960.
- Order in Council under the Sewerage, Water Supply and Gasfitting Acts, 1949 to 1960.
- Regulations under the Inspection of Machinery Acts, 1951 to 1960.
- Regulations under the Traffic Acts, 1949 to 1962.
- Regulations under the Inspection of Scaffolding Acts, 1915 to 1960.
- Regulations under the Statistical Returns Acts, 1896 to 1935.
- Orders in Council under the Labour and Industry Acts, 1946 to 1961.
- Orders in Council under the Factories and Shops Act of 1960.
- Proclamation under the Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act of 1962.
- Orders in Council under the Abattoirs Acts, 1930 to 1958.

Orders in Council under the Banana Industry Protection Acts, 1929 to 1937.

Orders in Council under the City of Brisbane Market Acts, 1960 to 1962.

Orders in Council under the Dairy Products Stabilisation Acts, 1933 to 1957.

Orders in Council under the Fauna Conservation Act of 1952.

Orders in Council under the Milk Supply Acts, 1952 to 1961.

Orders in Council under the Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1962.

Orders in Council under the Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act of 1962.

Orders in Council under the Sugar Experiment Stations Acts, 1900 to 1959.

Orders in Council under the Veterinary Surgeons Acts, 1936 to 1946.

Regulations under the Agricultural Standards Act of 1952.

Regulations under the Fauna Conservation Act of 1952.

Regulations under the Fruit and Vegetables Acts, 1947 to 1959.

Regulations under the Fruit Marketing Organisation Acts, 1923 to 1956.

Regulations under the Primary Producers' Co-operative Associations Acts, 1923 to 1962.

Regulations under the Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1962.

Regulations under the Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act of 1962.

Regulations under the Tobacco Industry Protection Act of 1933.

Regulations under the Veterinary Surgeons Acts, 1936 to 1946.

SEQUENCE OF BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The Leader of the Opposition has remarked that it is obligatory on members to be on their feet in time to give notice of private members' motions. I should like to advise the House that it is my intention, as it was during the last session, to call the items of business before I take them. Consequently, when the time arrives for hon. members to give notice of questions I will call accordingly. I will not accept notices of questions until I call for them.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

APPOINTMENT OF MR. K. W. HOOPER

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier), by leave: I move:

"That Keith William Hooper be appointed Chairman of Committees of the Whole House."

Motion agreed to.

DEATHS OF MR. A. E. MOORE AND MR. A. H. WRIGHT

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier) (12.10 p.m.), by leave, without notice: I move—

"1. That this House desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered to this State by the late Arthur Edward Moore, Esquire, a former Premier and member of the Parliament of Queensland; and Albert Henry Wright, Esquire, a former member of the Parliament of Queensland.

"2. That Mr. Speaker be requested to convey to the families of the deceased gentlemen the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the members of the Parliament of Queensland in the loss they have sustained."

I regret that it is necessary to move this motion to honour the memory of two former members of this Parliament who gave of their best during the time in which they were associated with the political life of this State. The late Mr. A. E. Moore—or, as he was so familiarly known, Arthur Moore—who died at the grand old age of 87 on 7 January of this year, was for very many years an outstanding personality in the political and public life of this State. He was born in New Zealand, at Napier, on 9 February, 1876, and served in the Twentieth to the Twenty-eighth Parliaments inclusive. On 22 May, 1915, he was first elected as member for the electoral district of Aubigny, and he continued to represent that electorate till his resignation on 28 March, 1941.

Mr. Moore had a long and distinguished parliamentary career, and his value in the political field was recognised when he was elected Leader of the Country Party in succession to Mr. W. J. Vowles, and later succeeded the late Mr. C. Taylor as Leader of the Opposition on 9 May, 1924. In July, 1924, largely as a result of his personality, he was successful in uniting the two Opposition parties at the time and he became Leader of those two parties under the name of the Country and Progressive National Party.

In May, 1929, he led the Opposition forces to victory at the State general election and became Premier of the State. The accession of that Government to power coincided with the onset of the great depression in the Commonwealth, and, during the period in which he was Premier of this State, he had one of the most difficult tasks that any Premier ever had to face. He faced it with courage, and during his period as Premier, irrespective of the criticism that was levelled at him, he shouldered with considerable fortitude the many difficult tasks that the Government had to undertake during that very trying period in the history of this State.

Although he earned a great deal of criticism during that time, it must be admitted by all that Mr. Arthur Moore did what he considered best for the country at that particular time and carried out those unpleasant tasks with, I repeat, great personal and political courage. Like all other Australian Governments holding office at that time, irrespective of their political colour, the Moore Government suffered at the polls in June, 1932, the penalty of unpopular legislation that had been decided upon, under the Premiers' Plan of 1931, in an effort to rehabilitate the Australian economy.

Following his defeat, Mr. Moore continued as Leader of the Opposition until 15 July, 1936, on which date he resigned from the Leadership and was succeeded by Mr. E. B. Maher, now Senator Maher. Mr. Moore continued as a front-bench debater for the Opposition until his retirement from politics in March, 1941.

It was my privilege to be closely associated with Mr. Moore in what might be described as my apprenticeship in political life. I had, as I am sure did all his contemporaries, irrespective of party, a profound admiration and respect for his sterling character, his genial and kindly personality, and his gift of leadership. I should like to take this opportunity of paying a personal tribute to Arthur Moore for the help that he gave not only to me but also to other new members during the time he was in this House. At all times he was available to any one of us to give the sage advice that he was so capable of giving and the encouragement that was necessary from time to time.

He had those rare qualities of mind and heart that I believe are the mainspring of dedicated purpose. He also had the great gift of forming deep and abiding friendships with men in all walks of life, and although he differed politically with very many people during the course of his long political life, each of them admired his strength of character and resolution of purpose during the time that he occupied a seat in this House, and all would admit that he was a man of resolution and courage, who pursued unwaveringly the course which he believed to be right and proper and just. He was transparently honest in all that he attempted to do and all that he accomplished, and, as the late Forgan Smith would have said of Arthur Moore, he was a "bonny fighter".

He had a type of eloquence peculiar to himself. It could be described as a home-spun, down-to-earth eloquence, which was forthright and unequivocal, and although he could not have been classed as one of the orators of this Parliament, he was always listened to with respect and always made his point with great clarity and determination.

He served his State particularly well in the political field, and he will long be remembered for the service that he gave during the time that he was a member of this Parliament. In addition, he served his

State well as a citizen. Prior to entering Parliament, he played a prominent part in the local-authority field in Queensland, and during the time he was in this Parliament and after he retired he gave a great deal of his time and energy and leadership to such worth-while organisations as the Bush Nursing Association, the Red Cross Association, and others in our State. He did not occupy at any time any prominent official position in the Red Cross; but Arthur Moore, in keeping with his retiring nature, was one of those behind-the-scenes workers who is not found in the front telling others what to do but is found working in the Red Cross stores, packing parcels and doing work of that nature to help that great organisation along. He was also called upon for very many years by the C.W.A. to act as returning officer in its annual elections.

