

There is a school of thought in my electorate, particularly among members of the chambers of commerce, that the Railway Department should be reconstituted so that it functions in a similar way to the State Electricity Commission and the Gas and Fuel Corporation. In this way more finance could be made available to the Department by way of loans and so on. Instead of land having to be acquired for more roads in the electorate, it is suggested that the railway track should be duplicated; the land for that is available. There is some merit in these thoughts, which have been put to me, and I hope to have the opportunity to discuss them further at a later stage.

I wish to revert to the subject of education, with which I have always had a close association and in which I have had a keen interest, but not, perhaps, a great deal of knowledge. Since I have been a member of this House, I have listened with great interest to what has been said on the subject. In connexion with education, I pay a tribute to another predecessor of mine. The best way I can do this is by quoting from volume 3 of papers presented to Parliament in 1869. The preamble reads—

We have the honour, as Commissioners appointed for the purpose of promoting technological and technical instruction by lecture and otherwise among the working class of Victoria, to submit the following report.

That report, which was the first by the commission on technological education, was signed by, among others, one William Mountford Kinsey Vale, who first entered this Parliament in 1864 as member for Ballarat West. I am his great grandson.

I felt that I should refer to him because, during the period between 1882 and 1886, when the Working Men's College was formed, he was one of two treasurers who worked together. The association with education in my family has continued unbroken since then. My grandfather was a school

teacher; my father was a school teacher; and I was once a school teacher. At present, my sister is a school teacher, and one of my nephews is about to graduate from the teachers' college at Geelong. I hope to continue my association with education in this place, and I hope that I am able to make some worthwhile contribution to the debates on the subject.

I began my teaching career at Toora, as a student teacher, in 1934, at a salary of 25s. a week. That era is sometimes spoken of by some of us as the vintage years of school teaching. In that period, there were teachers such as Professor G. S. Browne and Professor Law. I need not remind honorable members that Dr. Law is the son of Professor Law. I am sorry that the honorable gentleman of whom I am about to speak is not in the House to-day because of ill-health. As I said, I began teaching at Toora in 1934 and, at the time, a young fellow by the name of Herbie Hyland was making his name known and his presence felt in this place. I felt that I should pay a personal tribute to the honorable member for Gippsland South, who represented me in Parliament in those days.

I thank honorable members for the courteous reception they have given me here, and for their extreme courtesy in allowing me to speak at so late a stage of the session, although, I must say, they have kept me waiting. I hope, in some small way, to contribute something to the well-being of the State in this House.

**Mr. A. V. SMITH (Bellarine).**—In addressing myself to the motion for the Address-in-Reply to His Excellency the Governor's Speech, I first congratulate my colleagues the honorable member for Warrnambool and the honorable member for Mitcham on the way in which they proposed and seconded the motion. On behalf of the electors of Bellarine, whom I have the honour to represent in this House, I heartily endorse the expressions of loyalty which were so ably

and adequately expressed, not only by those honorable members, but by all honorable members who have previously spoken on the motion. I am sure that I would be echoing the thoughts of all honorable members in paying a tribute to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Rohan Delacombe, for the way in which he carries out his great duties, as Her Majesty's personal representative in Victoria. Sir Rohan and Lady Delacombe have gone out of their way to familiarize themselves with the many and various activities throughout the State. At all times, they are generously willing to perform their duties and make official visits, and they always maintain that friendly dignity which we have grown to appreciate so much.

I feel singularly honoured to have been elected as the first member for the new electorate of Bellarine, and I thank the electors for placing their confidence in me. It is my earnest desire to do what I can at all times for all the people of the electorate, regardless of their political affiliations, so that I may truly be considered as a representative of the people of Bellarine.

The name "Bellarine" has aroused my interest, and I have undertaken investigations to find its source. When John Batman sailed from Tasmania in his small schooner *Rebecca*, seeking pastoral lands in Victoria, he called at Indented Head after entering Port Philip Bay. It was while there that he is reputed to have given the name "Bellarine" to the hills in the background. It was after he left Indented Head that he sailed up the Yarra river and, when he landed on its banks where Melbourne now stands, said, "This is the spot for a village".

As time went by, the town which is now Drysdale was originally called Bellarine. The name was changed to Drysdale, and was so named after Miss Drysdale, one of the early settlers in the area, and later the whole of the peninsula acquired the name of Bellarine. The electorate consists of rural, industrial,

Mr. A. V. Smith.

and urban areas. It runs from Little River in the north, skirting Geelong to Queenscliff in the east, and down to Anglesea in the south. It has been made up of portions of three former electorates.

I was born in Geelong and, apart from the war years, have lived there all my life. I must acknowledge the good offices of the three honorable members who represented the areas which I have the privilege of representing. I refer to the honorable members for Geelong, Polwarth and Geelong North.

