reduction of 20 per cent in freight charges would not help the farmer much, but reduced costs of \$600 or even \$300 might mean keeping a farmer in business for another year. At this stage it is most important to keep as many primary producers as possible on the land. Those who have experienced similar conditions in the past realize that if a farmer can hang on, his future may be better and he will be able to get himself out of the depression. I also suggest that the Government should eliminate road tax on the cartage of primary produce.

The real work of this Parliament is to consider in great detail the effect on the individual of every policy and decision. It sometimes seems that actions are based only on statistics and economics. It is people, human beings, who are important and who must be considered first; economics and statistics should be considered next.

As I have said, the result of our deliberations over the next three years will have a significant effect, not only in the immediate future but in the long term future, on Victoria and the people who live here. My party will take its responsibilities seriously as it has done in the past and will play its part in the future to assist all the people of Victoria and especially those in country areas whom it represents and who are so desperately in need of assistance at this time.

The Hon. H. R. WARD (South-Eastern Province).—After listening to the previous speakers, I crave the indulgence of the House with some trepidation as I initially address a few words to honorable members. has gone beyond Earth's atmosphere and looked back. Man has seen his own planet and the grand kaleidescope of the universe before him, and now he has begun the exploration of a planet on the edge of another Irrespective of all the challenges that are before man, as an explorer, in science and technology, it is the consequences of the route

which we take that we never really understand and which we never really conquer.

Some members of this Parliament have been part of another generation of people who idolized the scientific and technological age because of the practical needs of a surging generation. In spite of the surging forth of a crowding population, the reformation in education, the new responsibilities devolving upon youth and the lessening regard for age and wisdom, man has been made to turn back. He turns back to regard his evolving economy and its consequences and he turns back to regard his evolving environment.

Man must understand the interdependence of responses in every aspect of this developing economy and unfolding environment. It is a fact that man did not know what he had until it was gone. If we have failed to have communication between the scientist and the non-scientist, then the politician must bear some of the blame. I make the statement using the terms "scientist" and "nonscientist" in the broadest sense or, more properly, in the colloquial sense.

The politician has the task of managing the science of government, being prudent, attacking the fundamental and basic issues with an eve on practicabilities and, historically, in this Legislative Council, of being judicious. Each of us knows that man develops an inherent and abiding bias because of the life that he leads in the form of the community in which has been born, trained, As a consequence, he can worked. have Parliament, with opinions expressed, often diametrically opposed. But, collectively, that does not prevent us or even excuse us from evolving legislation sound in discernment, based on facts, and with maximum moral consideration for all mankind.

Today, more than ever, there is a recognized rapport between the scientist and the non-scientist. The scientist is human and an aesthete,

and the artist is disciplined and systematic. These qualities were always considered to be the sole property of the other, with a consequent loss of dimension in total society. The modern renaissance in education has destroyed the walls of The evolving environseparation. mental demands eliminating are confrontation between the scientist and the non-scientist.

The demand has always been for quality of life but there has been a problem with what has been, or is being communicated. There is more communication today than ever before, but the concept has not been to talk about things but rather to talk at each other. This Government, our worthy Opposition, and all other bi-partisan systems are faced with propelling our energies in the interests of the middle course with the faint hope that the ultimate will suddenly be won.

Having made this gambit, I come to the reality of a situation of whether I must get used to Parliament or Parliament must get used to me. Obviously, the former would be easier and more acceptable but the latter is the challenge. In spite of that slight incongruity, there must be a marriage of both situations. Therefore it is reasonable that one should have a claustrophobic anxiety where a Government, person or community attaches itself to one concept of development.

Without enlarging any further on this section of my address, I want briefly to examine some aspects that immediately come to notice. Most of the challenges of the Commonwealth of Australia are simulated in South-Eastern Province, so realizing my inexperience in Parliament and with respect for all members of this Chamber who have grown in wisdom with an appreciation of the other's political philosophies, I know that the House will appreciate my immediate limitations. I thank the previous speaker for his comments, although I did not realize that I would be following him.

The Hon. H. R. Ward.

The most urgent aspects of Government today are those relating to primary industry and specifically those relating to the dairying industry.

I make these comments having a knowledge of the problems that face the dairying industry in West Gippsland and also the industry which is so well known as the South Gippsland milk industry and the wonderful work it is doing.

