

In 1969 the Metropolitan Transportation Study forecast that by 1985 the commuter parking demand at Glen Waverley would be for 844 car spaces. That forecast assumed that the construction of an additional rail link from Huntingdale to Fern Tree Gully would be completed. If that rail link is not proceeded with, then by 1985, in nine years' time, accommodation will be required at Glen Waverley station for 1,080 cars.

The problem is very real. This station services an area which has experienced and is still undergoing rapid growth. People moving into the area have shown their willingness to use the railways. This has been recognized, and the Victorian Railways have responded by improving services. Now is the time to construct a multi-story car park to accommodate these patrons' vehicles. The council cannot be expected to provide the additional parking at ratepayers' expense, since a proportion of the commuters come from outside the municipality. Any attempt to remove the cars by the implementation of parking restrictions only drives the parkers beyond the limits set, and provokes another set of householders. The solution is quoted in the *Victorian Year Book* in three words, "subject to finance". I call on the Treasurer to give this project priority so that railway patrons will be accommodated in railway car parking and so complete the Glen Waverley line.

Mr. JENNINGS (Westernport) : On behalf of the constituents of Westernport, I wish to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your reappointment. I should also like to express my appreciation to the staff of the House, including those in the refreshment rooms, for the assistance that they have given us as new members. It is like coming to a new school and being treated as a senior student. I should not like to have the task of writing out all the rules of this school!

I am proud, although surprised, to be representing the constituency of Westernport. It covers an unusual

area—from Cape Schanck, Pearcedale and Langwarrin, through quite a variety of towns, including Hastings, Koo-wee-rup, Lang Lang, and Korumburra, to Wonthaggi. It covers a multitude of people and a multitude of problems. It includes the previous electorates of Gippsland West and Dromana. I pay tribute to two Ministers—the Minister of Public Works and the Minister of Labour and Industry who previously represented those areas. Their work throughout the districts is well known. They are held in high regard in the electorate and it is an honour to follow them.

One of the important aspects of the electorate of Westernport is that it includes a major port, which has some unusual factors and features. It has a deep natural scouring channel, one of the deepest in the world, and because of this it is cheap to maintain. It has a large anchorage, and is naturally sheltered. It has more than 10 square miles of anchorage which is 18 metres deep. This is quite outstanding by world standards, and it is one of the factors which will increase its importance in the future. It can take tankers two and half times the size of those which come into the port of Melbourne. It can take tankers of 100,000 tonnes with ease. It is interesting to note that last year two-thirds of the shipping tonnage that came to Melbourne came to Westernport. The average tonnage per ship which came into Westernport was of the order of 25,000 tonnes, and the average tonnage of ships which came into Melbourne was 6,400 tonnes. This port will develop because of its large natural features. The deep scouring channels mean that it is pollution free and does not have the problems of a normal bay.

A large port of this kind also attracts important industries. There are three major industries, the B.P. refinery, an investment of \$60 million; Esso-B.H.P. Long Island Point crude oil tank farm gas processing fractionation plant and liquids jetty, an investment of about \$40 million;

and last, but not least, the outstanding and unique plant of John Lysaght (Australia). It employs 1,600 people directly and 1,600 indirectly through various sub-trades. It pays to the State about \$11 million a year in pay-roll tax, rates, land tax, and State Electricity Commission and State Rivers and Water Supply Commission charges. That is without taking into account its subcontractors. If any honorable member has any doubts—and doubts have been expressed—about what a modern major industry means to a community and what can be done without any bad effect on the community, he should look at John Lysaght (Australia). The steel works represents an investment of about \$250 million. The total amount of pollution emitted from that factory is equivalent to no more than that created by ten small outboard motors on Westernport Bay. It is something all honorable members should be proud of.

Honorable members should also be proud of the Western Port Steel Works Act which was passed by this Parliament in 1970. At the same time a book was written entitled *The Shame of Westernport*. That book referred to the area as a speculator's dream, an environmental nightmare. If the authorities had listened to those people at that time and believed that book, this industry would not be there today and would not be employing the number of people that I mentioned and putting money into the State. It is worth while bearing that in mind.

In Westernport just about every primary industry is carried on except the growing of tropical fruit, and that will not grow there because it is too cold. There are dairying, beef, sheep, poultry, potato and fishing industries. In tourism there are seals, penguins, koalas, kangaroos, surf, and Coal Creek. There is just about everything at Westernport. In addition there is every possible problem.

I have been elected to overcome some of those problems. This is a democracy and we believe there is

Mr. Jennings.

no better system. The responsibility of members of this House is great. It is like the head of an industry, a Government or a political party—the behaviour at the top permeates down through the organization.

