are in such a position that 2s, a month saved in meter rent could be put to good advantage. Although some members think it a small matter, 44,000 consumers have petitioned this House to take action to protect them from the charges of the Adelaide Electric Supply Company.

Mr. Rudall—What did the meters cost the company?

Mr. BARDOLPH—According to the evidence submitted in August, 1921, it was £200,000. In cases where meters had not been inspected for 25 years the depreciation would have paid for all the meters the company possessed.

Mr. Rudall—That was proved wrong at the investigation.

Mr. BARDOLPH—It was not proved wrong, it was suggested that it was inaccurate. The 44,000 consumers in the petition have pointed out that it is unjust for them to be compelled to pay meter rent, coupled with a minimum charge for electricity. This House must at least take into consideration the fact that consumers are now feeling the pinch to such an extent that the Housewives' Association, without any great effort, has 40,000 housewives sign a petition asking that meter rent be abolished.

The Hon. S. W. Jeffries—How many houses are there in the metropolitan area?

Mr. BARDOLPH—The Minister has an army of clerks and can secure that information better than I can.

The Hon. S. W. Jeffries—Are they all living in the metropolitan area?

Mr. BARDOLPH—I am not concerned about whether all are in the metropolitan area or not, the fact remains that they signed the petition. It is not the duty of members to protect a combine. Their first duty is to the people, and in this instance where there is an anomaly and people are being overcharged because of a combine it is their duty to remove the anomaly.

Mr. Hamilton—I do not think I would have learnt anything.

Mr. BARDOLPH—There are some children attending school for whom even the most ex-

- Federal Council, the following further resolution was carried:

This that Graziers' Federal Council of Australia, representing practically the whole of the graziers of Australia, views with much concern the increase of the Alsatian dogs in Australia, and as a preliminary step towards their eradication, makes further representation to the Federal Government on the view of them being prohibited entry into the Commonwealth.

All federated associations were asked to support the resolution. As a result of those representations to the Commonwealth Government, that Government issued a proclamation prohibiting the importation of Alsatians into Australia for a period of five years from May 15, 1929, except with the consent of the Minister of Customs. That period expired in May last, and the Government has since continued the ban.

Mr. Dunks—Did the Government give a reason for the ban?

The Hon. G. F. JENKINS (Burra-Burr):—I trust members will give this Bill the serious consideration which its importance demands. It has been described by the manager of one of the biggest pastoral companies in Adelaide as the most important of legislation which has come before Parliament this session. It is interesting to watch the efforts which have been made to induce Government to realise the importance of legislation of this nature and the necessity for taking some steps to protect the interests of this most important industry in the Commonwealth—the pastoral industry. That industry returns more wealth to Australia than any other industry, and consequently any pest which may be considered a menace to it has to be dealt with very seriously by the Parliaments in the different States and the Commonwealth Government. Referring to the early efforts made by the Grizzlies' Association of Australia, the Grizzlies' Federal Council met on June 26, 1927, and a resolution was carried to the effect that the Commonwealth authorities be requested to prohibit the importation of breeding or Alsatian dogs. That council is composed of delegates from every Stockowners' or Grizzlies' Association in Australia. The resolution was sent to the Federal Government, which, however, did not act at that period, but obtained a report from Dr. Robertson, a veterinary officer. He reported adversely on the matter. What experience he had to justify the Commonwealth Government passing so much confidence in him I cannot say. In the following year, at the conference of the Grizzlies'
The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—Dingoos are restricted only over South Australia even at present. The main breeding ground for them is in that territory lying towards the Murray and Eyre Ranges, and the far north-east of South Australia, but there are dingoos still in the north-eastern pastoral country along the Broken Hill, New England, and even in the south-west of the State. In the Gippsland country and various parts of Victoria abetting the South Australian border there are still many dingoos and the Box Flat Vermin Board has been formed against them in the country adjacent to the Victorian border, south of Pineycone.

Mr. Rodall—How many dingoos have been killed in the South-East?