The urgency of the rationalization of primary industry is of greater concern when one makes a more penetrating study and sees the problems that are compounded.

I pay tribute to the Minister of Agriculture and the Premier for their conscientious efforts in convincing this Parliament of the need for assistance in the primary industry. not a need wholly and solely of money, but also of education and management skills, which are essential to survival in a highly-competitive society.

At the elementary stage there was a decided lack of recognition of the need for education by the older I can recall the establishment of the farmer's course at the Wangaratta Technical School about 1937 and the suspicion of young men in the north-eastern district about this form of education. There are similar people about whom Adrian Lynch writes in the Australian of Friday, the 18th September, 1970. I wish to quote this article because it was mentioned in this Chamber last night. It refers specifically to the low level of education of farmers, which causes concern-

Only 2 per cent of the 8,600 new farm managers and 4,700 new farm workers required in Australia annually have received some formal training and education in agriculture.

The general level of education most Australian farmers have received is among the lowest within the farming communities of the Western world.

Is it any wonder then, with the more intricate marketing problems and management decisions facing the Australian farm community daily that Australia's rural industries are in the mess they are today?

The depressing state of agricultural education is the cause of considerable concern to agricultural educators.

At Melbourne university, Dr. D. B. Williams, the director of the Faculty of Agriculture's agricultural extension department, has done a considerable amount of research work into the problem.

In a statistical analysis of the 1966 census Dr. Williams has found that for persons employed in rural industries:

Forty-eight per cent had attended primary school but had no further formal education, compared with 29 per cent in the non-rural work force.

Twenty-eight per cent had attended secondary school but did not pass the intermediate, compared with 28 per cent in the non-rural work force.

Thirteen per cent had attended secondary school and passed the intermediate, compared with 20 per cent in the non-rural work force.

Commenting on these statistics, Dr. Williams said: "They imply that more intensive educational programmes are needed if farmers are to be trained to accept managerial responsibility in commercial agriculture.

"Training and experience on the home farm have their place, but limited exposure to formal schooling makes it all the more difficult for a farmer to select and interpret data and take advantage of new systems of management which are revealed by research.

The low educational standard of Australian farmers has arisen due to three reasons:

The failure of Federal Governments to provide enough facilities to educate and train farm managers and workers.

Failure to impress on the farm community the need for education and professional training.

Past and existing socio-economic pressures which forced farmers to drop out of school.

In the past five years, both State and Federal Governments have taken some ameliorative action towards the problems of agricultural education.

They have boosted aid to extension services and to agricultural colleges.

But here the programmes have faltered because of the non-committal view most farm leaders take toward wider farmer education."

Later in the article, Dr. Williams suggests a number of ideas which he believes should be carried out. He states—

Any attempt to change the structure of farms needs to take account not only of feasible alternative land-use systems but also of the characteristics of the people and the institutions and social structures the local people have established in each area.

I commend this reference to honorable members and the depth to which Dr. Williams makes us consider the problems that face education.

Unfortunately, some references by eminent men such as Dr. Williams are published in such a manner that reflects on a purported lack of initiative by the Government. This is not intended. The following week in the Australian, Lynch pursued the topic of educaof farmers and the that radio and television can play. Now every farmer knows of the over many years, of radio particularly by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. I was not satisfied with that information, so I asked the Minister of Agriculture about actions taken by his department.

have already been briefings and seminars in Victoria on the subject "Milk, Beef or What". encompasses following the topics: - "The Present Dairy Situ-"The ation", Beef Situation ". " Marketing Systems for Beef", "Returns from Young Beef", "Breeding and Selection of Calves for Young Beef", "Management and Methods of Raising Young Beef", "Alternatives to Young Beef", and also "Economic Realities, Commonsense and World Markets for Dairy Production." This information is set out in a publication which can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture concerning what is done in its briefings and seminars by people competent to carry out the measures suggested by Dr. Williams.

I also wish to refer to other items which are of concern and to state what the Government has been doing in respect to its agricultural and primary products programme. The Government's legislation has included measures to free farming land from

land tax and to reduce by 30 per cent probate duty attributable to land. This is unpalatable to residents in the suburban areas, but the Government is carrying out various measures which were suggested by the previous speaker.

