

INTERVIEW LOG SHEET

PIRSA Oral History Program – State Library reference no. for Somerville Collection OH 675/8

An interview with Mr Gabe Bywaters conducted by Bernard O’Neil on 17 February 2004 in regards to the history of the Department of Agriculture

Time	Subject	Proper names
	Tape 1, Side A	
	Personal background: born 2 September 1914; schooling in Gawler; early work in Gawler	Gawler; Gawler Primary School and Gawler Technical School
	Working for Rawleigh’s, Largs Bay	Largs Bay; Rawleigh company
	Member of Church of Christ; married at Semaphore	Semaphore; Gawler
	Ran a delicatessen; manpower duties in World War II – John Dring carriers, Pt Adelaide wharves; ill-health	Cheltenham; Port Adelaide; River Murray
	Farming and fishing on the River Murray	River Murray; Murray Bridge
	Political career in the Labor Party	
	Family life in Gawler	Adelaide
	Working and life in the Depression years; the rural life at Gawler	Gawler; Perry’s Engineering; May Brothers
	Cycling from Gawler to Adelaide; church interests; sport	
	Political involvement with ALP; entering Parliament; father’s influence	Rawleigh’s; Ethelton and Glanville Sub-Branch; Harold Tapping; Port Adelaide Council; Labour Day Council
	Great Depression experiences, including political awareness; soap-boxing in Botanic Park; political consciousness and beliefs	Walkers Place, Gawler; Speakers’ Corner, Botanic Park; Labor Party; Mr Thorpe; Murray Bridge; Gough Whitlam; Arthur Caldwell; Frome Road
	Political debating society	Hindmarsh; Woodville; Port Adelaide; Ethelton; Glanville; Largs Bay; Bardolph Shield; Tapping; Alec Riddoch; Ethelton–Glanville debating team
	Stevedoring work, World War II; ill-health	Dring’s; ICI works
	Move to Murray Bridge; employment in Murray Bridge; local power supply; Playford’s policies	Murray Bridge; Mypolonga; Wall Flat; Adelaide Electric Supply Co.; ETSA; Tom Playford; Housing Trust; Leigh Creek; Newcastle; Port Augusta Power Station
	Working as a salesman; local electorate then and now; local church and sport; contribution to local community	Tailem Bend; Jervois; Mypolonga; Mannum; Callington; Walkers Flat; Wellington East; Moorlands; Strathalbyn; Peter Lewis; Murray Bridge;
	Pre-selection of the local Member of Parliament (1953, 1956); lifestyle of a politician; 1956 flood	Mr McKenzie; Mr White; Mr Cook; Mr Moroney; River Murray
	Tape 1, Side B	
	Local water supply; Mallee farmers	Lance Cambbel; Urrbrae; Murray Bridge; Southern Cross
	Problem solving as a politician; contacts as a politician; political bi-partisanship in the era of the Playmänder; role in Opposition	Palmer; Mt Gambier; Mannum Show; Playford; Labor Party; Mick O’Halloran
	Interest in agricultural views; becoming Minister of Agriculture, Lands, and Woods and Forests; Minister of Agriculture’s Office; bushfire control; Minister of Roads; office accommodation	Mallee; Eyre Peninsula; Pt Giles; Mr Clark; Des Corcoran; Department of Primary Industries; Bert Rush; [Geoff] Strickland; Stan Bevan; Marshall Irving; Gawler Place; Reserve Bank Building; Max Dennis; ‘Gabe’s Cabin’

	Working arrangement with Department of Agriculture; Labor Party policy on agriculture; legislation on wine grapes; egg marketing issues; interstate trading	Playford; Prices Commissioner; Condor Laucke; Harry King; George Hambour; Tanunda; Commonwealth Egg Marketing Authority; Coles; Woolworths; Murray Bridge; Egg Board; Barossa Valley; Gawler; Salisbury
	Tape 2, Side A	
	Responsibilities of different boards; interstate trade; de-regulation; ministerial control of boards; Public Service involvement in appointments	Woolworths; Coles; Milk Board; Egg Board; Potato Board; Tom Miller; Strickland; Barley Board
	Relations with Directors; field trips; range of meetings with industry sectors; relations with Departmental staff; public role as Minister	Strickland; Irving; Nagoora Burr; Woods and Forest Board; Miller; Graham Itzerott; Peter Angove; Ceduna; Mt Gambier
	Standing Committees on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests; Ministers' Committee; Agriculture Council	Adelaide; Viv Lohmeyer
	Attitude of farmers to Department/government	Strickland
	Relations with Director Strickland	
	Retired Agriculture Officers Group luncheon	Miller; Port Lincoln
	Other portfolio responsibilities; Woods and Forests Conferences	Bulolo New Guinea; Brian Bednall; Mr Jacobs; South East; Queensland; Bill ???, (NSW Minister); Mr Thomson
	Parliamentary role; legislation and regulations	Committee of Subordinate Legislation
	Relations with Federal government and interstate Ministers	Barley Board; Victoria; SA; Charlie Adaman; Dr Forbes; Mr Askin
	Relations with the Public Service Association	Max Dennis; Clerks Union; Harry Krantz; Transport Workers Union; Waterside Workers' Federation; Murray Bridge; Jan McMahon
	Tape 2, Side B	
	Loss of Parliamentary seat; life as a real estate agent	
	Maintaining political interest; serving on Milk Board and the SGIC Board; declined serving on the Egg Board	Jack Langley; Murray Bridge; Ross Storey; Tom Casey; Ray Fuge
	Short role as Minister of Lands	Department of Lands; Des Corcoran
	Term as Minister of Agriculture; turnover of Ministers	Stock Graziers Association; Ross Storey; Tom Casey; Brian Chatterton; [Kym] Mayes; Paul Holloway; Miller; Roseworthy [College]; Waite Institute