He was a great man, a great Queenslander, and his qualities endeared him to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The late Mr. Albert Henry Wright, whose death occurred on 20 March, 1963, served for six years as a member of this House as representative for the electorate of Bulimba in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Parliaments. He first entered the Legislative Assembly on 12 May, 1923, and served until 11 May, 1929.

Although I did not know the late Harry Wright during the time that he was a member of this House, I know from his record and from what others have said about him that he was a man who did his job well and worked hard for his constituency and for his State. I knew the late Harry Wright rather intimately after he lost his seat in this House, particularly in his association with fire brigade work in this city, and I came into contact with him on very many occasions at the Brisbane Royal National Exhibition, when for many years he was in charge of the fire precautions associated with that great annual event. He was a grand chap personally and a zealous fighter for things in which he believed.

Mr. J. E. DUGGAN (Toowoomba West—Leader of the Opposition) (12.21 p.m.): Fortunately, it is not very often that we are obliged to join in a motion of condolence to an ex-Premier of the State, nor are we afforded the frequent opportunity of paying tribute to an ex-member of Parliament who has lived to the ripe old age of 86 years. It says much for the late Mr. Moore's fortitude, physical strength, and mental stability, that he was so able to survive a period unprecedented in political controversy. In addition, he had problems of internal difficulties within his party, and to engage in active political leadership for so long and also in so many outside activities and still preserve his sense of humour and have his faculties completely unimpaired right to the end speaks volumes for his character.

I had a great admiration for Mr. Moore in his personal capacity. He pursued political policies which it has been proved were engendered by circumstances beyond his immediate control. They were not only Australia-wide, but world-wide problems at that time, and the measures he took apparently were deemed to be necessary at the time by different men in various places in Australia and elsewhere. We on this side of the House did not agree with the particular policies that were applied during the 1929-32 period because we felt that they were accentuating a position that was already bad. Fortunately, the steps that were taken by various people in 1929 had some value in so far as they focussed public attention on them and scored a grievance in the minds of many responsible for implementing and moulding public policy, so that if there ever should be an occasion similar to that which occurred in 1929-32, other steps will be taken to deal with the problem.

Although I could not agree—nor did many of my colleagues agree—with the particular measures that were taken then, we all agree that Mr. Moore was actuated by a great sense of public responsibility and that he felt he was taking action that was necessary in the interests of the State and of the groups that he represented. I do not think anyone would gainsay the fact that he sincerely held to that belief and followed it with great zeal and enthusiasm.

Like the Premier, I did not regard Mr. Moore as an outstanding public speaker, but I did regard him as an outstanding and extremely able debater. There is a distinction between the two; many people can command a great deal of attention from an audience but may not have the ability to marshal the facts and to deal logically with an argument, as a debater can. I found that he was an extremely well-informed man. I have seen many members of Parliament here and I do not know of anyone, including the most successful and outstanding public men and Ministers, who had his capacity during the course of a debate, and whilst speaking, to pick up "Hansard" and turn to a debate that took place 10, 15, or 20 years earlier. He had a gift in that direction which I greatly envied. I saw him on many occasions when speaking get an interruption or interjection, and he would make some expansion on why he was developing his argument in that particular way. While still continuing the debate, he would flick over the pages of "Hansard" and then quite quickly quote the remarks that were applicable to his comments. He was an extremely gifted man in that direction.

Mr. Moore was a man of charming personality. He was engaged in bitter acrimonious political debate during that time and he has perhaps the unenviable distinction of having made it easier for other political parties to get into power and stay in power by the mere mention of his name. "We do not want any more of Moore." I do not use that in an unfair way, but it is one

of the penalties that attach to people at times. The same thing happened with Mr. Scullin, the Labour Prime Minister. He paid the penalty, perhaps, because he was Prime Minister of the Commonwealth at a particular time.

As I say, Mr. Moore was a very gifted man. I recall that when I was first elected to the Ministry he wrote to me. It was typical of the man that he divorced everything disputatious from what he felt to be the courteous responsibility of an ordinary citizen. He was a man who had most of these qualities to a very high degree. I do not think it would be inappropriate to say that he was helped immeasurably during the period of his public life by his wife, who was a very gracious lady. She played a very prominent part in very many public activities, notably in the C.W.A., of which she was, I think, State president. I met her in that and other capacities for many years. They were both prominent public figures for a number of years and in their private capacities they continued to use their abilities for the benefit of the community.

I think the Premier referred to the late Mr. Moore's association with the Anglican Synod, where his judgment was looked to on many occasions. Although I had occasion very often to debate with Mr. Moore I have happy recollections of a very kind man, a man whom I admired very greatly because of his general knowledge. I considered him to be a very well-informed man. The interpretations he would place on certain actions did not always coincide with the views that I and others may have held, but they showed the result of a retentive mind, a capacity to absorb detail, and that he was informed on an extraordinarily wide range of subjects. We are the poorer for the passing of a man of his calibre. He applied himself most diligently to his responsibilities as a member of this legislature. Although I did not agree with the particular policy he pursued, I feel that he acted with more skill than many people of a lesser calibre would have been able to. For his service to the State in his public capacity, which was outstanding, and for his work as a citizen of the community, on behalf of the Opposition I pay a very sincere and fully-deserved tribute to the late Mr. Moore. There is no conventionality about this; I had a profound respect for the late gentleman and for his wife. The Opposition joins most heartily in the sentiments expressed by the Premier and deplores the loss of one who served the community so well for such a long period.

I did not know the late Mr. Wright at all. I have been informed by some of my colleagues who knew him that he was a very sincere, earnest man, who worked hard for his electorate. He was defeated by Mrs. Irene Longman, the first lady to enter this Parliament. Perhaps that will be remembered by most people to a greater extent than other political happenings when a man is

defeated. Mr. Wright was a man who looked after the interests of his constituents in a very sincere and able way. I understand that he had many outside interests which he carried on after his defeat in 1929.

The Opposition regrets the necessity to have motions of this kind, but at the same time it is proper and just that we should pay tribute to men who we feel justly deserve it.

Mr. DIPLOCK (Aubigny) (12.29 p.m.): My association with the late Arthur Moore dates back to the period when he was Premier of this State. At that time I was the head teacher of a school within his electorate. During that difficult period I learned to know the real man he was. He was most generous towards anything connected with the school. I know that many farmers were able to carry on during that period only because of the helping hand extended to them by the late gentleman. The friendship established between us then was maintained until the time of his death. For many years we sat as councillors on the Diocesan Council of the Anglican Church in Brisbane and each month we met our many talks convinced me that Arthur Moore, right up till a month or two before he died, was keenly aware of the interests of his State and his Church. To me, Arthur Moore was a man who never shirked responsibility. His death has removed from our midst a citizen who gave of his best in the interests of the people generally.