The dairying industry has been afforded market protection and the principle of reconstruction of that industry has been supported. Pressure has been brought on the Commonwealth to maintain the rate of first advance payments to wheat growers and the growers' request for a quota delivery system for wheat has been implemented. Research and advisory services of the Department of Agriculture have been progressively widened and intensified during the past fifteen years to meet the increasingly complex needs of rural industries. Government awareness that the farmer today needs advice more sophisticated and comprehensive than ever before is expressed in a broadening of the scope of Department of Agriculture advisory services to embrace economic as well as technical aspects of farm management, and a clearer integration of those services.

The State Government is pursuing policy of assisting primary producers to meet the problems of economic change, in the belief that rural industries merit support and assistance through whatever avenues are open. Recently, I received information from the Minister for Fuel and Power and was astounded to be informed that the rural sector obtains power from the State Electricity Commission at rates up to 32 per cent cheaper than the rates applicable to industrial and suburban domestic supplies. These are some of the Government's achievements.

I now wish to advert to a reference which was made in relation to the wool industry and the problems that face it. I note that about \$1,000 million has been spent by the European Economic Community on removing surplus dairy products. The importance of the rural industry

must be examined from the needs that have been created in secondary industry which is now suffering because of the receding importance of rural development as a contributor to labour and consequently retailing. It faces the common problem of rising costs, diminishing sales with competitive prices.

Again, I refer to the Australian Financial Review of 18th September, which states that Massey-Ferguson Holdings (Australia) Limited's loss rate is now running at more than \$5 million annually. The article states—

The plight of the agricultural equipment sector was further highlighted yesterday with Massey-Ferguson Holdings (Australia) Ltd's loss rate now running at more than \$5 million annually.

The company's report for the nine months to July 31 disclosed that production at its major plant at Sunshine in Victoria is running at less than 50 per cent of normal capacity.

As previously reported, the company has already made heavy staff retrenchments.

The report offers little prospect for improvement in the general situation facing farm equipment suppliers.

The company's managing director, Mr. H. P. Weber, spelled out the extent of the problem facing the industry when he said: "The reluctance of farmers to invest in new plant and equipment engendered by low world prices for farm produce and by the wheat delivery quotas brought about by the world wheat surpluses has been increased by credit restrictions and by disastrous droughts in Queensland and New South Wales, described as the worst in history."

That article does not give us a great deal of heart.

I turn now to another major secondary industry which depends on the rural field. The Australian Financial Review of 23rd September, refers to the downturn in the rural sector which has hit another organization, Connor Shea Holdings Ltd. The newspaper article states—

Continuing to highlight the problems being encountered by Australian manufacturing industry dependent on the rural sector, Connor Shea Holdings Ltd., yesterday reported a loss of \$292,897 for the year ended June 30.

This compares with a profit of \$181,794 the previous year.

This result represents in the vicinity of a \$500,000 downturn in the one year. This is a serious situation.

I also refer to the needs of another section of secondary industry as reported in the Australian Financial Review of 21st September. The article is headed, "Revolution in Farm Equipment Seen" and sets out the needs of the farm equipment sector which are being predicted through comments from the United States of America.

The sitting was suspended at 6.29 p.m. until 8.3 p.m.

The Hon. H. R. WARD.—Following this statement I was advised that today the United States of America based John Deere and the Perth Holdings Chamberlain merge their Australian commitments in relation to the construction of agricultural equipment and machinery. This is a step towards rationalization in this industry, which is a reasonable and proper business practice. However, it is the Victorian sector of the rural economy and the consequences of this merger that I return to consider.

Some obvious questions should be What about the workers; what about the shopkeepers and skilled labourers, and what about the transference of labour? I do not intend to propound the theories of John Maynard Keynes, Cairncross, and Copland. Even if I was fully conversant with them, I do not know that it would be proper to discuss them at this stage. The simple fact —it has dire consequences—is that men who work for an organization or a business commitment such as Massey Ferguson will lose their jobs. They might obtain another job of comparable standard and comparable wages, but the chances are that they will not be accommodated immediately. This will have a disastrous effect upon the economy in the short run and, with the general deterioration in the rural sector, also in the long

run. There will be a loss of purchasing power while they are unemployed and also if skilled workers decide to accept unskilled jobs close to their homes. If they move to another area, they must restrict their spending whilst the transference takes place.

