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**Title:**

ALP Broadcast from Station 5KA presented by Don Dunstan, Member for Norwood

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A.L.P. BROADCAST FROM STATION 5KA 15/3/61

PRESENTED BY DON DUNSTAN - MEMBER FOR

NORWOOD

Good Evening,

It has been diverting to listen to the speeches of the Menzies Government ministers in Canberra on the economic situation - at least it would be diverting if it were not infuriating.

According to the leader of the Government in the Senate, we were previously in a state of "over-full employment." This had to be stopped. And what is over-full employment? A State of affairs where a man get a job if he wants one. That is a bad thing according to the Government. Now that we have over 70,000 unemployed, we still have "full employment". Not according to the Menzies definition, when all employable workers are employed. Oh no. It means apparently a State of affairs where there are some workers not employed and some jobs, requiring skills those workers don't have, still vacant. It must be a great consolation to an unemployed tradesman, desperately trying to keep his wife and family on the miserable dole £3/5/- per week, £2/7/6 for his wife and 10/- for his first child, not forgetting the generous provision of a depreciated child endowment payment - it must be a great consolation to him to be told by the Government that there is nothing to worry about - we still have jobs available in other trades for which he has not been trained and for which he has no reasonable opportunity of obtaining the necessary training.

The Menzies Government apparently imagines that it can reassure the people of Australia by double think and double talk - by gaily using terms in meanings they don't bear to describe our present plight as the greatest prosperity in the world.

The industrial nations of the world are, many of them facing difficult times. In Canada there is severe unemployment. In the U.S.A., in the very motor industries which are so

essential to South Australia's industrial employment, and indeed in substantially these companies which operate here, there growing and alarming lay-offs of workers. We were likely to have trouble enough without Governmental gurgling. But that the situation should be hopelessly exacerbated by economic policies which were unnecessary unwise and futile for their published purpose, is criminal folly of the most disastrous kind.

Perhaps then, it was as much by design as by accident, that further dismissals of hundreds of motor industry workers last week in South Australia in addition to the previously announced dismissals received no publicity at all - they would have made the cooing of soft nothings in Canberra by the ministers look more foolish still.

The people of Australia are being taught the hard way that until we have a Government which is prepared to plan our economy, ensure greater investment in the public sector and redress the imbalance of incomes by adequate social services, we will/<sup>have</sup>neither the stability nor the full employment and fair shares we should have.

But I'm not just going to go on preaching in these Monday night talks. I am from now on going to try each Monday night to bring you actual cases of the things I have been talking about - you will hear people who are in very real suffering from the policies of Liberal Governments talk about their problems themselves on this program. All listeners will be able to see just how far our present Government ensures that community obligations are met. When you listen to these people talking to me remember - in other circumstances many of my audience could be in the same plight. I hope you will all listen - and get your friends to listen. In each case I bring you there is a burning lesson to be learnt by the community.

Goodnight.