Geographically, Bellarine is closely linked with Geelong; in fact, it almost encircles the city and is shaped like a horseshoe. Geelong's prosperity and expansion are reflected in the prosperity and expansion of Bellarine. In its report on the future growth of Melbourne, the Town and Country Planning Board indicated that Geelong would extend towards the east along the Bellarine Peninsula and southward from Belmont towards Torquay; this development is already evident.

On the educational side, I am happy to say that a sum of more than \$600,000 is being spent on extensions to the Oberon High School in Belmont and \$100,000 on the high school at Queenscliff, which is east of Geelong. I understand that within the electorate of Bellarine a further \$100,000 is being spent on extra class-rooms and building activities in other schools.

In certain areas of Geelong concern has been expressed that the report of the Decentralized Advisory Committee made special reference to the fact that Geelong had a population of over 100,000 people and, therefore, was large enough to self-generate its expansion. Some people asserted that Geelong required special assistance, and that the committee should have recommended this. I regard the committee's report as a definite compliment to Geelong and to the leaders in the various civic activities within

the municipalities who contribute to the working of the great complex of local government.

Geelong is a rapidly growing city. As it expands, it must extend into the electorate of Bellarine. Huge industrial expansion has already occurred. At Point Henry, which is within my electorate, the Alcoa works are in full production and are employing a work force of 1,000. In the finance and business section of yesterday's issue of the *Age*, the following report appeared:—

Alcoa of Australia Proprietary Limited, the nation's largest producer of aluminium, hope to double the output from its Point Henry plant in the next few years.

This is a tremendous enterprise, and I congratulate the Government of Victoria on taking the steps which made it possible for Alcoa to erect its smelting plant in the electorate of Bellarine.

It is interesting to note that when Alcoa established its refinery at Kwinana in 1963, it had a through-put of some 200,000 metric tons of refined bauxite, which is called alumina. To-day, extension No. 3 is being completed, and plans are well developed for extension No. 4. This means that, by 1969, the refinery at Kwinana will be producing in excess of 800,000 metric tons of alumina, most of which is expected to be exported to the smelter at Geelong, the balance to be exported overseas. This company is also erecting a \$30,000,000 power station at Anglesea, which will be fuelled by brown coal from nearby open cut coal fields. When this comes into operation early in 1969, it will employ a permanent work force of more than 100 people.

Other industries are also developing in the Point Henry area. Winchester Western (Australia) Proprietary Limited, manufacturers of ammunition, employs a total of over 100 people. It is interesting to note that in addition to supplying the domestic market with 12-gauge and rimfire ammunition, this company has also successfully entered the export field and

is earning export income. Another company which is establishing itself in the same area is Primal Chemicals Proprietary Limited, which manufactures various chemical compounds. Its factory is now working full time and the firm hopes to expand in the near future. Both of these companies are members of world-wide organizations and it is to the credit of this State that they have chosen to set up factories in Victoria. I am happy that they have been established in the electorate which I have the honour to represent.

Prosperous fishing industries also are located in the electorate. Fishing fleets are based at Portarlington, Queenscliff and Barwon Heads. I believe the Bill recently dealt with by the House will help to stabilize an industry which has been carrying on in a haphazard fashion for too long.

The huge Shell refinery is located to the north of Geelong. An expansion programme costing approximately \$10,000,000 is under way at present. When this is completed, the refinery will be the largest in Australia. The Shell refinery employs a large permanent work force, and this is assisting the development of the Corio and Lara urban areas. At Waurn Ponds in the south of the electorate, a new cement industry is currently in full operation. It is the second cement industry to be established in the district.

In addition to industrial expansion, rural expansion has occurred. Research has increased the productivity of the rural areas although, unfortunately, at present Victoria is in the grip of a disastrous drought, and rural areas are receiving a set-back. There are now three drought relief areas in the electorate of Bellarine. However, this is not holding up planning for the future. I am happy to point out that two rural water supply schemes are nearing the completion of their planning stages. The first scheme will bring water to the Mannerim-Swan Bay area, and the second, which is a much larger

scheme, will bring a rural water supply to the Mount Duneed-Connewarre-Breamlea area. The larger scheme involves the laying of more than 40 miles of pipes and will affect 276 properties. I am happy to have received an assurance from the Minister of Water Supply that the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission is pressing on with both schemes.

In addition to rural production, there is a rapidly expanding tourist industry in the district. The following report appeared in the *Geelong Advertiser* of Tuesday, 26th September, of this year, on page 1, under the heading, "Bellarine Peninsula, the Gold Coast of Victoria":—

This summer more than 167,000 holiday makers will swarm to the seaside towns along the Bellarine Peninsula between Drysdale and Lorne.

This tremendous mass of people, who are bent upon enjoying themselves in the holiday season, throws a very big strain upon services in the area such as roads, telephones, and telegraphic and other facilities. I congratulate the various committees which control foreshores, reserves and parks for the progressive steps they are taking to cope with the large influx of holiday-makers. It has been said that too many toilet blocks, changing sheds and shelters are being erected, but these are necessary to cope with the ever increasing demands of tourists.