I hope that these comments highlight the magnitude of the problem facing the Government. It concerns West Gippsland, Dandenong Westernport, where there is the developdisaster of the Cresco ment having stopped production. I commend the Premier on initiating a conference with the banking chiefs and I hope that a moratorium scheme such as existed in the 1920s—the period during which I was raised on a farm—might be introduced as relief. Admittedly, today the word "moratorium" is used in another sense, but the concept is to allow by permission of Government a delay in payment of debts in relation to mortgages, loans, and other financial arrangements under which farms are operating.

I turn now to one or two items affecting the South-Eastern Province which concerns the Westernport area and Phillip Island. Recently, I followed up my regular visits to Phillip Island with an intensive conducted tour with representatives of the Country Roads Board and councillors of the Shire of Phillip Island. The island has a remarkable potential Already more as a tourist resort. than \$3 million has been spent in the interests of Phillip Island, of which approximately \$2 million was spent in recent years on the construction of the new bridge from San Remo to Newhaven. My concern is the need for increased studies of flora and fauna on Phillip Island, which is uni-The fairy penguin, the koala and the white mangrove are examples which can be part of special environmental studies.

It is appalling to see some of the land subdivisions without sealed roads and channels and sewerage, or provision made initially for these services. It is an indictment of those concerned that Cape Woolamai area should be desecrated by the overgrowth of bracken and kikuyu. This area has a special majestic beauty which was so well placed on oils by Will Eager in his winning entry in the City of Mordialloc Arts Festival.

I am aware that a section of the Cape Woolamai area has attracted the attention of the Fisheries and Wildlife Branch but in an effort to obtain and retain the best quality of environment in this area we need the mutual regard of the Government and the Shire of Phillip Island to encourage all residents in concert with the two arms of government to achieve the maximum benefit for the island.

The Ports and Harbors Branch of the Public Works Department has established forward studies as a result of overseas visits by its senior officers. This matter is of great concern to both Port Phillip and Westernport bays. At Port Melbourne, the branch has set up a scale model of Port Phillip Bay to simulate tide movement and other bay studies, to which reference was made by Mr. Elliot last night. For nearly four years there has been a constant marine study of Port Phillip Bay. commend the Ports and Harbors Branch and indeed the keenness of learned conservationists backed by enthusiastic idealists for their awareness of the need to protect Port Phillip and Westernport bays.

I draw the attention of the Minister of Public Works to problems associated with the land-locked Baltic Sea which it is claimed is facing death by pollution. The Baltic Sea is bordered by seven nations and there is no agreement on anti-pollution Sweden, the hallmark of measures. quality of life or permissive society or moral pollution, depending on one's philosophy, is, in the case of the Baltic Sea, monumental in its lack of pollution control. The regeneration of the Baltic Sea could take 30 years. There has been unwarranted criticism of some of our manufacturers regarding their efforts to avoid pollution in

sound, air and water, but I agree that some are in the category of the Swedes in this field.

The establishment of a chair of environmental studies is absolutely essential and a most important step in the government of this country, particularly the State of Victoria. I hope the Commonwealth of Australia will also accept the example that was shown by the Premier when he made his recent speech on policy. The recent announcement that the Institution of Engineers will set up a top-level committee to study all aspects of environmental engineering again supports my opening remarks on the aesthetic scientist.

No people are more concerned with the environment of the Mornington Peninsula than Mr. Hunt, myself, the Legislative Assembly members for Dromana, Frankston and West Gippsland, and the Federal member for Flinders. We are conservationists backed by people who have a real interest in their environment and who realize that environment can only be maintained at a material expense based on trained husbandry not only in the field but also in the home.

beaches The subject of referred to last night, and I commend the Minister for Local Government on his "Keep Australia beautiful" cam-Recently, at the City of paign. Mordialloc, Cr. Stan Hawken, the mayor, called a meeting to organize a beach clean-up in preparation for the summer season, as has been done in past years. In its annual report, the Port Phillip Authority states that Mordialloc is the one beach around Port Phillip Bay which requires less attention than others. Nevertheless, the Mordialloc City Council, of which I had the honour to be a member for nine years, has spent more than \$10,000 annually on beach cleaning at a rate of more than \$3,000 a mile. It is interesting to note that the Government intends to increase the subsidies which will be available for the cleaning of our beaches.