One of the greatest statements by an Australian was made in 1966 by the then Leader of the Federal Opposition, Arthur Calwell, when he said that while Sir Robert Menzies was Prime Minister there had never been any shadow of doubt or sign of any corruption or graft in either the Government or the administration of this country. That was the greatest thing that could have been said of a democracy or a Government, and it is a reputation for integrity that Australia gained world wide. We should never forget it in view of what has happened in recent weeks.

Our basic philosophy has not changed. It cannot change in a democracy. The important points are—firstly, security of the nation; secondly, the strength of our international alliances, because that affects security; thirdly, this is basically a homogeneous population, even though we have coloured migrants; fourthly, we have a strong private enterprise economy; and fifthly, with a strong private enterprise economy we should have social services better than those anywhere else in the world.

People must also be assured of three things—firstly, that if they put money in the bank it is secure, safe from inflation and free from devaluation; secondly, if they buy a property for a reasonable price, it is also secure and free from devaluation by any independent Government or other action; and thirdly, if one works hard, one gets a just reward for one's labour.

This country was not built by Governments, bureaucrats, Socialists or pessimists. It was built by optimists who were prepared to face a challenge, work hard and achieve a result. That is the pioneering spirit. There is no better example of that spirit than the man who lives and works on the

land, and the small businessman. I was pleased that the Small Business Development Corporation Bill was passed by this House recently.

Many people say there is no opportunity for the small businessman because of large businesses. I say that the greater the number of big businesses, the more opportunity there is for the small businessman. With big business, just like any Government or any industry that grows, there will be internal overheads and bureaucracy. In this country there is always an opportunity for the fellow who is prepared to give a good day's work to give quality and service; he will always get on. Today there are some terrific opportunities available.

The Australian way of life is important as is what our flag stands for. I like to see it flying no matter where. In some countries one sees the flag a lot. However, Australia is the most over-governed democracy in the world. One in 4 workers in Australia is employed by government; in America the ratio is 1 in 12; in Germany and Switzerland it is 1 in 14. I am not denigrating the State Electricity Commission linesman or the Telecom technician, but the community has to pay for them. Only three out of four working people in Australia are producing. Of those government servants 30 per cent are employed federally, 10 per cent by local government and 60 per cent by State governments. During a twelve-month period, 28,000 more public servants were employed compared with only 2,300 more in the private sector.

Some people unfortunately still think that to have good social services the country must have Socialism. That is a fallacy. Already during this session of Parliament much has been said by all members of this House who want things done in their electorates. They want more money spent on a school or a road—you name it. Obviously, in cattle language, there are too many heads trying to get into one bin which is

not big enough and there is not enough food in the bin. That is the problem in Victoria today. It is essential that priorities be sorted out.

Incentives are vital. Incentives are based on one word, a word that has been denigrated in the past. It is a word that is vital to our future and to our way of life. The word is profit. Increased profit means increased government income.

Similarly, a few years ago, overseas investment was denigrated. It still tends to be denigrated. When I was in the north I remember reading in the newspapers from here about what the Americans and the English were spending in the cattle stations up there. What were they spending the money on? It was spent on fences and cattle and water points and homesteads and the rest of it. How many people mentioned all the money that was lost up there? A lot was lost and those people moved out. Where is the money? It is in the ground. They could not take it with them. The land there is all leasehold country and it was improved by what was done by those people.

Profits from competition are the key to our future, and we must have profit. Profits will provide more taxes which will provide more income for social services, and better and cheaper goods. There is no doubt that we must have it. If inflation continues in its present form money will become worthless and our whole basic structure will be undermined. We must have people with confidence in saving and in the future. We must encourage production and clear the obstacles out of the way. The Western Port Steel Works Act was a perfect example of how this could be done. Decentralization is needed and I am pleased to see that that subject was included in the Governor's Speech. Queensland is the only State in which more people live outside the capital city than in it.

Home-ownership is also of major importance. Ten years ago 90 out of 100 young couples could afford to own their own home. Today the figure is of the order of 17 per cent. This is extremely serious because home ownership is the basis of the free enterprise economy. It is the basis of the future of this country. It gives people a stake in the land. I was pleased to note the new home finance Bill that was mentioned in the Governor's Speech.

I was also interested last year, when the superphosphate bounty was reintroduced, to hear some of the screams that arose about it, as though the Government were giving away thousands of millions of dollars. In actual fact the superphosphate bounty, if it cost the Government \$10 million or \$20 million and if it could be afforded, was only a means of lending the money to the farmers because it would come back to the Government in more production. However, at the same time the finance committee of the Melbourne City Council wanted to borrow \$80 million and stated that it would go broke if it did not obtain that amount. Who screamed about that? Nobody! I do not wish to criticize the council but we must get our values right.

