

more should be declared to enable the Authority to develop these areas. At the present time, it is going about its work in a very creditable way, but it is limited by the amount of finance available.

This measure will provide revenue for the month during which this House will be prorogued and another place dissolved. Those members of this Chamber not required to face the electors will be waiting for the Parliament to function again as a unit. Whether some of us will be here when it reassembles is in the hands of the electors. We can only hope we will be. However, whatever may be the outcome of the elections, I trust the Government will approach the principle of development of this State in an energetic manner in an attempt to overcome the vast spread of the metropolitan area and the scarcity of development in our country areas.

**The Hon. W. M. CAMPBELL** (East Yarra Province).—Since being privileged to enter this House, I have heard on a number of occasions that the Government is not looking after the welfare of the people. I have also heard it said in this Chamber this evening that the Government is not building freeways, providing sufficient housing for the people, and so forth. One hears from groups outside Parliament that a start should be made on the construction of the eastern freeway. Other people say that the South-Eastern Freeway should be completed. Somebody else wants the ring road built. One of the latest proposals is to start on a second ring road outside of the inner ring road. Then there are other people who want the under-ground railway to be built. When one adds all these proposals together, one realizes that even if the money were available there would not be sufficient labour to accomplish all these projects in the course of the next five or ten years.

First, I wish to examine the welfare side. Extracting from this measure those items which relate to

welfare, one finds that the Government is spending 50 per cent. of its total expenditure in ways which benefit the welfare of the people. Keeping in mind all the pressures that are on the Government to spend money in other directions, the Government should be commended for setting aside such a large proportion of its expenditure in promoting the welfare of the people. I realize that the expenditure set out in the accompanying Supply sheet, covers one month only.

I, therefore, examined Budget figures for the years 1963 and 1961, and found that in 1963 the amount spent on welfare was 36 per cent. of total Government expenditure. In 1961, it was 32 per cent. Going back a little further, I found that in 1954, the year before the Liberal party came into power, the figure was slightly below 30 per cent. Although there has been vastly greater expenditure in each consecutive year, the percentage the Government has been allocating to the welfare of the people has also steadily increased. It increased in total from 1954 to 1963 by approximately £41,000,000.

I also wish to bring forward one matter concerning education which I consider that the Government, the Education Department and the Department of Labour and Industry should closely examine. I refer to apprenticeship courses. What I have to suggest will cost little but will be of vital importance to the secondary industries of Victoria and, indeed, Australia. The situation that has been created at the moment is not the fault of the Government, the Education Department or the Department of Labour and Industry. It has been created because of the rapid growth of secondary industries in Australia, particularly the larger ones such as paper and pulp mills, refineries, chemical industries and the like.

In all of these industries, more and more emphasis is being placed on rigid control of the end product. To

obtain this rigid control, one must use instrumentation. There is no other way. Yet if a lad has ambitions to become a process control instrument technician, he can be apprenticed only as an instrument maker. Seventy per cent. of the course he undertakes must be discarded because it is of absolutely no use to him. Consequently he has to undertake further studies in the evening in order to finish his education.

The committee which has been set up by the Department of Labour and Industry should work in conjunction with the Education Department and also with representatives of the respective industries concerned in examining apprenticeship courses. I do not mean that persons like managing directors should be consulted, because in most cases managing directors know no more about this problem than does the Chamber of Manufactures. The only people who are aware of the position that has been created in regard to this type of education are works managers and the like. This committee should be approached with a request to survey the courses now laid down by the Apprenticeship Commission. I have mentioned only one particular field, but I know that the problem exists in others.

During the first two years of an apprenticeship, a lad leaves work for outside study one day a week; during the third and fourth years he has half a day a week for studies. Over this four-year period 70 per cent. of what he learns is of no interest to his employer. Consequently, my proposal to survey this aspect of education, which will cost little, should be closely examined by the two Departments concerned. If it is not, secondary industry will be in serious trouble within the next five years.

Other speakers have referred to housing. As I previously said, the Government is looking after the welfare of every person in the community, from child to pensioner. So far as housing is

concerned, I have figures which may be of interest. Comments are continually made about the unfortunate person who is living by himself or unfortunate couples. Up to 1955 only eight one-bedroom, single-person units had been constructed in Victoria, and 507 one-bedroom units for couples. Between June, 1955 and February, 1964, this Government constructed 757 lone-person units and 1,000 Darby and Joan units, making a total of 1,757 units. At the moment an additional 202 lone-person units and 75 Darby and Joan units are under construction. The Commission has already agreed to the construction of six twelve-storied T shaped blocks of flats with elevators for lone persons.

Honorable members may say that I am window dressing—I have heard that expression used quite frequently—and I say quite frankly that I am, and I am proud of it. Any Government which can fill its window and display to the people of Victoria all the things that the Liberal and Country party Government has done for the welfare of the people of this State over the past nine years should be proud.

**The Hon. ARTHUR SMITH**  
(Bendigo Province). — Honorable members are accustomed to this type of measure being debated, and we usually agree to it after we express some reservations on it. I propose to relate my remarks to two specific items, education and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. This morning in the post I received an invitation to the reopening of the Oral School for the Deaf at Flora Hill, Bendigo, by the Premier on Friday. I am not taking exception to the Premier being invited to reopen this institution or to the committee of management exercising its right to issue invitations to the Premier to reopen it. However, I do take exception to the fact that this school was closed by this Government. Honorable members, particularly Mr. Grigg, will remember that this school was closed in the face