The modern packaging of goods together with the untidy habits of people who use our beaches and parks add to costs of Government, local government and the taxpayer. education of the public could be part of the environmental studies that would be undertaken at post-graduate level within our universities. I should now like to deal briefly with education. It is appropriate that one should mention this topic 40 years of direct involvement in education from childhood, in teaching administration and then on the staff of the Victorian Teachers Union. At the last elections fortunately I found myself comfortably opposed to the attitude of the Victorian Teachers Union president and his so-called "centre of the road" policies.

At a later date I intend to speak at length on the challenges of education, the malady of pessimism among teachers, the cost to parents and the needs of the children. The Minister of Education has advanced a programme which is practical and which I do not intend to elaborate at this stage. It can and will be implemented by this Government in spite of the increasing costs to taxpayers.

It is also appropriate that I should outline the Government's record in the field of education and quote figures from six Budgets which have been brought down by the Premier. In 1955-56, the annual expenditure was \$60 million, which represented 20 per cent, increase over the expenditure in 1954-55. In 1958-59, the annual expenditure was million, which was a 30 per cent. increase over 1955-56.

In 1961-62, Parliament authorized expenditure of \$119 the million, which represented an increase of some 40 per cent. on 1958-59. 1964–65, which was the fourth Liberal Parliament, the amount expended was \$159 million, an increase of 34.6 per cent. over 1961-62. the fifth Liberal Parliament, 1967-68. the amount was \$220 million, a 38.3

per cent increase over 1964-65. Now, in the sixth Parliament under Sir Henry Bolte, the expenditure on education will be \$348 million, which is a phenomenal increase of 58 per cent. over 1967-68. Having looked back over many years at the problems which faced me as a student teacher through a series of Governments, I refer to my earlier remarks that everything is relative. However. I do not think the remarkable increases in expenditure on education should pass unnoticed.

I turn now to the question of expenditure on university education. In the 1955-56 Budget, a sum of \$1.9 million was spent on university education in Victoria. In 1958-59, the amount was \$3.2 million; in 1961–62, \$9 million; in 1964–65, \$14 million and in 1967-68, \$19 million. It is projected that in 1970-71 expenditure will be in the vicinity of \$26 million. This is a 27 per cent increase over the 1967-68 period. It is of interest to note that between 1935 and 1955 the total expenditure was \$12 million. Now, in one year, the State is expending more than double the sum of money that was spent in the 20-year period before the present Government came to office.

I look forward confidently to many changes in education to match our technological and cultural age, which is often bandied around as part of the quality of life. I hope to see in the charter of the new university certain matters that should be brought forward and which have criticized in the territory of Papua-New Guinea. It is time we saw instituted in our universities a chair of indigenous studies as related to Australia and also a chair for degree status in journalism, a chair of physical education and a chair of librarianship. I say this with due regard to the fine Library that is established in this building. Because the changes in technological developments librarians can become

outdated quicker than anyone else and need constant training to be brought up to degree status.

In the field of adult education, I pray for the continued support for libraries and regional art galleries. I am aware of the contribution of approximately \$60,000 being made by the Government this year to country art galleries, but it is self-evident that in each generation there are new natures, directions and aims in education which assure the freedom and rationality that can be attained by a future generation. An example of cultural education is the Harry McLelland Gallery at Studio Park. Langwarrin. This gallery has been magnificently designed and erected on 40 acres of land bequeathed to the people by the McLelland family. is now managed by the trustees of the gallery and the Shire of Cranbourne. Because this could be a cultural centre for the Mornington Peninsula, I hope that approaches will be made by the trustees for Government recognition of this remarkable asset, which is conservatively valued, if one can value positively a heritage, at \$250,000.

The Public Works Department constructs for the Education Department and other departments many wonderful functional buildings, which add to the development of the State. wonder if this generation is creating some aesthetic qualities in relation to our buildings or has completely forgotten this aspect. I hope the Minister of Public Works will consider writing into his plans and specifications a reasonable percentage of money for aesthetic purposes in art or sculpture, as well as the normal There are many comsurrounds. petent artists and artisans who can contribute in this field.

Penultimately, I thank the Leader of the House, the Minister of Agriculture, and my colleague, Mr. Alan Hunt, for their advice and encouragement in presenting my first address to this House.