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—I cannot say otherwise, but I know that the Box Flat Vermin Board keeps a record permanently employed in killing dingoos, unless it has recently discontinued that practice. Before proceeding to read from the report of the Select Committee in Western Australia, I wish to give some information as to what was transpired at a conference of Ministers of Agriculture in June, 1925. The Hon. J. Cowan, who represented South Australia, brought up the question of the prohibition of the importation of Alsatian dogs.

That was supported by every Minister present. After they had spoken, the Hon. J. Pennington, who was Minister of Agriculture in Victoria, and chairman of the conference, made the following statement:

I may say I have had an experience that I would not wish to see before any other member of the conference. It was in connection with the Alsatian wolf-hound.

Mr. Dunks—Is that the right name for it?

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—I do not know because the sponsors of this dog change its name from time to time in order, I think, to catch people's fancy.

Mr. Dunks—It is termed "sheep dog" in England.

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—Yes, but when it was introduced into England it would have been unpopular to call it a German sheep dog, so it was called an Alsatian.

Mr. Lewis—Are you calling it a wolf hound because it is a wolf hound?

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—The statement referred to continues:

My daughter was presented with one of those Wolf hounds in 1926. It was presented to her by a lady in London, who sent it out here free of expense. I took possession of it in November, 1926, and took it home. In April of the following year I very nearly lost my daughter through the action of the Alsatian. My daughter was about to go away abroad, but she had to stay here that dog. It attacked her without any warning and it was then that the dog had been inserted from our end to ours; 11 stitches had to be inserted, and it also lost its left eye. It was quite blind. Betty was very seriously hurt, and the lower part of her back was bruised. Both girls have had to go for the operation. Dr. Johns said that the arrows of the girls could be heard in the streets. Betty was in two streets away. Betty had received a severe shock, and had scarcely any sleep last night.

I have innumerable reports of more or less similar nature, but it is unnecessary to recount them all. I have heard from two ill-informed Alsatians that they are properly authenticated cases of attacks by these dogs—in the one case upon children, and in the other upon a grown-up young woman who was herself the attendant of the dog and to whom it was supposed to be affectionate. Both statements show that there is some justification in the claim that there is a danger to South Australians in allowing these dogs, not only to breed indiscriminately, but to get into the hands of people who will not take proper care of them.

Mr. Dale—They are not as dangerous as the half-bred greyhound.

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—The honourable member is entitled to his opinion, but if he were engaged in the business of raising sheep on his property and there was a danger of a big wolf-like dog getting out amongst the dingoes and cross-breeding, he would take a very different view, and would realise that these men who are fighting in the back areas of South Australia to maintain its pastoral production, are waging continual war against pests that have been introduced into the State.

Mr. Dale—I have seen an Alsatian dog chase a fox right through a flock of sheep.

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—I have no doubt about it. If an Alsatian dog was chasing anything else at all the moment he would go right through a flock. Whether it were man or beast, once he had decided on his quarry he would chase it anywhere. No doubt Mr. Dale has seen such a thing before.

Mr. Dunks—It is a horrid experience.

Mr. Dale—Surely the honourable member would be in favour of breeding dogs to kill foxes, which are a greater menace than Alsatians?

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—There are many other ways of killing foxes than by means of Alsatian dogs. I want to know what the Alsatians are going to feed on when they have cleaned up the foxes. That is what concerns us. The foxes are another imported pest which we should have been wise enough to take care to prevent their introduction. It was only because people of the same type as those who support Alsatians desired to get more sport for themselves, that the fox was introduced here.

Mr. Dale—It was members of your party who introduced the fox.

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—I am not saying who brought them here. This Parliament should have learned its lesson from the experience of the past with introduced pests, and should not take too many risks with another pest of which we have had ample evidence.

Mr. Dunks—Has the honourable member evidence of the menace of the Alsatian in the sheep country?

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—In the mass of literature which has been supplied me there is ample evidence of the serious menace they are in the sheep country, apart from the question of their cross breeding. The life of the men outback is one constant struggle with the dingos. A vermin fence which will keep out a dingo would not keep out a cross-bred Alsatian. It is interesting to know, too, that there are some persons engaged in dogging in the Musgrave Ranges and elsewhere who have even thought it expedient to take Alsatian dogs out there to cross breed with the dingos in order to make the scalps of enhanced value.

