

Mr. G. O. REID.—The new roll was initiated by the present Minister of Transport.

Mr. FLOYD.—That is so, and I have complimented him on the job. However, I gave him a prod. Usually it is one thing to give a prod and another thing to get the job done. In association with the present Attorney-General, the Minister of Transport has done a fine job, and there is now an excellent roll of justices.

Mr. G. O. REID.—We are now trying to keep it up to date.

Mr. FLOYD.—That is so. It is one of the faults of the Opposition that it criticizes improvements and I hope the Attorney-General will bear with me if I do just that. If there is to be a strict rationing of justices of the peace in a particular area, we cannot afford to have a person appointed in a specific area because of his business interests, when he lives in another area. I could cite two or three cases when this has happened. I have never been one to advocate the appointment of a justice in another suburb for business purposes because I know that, if he lives in my area, he will curtail my right to have someone else appointed—he might live next door to the person I want appointed. I am pleased that the Attorney-General has indicated that he will take up this matter. It has been suggested, Mr. Speaker, that as one who has been a member of this Parliament for some time, I might curtail my remarks at this stage so that a newly-elected member can participate in the debate. I shall accede to this request.

Mr. HAYES (Scoresby).—I thank the honorable member for Williamstown for his courtesy. The debate on the motion for the adoption of an Address-in-Reply to His Excellency's Speech, so ably moved by the honorable member for Warrnambool and seconded by the honorable member

for Mitcham, affords honorable members the opportunity of reaffirming their expressions of loyalty to the Crown, and it would be proper for me to acknowledge some of the remarks of the previous speaker, the honorable member for Williamstown, who made a number of points with which many honorable members would agree. It was my pleasant experience some weeks ago to witness at first hand the warm welcome extended to Her Majesty's representative, Sir Rohan Delacombe, who, with Lady Delacombe, recently visited the Shire of Knox. At schools, at community centres and at two civic functions, I was able to observe that spirit of loyalty and feeling for the Crown which, I believe, ties Victorians to Her Majesty. Too few people, unfortunately, are privileged to come into contact from day to day with His Excellency the Governor.

To represent the people of the Scoresby electorate is for me both a privilege and an honour. When the Scoresby member's medallion was first struck in 1945, the Parliamentary representative was then the late Sir George Knox. Members of long-standing will, I am sure, be pleased to know that Lady Knox is continuing energetically and with charm the Knox tradition in this area. To me, Lady Knox represents the spirit of community service which we, in Victoria, are fortunate to enjoy. There is a close affinity between charity work and community involvement, and in this regard Victoria has an edge over many other States of the Commonwealth. The now modified electorate of Scoresby is basically made up of three subdivisions which were previously represented by the Minister of State Development, the Minister of Water Supply and the honorable member for Mulgrave. I regard it as an honour and a distinct challenge to succeed those gentlemen and to work in harmony with both

the Minister of Agriculture and the Chairman of Committees of another place. I have a good deal to live up to.

The challenge of the Scoresby electorate—I am sure this applies to many honorable members representing urban areas and some representing provincial areas—is basically one of coping with growth. In the Scoresby electorate, the growth factor could be assessed at approximately 12½ per cent. per annum, which is not insignificant. Naturally, from day to day there is a need in a growing community for those services which the State Government is required to provide—education, health services for both the aged and the young, water supply, drainage and almost every departmental function. Town planning—and this brings me to the co-ordination of these functions in a broad sense—has brought to the electorate, as it has to many outer metropolitan electorates, a very acceptable blueprint allowing for the provision of departmental functions. I should like to develop this theme to some extent.

Many honorable members representing the fast-growing outer metropolitan, urban electorates are looking forward, as I am, to early 1968 when, from statements we have read, we can reasonably expect the introduction of amendments to the Town and Country Planning Act 1961 which will allow, in a broad sense, for strategic State planning. In considering the provision of education services at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels, and of health services, public transport and other services provided by State authorities, we must bear in mind that Melbourne's population will double by the turn of the century. Consequently, there must be a co-ordinated approach to these matters. The Government has asked two planning authorities to submit reports concerning the means by

which long-range planning for Victoria can be best implemented—in essence, how the concept of the State's development can best be determined, now, for the years to come.