On behalf of the Queensland Labour Party, I wish to associate myself with the motion and to endorse most sincerely the valedictory remarks of the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition concerning the two gentlemen to whom it refers.

Motion (Mr. Nicklin) agreed to, hon. members standing in silence.

ADMINISTRATOR'S OPENING SPEECH

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that His Excellency the Administrator yesterday delivered to Parliament an Opening Speech of which, for greater accuracy, I have obtained a copy. I presume hon. members will take the Speech as read?

Honourable Members: Hear, hear!

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Mr. McKECHNIE (Carnarvon) (12.32 p.m.), who was received with Government "Hear, hears!", said: I move—

"That the following Address be presented to the Administrator in reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency in opening this, the first session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament of Queensland:—

'May it please Your Excellency,—

We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislature of Queensland, in Parliament assembled,

desire to assure Your Excellency of our continued loyalty and affection towards the Throne and Person of Our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to tender our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present session.

The various measures to which Your Excellency has referred, and all other matters that may be brought before us, will receive our most careful consideration, and it shall be our earnest endeavour so to deal with them that our labours may tend to the advancement and prosperity of the State."

I thank His Excellency for the comprehensive record of achievement that he has presented to us, illustrating the highlights of a very fruitful year, graced last March by the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip.

Queensland has been fortunate with Governors and Administrators who are not only able men, but have also taken a particular interest in Queensland's problems, both primary and secondary, and have become ambassadors by publicising our State wherever they go. We look forward with pleasure to the return of His Excellency the Governor and Lady May Abel Smith in October.

His Excellency the Administrator drew attention to a sound Budget year, a slightly better surplus than anticipated, railway returns improved by £1,500,000 on the previous year, and a buoyant and expanding sugar industry, which must be exciting for North Queensland.

Development of the Fitzroy brigalow lands is gaining momentum, while 134 landholders have availed themselves of the provisions of the Farm Water Supplies Assistance Act. The Borumba Dam will be completed during this financial year and the Leslie Dam during the following financial year.

On behalf of all the new members of this Parliament, I thank His Excellency for his congratulations.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Premier and his proven Country-Liberal Party Government on the resounding confidence expressed at the polls by the people of Queensland.

And I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on being returned to your high office.

I regret the untimely passing of our dear friend, the Honourable Otto Madsen, with whom I was closely associated through the Queensland Grain Growers' Association, and I trust that his successor, the Honourable John Row, may long and fruitfully remain a member of Cabinet.

As a newly-elected member of Parliament representing the electorate of Carnarvon, I am fully aware of the honour that has been accorded me both by the Premier and by

the Government in being invited to move this motion and in the responsibility with which I have been entrusted. I shall at all times endeavour to maintain the prestige and dignity of Parliament.

Queensland is a vast State, full of opportunity, which, under progressive government, is astir, and the future is a wonderful challenge to progressive people and investors. Many things have been achieved in six years and even greater progress is already developing around us. On behalf of my electors I want to share in that progress and throughout Queensland I desire to play a vigorous part in the development of this glorious State, at the same time not forgetting that I am also an Australian. Within my own electorate of Carnarvon I undertake, with the help of God, to represent every man, woman and child fairly and conscientiously, irrespective of race, creed or political opinion. Prior to my election the electorate of Carnarvon was held for 28 continuous years by the Honourable P. J. R. Hilton, first as an A.L.P. member and of late years as Leader of the Queensland Labour Party. I here pay tribute to Mr. Hilton and acknowledge the sterling service he rendered to his people in Carnarvon during a long period in office. He has always been a very good friend of mine and I am proud to say we remained so during the election campaign, in which I advocated that our preferences should go to him to such good effect that he received almost 100 per cent of Country Party preferences. He can rest assured that I am as strongly opposed to Communism as he is, and on behalf of all members of this House I hope he will be spared for many years to enjoy his retirement.

The Carnarvon electorate is complex, geographically, economically and socially. Without any doubt it has the coldest area of Queensland, comprising Wallangarra and Stanthorpe, requiring special consideration for heating, about which hon. members will hear more from me at a later date. Some of Queensland's highest and most rugged mountains on this eastern end give way to a tangle of ringbarked hills around Gore and towards Texas. Inglewood and Texas are in the broad, open valleys, and westward to Yelarbon and Goondiwindi unfolds some of the flattest and most fertile country in Queensland. It is an elongated electorate, stretching from Wallangarra to Goondiwindi, and it has the most southerly settlement in Queensland, at Watson's Crossing.

Economically, it produces nearly all of Queensland's apples, pears and stone fruit on the Granite Belt. Here also are tin mines, railway workshops and an abattoir, plus a lot of grapes and vegetables.

Tobacco, grapes and lucerne follow the valleys of Macintyre Brook and the Dumaresq River and wheat acreages are rapidly increasing in the western section with large numbers of beef cattle here and in the valleys.

Sheep are in all areas, with some of the best breeding country in Queensland around Goondiwindi, and the highest-priced wethers' wool is produced in the Stanthorpe district.

Gas and oil could extend as far east as Yelarbon, and I hope before too many years to see some of the development that natural gas has brought in America supplying a cheap source of heating and power to this region and so assisting decentralisation, which we so urgently desire. Coal and water have been found deep underground in enormous quantities.

Socially, we are complex, because in the fruit and tobacco areas we would have at least 2,000 people from Southern Europe, mainly Italians. These resourceful and diligent people have met the challenge of their new homeland and have shown an inherent ability to produce wonders on the land. This is most evident in the Stanthorpe and Inglewood districts. Assimilation is no problem, and migrant communities are willingly joining other residents in efforts to better community life and are building a democratic social climate. The International Club at Stanthorpe is a wonderful example of this spirit, and we other citizens are also fortunate in having the chance to learn from these people.

Due to lack of water, the productivity and general confidence in the Inglewood irrigation area had gone into a decline, and in my election campaign I stressed as an emergency item that a major dam must be built on the Macintyre Brook. It was very gratifying that there was such a quick response from this new Parliament in that Cabinet approved the £2.4 million Coolmunda Dam to impound 61,000 acre-feet of water so that in the driest years 9,000 acres can be irrigated past Inglewood to Yelarbon. In his speech yesterday His Excellency said that this approval was subject to the acceptance of the landholders downstream, and that has now been obtained. Seventy-one of the 74 landholders downstream have agreed to accept the water rate and all is now in order to go ahead with the project. I again assure those whose land will be inundated that this Government will pay fair and just compensation, plus a little extra for disturbance.

