

problem of the Brunswick Girls High School. Three years ago, the Government promised that a new school would be provided. However, money was provided for a different school, not that school. The Government decided that it would not win votes by doing so as it was a Labor area and it switched the money from Brunswick to another area. There is also a problem with the Brunswick East Technical School. It is not the teachers who revolted against the school system but the parents. They had had enough. They realized that their children needed a better education. They will no longer put up with the crumbs and the leftovers. They want a slice of the cake. The workers make the cake and they want a share of it. They will not put up with crumbs that drop on the floor. Therefore, I have been approached by three schools in the area which need a great deal of help. I hope to give my time and efforts to the people who need this help.

I refer to the enormous problems faced by pensioners. I will dedicate myself to those people. The only way we can destroy prejudice, hate and racism is to educate the children while they are young. It is not much good trying to educate them when they reach university. Honorable members should perform their duty and be of service to the community. If they do that they must do really good work. It can be done. A few weeks ago a report appeared in the newspapers on some research that had been carried out about how people regard the migrants of this country. That was a disgrace. Nevertheless, I should like this House to start doing some useful work to instigate an inquiry to ascertain what people really think of migrants. In 1974 new legislation was introduced in the Federal Parliament in relation to migrants. A Liberal senator from South Australia said that migrants who came to this country were worth \$74 000 from the day they arrived. Up to 1975 we brought to this country more than \$2000 million in real value, apart from the work we produced in this country. This South Australian Liberal senator was courageous. He even criticized his own party, which had been in office for 23 years but

had done little to eliminate discrimination. I shall insist that in future honorable members get off their—I do not say what—and do some useful work. A Parliamentary committee should be appointed to ascertain what the people of this country feel towards migrants and we should try to create a better society for everyone.

I love opera and many years ago an opera called *La Gazza Ladra* was written in Italy. This opera is the story of a very rich family. Every summer they used to eat their lunch under the trees in the garden. They had a servant. Their knives and spoons were of silver, not ordinary cutlery. One day, a magpie was sitting in a tree nearby while they had their lunch. The rich people finished lunch and moved away, but the poor peasant servant cleaned up the dishes. The magpie flew down and stole a silver spoon, and a girl was blamed for the theft. She was sacked, and in the end she died. Mr President, I am sorry to say that some members on the other side of the House remind me of *La Gazza Ladra*. They were born with silver spoons in their mouths, and I believe the time has come when the people of this country should share equally.

The Hon. G. A. S. BUTLER (Thomastown Province)—I take this opportunity also of congratulating you, Mr President, on your election to the office of President of this Council. I should like to express my thanks to the officers and staff who have been kind enough to give me guidance and instructions on the forms of this House. To me it is an honour and a privilege to represent the Labor Party in this House, and I hope that in the course of my six years of office here I shall be able to justify that trust. My thanks, of course, go to the electors of Thomastown Province who so magnanimously elected the Australian Labor Party candidate—myself—with 69 per cent of the primary votes cast. I take this to reflect approval of and satisfaction with the Labor Party representation within the northern suburbs.

The electorate that I represent is basically a working-class electorate which has suffered many years of

neglect by Liberal Ministries. I shall mention just a couple of areas of concern. Firstly, the traffic flow of heavy vehicles up the Pascoe Vale Road illustrates the problem of a freeway creating a traffic problem by diverting the traffic into a secondary road. I am informed that about 2000 heavy-duty vehicles travel along Pascoe Vale Road, through the City of Broadmeadows to the Hume Highway. I suggest that this means that very soon consideration should be given to the extension of the Tullamarine Freeway, through Somerton Road, to the Hume Highway, to alleviate the problem.

Secondly, I note with interest that finally a tramline is to be built from the East Preston tram terminus to the Grimshaw Road area in Bundoora. Strangely enough, twenty years ago the Labor Party made representations to this Government for the extension of the tramline and now, some twenty years later, it had been achieved. Those are just two matters to which, along with a lot of other problems associated with education, health and housing, I will devote my attention in this House. I trust that in the course of my term of office here, in conjunction with my colleague Mr Eddy, I will represent the people of Thomastown Province to the best of my ability. At this stage I will leave it at that, and at a later stage will deal with a broader range of matters.

The Hon. C. J. KENNEDY (Waverley Province)—Firstly I congratulate you, Mr President, on your elevation to the high position of President of this Chamber. Until 5 May this year the Waverley Province was a true-blue Liberal Province. This is the first time the Labor Party has won a seat of this nature in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. It has been brought about by the fact that the province takes in Bentleigh, Heatherton, Oakleigh, and Springvale electorates in another place which were won quite handsomely by the great Australian Labor Party. Most of those seats were won for the first time ever by the Labor Party. It also takes in the Legislative Assembly

electorates of Noble Park, Syndal and Wantirna, which will change hands, no doubt, at the next election.

The municipalities within the province of Waverley are Springvale, Moorabbin and Oakleigh and they too have their problems to which I will turn in a moment.

The Hon. D. N. Saltmarsh—And Caulfield.

The Hon. C. J. KENNEDY—And a small area of Caulfield. When I nominated for the seat of Waverley Province, I did not know all the particulars of it. It was regarded as such a true-blue Liberal seat that there was as much chance of winning it for the Labor Party as of winning the Melbourne Cup.

Earlier this year the Minister of Education promised—this was reported in the *Waverley Gazette* after a survey by that newspaper—that he would inquire into the high cost of sending children to school. This promise was never kept. Parents are still facing appalling costs over the compulsory wearing of voluntary school uniforms. Currently more than \$1 million, or at least \$40 a student, is being compulsorily charged in "voluntary" school fees in State secondary schools in the Waverley Province. These are variously called school improvement fees, subject levies, advisory council donations and 57 other varieties—but they are all fees, none of which are founded in law. No law has been passed to allow them to be charged. They were imposed at the behest of this Government and bear no relationship to parents' income. These fees are undoubtedly unlawful, but the schools charge them because the Government starves the schools of funds.

Waverley Province, which is of considerable area, has, like most other electorates, a variety of problems mainly relating to cost of goods and services, education, rates and taxes and even football. Football is a serious problem in Waverley. As all honorable members know, several years ago VFL Park was constructed by the Victorian Football League in Waverley and is the latest cathedral in Victorian State Parliament religion.