

### VOTES ON ACCOUNT.

The House went into Committee of Supply for the further consideration of the motion of Sir Henry Bolte (Premier and Treasurer) that a sum not exceeding \$194.675 million be granted to Her Majesty on account for or towards defraying services for the year 1972-73.

**Mr. GUY (Gisborne).**—I have had some time now to examine the Supply schedule closely—perhaps an hour and a half too long—and I have also had the opportunity of listening to the debate which has taken place in this House. I am glad of that, because it has made me much more aware of the far-reaching implications of the Budget.

As all honorable members know, the Budget is a reflection of Government policies and sets out the priorities of various activities. It affects every Government department and, perhaps more importantly, it affects every citizen of this State. Although probably it is not an original observation, I believe that at present Victoria stands on the threshold of a new era. I think the State is about to develop a new and very important growth pattern, which will be controlled by many of the departments to which reference is made in the Supply schedule.

At the outset, I should like to refer to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, which is not mentioned in the schedule, because that instrumentality holds the key to the points I wish to make in my speech. The board's idealistic planning for the development of Melbourne over the next 30 years reminds me of a quotation from a young French revolutionary some years ago. He said—

Let us be prepared to die for our political and social ideals, but never let us be prepared to sacrifice our intelligence.

I hope the Board of Works will never be asked to sacrifice its original intelligent concept in planning the growth of our capital city.

In common with other honorable members, I have received representations concerning the Board of Works plan and many objections to it. Those people would prefer to see the board die for its ideals, but I believe Parliament has an obligation to see that those ideals are fulfilled.

The hopes and dreams of everyone in the electorate I represent rest upon the funds which will be made available, and, in view of that, I suppose the first question to be asked is, "Where is the necessary finance to be obtained to enable the scheme of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to be implemented and reach fruition?"

I now refer to Divisions 510, Local Government; 522, Town and Country Planning Board; and 666, State Development. My constituents are concerned about the future development of this State and of their own electorate. Werribee, for example, is certain to become the spearhead of Victoria's development to the west, and the people of that area are asking how the necessary funds can be provided. In addition, the concept of a satellite City of Sunbury must become a reality. It is also necessary for Melton to be developed as a true, relaxed, planned environment, as I believe the Keilor-Epping areas and other areas should be developed in the near future. To achieve this development large sums of money will be required. The healthy growth of such areas will enhance conservation in the Macedon ranges and the prospects of Kyneton and other areas being successfully developed in the future. Even though they are not included in the board's plan at present, those areas will feel the effects of development in a very real way.

As I have posed the question of finance and the problems associated with obtaining it, perhaps I have an obligation to make a suggestion about a means of obtaining additional funds. From my experience

overseas I know that many countries impose various forms of taxation which are over and above that which is normal; the surtax which is imposed in Great Britain is one example. Although I consider that method of raising finance should be avoided in Australia, I cannot think of any other way in which a levy can be imposed to finance our futuristic ideas.

When I drive out of this thriving metropolis each night, I see the Tullamarine airport which, virtually, is the gateway to my electorate; in fact, it could be called the gateway to the whole of Victoria. At the present time the airport is working well below its full capacity, and I am sure that all honorable members would wish to see it working at its full capacity. I believe there are various ways in which this objective can be achieved.

I should now like to refer to two articles which recently appeared in the press. The first is from the *Australian* of Saturday, 18th March, 1972, and is headed, "U.S. airline receives approval on charters" — that is now history — and the second is from the *Herald* of Saturday, 18th March, 1972, and is headed "Sydney may get \$2 million on flights". From the articles it is evident that Sydney is to receive the benefits of additional charter flights which have been approved by the Department of Civil Aviation, and I think that is setting a dangerous precedent. Although honorable members may think that I am premature in making that assessment, I feel very strongly about it. The Minister for State Development also feels strongly about it, and, with his colleagues in other States, he has made representations to many organizations all over the world in an effort to develop our tourist industry. The Government should act as speedily as possible in an effort to enable tourists to visit this State in order that we may share in the benefits which can be expected.

Mr. Guy.