Realising that water is the key to progress, the implementation of the Border Rivers scheme is ever in my mind. This scheme envisages a large dam on Pike's Creek, southwest of Stanthorpe and above Texas, to store 90,000 acre-feet in its first stage and increasing to 200,000 acre-feet in its second stage to yield an assured supply of 74,000 acre-feet per annum to irrigate 31,000 acres along the Dumaresq River at a cost of £6.5 million, and then, at a later stage, a still larger dam to be built on the Mole River opposite this site in New South Wales to impound 430,000 acre-feet at a cost of £12.5 million to irrigate a further 63,000 acres of land.

The State Governments of New South Wales and Queensland have agreed in principle to this scheme, with the Commonwealth coming in to split the costs three ways. The Border Rivers project is being prepared in detail for the two State Governments to present to the Prime Minister, and prospects look excellent for this project of national importance.

Six weeks ago many of us from both States spent days on the Dumaresq River with the chairman of the Border Rivers Commission, Mr. Young, and his secretary, Mr. Shoults. Only last week, representatives of 17 local authorities from New South Wales and Queensland met in Goondiwindi to further this great project. The enthusiasm and agreement were most heartening and no sense of State rivalry or discord existed.

This local authorities organisation has a broad view of the Border Rivers project and is working for the development of all the tributaries of the Macintyre-Barwon system and the more westerly rivers, such as the Warrego and Paroo, crossing the border from Queensland into New South Wales. The Weir, Moonie, Condamine, Balonne and Maranoa Rivers are also included in the broader scheme, as well as the Gwydir and Macintyre in New South Wales. A good site exists on the Macintyre in New South Wales as it here flows north towards Queensland. A storage there of 300,000 acre-feet, added to the Pike's Creek and Mole River dams, would provide irrigation for over 100,000 acres of land up to and possibly beyond Mungindi.

For the present, however, it is planned to concentrate on Pike's Creek and Mole River dams. The Dumaresq Valley Development League, guided by Mr. Alf. Morton of Texas, has worked tirelessly to this end ever since the Mingoala site was condemned because of bad foundations. One day, under a new French technique, this site may be practical for a flood-mitigation project. Here broken rock and scree extend to a depth of over 200 ft., making foundations too expensive; but the French have developed a technique of pumping liquid concrete into this broken rubble to form a solid base at a fraction of the cost of conventional methods.

It is proposed that the two States share equally the water that passes the Mingoala site, and each will be responsible for the distribution of its share. Besides pumping water direct from the river, two schemes are possibilities for the Queensland side. One is an irrigation ditch from Gibraltar, below Texas on the Dumaresq, 22 miles across country to join the Macintyre Brook at Whetstone, below Inglewood, which will irrigate the dry country between the rivers and boost supplies to the Lower Brook. The other scheme is a diversion from the Macintyre just below Goondiwindi into Callandoon Creek, an anabranch of the main river.

As the Snowy scheme approaches completion the Snowy Mountains Authority is becoming interested in other projects to retain its efficient organisation, and here is a situation involving two States and the Commonwealth with similar political conditions to those under which it is working now.

Last year I spent a week in the Snowy Mountains area. I was very impressed and, naturally, did all in my power to interest the Authority in our Border Rivers scheme, in which it in turn showed considerable interest. We hopefully await the Commonwealth Government's decision.

With the Coolmunda project assured, the towns of Inglewood and Yelarbon can develop, because tobacco will be somewhat restored, grapes and stone fruit developed, more lucerne grown, and crop and/or lot-fattening developed. Also, if 4,000 acres are to be sown to cotton, as the Irrigation and Water Supply Commission suggests, a cotton gin could be established at Inglewood as a start to other processing industries to absorb local employment. With cotton-seed meal, irrigated lucerne, wheat and sorghum for 60 miles to Goondiwindi, the way is open to manufacture stock feeds in an area which not only suffers periodical drought but is the gateway to still drier western country.

When the bigger Border Rivers scheme gets under way we shall see gigantic development in this area, which will lead to all forms of fodder, fruit and meat processing as the forerunner of heavier industries based on natural gas, minerals, and cement. Sawmilling is now important, and the industry looks forward to the reorganisation of forestry.

With this area development, education at all levels becomes even more important. We know that the Government and the Hon. J. C. A. Pizzey and his department are doing a wonderful job in primary and secondary education and that they will continue to do everything to give the country children of this and all other areas opportunities for education as near as possible to those existing in the cities.

Finance is being strained for school bus services to get these children to school, but I feel it should be further extended to help the bus drivers themselves who have operated on unsealed, rough roads without any increase in rates for six years. Theirs is a deserving case and I commend it to the Minister.

Imposing new high schools have been erected at Stanthorpe, Texas and Inglewood, but they are already bursting at the seams for next year's exceptional intake. A new high school has been approved for Goondiwindi and is due to open for the new school year. Incidentally, there are 32 State primary schools in Carnarvon alone. Education, to my mind, embraces research into every industry and the dissemination of that information.

Action has already been taken to enlarge research and extension services in the Stanthorpe district and particular emphasis is being given to the apple, pear and stone-fruit-growing industry on the Granite Belt.

Following the State Government's acquisition of the C.S.I.R.O. Granite Belt research station last year, integration of these services has been implemented and £20,000 is to be spent on new laboratories at the former C.S.I.R.O. station at Applethorpe, to house technical staff. Additional land and irrigation facilities will be added and I am discussing with the Minister for Agriculture and Forestry the possibility of establishing a pilot apple-juice plant, also keeping in mind tomato and grape juices.

The success of the Granite Belt fruit industry is largely due to the resourcefulness of the growers. At the moment Mr. Reg. Anderson, of Granite Belt Cool Stores, and other growers are overseas looking for a solution to the problem of second-grade and hail-damaged fruit. It is ironical that an area that produces from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 cases of apples a year should import processed apples and apple juice and, I trust, between the growers and this Government's efforts some worth-while solution will be found at the source to handle second-grade fruit and prevent its becoming a burden on the market. The solution to hail insurance is tied up with processing and at the same time this area could save Queensland heavy imports of processed fruits from southern States.

In the Gore-Inglewood-Texas area traprock hills and heavy frosts on pastures left over from summer rains cause a shortage of nutrients in the late winter and early spring. There is room here for considerable research into supplementary feeding, trace elements, and the introduction of winter legumes.

Some years ago the veterinary school of the University of Queensland realised that in Brisbane it was too far away from the sheep areas of the State to train its veterinary students, and set up an office and dormitory in Goondiwindi to provide practical experience for them.

This arrangement was a great help to the veterinary students as well as the sheep and cattle industries, both locally and throughout the State. For example, this project, by carrying out field trials, proved that merino ewes drop 160 per cent. of lambs and confirmed it by slaughtering 50 in-lamb ewes, carrying 163 per cent. of lambs. Not an end in itself, admittedly, but it proves that the relatively good shepherd who marks 80 per cent. of lambs is losing as many as he saves, and so we see the enormous scope for improvement and can set out to raise the position, knowing the basic numbers with which we have to work.

