

aspect of training, because we are all aware of the fact that the quality and calibre of education is dependent upon those who teach, and the quality and calibre of those who teach is dependent upon their training.

I shall at all times strive to uphold and maintain the traditions which have been established in Parliament. It is my sincere hope that I shall be able to uphold and maintain those traditions and standards which were set by the former member for Oakleigh, Mr. Doube. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I move this motion expressing loyalty to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. and to thank His Excellency the Administrator of Victoria for his most gracious Speech.

**Mr. BIRRELL** (Geelong).—Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to the electors of Geelong and a pleasure to myself that I have been asked to second the motion for the adoption of an Address-in-Reply to the Speech delivered this afternoon by His Excellency the Administrator to both Houses of Parliament. I feel honoured to be a member of the 42nd Parliament of the State of Victoria, and I trust that during its term of office a significant contribution will be made to the welfare of this State and its people. The honorable member for Oakleigh mentioned several matters relating to the metropolitan scene. As a country member from a mixed rural, industrial and seaside electorate I shall address myself to a few matters outside the metropolitan scene.

I shall refer first to industry. A number of new industries have recently announced their intention to set up operations in the Geelong district. A huge aluminium industry operating its own powerhouse on the Anglesea coalfield — itself recently opened up by private enterprise — will be spending multiple millions of pounds at Geelong. Point Henry, historically a famous spot, has been chosen as the site of the new industry. This opens up a completely new waterfront area in Geelong, and only last month a large chemical firm showed its confidence in Victoria and in Geelong by announcing a plan for a chemicals plant nearby at Point Henry.

A new cement works at Waurn Ponds near Geelong is under way, and with expansion plans announced by the Ford company at Geelong and the Australian Cement Company, decentralization is being shown to be a reality. The water frontage at Geelong, together with the proved extent and quality of the Anglesea coalfield, will almost certainly guarantee further industrial growth and progress in the Geelong area. To assist decentralized industry, the Government is taking steps to help country industries which do not obtain their raw materials locally, by permitting them to carry anywhere in Victoria at their own discretion the materials required by them and the goods manufactured by them.

I shall now refer to farming and the rural scene. At the present time the rural areas around Geelong have never looked better. I think this is the case for most of the State. Although I have not travelled widely recently, I gather that things have never looked better. A mild winter, with moderate rainfall and the incentive of the Government's drive for increased rural output, has put the rural areas in good heart for the coming season. Land values in the country are high, and the Government will introduce a new scale of land tax for productive rural areas and raise the exemption of properties not subject to land tax. As I drive from Ocean Grove to Geelong each day, I gather the impression from the healthy looks on the faces of the cows and sheep that even they know that there is a Liberal party Government in office. It is possible that there will be a rise in the world price of wool this coming season. We do not know what will be the effect of the common market because it is only of recent origin. However, a rise in wool prices will help not only Australia but also the grazier, who is trying to carry on with a lower income and higher costs.

The fishing industry along the coast and in Port Phillip Bay has had a good season. This is attributed to the mild weather and the normal balance of good and bad seasons. The tourist industry is slowly expanding and modern hotels in the capital cities will cater for an increased flow of tourists. In my own

area—the Bellarine Peninsula and Queenscliff—we are looking forward to increased tourism, and the completion of the four-lane highway to Geelong has already brought about a substantial increase in the tourists patronizing the western shores of the Bay and the coastal regions to the south of Geelong. Incidentally, the Tourist Development Authority will continue to expand and provide help to the smaller coastal resorts in their attempts to provide reasonable facilities for the tourists.

As a further contribution towards reducing the drowning rate, the Government proposes to double the subsidies paid to the Royal Life Saving Society and the Surf Life Saving Association. To encourage councils to keep beaches clean, the Government will provide a subsidy equal to 50 per cent. of the amount spent on beach cleaning by municipalities. The problem of municipal government in relation to the State has caused much thought in recent years and the creation of a Ministry of Local Government has been a major step in the right direction. Municipalities are looking for further co-operation from the Government, which I am sure will always be looking for ways and means to help them in their problems. Several measures are foreseen in this direction. Municipalities are handling an increased load of responsibility, and they welcome this because in their own sphere they are best suited to do the work. However, the increased responsibilities are weighing heavily on them financially, and much thought will be given to this aspect of local government.

My predecessor as the member for Geelong was Sir Thomas Maltby, who has had a distinguished career in several fields in his lifetime. I can do no more than try to follow in his footsteps. We thank him for his great services to this State. In conclusion, I would like to pass on a couple of thoughts which came to me while I was meditating over what I should say to-day.

While we who are gathered here as a Parliament have mainly to do with the Government and regulation of society in State affairs on the material level,

it also behoves us to take note of matters on the spiritual and moral plane. Mankind's disease is basically a spiritual and moral one. Governments do their best while treating the disease as a material one alone, but the patient—in this case society—fails to respond as fully as we would hope. I believe that we, like all materialists, attempt the transformation or improvement of society solely from without, or externally, whereas the additional transformation needed must come from within ourselves individually. A new spirit of love, unselfishness, humility and co-operation is needed everywhere in the community. I think we have tended to disregard the plank in our own eye while criticizing the splinter in the eye of our brother.

Parliaments made up of members living and applying the fruits of the spirit can do much, I believe, to set a new standard and example which the whole community will seek to emulate.

On the motion of **Dr. JENKINS** (Reservoir), the debate was adjourned.

It was ordered that the debate be adjourned until next day and do take precedence of all other business.

#### ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

**The SPEAKER** (Sir **William McDonald**).—The House will now proceed with the appointment of a Chairman of Committees.

**Mr. LOXTON** (Pahran).—I move—

That Joseph Anstice Rafferty, Esquire, be appointed Chairman of Committees of this House.

In submitting this nomination, it should not be necessary for me to enumerate all the accomplishments of the honorable member for Ormond. Suffice it to say that he has the qualifications necessary for this appointment. He was elected to this House in 1955 as the honorable member for Caulfield East, and later had the signal honour of being the first representative of the new Legislative Assembly electorate of Ormond. Since 1955 he has acted as a Temporary Chairman of Committees. He also had