It is interesting to note that both authorities agree on the need for a strategic State planning authority, which is representative of those public bodies whose departmental works need to be co-ordinated. Both authorities similarly agree that the major growth of the metropolis—I wish to exclude some of the problems of the provincial areas at this time—will occur in the south-eastern perimeter of the present built-up area. They agree on a similar form of planning, which colloquially is known as the corridor concept. It can be expected by honorable members that there will be considerable pressure, once such a plan is introduced, for the closer development of land which should be reserved for recreational purposes, and I imagine that each honorable member representing a rapidly-growing district will in time be faced with a significant problem, namely, how to finance the reservation of these recreational lands.

My colleague, the honorable member for Moorabbin, spoke adequately concerning the preservation of our flora and fauna. In view of the fact that the Dandenong Ranges are within my electorate, I am vitally interested in this question. How are local government bodies, regional authorities, or the recommended State planning authority to finance the permanent reservation of lands which will be attractive to us and which, in the long term, will be a blessing for all to enjoy? Some people have suggested the introduction of a betterment rate; others have suggested that a loan raising power could be extended to regional authorities to permit of reservations of this type. I suppose that as Geelong and Ballarat and other provincial cities develop as Melbourne is now growing, a similar need will arise in these areas to consider the conservation of our natural resources.

According to the reports that I have read, the place of local government authorities in the planning concept has not yet been agreed upon—certainly, it has not been agreed upon by the Government. I do not believe that the power of local government should be reduced, but rather perhaps that its power, its independence, and its authority should be increased. After all, members on both sides of this House frequently speak of independence from the central Government at Canberra. Surely, if we speak in this way of our relationship with the Federal Government, we should recognize that local government authorities wish to enjoy that same independence in their relationship with the State Government. All honorable members will be anxious to see early in 1968 the implementation of strategic State planning with regional or local government authorities becoming part of the planning complex. Frankly, I think the time is now ripe to introduce strategic planning.

I understand that during the Address-in-Reply debate, honorable members are allowed some latitude, and I have taken advantage of it. I should now like to refer to the Police Force. Frankly, I do not believe that the members of our Police Force receive the praise that is due to them. I have observed their activities in various situations and I have formed the opinion that Victoria has one of the best Police Forces in the world. One hears criticism of the Police Force, but I wonder how many people really appreciate the job that its members do. For instance, many members of the public do not stop to contemplate the great courage that is displayed on many occasions when criminals are apprehended.

One of the unpleasant duties of a policeman is, surely, the job of disentangling vehicles involved in traffic accidents and extricating people from them. Another unenviable duty which results from accidents is that of the policeman who knocks on the

Mr. Hayes.

door of a house during the late hours of the night to inform the occupants that members of their family have been involved in an accident. The way in which the police perform these tasks is not fully appreciated. I hope that, during my term in this Parliament, honorable members in all parts of the House will contribute towards a proper acceptance and appreciation of the Police Force and recognition of the work they perform.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your indulgence, and I thank honorable members in all parts of the House who have extended to me a very warm welcome to this place,

On the motion of Mr. VALE (Greensborough), the debate was adjourned.

It was ordered that the debate be adjourned until next day.

SUMMARY OFFENCES BILL.

This Bill was returned from the Council with a message relating to an amendment.

It was ordered that the message be taken into consideration next day.

ADJOURNMENT.

GEMMILL'S SWAMP, MOOROOPNA: PRESERVATION OF IBIS—TROTting INDUSTRY: ALLEGED ILLEGAL TRADING.

Mr. RYLAH (Chief Secretary).—I move—

That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow, at half-past Ten o'clock.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. RYLAH (Chief Secretary).—I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Mr. WILTON (Broadmeadows).—I direct the attention of the Chief Secretary to a report in to-night's *Herald* concerning Gemmill's Swamp at Mooroopna, and the ibis population there. Some time ago, the Public Works Committee made an investigation concerning the Torrumbarry lakes and members of the committee were impressed by the importance of ibis to the farming community, in