At the moment the university has only an office and one veterinary surgeon stationed at Goondiwindi. An ideal set-up would be a small paddock adjoining the town with

an office, laboratory, animal hospital, house for the senior officer, and accommodation for students. The students could rotate between St. Lucia and Goondiwindi so that all could get a turn at practical experience with the animals that constitute Queensland's wealth, instead of having to learn on the cats and dogs of Brisbane and, when qualified, adapt themselves to sheep.

We, in this country, are still pioneers and we are fortunate to be living in such a progressive age when research and endeavour go hand in hand, bringing us such rich rewards. In 1958 the State Government introduced the Farm Water Supplies Assistance Act to help landholders, firstly, with technical advice and, secondly, if the scheme is approved, with financial assistance. Under this scheme 13 orchardists in the Granite Belt have availed themselves of some of the facilities provided. There is considerable scope for this scheme, both on the Granite Belt and in the hills on the western slopes, as well as elsewhere throughout Queensland.

Three electricity authorities operate in Carnarvon, in addition to scores of small private plants. The Southern Electric Authority serves most of the Granite Belt, Tenterfield power serves Wallangarra, while the North West County Council of New South Wales, operating from Inverell, has the franchise for two-thirds of the area of Carnarvon.

Due to a vigorous programme by our State Government, 85 per cent. of the people of Queensland now enjoy the benefits of reticulated electricity in their homes, but, naturally, due to distances, it is becoming more expensive per unit to serve the remaining 15 per cent. This position is further complicated in Carnarvon. The North West County Council of New South Wales cannot arrange finance for its Queensland consumers and recently a deputation waited on the Minister for Electricity, Mr. Evans, and the Commissioner, Mr. Neil Smith, to submit a scheme within Waggamba Shire to serve 150 properties with a line mileage of 395 miles or an average of 2.64 miles per property. A subsidy is provided by the Queensland Government at 33½ per cent. up to a maximum of £400, and with this deducted it would leave each property to provide £1,500. Admittedly it is expensive, but it would be quite a good proposition if the cost could be spread over ten years. We must endeavour to increase the subsidy and formulate a time-payment plan for these areas at least as favourable as that enjoyed by Queenslanders served by our own regional boards. A considerable amount of loan money comes from these areas to finance Southern Electric Authority electricity elsewhere in Queensland.

On the Granite Belt further reticulation is to proceed through Amiens and Bapaume but it is still required by outlying orchardists who need cold storage for their fruit in addition to domestic supplies. It is to be

hoped also that the Southern Electric Authority will extend to the Pike's Creek Dam site and so serve a considerable portion of No. 4 division of the Stanthorpe shire.

The North West County Council will be running heavy power to the Coolmunda Dam site soon, which will give an opportunity to extend power supplies within the Inglewood shire where similar conditions exist as in Waggamba, plus a big increase in power for irrigation.

Two of the main gateways into our State, both for road tourists and road transport, are on Carnarvon's southern boundary. At Wallangarra the New England Highway brings the bulk of New South Wales tourists into Queensland, and I feel that we could give them a much better first impression if we brightened up the border gates region and had a four-lane bitumen approach to the inspection area. Here also the heavy transports from Sydney and Newcastle enter and proceed through the Granite Belt, combining with natural hazards on the Braeside Range to make this piece of highway the scene of more fatal accidents than any other section in Queensland.

The heavy transports from Victoria and big loads of motor-vehicle bodies and industrial goods from South Australia link up at Hay in the Riverina and come up the flat country of inland New South Wales to cross the border into Queensland at Goondiwindi, and then flow along the Cunningham Highway to Brisbane. This is an ever-increasing trade. In places it is dangerously narrow, particularly between Goondiwindi and Yelarbon, with black soil shoulders. Much New South Wales wool and lambs are attracted to Brisbane via this route and so help Queensland's economy.

Here also oil-well supplies from Newcastle and southern tourists going to see the Moonie oilfield cross the border, meeting heavy grain-sorghum consignments for southern destinations coming down the Weir Highway from the Western Downs around Dalby.

Tucked away where Queensland pushes south into New South Wales we have a minor gateway at Texas, the largest town in South-east Queensland, without a bitumen access, paying the penalty of being a remote border town. Long before I leave this Parliament I hope to see Texas linked by a bitumen road with Inglewood, 40 miles away. It is a progressive town and over the past few years has had one of the fastest growth rates in Queensland. It will soon receive part of a new hospital.

I acknowledge the wonderful job done by the Government and the Minister for Main Roads, evidenced by the improvement in roads throughout Queensland, but the increasing demands, particularly by heavy transport, require even more finance and ways must be found. Speaking of road finance, the Minister for Public Works and Local Government made a statement that local

authorities from all sources during the year 1961-1962 had an income of £66,300,000 of which only 27.3 per cent. came from rates. I now submit his figures.

	£ million	Per cent.
Loans	15.5	= 23.4
Works for other bodies and individuals	3.8	= 5.7
Assistance from State and Commonwealth Governments	8.1	= 12.2
Charges for goods and services, including transport and electricity	17.6	= 26.5
Other sources, including revenue from council-owned properties	3.2	= 4.9
Local-authority rates	18.1	= 27.3
	<hr/> 66.3	<hr/> = 100

I submit those figures to hon. members so that they may give them some thought.

The Minister for Housing, the Hon. T. A. Hiley, is having a survey made of the towns in Carnarvon to ascertain the number of homes required, and he assures me that we can supply all the home-ownership units that may be needed as well as some for rental, which will mean considerable growth in those towns.

Dieselation of the railways is progressing into this electorate and improved fruit trains are lifting more fruit and vegetables from the Granite Belt on the main southern line, while the strengthening of the south-western line is allowing diesel engines to run as far west as Goondiwindi, resulting in faster stock trains.

Raw materials at cement mills at present being worked by a Brisbane fertiliser firm and served by rail are the basis of a cement industry, with plenty of gravel and rock to supply construction needs here and westwards. The increasing demand from the oil wells for cement will be intensified when the exploration companies find the second field which they are convinced must be in the vicinity of Moonie. Tin on the Granite Belt and silver-lead at Silverspur, near Texas, are separated by a tangle of mountains still awaiting intense geological exploration.

When natural gas is used for power these developments will link with fruit and grain-processing and abattoirs fed by stock from irrigated lands to make this part of Queensland a prosperous and balanced primary and industrial area, employing a large work force and attracting and absorbing more than its share of migrants. So we can contribute to decentralisation and, no matter how hard we work to spread our population over Queensland, Brisbane will still grow too big for its own or Queensland's benefit in the years ahead.

Price stability is working very well in our great wheat and sugar industries and there is need to work for some stabilising schemes in our fruit, tobacco and wool industries.

