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Title:

Speech at the opening of the Civic Centre at Elizabeth

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SPEECH BY THE PREMIER, HON. DON DUNSTAN, Q.C., M.P., AT THE
OPENING OF THE CIVIC CENTRE AT ELIZABETH, 23.10.67.

YOUR WORSHIP THE MAYOR, MY COLLEAGUE THE MINISTER OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT, OTHER PARLIAMENTARY COLLEAGUES, DISTINGUISHED
GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :

I AM PLEASED TO BE PRESENT TODAY TO PERFORM THE
OFFICIAL OPENING OF THIS NEW CIVIC CENTRE COMPRISING MUNICIPAL
OFFICES AND COUNCIL CHAMBER FOR THE CITY OF ELIZABETH.

ELIZABETH IS A CITY OF WHICH SOUTH AUSTRALIA IS VERY
PROUD. THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST IN PLANNING THE
LAYOUT OF ELIZABETH, EMBODIED THE LATEST KNOWLEDGE OF TOWN PLANNING
IN THE LAYOUT OF THE WHOLE AREA, AND THE CITY WE SEE TODAY IS CLEAR
EVIDENCE OF THE WISDOM AND FORESIGHT OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS
PLANNING. IT IS AN AREA WHICH HAS ATTRACTED ATTENTION FAR AND
WIDE. VISITORS FROM INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS ARE ALWAYS KEENLY
INTERESTED TO VISIT ELIZABETH AND SEE WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN

PAGE 2.

A REMARKABLY SHORT TIME, AND ALSO TO SEE THE BENEFICIAL RESULTS
THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE EXERCISE OF MODERN TOWN PLANNING
METHODS.

IN ORDER TO MAKE A CITY A SUCCESSFUL ONE, MUCH MORE
IS NEEDED THAN SOME TOWN PLANNING. EVERY CITY COMPRISES PEOPLE
AND THE OUTLOOK OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC COMPRISING A CITY HAS A BIG
BEARING ON ITS SUCCESS. I COMPLIMENT THE CITIZENS OF ELIZABETH
ON THE PART THEY HAVE PLAYED IN THE SUCCESS WHICH ELIZABETH HAS
ACHIEVED IN SUCH A SHORT SPACE OF TIME OF JUST OVER ELEVEN YEARS.

ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF OUR AUSTRALIAN WAY
OF LIFE IS THAT GOVERNMENT MUST BE CLOSE TO THE PEOPLE. FOR THAT
REASON WE HAVE A SYSTEM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
THROUGHOUT THE STATE WHICH PROVIDES FOR ADMINISTRATION BY CORPORA-
TIONS AND DISTRICT COUNCILS ELECTED BY THE RATEPAYERS IN THE AREAS

CONCERNED. IN ORDER THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAN FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY, IT MUST HAVE ADEQUATE FACILITIES, AND THE NEW MUNICIPAL OFFICES AND COUNCIL CHAMBER AT ELIZABETH WILL PROVIDE SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE IMPORTANT TASKS THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY PERFORMS IN THE AREA. THIS BUILDING REPRESENTS THE FIRST PERMANENT HOME FOR THE CORPORATION SINCE IT BEGAN ITS TASK ON 1ST JULY, 1964. THE RENTED ACCOMMODATION WHICH IT HAS OCCUPIED FROM ITS INCEPTION MET THE NEEDS OF THE TRANSIENT PERIOD, BUT I AM SURE THAT EVERYBODY PRESENT TODAY, AND INDEED THE WHOLE POPULATION OF THE ELIZABETH CORPORATION AREA, WILL BE DELIGHTED TO KNOW THAT THE LOCAL GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE AREA IS NOW ABLE TO OPERATE FROM ITS OWN PERMANENT HOME.

I SHOULD LIKE TO PAY A COMPLIMENT TO ALL WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF THIS NEW CIVIC BUILDING. IT DOES CREDIT TO THE ARCHITECT, THE BUILDER,

AND THE CRAFTSMEN INVOLVED IN ITS CONSTRUCTION. I UNDERSTAND THAT IT REPRESENTS AN OUTLAY OF ABOUT \$220,000 IN ADDITION TO THE VALUE OF THE LAND WHICH WAS SUPPLIED BY THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST. IT PROVIDES A DIGNIFIED CENTRE FROM WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA WILL TAKE PLACE.

IN DECLARING THE BUILDING TO BE OFFICIALLY OPEN, YOUR WORSHIP, MAY I EXPRESS THE WISH THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WHICH WILL FLOW FROM THIS BUILDING WILL BE TO THE LASTING BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF ELIZABETH AND THE STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.