

view, the Administration has chosen to deliberately turn its hand against beekeepers. I strongly urge the Government to re-examine this matter with a view to meeting the request of the apiarists' association, which is reasonable. Apparently, the Government intends to meet the expense of providing taxi-cabs in order to make certain travellers happy on Sunday nights, so I feel that it should agree to this modest request from the beekeepers in order to make them happy also.

Extravagance in the use of Government cars has been given much publicity recently, but I do not wish to refer to that aspect until the Premier has made an official statement. However, I should like to focus attention again on economies that could be effected in the maintenance of Government motor vehicles if an instruction were given that Departments should make the greatest possible use of the excellent facilities provided in the Central Plant Workshops of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission at Golden Square. The officer-in-charge is Colonel Robert Myers, who had extensive experience during the war in the maintenance of army motor vehicles. He has established for himself a reputation most people would envy. The workshops are of adequate dimensions and are equipped with excellent plant. The top management personnel and their staff are capable of servicing vehicles in the most modern manner.

Mr. STANISTREET.—Only heavy equipment was dealt with during the régime of the Labour Government.

Mr. STONEHAM.—During the term of office of the previous Government efforts were made to ensure that heavy equipment and motor vehicles from all Departments were serviced there. I am certain that if the Premier would approve of a scheme to ensure that greater use was made of the facilities provided, the taxpayers of this State would be saved considerable expense.

Most country newspapers recently published a press statement issued by the Minister of Electrical Undertakings, which was designed to impress people with the efficiency of the State

Electricity Commission. The press cutting in my possession is headed "S.E.C. Progress in Rural Electrification—Success of the Self-Help Scheme." The sub-heading is "The plan is ahead of schedule." This is excellent publicity if only it were true. The schedule referred to is that laid down by the Commission covering a ten-year period. Under those conditions, it is not difficult for the Commission to claim that it is ahead of schedule. If John Landy were able to claim that the proper time for a mile was six minutes, he would be able to claim that in all his recent races he was more than two minutes ahead of schedule. The State Electricity Commission, like a number of other public authorities, lays down schedules which it knows it will be able to exceed without exertion. The facts come to light when one takes up such a matter with the Minister or the Commission.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Christie).—Order! The honorable member's time has expired.

Mr. DUNSTAN (Mornington).—I wish to refer to an item concerning the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. At the outset I should like to convey to honorable members how deeply impressed I have been with the dignity of the deliberations which take place in this Chamber and the wealth of experience frequently evinced by members on both sides of the House in their contributions to debates.

We all know of John Batman's famous pronouncement, on the banks of the Yarra: "This is the place for a village." Later, in his diary he stated the reason for his decision in these words: "The river comes from the east and I am glad to state that I found the water good and very deep." Since then this great city has been built on that river, the water supply being as important as any other factor in its growth and in its further development yet to come. Thirty or forty miles away from this city there is an area, the Mornington peninsula, which is growing just as rapidly. In the last ten years its growth has been equal to that of any other part of the State, yet there the water supply is not

adequate. Last Sunday morning, in company with two colleagues from another place, I attended a meeting of some 100 irate citizens in what is known as the Heather Hill road area, which is about a mile from Frankston. As Frankston, a town of about 14,000 people, progresses that area will develop. Those people wanted to know when they were going to receive a reticulated water supply. They used the argument that the trunk main from Beaconsfield reservoir was running within a mile and a half of their homes—60 or 70 houses. They stated, quite rightly, that in a civilized State such as this at least it should be possible to give children a bath once a week. If it does not rain sufficiently during the summer months and their tanks are not filled, these people cannot do that unless they cart water, as they have been doing.

It is of no use telling those people, and those of the Solitaire estate in Mornington and the rural parts of Cranbourne and Berwick shires, the facts as we know them to-day—that the source of supply, the Tarago and Bunyip rivers, provides the Beaconsfield reservoir with 2,100,000,000 gallons of water a year and that with the completion of the first stage of the Tarago scheme by the end of the year the water supply will be more than doubled, reaching 4,700,000,000 gallons a year. It is no good telling them that the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission has done everything possible to keep abreast of rapid development in the State; that whereas in 1945 the Commission was servicing 12,000 properties, to-day it is servicing more than 27,000 properties. It serves no purpose to inform them of the large amount of money—millions of pounds—being spent on the diversion of the Tarago river into the Bunyip river, of the enlargement of the mains from Bunyip to the Beaconsfield reservoir, and of the enlargement of the trunk mains from Beaconsfield to Frankston, Bittern and Mornington. Those people want to know only one thing—when they will get a water supply. I cannot tell them, neither can the State Rivers

Mr. Dunstan.

and Water Supply Commission indicate the year in which it will become an accomplished fact.