The wool industry should soon be able to work out its own destiny as the basic facts are known and the industry is reasonably well organised. Most importantly, there is a market for all wool, even the worst of it. In the case of tobacco and fruit, the lower grades are either not wanted or else used to depress the market. Also, they are more local and more susceptible to seasonal conditions and, in the case of tobacco, bought by a very limited number of processors, and, where competition is limited, violent market fluctuations must occur. With apples, increasing cold storage has solved some of these fluctuations, but with both these industries I want the opportunity to study them closely elsewhere, both in Australia and overseas, later, if time and finances permit.

In fact, I want to know Queensland much better in many fields and I look forward to an opportunity to see Mt. Isa, Weipa, Comalco, the brigalow lands, the various dams and irrigation projects, beef roads, and electricity generation and distribution, and indeed all the great schemes our progressive coalition "Country-Liberal Party Government" is energetically pursuing, sometimes of its own account, and sometimes with appreciated Commonwealth assistance.

Nor do I forget the study of educational facilities and humanitarian services, police, transport and administration.

Likewise I also look forward to Cabinet meetings within my own electorate of Carnarvon to bring home to Cabinet the needs and possibilities of this area and to enable the people to see the Government in action and to realise that it is, after all, as much their Government as anyone else's. Cabinet has done a wonderful job of building up confidence and good will throughout Queensland with these country meetings. In fact, the Labour Government of New South Wales has been so impressed that it has now followed suit.

Wise land settlement is the basis of prosperity and good government. In this subject I am very interested. However, at present I do not want to discuss land in detail, but I should like to see those settlers who were put on substandard blocks under the 1952 Land Act assisted by being granted additional areas and pieces of redundant reserves and stock routes.

Land ballots I should like to see as open as possible but I realise that the Fitzroy brigalow lands require the entire Government loan of £24,000, plus about £18,000 of private money, to get necessary results. The department stipulates that the new selector must command £12,000 and the Government has been criticised for the large amount required so that few people realise that the man himself may have as little as a few hundred pounds.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I again express my appreciation to the Premier and the Government for according me the honour of moving this motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Administrator, and I take this opportunity to thank Opposition and Independent members for the good hearing they have given me.

Honourable Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. LICKISS (Mt. Coot-tha) (2.25 p.m.): It is with pleasure that I second the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply so ably moved by the hon. member for Carnarvon. I join with him in expressing loyalty and affection towards the Throne and Crown of our Most Gracious Sovereign, and also in tendering thanks to His Excellency for the speech with which he has been pleased to open the present session.

The address of His Excellency details the splendid record of the Government and gives expectation of things to come, and the hon. member for Carnarvon has commented on several aspects of progress and performance of the Government. The people of Queensland are obviously aware of the quality and sincerity of this Government, having recently re-elected it with such a resounding majority for a further term of office.

I should like to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to my predecessor in Mt. Coot-tha, Ken Morris. A tireless servant of this State, he had the capacity to adhere to a task even in the face of adversity, and when one now views in retrospect the public outcry against his efforts to streamline the movement of traffic in this city and has the result of now enjoying the benefit of such reform, I feel that I would be only one of the very vast majority who are pleased that he passed this way and left his mark, not only in this field of public administration but in others, too. I thank also the electors of Mt. Coot-tha for the confidence placed by them in me, and I assure them of my sincerity of purpose in the execution of my public office.

I should like to address myself briefly to two matters which not only directly affect the electors of Mt. Coot-tha but are important also to all sections of the community. I refer firstly to the matter of the valuation of land as established in accordance with the Valuation of Lands Act of 1944, as amended. Time will not permit me to cover this subject as adequately as I would desire, and I trust that a subsequent opportunity will present itself to enable me to do so. I limit my remarks at this point of time to the matter of "invisible improvements".

Hon. members will know that the role of the Department of the Valuer-General is to determine, in accordance with the Act, the unimproved value of land for specific purposes. As the term implies, "unimproved land" means land without any improvement. The improvements fall into two categories, namely, visible improvements and invisible

improvements. "Visible improvements" means, for the purpose of this exercise, roughly those structural improvements readily seen with the eye. "Invisible improvements" refers to those improvements which tend to merge gradually with the land in time and eventually become virtually indistinguishable from the land.

In practice it has become apparent to valuers that with the effluxion of time the invisible improvements become increasingly difficult to determine, and thus to value. It is important to remember that very little land today remains completely unimproved. It is also contended that the allowance in the valuation for invisible improvements indefinitely defeats the main aspect of such valuation made under this Act in that equity is not preserved as between owner and owner. Hon. members will appreciate the necessity for the preservation of this principle.

I believe that the time is opportune to consider the merging of certain invisible improvements with land in such a way as to (1) not create any hardship; (2) preserve equity as between owner and owner; and (3) not penalise an owner who has effected improvements to his land. To facilitate this intention, I would follow to some extent the action taken in New South Wales. The term "site improvements" has been incorporated in the definition of "unimproved value" to be excluded as improvements.

"Site improvements" means under the New South Wales Act—

(a) The reclamation of land by draining or filling, together with any retaining walls or other works appurtenant to the reclamation; and

(b) the excavation, grading or levelling of land, not being works of irrigation or conservation.

It is obvious that "timber treatment," which is in fact an invisible improvement, has been disregarded for this purpose in the Act. This, I believe, is wise at this point of time, as its inclusion could adversely affect rural areas in cost of production.

I would suggest that we could provide an additional qualification by allowing in such a proposed amendment the following—

A specified period of time after which the invisible improvements will be considered to have merged with the land, for example, seven years, or on the change of ownership by sale, whichever occurs first.

This action would compensate an owner for effecting such improvements. In suggesting this proposition I believe that it will improve the concept of valuation and will be in the interests of all.

I feel it is my duty to strike one note of warning, as I believe that time will demand that timber treatment and certain other invisible improvements affecting rural lands will ultimately have to be considered similarly.

I am also of the opinion that the time is now opportune to consider legislation to provide for the registration of valuers. I feel that this action is warranted for the protection of the public and the Government to ensure that this very important and necessary function is performed by competent persons. New Zealand and Victoria have such provisions, and I am advised that New South Wales is considering a similar measure at this point of time.

The second matter to which I would refer briefly is that concerning certain principles which I consider should be followed with respect to the implementation of the Town Plan. I believe that it is important when consideration is being given to the implementation of such plans to ensure that individual hardship is relieved. It is generally accepted in such a plan that some individuals will benefit by the enhancement in value of their properties. It is generally agreed that if any planning is worth while the community generally will benefit. It is further accepted that in such schemes some individuals must be adversely affected.

Whilst I accept the first two premises, I do not accept the premise that individuals must be adversely affected, at least in a financial sense. I contend that the community at large which benefits from a Town Plan should be responsible for compensating the minority which has suffered in order for the plan to be implemented. Affected landowners with developed or undeveloped land should not have land "frozen" for any prolonged period, especially when such land is shown zoned for a public purpose. Such owners should not be made to bear any burden or loss for the community's benefit, and compensation—just compensation—where applicable, should be provided expeditiously or the land released to its former purpose.

