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Statement: Woods and Forests

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# STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date.....August 27, 1976..  
Embargo.....

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

## WOODS AND FORESTS

The State Government is to expand the regional headquarters of the Woods and Forests Department at Mount Gambier, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, announced in Mount Gambier today.

The extensions, which will cost more than \$100,000, will enable between ten to fifteen additional members of staff to be transferred from Adelaide and other offices to the Mount Gambier complex.

"The Government is committed to decentralisation of as much of its administration as possible", Mr. Dunstan said.

"In particular we want to put administrative and technical staff into regional offices, especially if they are close to a Department's operations in the area.

"The Woods and Forests Department is re-organising its forests operations, management services and administrative divisions and the upgrading of the Mount Gambier regional headquarters is a major part of that programme. The decentralisation of the department will lead to greater efficiency because of ease of contact between technical and administrative staff and the site operations and it will also bring more people to the South East.

Mr. Dunstan said the extensions to the Woods and Forests buildings would be carefully matched with the present structure and he expected work would start this financial year.