I do not exaggerate this hardship. When travelling 600 or 700 miles a week in this area, the question of water supply comes up frequently, as well as other large problems such as foreshore erosion and the badly needed development of tourist facilities. Everyone knows that more than half of Melbourne's population spends its holidays on the peninsula. The tourist trade is a life-line of the district. Whatever subjects arise in conversation, one always gets back to that of water supply. That happens at Langwarrin, Baxter, Tooradin and Tyabb. People at Tyabb do not understand why, with reticulated water supplies on both sides, their town, which is on the main road, does not receive a water supply. As usual, primary producers are left out on a limb because the main trunk pipes are laid only to the most closely populated areas. There are 7,000 farmers, including small mixed farmers, poultry farmers, nurserymen, and market gardeners, in an area that is half urban and half rural. Since 1939, no permits have been granted to enable new market gardens to be established or existing ones to be enlarged.

Although I shall speak briefly on this occasion, I assure honorable members that I shall be "bashing" this point inside and outside the Chamber on every possible occasion until a water supply is provided on the peninsula. The area is growing as fast as Dandenong, but the lack of water is retarding or preventing the establishment of heavy and light industries. At present the total supply is 2,100,000,000 gallons a year. It is interesting to note that last year the Heinz factory at Dandenong used 69,000,000 gallons of water. Two very clear points arise out of these facts. The first is the vital necessity to find some means of meeting the present demand and to ensure a reasonable supply for future needs. Secondly, Frankston and Dandenong, which bear on the Mornington peninsula, and the Cranbourne and Berwick shires, are fast becoming suburbs of Melbourne, and it is urgent that the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission and the Melbourne

and Metropolitan Board of Works should come to a mutual agreement whereby the Board will take over the responsibility of supplying water to the heavily industrialized Dandenong-Springvale area. Experts estimate that within five years the Heinz, General Motors-Holdens, and International Harvester undertakings will require 400,000,000 gallons of water a year from the sources I mentioned earlier. Therefore, I emphasize the need for an early agreement between the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission and the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to enable the Board to take over the Springvale-Dandenong, Chelsea, and Frankston areas, so that ample water supplies will be available for the needs of the rest of the peninsula.

Mr. SUTTON (Albert Park).—I claim the privilege for myself and on behalf of the Opposition to compliment the honorable member for Mornington for the cogency and facility with which he delivered his first speech in this House. Unquestionably he understands the local situation and has described the disabilities of his electors most impressively. I am sure that his threat to speak again will materialize, because there will be no doubt that the Government, to which he has given his allegiance, will not be in any undue haste to remove or ameliorate the disabilities of the people in that district. Many years ago, Sir William Harcourt—who later was to be a victim of the most ghastly typographical error—startled the House of Commons by saying, “We are all Socialists.” I do not think it would be easy to startle the members of this House because we have all listened to the fiery assertions of the honorable member for Benambra. If it were possible to startle anybody, it would be the Minister of Education, upon my offering him the assurance that we are all education experts now.

I wish to refer to a broadcast address recently by the secretary of the Victorian Employers' Federation, Mr. Gilmour, in which he said—

Particularly are we concerned with the education of our youth, technically and otherwise, because it means that without

the maximum development educationally there cannot be the maximum development economically, socially or politically.

When he speaks of economic development, he really reveals the secret behind that great—or at any rate powerful—institution, because we find that idea developed most candidly in a statement in the *Review* of the Institute of Public Affairs, Victoria. At page 10 of the January–March, 1956, issue there is a report by the secretary of the institute concerning his recent visit to the United States. Apparently, the main purpose of his visit was to study the work being done to inform the American people of the achievements of business and the operation of the free enterprise economy. In that article we find this statement—

The employee who understands company economics is a better and more productive employee.

That is to say, he is a more efficient and more animated instrument of the production of wealth in which he will not share to any material extent. It is of interest in these days of euphemisms and pretence to find a representative of an organization who is courageous enough to make a public statement of this kind. I found that this official is a many-faceted person, because sometimes later he told a church body that church work was in the horse and buggy stage. He advocated a wider use of modern business technique in the movement. So, he is an expert not only in matters of education. He was credited with that quality by one of our daily papers which headed its report, “Take the politics out of our education, says expert.” Mr. Gilmour is reported in the *Argus* of 31st March as follows:—

He said that if the church was to be really useful in meeting men's needs under modern conditions it must make more use of research techniques and become more promotional and public relations minded.

The last two words are not hyphenated, but we understand what is meant. That reminds me of a paragraph written by Leacock some years ago in one of his books. He spoke of some person of the same type—and of the type that could be found on the Government side of the