I think all hon. members will agree—even if those from the opposite side of the Chamber may be a little reluctant with their agreement—that the speech of His Excellency opening this Parliament demonstrates conclusively that the era of Queensland's development has now commenced. After many long, depressing years when this House heard so much empty talk about this State's potential (but nothing of note ever happened) there were many Queenslanders who were feeling that in this matter of development we would be always a bridesmaid but never a bride. However, the winds of change have blown strongly since this Government took office in 1957 and the record of achievement is already there for all to see, with the dazzling array of great projects already begun or about to commence, making it clear to all but those determined not to see anything that gives cause for optimism and enthusiasm that Queensland is now set for a glorious future.

To say that this is important is, of course, a poor understatement. It is important to every Queenslanders, yes; but it is also of vital importance to every Australian. The

magnificent vista of huge development that now confronts Queensland is of vital importance to every man, woman and child in this vast continent, whether he or she lives in Melbourne, Perth, Alice Springs, or Hobart.

Why? Because Australia is one nation, not merely a collection of separate States. We are Queenslanders, yes, but we are also Australians. This is something we must particularly bear in mind in these troubled times, when Australia, this great island-continent which is a bastion of the Western world on one rim of the Pacific, stands threatened by a rising tide of Communist aggression from the Soviet, from China, and from those satellite States whose policies are a reflection of this menacing Red imperialism.

Queensland's development, then, is also Australia's development. It is development in the vital north of Australia where many envious eyes are focussed on our land and watch to see what we are going to do with our vast heritage.

Now, this matter of northern development has become one of the great issues of our time, and we can expect that it will remain a great issue for many, many years to come. What I have to say on this vital subject may surprise some hon. members; it may even startle some. I do hope it will make all hon. members think a little more deeply about it, for this is a matter on which it is all too easy to become hypnotised by some sing-song chant of "Let's have development of the North", without thinking of what sort of development, for what purpose, and how we get the people who will be essential to prosecuting any development of any sort at all.

I honestly believe that a strong emotional fervour has been built up over the last couple of years for the development of Australia's north. Nobody ever explains the development in detail, but the same theme of "Develop the North" is plugged and plugged, and everybody feels that this is good, this is desirable; indeed, this is fine and patriotic, so let us support it; let us all get on to the band-waggon and join in the wild cry, "Develop the North."

Whilst this feeling persists, naturally few public men who have some misgivings will come out into the open and say what they think. It is always much easier, and much more pleasant, to swim with the current than to swim against it. But it is not only the responsibility of a member of this House, it is also his duty, to stick to facts as he sees them.

I hope that, from what I have said, hon. members are not expecting that I will now declare myself against development of the North. Obviously, anyone who has that impression has not been paying real attention to what I have been saying. But just to make sure that I shall not be criticised for what I did not say, let me set the record straight here and now. I am utterly dedicated to the proposition that development of

Australia's north and Queensland's north, is vital to our present and our future well-being, and I pledge myself here and now, on this solemn occasion of my first contribution to debate in this Chamber, that I will do all within my power to promote proper development.

But what is proper development? Let me make it equally clear that, at this point, I get off the popular band-wagon. I say flatly and unequivocally that all my study, all my own personal experience, all my knowledge gained from chairmanship and membership of the Liberal Party's rural committee, convinces me that proper development of the north is much more than a matter of screaming to the Commonwealth Government for unknown millions of pounds to spend on spectacular but futile projects which sooner or later must blow up in our faces.

This type of developmental plea I reject with scorn. It is unworthy of good Queenslanders and decent Australians. To try to delude people that northern development merely hinges on the release of millions of pounds is a shabby confidence trick. Much, much more than money is necessary for northern development that will endure and grow and make us a wealthy State and a mighty nation. Of course, money is important, and I am confident that when we are ready with soundly based economic projects, we will get the money. But, as philosophers and poets have pointed out through the ages, money is not everything. In the course of proper development of our vital North it may well prove the least of the ingredients we must provide.

What are the reasons for developing Northern Australia? Possibly the main reason given for advocating northern development appears to be in relation to defence and security—one can be forgiven for thinking also that political gain and personal prestige have prompted certain statements on this subject. The theme, therefore, is either that the empty spaces are a temptation to a possible invader, or would help an invader, or that the failure of Australia to use the northern areas can be seized on by our neighbours to the north as a ground for persuading some unspecified body to force Australia to hand over the unused land. Neither of these arguments is valid. Trained armies, navies and air forces with appropriate weapons stop invaders, and these trained forces need not reside on the land to be invaded during pre-service days.

With all the requirements of modern war to be transported overseas it would most likely help, not hinder, an invader to have food, housing and water in settled areas.

Settlement of this kind usually envisages in "development" plans intensive cultivation of small areas using a maximum of labour. This form of development is well known to our northern neighbours and could cause envious eyes to look in that direction (if

such development were successful). It is such intensive settlement for which they are best suited, and for which Australians have no advantage.

On the other hand, Australians have shown that they can cultivate or grass large acreages. Asiatics are not capable of using land of low fertility and low, erratic rainfall. Their agriculture is based on intensive irrigation for rice and vegetable crops, and they rarely develop a pastoral type of agriculture which is the only kind that can be successfully used across Queensland and the Northern Territory. Indeed, Thailand has arranged for an Australian agricultural research unit to study the problems of the Mikong Valley, and India looks to other countries, including Australia, for guidance on grassland research and animal nutrition.

I believe that Australia is foolishly providing political ammunition for the Asiatic leaders to use against her. I believe that a realistic assessment of the position is desirable without delay.

The most acceptable reason for development of Northern Australia is that there are unused or partially used resources—specifically land resources—which, if more intensively developed and used, would result in the raising of the standard of living of those engaged in such pursuits and contribute to the raising of the standards of living of others firstly, those living nearby, secondly, those living in the State, thirdly, those living in other parts of the Commonwealth, and eventually, of people throughout the world. In practical terms this can be achieved only by using the resources to produce the requirements of others for which there is a ready and economical market.

I therefore believe that the establishment at this stage of any authority which would have power beyond Governments to say, "We will do this" or, "No, we won't do that", is premature. It would not be in the best interests of the North and could well react against those interests and also become a considerable embarrassment to State and Federal Governments of the future.

The first thing is to find essential answers to some vital questions. What kind of development do we envisage for the North? What production is anticipated from this development? And, the paramount consideration of all, where do we find the markets on which to sell this anticipated production? Merely to produce for the sake of producing, or to gratify the vanity of some particular political clique, is a shoddy sort of device. We have seen this sort of thing happen before, with tobacco-growers and the like.