It is pleasing to note that the Tourist Development Authority is now engaged in a publicity campaign, mainly in the interstate Sunday newspapers, designed to encourage people from all over Australia to come to Victoria, not at any particular time, but at any time. The point is made that Victoria is an all-seasons holiday State. Tourist activity in the Bellarine Peninsula area will be augmented when the Lower Yarra Crossing is completed. I am pleased to learn that the authorities concerned are thinking ahead in order to meet contingencies which will inevitably result from the increasing numbers of tourists.

*Mr. A. V. Smith.*

Investigations are currently under way to establish the feasibility of a vehicular ferry operating between Queenscliff, Portsea and Sorrento; in fact, next Monday a combined meeting of interested parties is to take place in the Flinders shire hall, Dromana, and those of us from the Bellarine Peninsula side will be crossing in a passenger ferry, which runs during the summer season. This ferry transports approximately 60,000 people each year, and in time, as the population of the area increases, I believe we shall see an augmented ferry service and, possibly, a vehicular ferry service in operation.

Bearing in mind the varied activity which is carried on in the Bellarine Peninsula, I was glad to hear the Minister of Water Supply mention in the House yesterday that an adequate water supply would be provided to cater for the needs of the thousands of campers who will arrive in the area during the holiday season. This is reassuring indeed because at one stage, I believe, it was thought there would not be sufficient water to meet the needs of campers.

Experts have stated that the population of Victoria will double by the year 2000—that is 33 years hence. Vigorous planning is necessary to cope with this future expansion of our State. Water supply, power supply, sewerage facilities and communications are only a few of the various aspects of planning which will be involved in the coming 30-odd years. This is a tremendous task and one which I believe can be adequately handled only by forward-thinking authorities. It is a challenge to the members of this Parliament to plan for the facilities which will be required by the year 2000.

Mr. Speaker, we who are honoured to be members of this House are charged with a tremendous responsibility not only to the people of Victoria, but also to the people of Australia. Natural gas and oil have been discovered off the shores of Gippsland, and it has been said that

Victoria could become the workshop of Australia. This alone, without any other form of expansion, means that tremendous planning has to take place to keep the Victorian economy in balance. Only the future will be the judge of how we have accepted our responsibilities.

On behalf of the electors of Bellarine, I should like to affirm once more our loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II., and to the Parliament of Victoria. I thank honorable members for the indulgence they have shown in listening to what I, as the last of the newly-elected members to make his maiden speech in this House, have had to say.

*The sitting was suspended at 6.18 p.m. until 8.5 p.m.*

**Mr. LOVEGROVE (Sunshine).**—At the outset, I point out that any views I express are not meant to commit the Opposition in any way. I desire to mention three matters, one of which relates to the nature of the Address-in-Reply debate, to which I have referred on other occasions.

First, I compliment all honorable members who have participated in the debate, particularly those from all sides of the House who have made most able maiden speeches. I congratulate them on both the quality of their material and their ability to deliver it. I particularly refer the new members whom I have just congratulated to May's *Parliamentary Practice*, 17th edition, page 275, where they will find an outline of the procedure in the House of Commons. It instances the debates on the motion for the adoption of an Address-in-Reply on 10th June, 1859, 11th August, 1892, 26th January, 1886, and 21st January, 1924.

**Mr. G. O. REID.**—They are old dates.

**Mr. LOVEGROVE.**—For the benefit of the Attorney-General, I produce a report of the debate in the House of Commons on 31st October, 1967.

I point out that in the Mother of Parliaments, the Address-in-Reply debate is traditionally an occasion on which the Government of the day gives the Opposition the first available opportunity of challenging the Government's record and of moving a want-of-confidence motion in the form of an amendment to the motion for the adoption of an Address-in-Reply, thus submitting the Government's record to examination by honorable members from all sides of the House. This procedure is described at page 305 of *May*. I advise those new members who have made such excellent contributions to study this procedure and to raise it in their party rooms, because I am satisfied that they are not receiving adequate opportunity to represent their constituents.

In Great Britain, Governments have been dismissed and Administrations have been changed because of the attitude of the House during the Address-in-Reply debate. In this Parliament, His Excellency the Governor delivered his Speech in May, the debate was resumed in September, and now in December, possibly on the last day that this House will sit during this sessional period, the debate has not yet been disposed of in the way that it should traditionally be disposed of if this House followed the British practice. Without quoting, I refer honorable members to the reports of the Parliamentary debates in the House of Commons Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, beginning on the 31st October, 1967, which relate to six days of the Address-in-Reply debate conducted under the conditions described in May's *Parliamentary Practice*.

From 560 members voting in divisions, it was possible for an average of twenty to 22 speakers from all sides of the House each day to address Parliament and the Government on the needs of their constituencies and the great affairs of the day. All honorable members should read the debate which constituted a series of challenges posed