There are men living in the back blocks prepared to take Alsatian there in order to cross-breed them with dingos. Mr. J. E. Pick, of Coondambro Station, who was formerly a member of this House, said he met a man with a truck a few months ago. He had with him a puppy. Mr. Pick asked him what sort it was, and he said "An Alsatian." On being asked what he was going to do with it the man replied that he was taking it to the Musgrave Ranges to crossbreed with dingos so that the scalps would be worth more than the 7s. 6d. each then being paid for these.

Mr. Dale—That's a nice thing to do, isn't it? Out.

The Hon. G. F. Jenkins—Mr. Pick said: "This one will not go out to the Musgrave Ranges," and killed the animal there and then. I have quoted this instance to show that men grappling with pests are prepared to go to any length in order to prevent the menace of such animals getting into the back country. It
quote the following letter from Mr. J. E. Pick, Comandybilly Station, dated September 6, 1924:—

THE MOUNTAIN OF THE ALBASTIAN.

The letter to Mr. B. R. Melrose pub-
lished in the "Advertiser," of August 29, con-
trary to the menace of the Albastian dog, is a
worthy member of Parliament in South Australia, the
Albastian which the dingoes would be much too
big to worry about. These dogs are found in the
country outside O'Keefe's Line and have been
spotted on the hundreds of thousands of pounds of
meat distributed to keep out the dingoes, and
money could be saved if they were exterminated.

Albastians were allowed to cross with wild
sheep and they are plentiful outside the
varmint proof fence. That there is a real
danger of this dog crossing with the dingoes
there can be no doubt. As early as only a few months
ago I saw a man who was taking an Albastian
to the Minyargie Ranges for the pur-
pose of breeding the dog so that she could
be worth more than $7. 6d. The very
same适用于—size, courage, and intelligence—
are the characteristics which make him a real
danger to pastoralist outside areas. I am
planned to show that a deception from
the Albastian Defence League which waited on the
Minister last week, asking for a measure of control,
does not suggest that
August 29, 1924.

There are wild dogs in the country south of the
railway line and the Albastian North or North-West. Albastians should be
prohibited from entering these areas, as in the
prohibited area, failing that, be confined to the
metropolitan areas.

I will also quote some of the evidence given
before the Select Committee on the Albastian
Dog Bill which sat in Western Australia in
June 1929. It is of particular interest at
present because the Committee took evidence
not only from Albastian breeders, but also from
grazers, members of the Royal Agricultural
Society, and various other persons interested
in the question, R. J. Robertson, secretary of
the Western Australian Canine Association,
was examined, and I quote the following from
his evidence:—

By Mr. Lindsay:—

I received a letter which has been handed to the
Chairman.—Yes.

Did you appoint a committee to come out
with certain investigations?—Yes.

The reply was:—

I do, because some considerable time ago my
brother got a passage through translated as
Mr. Shephard, Secretary to the Premier. . . .
and the chance for family trees of the
Albastian from entering Commonwealth authorities,
the Albastians being accepted as abso-

utely authentic. For the first time we got in
the following letter dated April 29, 1929, to the Secretary of
Broomhill, G.S.R., Western Australia, dated
April 29, 1929, to the secretary of the Western
Australian Marine Studbreeders' Association:—

Yours of the 12th instant to Mrs. K. Sher-
dan being handed to me caused me to observe
the Albastian bitch and a Kelpie-Albastian
cross dog. They caused me much astonish-
ment. If the Albastian was taken off the
chum together, which they managed more than once,
then they would not look what you will
accept. I submit this pedigree must be
accepted. It has been proved that there has
been no wolf cross for the past 100 years.