Production that is not geared to markets becomes merely a painful stumbling from one crisis to another, with the Australian taxpayer footing the bill. This sort of development is not development at all; it is regression, for instead of enlarging the national well-being it reduces it, and so

instead of growing in strength we are weakening ourselves. Subsidies and artificial protections may be necessary to protect some established industries, but to start something on this basis, to me, is poor statesmanship.

Much has already been done in regard to finding data and doing field work on the problems of the North, on its potential for a whole range of purposes, and on the particular problems the North poses. I believe then that we should collate all the existing data and find out any new facts that can assist us in doing this vital task properly. In fact, I would recommend the establishment of a Commonwealth Government-sponsored committee of inquiry to make recommendations to the respective State and Federal Governments on the agricultural and industrial development of the North.

It is indeed pleasing to note from His Excellency's address that market research is being undertaken, and I trust that this will become firm Government policy prior to the implementation of any developmental scheme. If the term "development" is to mean production of goods, then in the Western countries this would be mainly the responsibility of individuals, firms, and companies; in other words, production in a free-enterprise system. In my view, the role of Government in facilitating such development could be detailed as follows:—

- (1) Making available to the individuals, firms and companies the land and other resources coming within governmental control, and in Queensland that obviously includes the opening of Crown land to private ownership.

- (2) Providing in the opening up of such land such reasonable terms and conditions as to encourage its optimum use; in tenure up to freehold, with prior developmental conditions to ensure development, but with the strongest incentive and attraction for employment of private capital.

- (3) Providing such facilities as schools, hospitals, roads, means of communications—telephone and radio—to encourage individuals to settle with their families comfortably in such areas.

- (4) The major development in Northern Australia—excluding for the moment mineral development—is in grazing and it is suggested that research and extension facilities so necessary could be greatly assisted by the establishment of a faculty of agriculture and a faculty of veterinary science at Townsville with the least possible delay. In fact, it appears desirable that a full university should be established at Townsville with provision for the two faculties mentioned to be provided next year.

I should say that, contrary to commonly held beliefs, the type of developmental expenditure required in Queensland is, I believe, only to a limited extent, the kind which, at this point of time, calls for large engineering works and heavy capital expendi-

ture. There is always a clamour in this country for large spending on dams, but the construction of large irrigation schemes at high capital cost for engineering works may not be the best way to use the national capital. I would suggest that before any irrigation project can be justified there are many considerations apart from engineering and the mere storage of water such as—

(1) Is the dam storing water for land that is capable of irrigation?

(2) What crops can be grown and, if grown, what markets are available for them?

The Burdekin is an excellent example of the contradictions in a big scheme. It is a river system where large storage is possible—from three to four million acre-feet. But the soils below the dam are so impermeable to water that they cannot be used to grow irrigated crops. This is due to their high salt content. The only irrigable soils of the Burdekin not already irrigated from underground water are the narrow levee banks such as at Clare and Millaroo. The total area of these levee banks amounts to a few thousand acres, and I think it is most doubtful if this could possibly justify the building of the largest dam in Australia. In my view a much better use of private and national capital would be to develop the resources of our better rainfall area for beef production through pasture improvement and cropping.

In Queensland there is a total area of approximately 190 million acres on which pasture improvement is possible, and of this nearly 70,000,000 acres are north of the Tropic of Capricorn, with an annual rainfall of 25 inches or more. What I must stress is that we are not using this country to its present rainfall potential; in other words, we can increase production very greatly without irrigation. Indeed, irrigation would not economically improve production even if the water were impounded because the real barrier to production is low soil fertility and not lack of rainfall. Basically, nutrition is our problem.

Recently it has been brought to my notice that the carrying capacity of a spear-grass pasture can be increased nearly five-fold and the beef production increased nine times by pasture improvement using fertiliser and legumes.

The action of the Federal Government in granting a subsidy of £3 a ton for superphosphate is to be commended. This will stimulate the use of this fertiliser in Queensland. Our soils in Queensland, with the exception of the black soils and the brigalow soils, are deficient in both phosphate and nitrogen, and, when these fertilisers are used, remarkable increases in beef production follow.

The use of superphosphate with legumes for pasture improvement is now profitable in Queensland, but the cost of nitrogen

fertilisers is too high except for sugar-growing. I think this position should be investigated with a view to finding out why nitrogenous fertilisers are too costly for use by the agricultural and pastoral industries of this State.

Six-sevenths of all cattle in Queensland (that is approximately 6,025,000 out of approximately 7,100,000) are grazed on the country with rainfall between 20 inches and 40 inches a year. This is the country on which pasture improvement is possible without irrigation—relying on natural rainfall alone. As 85 per cent. of the cattle are in this better-rainfall country, the greatest potential increase in production is to be sought here. In particular, one must stress the fact that increasing beef production requires, first and foremost, an increase in the number and fertility of breeding cows. I think that it is important to realise that this point is vital.

Crop-fattening, lot-feeding, and fattening on irrigated pastures will increase the beef turn-off, but only pasture improvement will increase the breeding herds at one and the same time.

The Government should continue to do everything possible to encourage the development of pastures and crops, and I am confident that it will.

In the matter of irrigation and water conservation, the Farm Water Supplies Assistance Act, sponsored by this Government, and, I note with interest, scheduled for attention during this session, is an excellent appreciation of our requirements in rural production at this point of time. I believe the provisions under this Act could be extended to advantage.

Sensible land administration, the establishment and furthering of research and extension services, and the establishment of facilities conducive to development, on the one hand, and the initiative, resources and adaptability of Australians on the other, will, I feel sure, establish a partnership that will economically develop our resources and will set such an example in production to the peoples of the world that they will endeavour to emulate our efforts on their own lands, rather than to threaten our occupancy of this vast area.

It would be remiss of me not to record with appreciation the consideration of our Federal colleagues in assisting financially with our developmental needs. I feel confident that economically-planned developmental projects designed to materially assist the nation's economy will meet with the desired consideration and assistance.

In conclusion, I should like to thank hon. members for the courtesy they have paid in their attention to my first speech in this Chamber. I fully recognise that, as a newcomer, I have much to learn, and all members will find me ready and eager to learn; but, like all members, I do not come to this Parliament without some background,

and it is my earnest hope that this preliminary experience and training can be of some little value in the development of this great State of Queensland.

I do earnestly hope that we will put aside petty plans and selfish aims when we think of essential development. Names on foundation stones or brass plates affixed to walls may serve to gratify someone's vanity, but they may mean little unless the structures that they adorn will be of real benefit to us, to our children, and to our children's children. That is the real test in all our thinking on planning and development: what will it achieve now, and in the future?

In that thinking we must all follow our own conclusions. For my part, I can assure the House that I shall always remember that I am a Queenslander, but that as a Queenslander I am also an Australian.

Debate, on motion of Mr. Duggan, adjourned.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Hon. A. W. MUNRO (Toowong—Deputy Premier): I move—

“That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until Tuesday next at 11 a.m.”

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 2.58 p.m.