I had not had anything to do with the dairying industry until I became involved in the last State Government election. I was surprised to learn that the dairying industry in this country is the most efficient in the world, and in my electorate it is the most efficient in Australia. However, because of the internal cost structure and the external price structure there is talk of this extremely efficient industry closing down. People talk about the dairying lobby. Before they do they should consider international subsidies. Australia must have the weakest dairy lobby in the world because it has the lowest subsidies in the world for the dairying industry.

Mr. Jennings.

In regard to the beef industry, Australia has a natural resource used by the beef industry which is not available anywhere else in the world. I refer to the large inland areas of grazing land on which beef cattle can feed themselves. Just like dairy products, beef products in Australia can be produced cheaper, but the marketing is another kettle of fish. I am also pleased to note the new Bill which has been introduced in relation to the marketing of primary products.

There is no doubt that we are a low population resource-rich country. History has proved that we must develop those resources, and I include uranium. It is of vital importance that we do, because our future revolves around it.

I wish to mention a couple of matters regarding planning and conservation. Everybody basically is a conservationist at heart, in some form. In the past there has been a tendency to regard owners of property as people who have exploited the community and to denigrate our history and achievements. There has also been the tendency to dictate what should be done, but every member of this Chamber knows that if one has a property, whether it be a house block or a farm or a few acres, its value normally grows in direct proportion to the growth of the trees. It is simple.

I am pleased to note that in recent schemes local people have been consulted regarding planning and that their views have been taken into consideration. That is good. However, we must have a basic and intense desire for the right of the individual, the right to own property, the right to profit from hard work, and to be rewarded for it. We must jealously regard what we have and what our future holds for us. If not, we will not have the will to defend it. Freedom is based on courage. There is no doubt about that or the fact that a few members of this Chamber of my age group or younger were lucky enough to miss the second world war. Some others were

not. It is our job to stand up for what those fellows went away to fight for.

In all walks of life there is a line of tolerance and of insistence. One tolerates things up to a line and beyond it insists on them. I personally, and other members of the Government party, respect the Australian working man. I have worked with him in Victoria, in New South Wales, in south Queensland and in north Queensland. There is no better man to work with. No man will face up to a challenge as he will. No man has the ingenuity and ability to achieve a result like the fair dinkum Australian working man. I am proud to say it.

During my seven years in the north in my experience with the Aborigines I gained a great respect for that race. I also have much concern about the exploitation of the Aborigines and the money that was used to exploit them in the past. In the seven years while I was in the north, and I am proud to say it, I was one of the few people who employed Aborigines as head stockmen over white men. That happened on two occasions when I was there.

Local government is the basis of our democratic system. I was a member of a municipal council in north Queensland, at Etheridge, that covers an area of 15,000 square miles, which is bigger than Holland and Belgium. The total voting population was 456. It did not cost as much to run an election there as it does here. The council had the problem dealing with the bureaucracy in Brisbane in regard to the local railway and so on. The point is that it was an example which teaches us that local government is important to our future and to our democracy.

Australia is a low-population country. The number of people per square mile is 4; in America it is 55; and, in Japan, 720. There is no doubt that this is still the lucky country. There is also no doubt that we have a contract with the electors at large. We all

have the right to live in a free and decent country where we are treated equally in the eyes of the law and by the Government of the day. That includes property owners.

No organization, no political party, no Government, no group at all is any better than the people who run it. The people of Westernport do not want anything for nothing but they are proud of their community. They are proud of their towns and they are certainly proud to be Victorians and to be Australians. Last but not least, they are proud of the monarchy and of our democracy.

On the motion of Mr. EDMUNDS (Ascot Vale), the debate was adjourned.

It was ordered that the debate be adjourned until next day.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

DRIVING LICENCE TESTS — FLOOD GRANTS TO MUNICIPALITIES—QUESTIONS ON NOTICE—CONDITIONS IN WEST HEIDELBERG.

Mr. THOMPSON (Minister of Education): All honorable members would like to congratulate the honorable member for Syndal and the honorable member for Westernport for their impressive, midnight, maiden contributions to the proceedings of this House. I move—

That the House, at its rising, adjourn until this day, at half-past ten o'clock.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. THOMPSON (Minister of Education): I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Mr. CRABB (Knox): I raise a matter for the attention of the Premier. It concerns Spanish-speaking migrants being tested for driving licences. The written part of the test comprises a questionnaire and one of several possible answers to each question must be ticked. These questionnaires are available only in English, Italian and Greek. I am informed that the Chief Secretary's Department has had a translation of the