At page 12 of the report Mr. W. J. Ashton,
secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of
Western Australia was examined. In answer
to questions 159 and 160 by the Chairman,
he said:—

In 1928 the council discussed the question of
whether the Government should make a
request to the introduction of the Albastian
into Australia. Prior to that the council had
sent two expeditions out of the Department of Agriculture
and had been given to understand that the State Government
had no control over the introduction of the dog into the
Commonwealth. Affiliated with the Royal Agricultu-
ral Society are approximately 74 agricultural societies covering the whole of the
State, practically, from Northam to
Salmon Gums. At the annual confer-
ence held last year, this motion was
unanimously endorsed.

But was there no opposition at all?—None.
One of our breeders is Mr. Robert Carroll,
did cross the Albastian with the kelpie, and he
reported to us that while this was only a pop,
at every chance he had of getting some
it straight away killed a sheep, and that it had
become so disastrous to him as a sheep dog
that he destroyed it. This is the only evidence
of the Albastian being tried as a sheepdog
in Western Australia.

Mr. Dunks—Are there not some people who
argue that the Albastian is a sheep dog?

The Hon. T. E. JENKINS—It has been
claimed in South Australia and elsewhere
that it is a sheep dog, but I defy honourable
members to cite a single instance where this so-
called wonderful sheep dog has been entered
for any of our dog shows in South Australia
and has been successful.

If the persons who make such statements can
bring forward evidence showing that an
Albastian has been successful at a sheep dog
trial or competition anywhere in Australia they
will be bringing forward some evidence worth
while in support of the Albastian. I also quote
the following letter dated April 29, 1929, to the Secretary of
Broomhill, G.S.R., Western Australia, dated
April 29, 1929, to the secretary of the Western
Australian Marine Studbreeders' Association:—

Yours of the 12th instant to Mrs. K. Sher-
dan being handed to me caused me to observe
the Albastian bitch and a Kelpie-Albastian
cross dog. They caused me much astonish-
ment. If the Albastian was taken off the
chum together, which they managed more than once,
then they would not look what you will
accept. I submit this pedigree must be
accepted. It has been proved that there has
been no wolf cross for the past 100 years.

At page 12 of the report Mr. W. J. Ashton,
secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of
Western Australia was examined. In answer
to questions 159 and 160 by the Chairman,
he said:—

In 1928 the council discussed the question of
whether the Government should make a
request to the introduction of the Albastian
into Australia. Prior to that the council had
sent two expeditions out of the Department of Agriculture
and had been given to understand that the State Government
had no control over the introduction of the dog into the
Commonwealth. Affiliated with the Royal Agricultu-
ral Society are approximately 74 agricultural societies covering the whole of the
State, practically, from Northam to
Salmon Gums. At the annual confer-
ence held last year, this motion was
unanimously endorsed.

But was there no opposition at all?—None.
One of our breeders is Mr. Robert Carroll,
did cross the Albastian with the kelpie, and he
reported to us that while this was only a pop,
at every chance he had of getting some
it straight away killed a sheep, and that it had
become so disastrous to him as a sheep dog
that he destroyed it. This is the only evidence
of the Albastian being tried as a sheepdog
in Western Australia.

Mr. Dunks—Are there not some people who
argue that the Albastian is a sheep dog?

The Hon. T. E. JENKINS—It has been
claimed in South Australia and elsewhere
that it is a sheep dog, but I defy honourable
members to cite a single instance where this so-
called wonderful sheep dog has been entered
for any of our dog shows in South Australia
and has been successful.
In all wild beasts there is a certain ferocity which it is difficult to overcome even by the most docile animal which may become crossed in each. I do not think it is necessary to quote further evidence of the fact that these dogs have crossed with wolves at times and, as a consequence, that it is wolf blood which adds to their great menace and their crime.

