

The Hon. J. G. MILES (Templestowe Province)—Mr President, as a new member of this House, I congratulate you on your election, and your predecessor for his outstanding service to Parliament. I thank the House for the opportunity of addressing some matters of importance to me and to the Templestowe Province which I represent.

It is an honour and a privilege to serve in this House and Parliament and I shall endeavour to emulate the dedicated and highly successful performance of my predecessor, the Honourable Vasey Houghton. I thank members of my family and friends, who are here today, and members of the Liberal Party in Templestowe Province for their support in enabling me to gain election to the Legislative Council.

I am reminded of my late grandfather, a sea captain, who was involved in tin mining in Siam, and who later became a member of Parliament and Minister in Tasmania. He wrote his memoirs for members of his family. The very last comment contained in those memoirs was, "I advise members of my family to shun politics like the plague." I will be able to judge in a year or two whether his assessment was correct.

Templestowe Province is a large and diverse electorate extending from Doncaster to Hurstbridge, and includes the Legislative Assembly seats of Doncaster, Bulleen, Ivanhoe and Greensborough. The province is divided by the Yarra River and covers large parts of the Federal electorates of Menzies, Casey and McEwen.

The electorate is predominantly metropolitan, suburban and residential, but also comprises some rural and industrial segments. Much of it can loosely be described as an eastern suburbs electorate. The Eastern Freeway terminates in the heart of the Doncaster, Bulleen and Templestowe suburbs and, therefore, is on the edge of many outer-eastern suburbs and electorates, from Doncaster to Lilydale, with which Templestowe Province shares many common problems. There are some wealthy pockets and outstanding new homes, many migrants of mixed background, some unemployment and some deprived areas.

Not only does Templestowe Province cover a large area, but I have the honour of representing close to 120 000 electors. The main issues of concern in the electorate are related to the cost of living, with increasing taxes, charges and rates, law and order and the increase of crime; transport, mainly public transport and the issue of the freeway extension; health and education.

A Doncaster newspaper recently referred to a crime wave in Doncaster and Templestowe, with burglaries—many of them drug-related—having doubled since the beginning of 1985. The report of a double murder in a Doncaster home at the week-end is frightening. I will endeavour to seek more police for this area and will urge tougher penalties for crimes, particularly when they are drug-related.

Public transport is a significant problem, and with the high proportion of car users, the extension of the Eastern Freeway is regarded as essential by the majority of people in the electorate I represent and in the electorates along the eastern corridor from Doncaster to Ringwood. I guarantee to these people that I will fight hard for the extension of the freeway.

As a former school teacher, management consultant, sportsman, sports administrator and coach, and a member of Lions International, I hope to make a contribution to Templestowe Province and Parliament in the areas of education, business, sport and recreation and community affairs.

In education, I share with many constituents a concern about the decline in standards, both educational and disciplinary; the constant threat to freedom of choice in education; and the politicization of education, through teacher union pressure, curriculum material and in the method and content of teaching.

In relation to curriculum, and teacher emphasis, I am amazed at the overt and covert anti-Americanism preached in our schools, often in the guise of "peace studies" or "nuclear disarmament". I remind honourable members that the United States of America

saved Australia from foreign takeover in 1941-45, and that the late John Curtin, a great Australian and Labor Prime Minister, forged the vital Australian-American alliance in that period.

The United States of America is still Australia's greatest ally and we share many common traditions and beliefs. I can still vividly remember, as a small boy in Queensland, crossing a flooded river on horseback with my mother and sister in an attempt to catch a plane to Melbourne. My fear of Japanese invasion was very real, and greater than my fear of drowning and I know that it was the Americans who saved us.

Some of our super-smart "new educators" should realize that Australia's security still rests with the American alliance—or have some of them an ulterior motive for trying to break down that alliance?

In relation to one of my special interests, sport, and particularly cricket, I shall address a matter of considerable concern to most Australians, namely, sporting contact with South Africa, and particularly the proposed "rebel tour" of South Africa by an Australian cricket team led by Kim Hughes. It is relevant and important to discuss this issue in this place because honourable members in this House have the opportunity of taking a wider perspective on issues, are not forced to deal exclusively with parochial matters, and perhaps may influence their Federal colleagues and the public.