I had the good fortune to attend the Wangaratta High School with the Clerk-Assistant, Mr. Graham Grose, and at this late stage I congratulate him on his appointment to the high office in the administration of this Chamber. I do this in all sincerity, having known him over many years, and I would have done so earlier had the opportunity presented itself.

It might be of some concern to Mr. Swinburne and Mr. Bradbury to know that I received all my early education within their province and had my earliest tutoring under the eye of a member of the Country Party. Figuratively speaking, I lived with Mr. Stuart McDonald for four years and it was a disappointment to him that I attached myself to the Liberal Party. However, he has overcome that disappointment because I was able to accommodate him at the football finals without having to contribute to a "scalpers's" dividend! It is also an enigma that I should face members of the Opposition after working for more than twenty years in the industrial field, but I hope they will forgive me now that I have to support Mr. Kent, one of my constituents, in his claim for a better road.

Finally, it would be remiss of me if I did not refer to the standard of representation set by Mr. Ian Cathie whilst he represented the South-Province. Eastern Mr. Cathie's work was appreciated by the electors, and to this end I have the honor to see that his hard work in the province is noted. Mr. Cathie being a realist and, in some degree, agreeing with my ideas on certain matters, his standard now becomes the minimal standard and a challenge to myself. Parliaments are built on Parliaments and each successive one becomes a new foundation. I realize that Mr. Cathie's colleagues will miss his

contributions to debate on matters relating to education. I hope they understood his knowledge and appreciation of his favoured topic.

I thank the electors of the South-Eastern Province for favouring me with the honour of representing them in this Parliament, and I look forward to making my contribution along the pattern I expressed in my opening gambit.

I express my loyalty to the Queen and Parliament and to the people whom she represents in the hope that I shall see, through service to the Queen, that no single colour, creed or prejudice of man shall rule this society, nor shall I tolerate any imposition which flouts the rule of law or damages the civil liberties of my fellow man.

The Hon. C. Α. MITCHELL (Western Province).—In expressing my loyalty to the Queen, I also express thanks to the Governor, who so readily visits our country areas. Sir Rohan Delacombe will be visiting the province of which I am a representative during the next two months, but as the House will be sitting I shall not be able to be present when he is there. It is good to know that the State has a Governor who shows great interest in country areas.

I was surprised this morning to read in the newspapers the Treasurer's reported statement that if the court ruled against him for not paying pay-roll tax to Federal Government he would still not pay it. When politicians do not accept law and order it will cause trouble in the community. I extend this comment to all politicians, no matter of what party, because politicians should set an example by abiding by the law. I agree with the Treasurer on his stand in regard to pay-roll tax, which should have been abolished years ago, but I do not agree with the honorable gentleman in the attitude he proposes to adopt.

Honorable members must never adopt the idea that people have not a right to protest. People must be

free to express themselves on any Freedom of speech subject. something to be cherished, but people should not resort to violence to secure their own ends.

At present a revolution is occurring in the Shire of Portland. I have just received my valuation notice, which is dated 18th September, 1970, and I have two months in which to give notice that I wish to object to it. At the foot of the notice it states—

Notice is hereby given that some other authority may use one of the bases of value shown for the purposes of a rate or tax levied by that authority.

I, and many others, would be happy to sell our properties at the shire's valuation. I visited the Valuer-General's office in regard to this matter as I felt that something should be done to prevent people from getting into trouble.

The Hon. D. G. Elliot.—Such as going on the rocks.

The Hon. C. A. MITCHELL.—Not only that, but the shire's valuation has been based on the levels prevailing at 31st December, 1968. means that the measure of value adopted by the valuer relates to sales of property made at or about that date. Consequently, a ratepaver desirous of ascertaining the correctness, or otherwise, of his valuation must measure his property's value against its estimated selling price at 31st December, 1968. It would be incorrect to use as a measure the selling price of the property to-day, if indeed there has been a change in the price since 1968. This places all ratepayers in a spot. There is nothing on the valuation notice indicating that it is the 1968 level of valuation, and I feel that this type of notice should be amended.

The shire will be flooded with appeals and, as one who is concerned about probate, I realize that if I do not object to this valuation in effect I shall be indicating that I agree with If I agree with it today and die tomorrow the Probate Duties Office