These opinions were given before the Select Committee of the Zoolological Gardens, and the following is an extract from that report:

"...in my opinion it is most desirable that the Alaskan dog should be allowed to enter the United States. I think there is no doubt that the Alaskan dog is a great asset to the country and is very likely to be of great service to the United States in the future. The Alaskan dog is a great asset to the country and is very likely to be of great service to the United States in the future."
from experience, that it is reasonably possible to do it. I would not say it is utterly impossible, because I have known of dingoes which have been tamed. I remember one instance where my grandfather and I were boys at the Herbrion. The local doctor caught a dingo pup and rearred it, and it was a great pet of his wife. The moment that dog, after it was grown, got away it went straight to the nearest flock of sheep and destroyed it. It cost the doctor well over £50 in damages. Robert Kalkaski in a book entitled "Australian Barkers and Bites" quotes various articles and letters which he has written to the press in New South Wales urging that these dogs should not be allowed to come into use. One is as follows:

If these brutes are allowed to "go bush," they will become pests, greater than rabbits, foxes, or grizzly bear. Crossed with the dingo, they will become dangerous to human life and merciless killers of cattle and sheep.

It is not only a question of danger to sheep, but to cattle. Only last week a report was published in the Queensland press that an Alsatian was destroyed whilst killing cattle, and that the owner, who was a well-known dog fancier, destroyed the dog for £100 damages. The owner of the dingo immediately thanked him for giving proof of ownership and sued the doctor for damages for the cattle destroyed. The result has not yet appeared in the press, but I understand yesterday, by telegraph from Queensland, that the court awarded £70 damages against the doctor in respect of 20 cattle killed by the dog.

Mr. Dale—Little calves, I suppose.

The Hon. G. P. Jenkins—I do not know the ages of the cattle. If this House were more evidence of the danger of these dogs going bush in Australia, and what will happen as a result, it will not be difficult for me to adduce it. I wish to quote another extract from the book which I have mentioned. On page 214 the writer reproduces a copy of a statutory declaration by G. H. Gilbert, a Government trapper of Western Australia, as follows:

(2) I am employed by the State Government Board as a trapper, and have been employed for the past 2½ years. I have been trapping dingoes for that length of time. In this time I have trapped hundreds of dingoes.

(3) I know the Alsatian dog well. I would describe it as follows: Big, rough-haired dog, powerful build, prick ears, black muzzle, with bushy tail frequently with a ring. This type is of a bold, intelligent eye; mostly slate-grey coat.

In July, 1933, I was trapping in the Mount Marshall district, and one day I found a large dog dead in one of my traps. I recognised it as an Alsatian dog. It was unsterilised, and had no collar.

I scalped the dog and took the scalp to the Mount Marshall vermin board, where it was definitely established as belonging to an Alsatian by the members of the board.

Upon my approaching, it was ascertained that a purebred Alsatian dog owned by a Mr. McManus, of Mount Marshall, had disappeared from his home some 18 months previously.

Upon my approaching, Mr. McManus he admitted to me and to the late Cowan James Craig, the owner of the herd of cattle, that he had trapped the dog which I had trapped was his (McManus's). He was frank enough to say that he had bought this one from Snowdon, of Perth, an importer of Alsatians, and that it was a pedigreed dog.

A fortnight later, within a mile of the place where I trapped the Alsatian dog, I trapped a dingo with three pups. The dingo was a pure dingo, but the pups were distinctly an Alsatian cross with a dingo. They would be about 12 weeks old.

(9) I base my opinion on the following facts:—The pups were a good deal larger than dingo pups at this time of year. They were of a slate-grey colour with a very dark muzzle, and in general appearance very much more like an Alsatian than any dog who is producing the wealth of this country.

If this House is prepared to treat lightly the evidence before it—and much more is obtainable—it must take the responsibility, but I am sure that the time will come when Australia will recognise those who are trying to prevent the introduction, or dissemination, of another pest amongst the pastoral areas of Australia are doing something in the interest of the whole country. I move the second reading and commend the Bill to the favourable consideration of members.

Mr. PETERICK seconded the adjournment of the debate.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND HOUSES IN INDUSTRY

Adjourned debate on the motion of Mr. Howard—

That with a view of revising unemployment, and with the idea of creating 256,000 of the Industrial Cods, 1929, this House directs the Board of Industry to investigate and report to the Minister for Industry on the question of working hours in industry so as to ascertain whether the hours should be less than the 48 per week and, if so, what the number of the people should be: That a message be sent to the Legislative Council transmitting the report of the committee investigating the working conditions and requesting their concurrence thereto.