Sport, particularly international sport, is a significant communicator and provides us with opportunities of promoting international peace and understanding, which should be the obligation of all Members of Parliament.

The Gleneagles agreement, signed by Australia and 32 other Commonwealth countries in London on 15 June 1977, generally binds the signatories to oppose official sporting contacts with South Africa. It states, *inter alia*:

... They accepted it as the urgent duty of each of their Governments vigorously to combat the evil of apartheid by withholding any form of support for, and taking every practical step to discourage contact or competition by their nationals with sporting organizations, teams, or sportsmen from South Africa, or from any other country where sports are organized on the basis of race, colour, or ethnic origin.

This process commenced in 1968 when a coloured South African, Basil D'Oliveira, was not selected to tour South Africa after making a magnificent 158 runs in the final test for England against Australia. I can remember admiring this tall, dignified, coloured South African playing this match-winning innings under intense pressure.

When D'Oliveira was subsequently selected as a replacement for a bowler, South African Prime Minister, Dr Vorster, gave England no other choice but cancellation of the tour when he refused D'Oliveira entry into South Africa. Australia toured in 1969-70 and was thrashed by South Africa; the 1971-72 South African tour of Australia was cancelled due to threats of violence by anti-apartheid demonstrators in Australia.

Since that time, through the 1970s and 1980s, the South African Cricket Union has been asked by the International Cricket Conference to progress towards non-racial cricket. Despite doing all and more than it was asked, the International Cricket Conference will not re-admit South Africa to test cricket.

In fact, South Africa cannot even present a case to the International Cricket Conference each year. Therefore, the South African Cricket Union, desperate to provide its cricketers with some international cricket, has organized "rebel" or "non-official" cricket tours of South Africa by the West Indies and England, and an Australian team, led by Kim Hughes, and including Victorians, Graham Yallop, Mick Taylor and Rod McCurdy, is scheduled to tour South Africa in the 1985-86 season.

The Australian Cricket Board, apparently to protect its contracts with many of these players, is suing them, along with three South African Cricket Union officials, and a former Australian test cricketer, Bruce Francis, for allegedly influencing the Australians to sign South African contracts.

Like the majority of Australians, I am firmly against the excesses of the apartheid system, or separate development, although I am also concerned with Prime Minister Mugabe's threat to tear up the Zimbabwe Constitution and create a one-party State.

However, in support of freedom of expression, the necessity to gain all the information on an issue, and of our democratic right to choose our course of action, I make the following points in relation to the proposed Australian cricket tour of South Africa.

The South African Cricket Union and the three officials in Australia for their court case—Mr Geoff Dakin, Mr Joe Pamensky and Dr Ali Bacher, former Test captain, with Dr Danie Craven of the South African Rugby Board—have made strenuous, courageous and successful efforts to introduce non-racial cricket into South Africa. South African cricket is now completely non-racial at all levels—international, inter-provincial and interclub, both on the field, in the stadiums and in the pavilions. These gentlemen, and South African Cricket Union personnel generally, do not support apartheid, or separate development, and do not necessarily vote for the ruling National Party Government.

South African Cricket Union pressure has helped to dismantle some apartheid legislation, such as separate travel on trains and mixed marriages. During a recent non-official West Indian tour of South Africa, coloured West Indies fast bowler, Colin Croft, was in the wrong coach in a train, and was forced to move.

This sparked an outcry against separate train travel, led by the South African Cricket Union and, as a result, the law on separate train travel was abolished. Well known South African liberals, such as Bishop Tutu and Helen Susman have praised the successful efforts of the cricket and sporting fraternity in liberalizing their sports and forcing changes to some apartheid laws. The South African Cricket Union and visiting African churchman Stephen Munc'oma firmly believe continued sporting links will assist liberalization, not handicap it, as well as promoting international understanding and harmony.

The majority of Australians support the proposed cricket tour and sporting contact with South Africa, and they deplore, as I do, the recent personal pressure applied to Messrs Hughes, Yallop, and the other players—some of it emanating from the current Prime Minister—and the implied threats to their collective and individual freedoms in relation to passports, taxation, and television coverage of the tour.

I consider myself a personal friend of Graham Yallop, a fine batsman, a former Australian captain, a Victorian, an excellent ambassador for Australia, and a gentleman. I deplore the personal attacks on him and his character, and on Kim Hughes and other players.

