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Title:
Statement: Fraser's federalism policy

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

July 21, 1976.

Date.....

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
228 4811

FRASER'S FEDERALISM POLICY

"Attacks on State Governments by the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, were an attempt to distract people from the impact Federal Government policies would have on day-to-day life in the States," the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today.

"Mr. Fraser is making these attacks to divert attention away from the fact that his Federalism policy will give the States insufficient money to provide normal services", Mr. Dunstan said.

"His Federalism policy has been criticised by Liberal and Labor Premiers because all Premiers realise that we are getting less money in real terms than we received last year.

"It is absurd for Mr. Fraser to say we are asking for increased funds; what the States want is a continuation of the money we have received previously.

"Mr. Fraser's Federalism policies will mean that roads, hospitals, schools and all the other services which State Governments provide will be affected.

"This year for example, the South Australian Government - which is in the best position of any State - will be able to let new school contracts worth only about \$2 million in a building programme which is normally in excess of \$40 million a year on current costs.

"Apart from the very damaging effect this will have on the construction industry and the increased unemployment that will flow as a result, Mr. Fraser is urging us to cut back in the areas where we have previously increased public employment - and the two biggest fields are teachers and nurses.

"Dr. Tonkin, by his continued support for Mr. Fraser's policies, obviously believes that South Australia should be run down. As the effects of Mr. Fraser's policies become more apparent, people will see Dr. Tonkin and Mr. Fraser in the same light".



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