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A.L.P. BROADCAST 18th December, 1961

Good Evening,

This will be the last broadcast in this series before Christmas and I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. And I think it is going to be a happy new year eventually.

The State elections will be held next March. The Premier is already showing himself to be desperately anxious to keep the campaign separate from the issues which are current on the Federal scene, the unemployment situation and the lack of any coherent and constructive policy on the part of the Liberals in contrast to Labor's detailed and specific proposals for recovery.

But he won't be able to - nor should he be able to. When the Menzies Government produced its credit squeeze following on the removal of import controls the Premier could not fail to notice the effect upon employment in this State - so he hastened to dissociate himself. He loudly claimed that his Government did not believe that unemployment was necessary to cure inflation or the balance of payments. How sincere was he? The test came at the time of the Federal Elections. Did Sir Thomas support any constructive alternative to the Menzies unemployment policy? He did not. Instead he did something he had never done before - he went out to lead a personal door-knocking campaign in the district of Hindmarsh to persuade the people there that they should vote for the very policies which he had sought to tell the public earlier he disagreed with. The door-knocking campaign was not an unqualified success. Advertised as a 1,000 man drive on Hindmarsh, the Liberal legions turned up all of forty strong to support the Premier's activities, and Mr. Clyde Cameron M.H.R. the Labor Federal Member for the district significantly increased his already record majority on December, 9th.

The Premier has already proved himself over a long period a most willing instrument in the Liberal policy of redistributing wealth in the State - of taking from the poor to give to the rich.

He has always run the State's Social Services - health, hospitals, education, child welfare and public relief at the lowest level of any State in Australia. Consistently since the war on all of these heads he has spent less per head of population than any other State Premier, Labor or Liberal. At the same time he has raised less in State revenues per head - and the people who have had the advantage from this are the wealthy in this State and those who have suffered have been the wage earners, the poor and the sick.

His claim to support has been that he has been responsible for a great industrial development in South Australia - far outstripping in proportion the industrial development of other States. This is nonsense. It just hasn't happened, but unfortunately for Sir Thomas the fact that it was a myth was recently exposed by his own supporters. In a recent case before the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission the Employers' Federation produced index numbers based on the value of factory output and components used in every State according to the figures released by the Commonwealth Statistician and they showed that for the last ten years

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