



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/3238
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:
Speech at the official opening of Comalco plant

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/3238

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

SPEECH BY THE PREMIER, HON. DON DUNSTAN, Q.C., M.P., AT THE
OFFICIAL OPENING OF COMALCO PLANT, 28.9.67.

MR. HIBBERD, MR. HOWARD, MR. WATKIN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,
GENTLEMEN :

I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND TO COMALCO INDUSTRIES PROPRIETARY LIMITED, AN OFFICIAL WELCOME TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA ON THE OCCASION OF THIS OPENING CEREMONY OF THE COMPANY'S NEW PLANT IN OUR STATE.

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT, I WOULD EXPRESS THANKS FOR THE KIND REFERENCES WHICH YOU, MR. HIBBERD, MADE REGARDING THE ASSISTANCE THAT YOUR COMPANY HAS RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH THIS PLANT. I, IN TURN, WOULD LIKE TO PAY A COMPLIMENT TO COMALCO INDUSTRIES PROPRIETARY LIMITED. MOST PEOPLE FULLY REALIZE THAT A DECISION TO UNDERTAKE A CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF THE MAGNITUDE INVOLVED IN THIS PLANT IS NOT TAKEN LIGHTLY AND ONLY

PAGE 2.

AFTER DUE CONSIDERATION OF ALL FACTS. IN LOOKING BACK OVER MY DEPARTMENT'S RECORDS, I FIND THAT IT WAS ONLY IN APRIL OF LAST YEAR THAT THE FIRST NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE WITH OFFICERS OF THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE PROPOSAL OF YOUR COMPANY TO SET UP MANUFACTURE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. THE COMPARATIVE SHORT PERIOD OF TIME BETWEEN THE COMMENCEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS AND THE OPERATION OF THE PLANT IS A CREDIT TO YOUR COMPANY AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

I ENDORSE WHOLEHEARTEDLY THE REMARKS YOU HAVE MADE REGARDING YOUR CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND THIS PLANT IS TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF THE RESULTS OF YOUR COMPANY'S ASSESSMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION. I BELIEVE THAT THE NEXT DECADE WILL BE ONE OF RECORD GROWTH WITHIN THE STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. THE NATURAL GAS DEPOSITS PROVEN IN THE NORTH-EAST OF OUR STATE HAVE PROVIDED

SOUTH AUSTRALIA WITH A LOCAL SOURCE OF FUEL FOR POWER AND ALSO WILL PROVIDE THE RAW MATERIALS FOR A NEW FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY. THE PIPELINE AUTHORITY HAS PROGRESSED SO FAR IN ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRANSMISSION PIPELINE, THAT NATURAL GAS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO INDUSTRY IN 1969.

I COMMEND, MR. HIBBERD, THE PRUDENCE OF YOUR COMPANY IN DESIGNING THIS PLANT IN SUCH A MANNER THAT FUTURE EXPANSION CAN TAKE PLACE READILY SO THAT PRODUCTION CAN KEEP PACE WITH THE INCREASING GROWTH OF THE MARKET WHICH WILL RESULT FROM THE STATE'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS VERY FITTING THAT A PLANT FOR THE EXTRUSION OF ALUMINIUM SHOULD BE LOCATED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. OUR STATE IS VIRTUALLY THE BIRTHPLACE IN AUSTRALIA OF THE MOTOR BODY BUILDING INDUSTRY, AND AS MANY OF YOUR PRODUCTS ARE SUPPLIED TO THAT

INDUSTRY, IT WILL BE TO THE ADVANTAGE OF OUR ESTABLISHED AUTOMOTIVE PLANTS TO HAVE PRODUCTION OF THEIR ALUMINIUM REQUIREMENTS AT CLOSE HAND. THE USE OF THE COMPANY'S PRODUCTS IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY IS GROWING DAILY. THE FACT THAT OUR SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ARCHITECTS REPORT A STATE OF FULL ACTIVITY IN THEIR DRAWING ROOMS, IS EVIDENCE OF THE QUICKENING ACTIVITY IN THE STATE'S BUILDING INDUSTRY, AND FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE MARKET AVAILABLE FOR THE OUTPUT OF THIS PLANT. THESE TWO SUBSTANTIAL INDUSTRIES, TOGETHER WITH THE DEMANDS OF THE VARIETY OF SMALLER MANUFACTURERS IN THE STATE WHO USE YOUR PRODUCT, WILL, I AM SURE, RESULT IN A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE FOR THIS SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PLANT.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY, MR. HIBBERD, OF ASSURING YOU AND INDUSTRIALISTS GENERALLY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN THE PROMOTION AND EXPANSION OF INDUSTRY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THAT CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT CAN BEST BE

ACHIEVED BY THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY. THE GOVERNMENT WILL ENSURE THAT ALL PUBLIC SERVICES REQUIRED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRY WILL CONTINUE TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF INDUSTRY, AND THE EXPERT KNOWLEDGE AND ADVICE AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH ITS VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO INDUSTRY AT ALL TIMES. IN THIS SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION WE WILL ADVANCE TO THE BENEFIT OF THE STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND THE ECONOMY OF THE COMPANIES ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE STATE.

IT IS WITH PLEASURE THAT I DECLARE THIS PLANT OFFICIALLY OPEN, AND IN DOING SO I EXPRESS THE WISH THAT ITS ACTIVITIES WILL MEET WITH MUCH SUCCESS.
