

It was ordered that the message be taken into consideration later this day.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LONG SERVICE LEAVE BILL

This Bill was returned from the Council with a message relating to amendments.

It was ordered that the message be taken into consideration later this day.

LIQUOR CONTROL BILL

This Bill was returned from the Council with a message relating to amendments.

It was ordered that the message be taken into consideration later this day.

GRIEVANCES

The SPEAKER (the Hon. C. T. Edmunds)—Order! The question is:

That grievances be noted.

Mr KEMPTON (Warrnambool)—Mr Speaker, I rise today to participate in the grievance debate, and thereby to make my maiden speech. It is an honour to be a member of this House in Parliament and an honour to represent the electorate of Warrnambool.

I note that I am the last in this session to give a maiden speech in this Chamber before, as some may say, we are elevated to the other place.

It is important, firstly, for me to pay tribute to my predecessor as the honourable member for Warrnambool. Ian Smith represented the electorate for sixteen years and, for many of those years, was a Minister. He contributed much to the development of the area within the electorate and was held in high regard by the people of the electorate.

I could not allow this occasion to go by without adding a purely biographical comment. Unlike other members of this Chamber, I have no family connection with the Parliament of Victoria. However, it may interest honourable members to know that my grandfather, George Adam Kempton, was, ironically, a Country Party member of the Legislative Council in Western Australia from 1926 until his defeat by a Labor Party candidate in 1932. I have no intention of competing with him in this latter regard!

It is essential for any political party or politician to have basic principles or philosophic tenets. These should provide the foundation and rationalization for all political decisions.

Mr Speaker, I support the individual and individualism. It is essential for the working of democracy that there be free thinking and acting individuals who are able to exercise an uninhibited choice in the economic and in the political processes. The only real way that this is achieved is by application of the Liberal philosophy. The Liberal philosophy demands that a clear course be set and tough decisions made to facilitate small government, fair reward for enterprise, self-sacrifice for others and maximum freedom of the individual within society. The institution of the family stands central to this, as does decentralization of power.

It is this philosophy which has allowed the electorate of Warrnambool to develop into an area of economic and social strength. The Warrnambool electorate is urbanized with the City of Warrnambool containing by far the bulk of the population of the electorate. The city is the economic centre of the Western District. It is known to many as a tourist centre and during holiday periods many tourists flock to its beaches. The city has achieved recognition by receiving the Premier Town of Victoria award for 1979–82. Its attractions are: the Flagstaff Maritime Village, the art gallery, Lady Bay, the performing arts centre, the variety of restaurants, and the Warrnambool Cup and Steeplechase at the May races, to name a few.

There is a diversity of industry in Warrnambool: Fletcher Jones and Staff Pty Ltd, Nestles and the woollen mill. As in most regional centres, the backbone of the Australian economy—small business—provides a healthy base for employment and enterprise.

Much of the credit for the development of Warrnambool and district must go to the Warrnambool city and shire councils.

The City of Warrnambool is surrounded by a highly productive farming area. It is well known for its potato, pea, onion and dairy production in the rich soil of the coastal region and its beef cattle, wool and sheep production more inland. The stud farms in the area provide much of the best

stock for primary producers throughout the State.

The inland areas were affected by the recent drought, but thankfully rains have, to some extent, ameliorated the problem. Governments must ensure that assistance provided during the drought is not reduced too quickly for it is necessary to allow time before normal production can be re-established.

Sadly, the south-eastern portion of the Warrnambool electorate suffered as a result of the Ash Wednesday bush fires. Mr Speaker, the loss of life and property was horrific. The countryside has picked up quickly, but unfortunately the carpet of green that now covers the area hides a multitude of problems. It must be stressed now, and it must be continually stressed, that those in the Warrnambool fires suffered not only because they lost homes but also because they lost livelihoods. This is the distinction between the effect of the Warrnambool fires and the effect of the other bush fires on Ash Wednesday. Too many people in the electorate I represent face this cold winter without proper accommodation and means of earning income. I hope the Government will take heed of my comments and act to improve what is becoming a worsening problem.

The strong farming sector in the electorate has led to a growth of rural communities. Each community has an individual spirit and uniqueness. There are tourist industry based towns such as Port Fairy and Peterborough; rural towns such as Hawkesdale, Woolsthorpe, Caramut, Dunkeld, Nullawarre and Allansford; towns such as Penshurst and Mortlake are known for their well-run country race meetings, Glenthompson for its production of sturdy bricks, and Koroit for the Tower Hill Reserve and green beer on St Patrick's Day.

These communities are linked socially and economically and pursue enterprise with rustic vigor. This is reflected in the agricultural shows around the district.

As with most areas in Australia, the electorate of Warrnambool is beset with unemployment. The level of unemployment in the area is higher than the State and Federal levels. This puts social pressure on the whole community. I welcome the awareness of the community that unemployment is a social

ill. Such an awareness will promote, I hope, a view that everyone must make sacrifices to cure that ill. I wish Governments success in remedying this problem.

The educational institutions within the electorate of Warrnambool provide a positive infrastructure for the community. There are State schools and private schools of many religious denominations at both primary and secondary levels in the electorate. They all act to satisfy a need in the community for a diversity of educational styles.

There is a TAFE college and the Warrnambool Institute of Advanced Education. These provide specialized skills and contribute to the resources of the electorate. One such skill is provided in the farm apprenticeship course at the North Warrnambool Technical School. The course is subject to review. It services an important agricultural area and should remain based in Warrnambool.

The electorate contains the Framlingham Aboriginal Reserve. Currently, there is disharmony amongst its members. It is to be hoped that those involved will see sense and settle their differences.

Warrnambool faces an acute rental housing shortage. This is due to pressure on the market from students of the Warrnambool Institute of Advanced Education and bush-fire victims. I trust that the Government will see fit to improve this situation as soon as possible, otherwise some face a harsh winter.

It is a tragedy that a tide of the young is forced to go to the big cities to find work or otherwise. Many are unwilling to leave country Victoria. So as to stem this tide, it is essential that policies of decentralization be pursued. New industries must be encouraged in rural areas by way of incentives, both financial and in the provision of infrastructure. These incentives must not be blank cheques, but be granted subject to well-publicized programmes of gradual reduction so as to allow industry to plan ahead with a view to being economically viable in the longer term. I thank honourable members for their audience and look forward to the future in this House.

Mr A. J. SHEEHAN (Ivanhoe)—I should like to speak on behalf of six dead people, five men and one woman, who suffered gruesome, needless and avoidable