The entry of charter flights is a new concept which will have a tremendous impact on the important industry of tourism. Although Victoria may not now have the facilities for tourists that New South Wales has, they can be developed. I know of at least four international organizations in the electorate that I represent which are extremely interested in developing tourism and are prepared to invest substantial sums of money to do so. I am sure that many other companies and institutions are equally as enthusiastic. The doors have opened, and I look forward to the day when Tullamarine will be choked with aircraft bringing visitors into Victoria and taking them home again.

Tourist attractions are commodities which can be sold and yet retained and sold again. The people of Victoria must benefit substantially. The expansion of the tourist industry will require the expenditure of large sums of money, but the larger our expenditure, the greater will be our return.

The benefits of tourism have been demonstrated all over the world. This industry, which is virtually untapped in Australia, has made countries which were close to bankruptcy comparatively wealthy; in fact, in countries such as Spain this has been their salvation. It is an industry which virtually decentralizes itself. For quite a long time we have all been under the weight of the word "decentralization" and the problems associated with it, and we all have ideas on what should be done to overcome the problem; but I am certain that tourism will provide employment in needy areas and greatly ease the problem of decentralization which has existed for such a long period.

In conclusion, I express the opinion that future Budgets and the growth of Victoria and of Melbourne, will depend upon the two new concepts

to which I have referred—firstly, the 30-year plan of the Board of Works and, secondly, the growth of international tourism. I hope those ideals may be realized together, for if they are our State is sure to prosper.

**Mr. WILTON** (Broadmeadows).— I congratulate the honorable member for Gisborne on his maiden speech. I am certain that honorable members generally were pleased to hear his comments. I was particularly interested in his remarks on tourism and I agree with him that it is very much an untapped industry which decentralizes itself. I hope the Government will take a much more enlightened interest in this industry, because its potential is boundless.

However, the Premier and Treasurer will have a responsibility to ensure that he is much more vigorous and determined in his approaches to the Commonwealth Government in seeking aid for this industry and to point out that under present taxation laws most of the wealth that this industry can engender into the economy should go to the State Treasury and not into Commonwealth funds. If the honorable gentleman does not adopt a more vigorous approach the States will be left lamenting, as they have been in the past. I am convinced, as a result of examining the actions of Liberal Governments both in Victoria and in the Commonwealth, that the States will be expected to meet the costs that the honorable member for Gisborne referred to in ensuring that the tourist industry is properly and adequately developed. Despite this, the Commonwealth Government will reap the monetary rewards. Unless there is a clear understanding between the Commonwealth and the States on how the revenue derived from the tourist industry is to be shared, the States will again miss out.

Many precedents could be cited to convince the Commonwealth Government that it has an obligation to

the States in reaching agreement on this subject. Other States have received substantial financial assistance from the Commonwealth Government for tourism and it seems that a political crisis which affects the Commonwealth Government has to develop in a State before the Commonwealth Government takes action. What happened in Queensland immediately after the 1961 Federal elections is a classical example. Those elections were disastrous for the Liberal Party and as a result there was a tremendous flow of finance from the Commonwealth to Queensland for a variety of public works that were of long-standing benefit to Queensland. Of course, the Queensland Government was happy to be in that situation and at the time the Victorian Premier and Treasurer made some unflattering comments about his Federal colleagues.

When he introduced the Supply schedule, the Treasurer devoted a considerable amount of time to informing the Committee of what had transpired at the recent Premiers Conference in Canberra. The honorable gentleman quoted figures which showed that the Commonwealth Government, and particularly the Prime Minister, were prepared to do practically anything to make additional finance available to the States and to indicate how it should be spent. I join with the Leader of the Opposition in taking issue with the Treasurer on this point because the Government has not shown that it is sincere in its attempts to alleviate current unemployment. All too frequently the Treasurer and his Cabinet colleagues use the argument that the difficulties confronting this State can be laid at the door of the trade union movement. In adopting this attitude members of the Government are closing their eyes to the actions and directions of the Government which contribute far more to the inflationary problems that are besetting Victoria and Australia.