

State of Victoria. I would have said that the Wran Government would have been in power in New South Wales in perpetuity, but this Government, in my view, is being brought to its knees because of the revelation of wicked corruption in the State of New South Wales.

I pay a great tribute to the Fairfax family, because if the Liberal Party in Opposition in this State and in New South Wales become inept and feeble and unable to act as a good Opposition, the publications of the Fairfax family, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *National Times*, the *Melbourne Age* and other great newspapers will have to occupy the same position as the *Washington Post* occupied in the United States of America when it brought down a corrupt President. I hope I do not live in this State to see the *Age* newspaper have to bring down a corrupt Labor Party.

Mr SHELL (Geelong West)—Mr Speaker, allow me to congratulate you on attaining your high office. I am sure you will carry out the functions of that office in an outstanding manner. I am privileged to stand here tonight because of the active and excellent work of my campaign committee. It was an enthusiastic committee, which had excellent meetings.

My predecessor, Hayden Birrell, was a conscientious member of this House and had the concern of the people at heart, but fortunately the constituents of Geelong West believed there was a need for a change, that the old Government had run out of steam and they needed a new Government—the Cain Government.

I regret to inform the House that unemployment in Geelong is continuing to rise. One in every four young people under 21 years of age is unemployed, and this is causing a great deal of distress to the persons concerned, to their families and also to the community. The social implications of this matter are such that already it is causing antisocial behaviour in Geelong. When a person applies for one job after another and does not get anywhere, he wonders what it is all

about. He looks at the social situation which the oldies have created, where he cannot get a job, and is not very impressed. The previous administration supported cuts in education, welfare and health by the Federal Government, and this aggravated the unemployment situation. The Cain Government, through the Victorian Development Fund, will encourage people to invest in Victoria instead of in other States. In Geelong there is a slogan, "Put Geelong first". I believe that slogan should be extended to read, "Put Victoria first". Victorians must invest in the future of Victoria and not in the future of other States.

In Geelong West there is a depressed building industry. There is a shortage of low income housing. In the private sector no low income housing has been built for seven years. The creation of a prosperous economic climate by this Government will cause the building industry to improve.

This Government has made a commitment to tenancy reform to remove the anomalies that now exist.

In education, a number of schools in Geelong West are showing signs of wear. Maintenance of these schools has been neglected over years. The Cain Government will spend more money on schools and bring them up to a standard of safety and comfort to which they are entitled. The limited tenure of teachers is now being removed and this will do a number of things; it will provide more teachers in the system; it will provide better opportunity for children to learn, and it will also decrease the industrial dispute that has previously occurred. Teachers will no longer need to go on strike on this issue.

The Government is committed to providing nurses aides to Shannon Park school in Geelong. Schools, such as Shannon Park, should not have to provide out of their charitable resources the cost of these nursing aides.

Geelong is very limited in public transport, especially at night and weekends. There is no bus leaving the City of Geelong to go to Newtown after 5.40 p.m. on Monday to

Friday, and on Saturday the last bus leaves at 12.10 p.m. This means that there are no buses on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. It even denies people the opportunity of travelling to church by the public transport system.

The last bus leaves Highton for Geelong at 9.30 p.m. on Monday to Friday, and at 8 p.m. on Saturday. The subsidies to the private bus operators in Geelong do not appear to have worked in that these bus operators provide a limited service to Geelong.

The Geelong-Melbourne rail link has been of concern to the constituents of Geelong West for a long time. The Government will improve the time-table of trains and will accelerate the provision of new carriages to the line.

Municipal amalgamation in Geelong is a constant issue. Geelong West broke away from the City of Geelong in 1875, and since that time there have been constant pressures to amalgamate Geelong West with Newtown City or Geelong City or both. This will not occur unless the councillors and the rate-payers agree to it. Any amalgamation would result in lack of access by rate-payers to councillors and officers.

The irresponsible management of the previous Government has caused great concern in the Geelong West electorate. Promises, such as the ill-conceived Avalon toxic waste dump being transferred 300 metres down the road to Werribee, without proper investigation, will not occur under the Cain Government.

The north wing of the Geelong Hospital was first promised by the Liberal Government in 1976, and again in 1979, but nothing was done. The Labor Government will not undertake the building of the north wing of the Geelong Hospital until the priorities and needs of the State are examined. For instance, a cancer care unit in Geelong could well exceed the priority of the north wing.

Development of the northern area of the Geelong City business district has been wanted for years. Currently there is the project, "City by the Bay"

Mr Shell

which may fulfil that proposition. When the Labor Party was in Opposition, it was told that that scheme would cost only \$5 million of taxpayers' money. It is now estimated that it will cost \$12.5 million to \$15 million. If money of that order is going to be spent in Geelong then the priorities ought to be examined to see whether the health of the citizens of Geelong comes first. The rapid escalation of interest rates will make this project financially untenable. With interest rates around 19 per cent, how can a developer be expected to continue with the project when he is expecting a return in the order of 9.6 per cent.

The constituents of Geelong West saw the election of a Labor Party Government as a better alternative than what existed under the previous Government. For Victoria, and Geelong West in particular, to prosper again, the luxury of political point scoring as to cease. The Cain Government will lift Victoria out of the doldrums into the leading State of the nation. This will be achieved by sensible management programmes, as indicated in the mandate given to the Government.

I congratulate the Premier on leading the Labor Party to the Treasury benches for the first time in 27 years.

The people of Geelong are fortunate to have two Ministers of the Crown to represent them.

On the motion of Mr MACLELLAN (Berwick), the debate was adjourned.

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

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED (MERGER) BILL

This Bill was received from the Council and, on the motion of Mr JOLLY (Treasurer), was read a first time.

THE COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY OF SYDNEY LIMITED (MERGER) BILL

This Bill was received from the Council and, on the motion of Mr JOLLY (Treasurer), was read a first time.