Hughes has played approximately 70 tests for Australia and captained on about thirty occasions and, as neither Hughes nor Yallop was selected to tour England, surely they have a right as private citizens in a free society, to ply their trade. After all, if countries refused to play sport with other countries with whom they disagreed on any aspects of Government policy, there would be no international sport played in the world! In any case, we trade with South Africa, and other sportspeople such as the current Australian netballers compete in South Africa.

Finally, I, and many other Australians, cannot understand why our South African visitors, eventually allowed in for legal discussions after a last-minute change of heart by the Foreign Minister, are not allowed to publicly present any point of view on their progress towards non-racial sport, whereas representatives of the African National Congress such as Mr Eddie Funde, the South West African National People's Organization, and the Reverend Arnold Stofile, visiting South African clergyman, and member of the United Democratic Front, are not only allowed into the country, but also are allowed and encouraged to publicly present their point of view fully and forcefully.

This point of view is not only against sporting contacts with South Africa, but also expresses implied threats to the safety of Australian citizens if they undertake this cricket tour. Perhaps I will be the next person to receive threats as an Australian citizen for the expression of my concern on this issue today!

Is this democracy, freedom of expression, and liberty of the individual to speak freely on any issue, and to hear all views on a controversial issue? Does it not imply censorship and double standards, and from what overseas source and ideology do these foreign groups derive their strength and their money? Is it possible that there are forces at work representing an ideology repugnant to most Australians deliberately seeking to mislead Australians, and, by preventing any sporting tours, stopping Australians and the world from understanding the true position in South Africa regarding non-racial sport? Surely our democratic system demands that we allow all points of view, even on controversial issues, to be freely heard in our country.

The Gleneagles agreement should be re-examined by Australian governments, with a view to modification. In any case it has been misinterpreted, probably deliberately in some cases. All it really means is that Government signatories should discourage official teams from playing sport with South Africa: If the sporting body does not wish to accept this "discouragement", it can play sport with South Africa, and the Government cannot and should not prevent it.

The current controversy over the proposed New Zealand rugby tour of South Africa is an example of the correct interpretation of Gleneagles by a government. The New Zealand Government has discouraged the tour, and has informed the New Zealand Rugby Union of its opposition to the tour, as a Gleneagles signatory, but has taken no official Government steps to prevent it. I am not sure that successive Australian Governments have interpreted Gleneagles as correctly as has the New Zealand Government. Incidentally, as the *Australian* newspaper said on Monday 15 July, it is a tragedy for the cause of non-racial sport in South Africa, for the cause of international harmony and communication, and for the simple cause of allowing the world to gain first hand information concerning the real progress towards non-racial sport in South Africa, that the imminent New Zealand rugby tour of South Africa may have to be cancelled, due to legal delaying tactics by two Auckland lawyers.

The best proof of progress towards non-racial sport in South Africa would have been for the world to see Springboks versus All Blacks in South Africa, with coloured players on either side.

The point I wish to emphasize, is that in all sports, but notably in cricket, rugby and soccer, there has been considerable progress towards non-racial sport in South Africa, and considerable relaxation of some apartheid laws, due to the courage of South African sporting administrators who, despite earlier threats of persecution, have forced the Government to allow non-racial sport to promote international sporting competition for South Africa.

If the courageous efforts of these South African sporting administrators are not rewarded with some international sporting competition for South Africa, the cause of non-racial sport, and of the liberalization of the excesses of the apartheid policy will be considerably damaged, if not lost, as some extreme right wing forces in South Africa will seize their chance to say that there is no point in any liberalization of apartheid, in sport or in general laws.

On this and other issues, I shall use my sporting experience and knowledge in the interests of my constituents, and my party, and in the interests of improved communication and harmony between all people of all nations, as exemplified in the charter of Lions International.

I thank you, Mr President, for your indulgence. I welcome the opportunity of working with my colleagues in this place. I shall do my best to represent my constituents and the Liberal Party, and to uphold the traditions of this House and the Parliament of Victoria.

The Hon. C. F. VAN BUREN (Eumemmerring Province)—It gives me great pleasure to speak today as a member of an Australian Labor Party Government, particularly when