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**Title:**

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

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MARCH 12th, 1962  
3324

A.L.P. BROADCAST - STATION 5KA

PRESENTED BY DON DUNSTAN - MEMBER FOR NORWOOD

Good Evening,

We have now been told that the Premier proposes to call Parliament together in April probably on April 12th. He will, apparently, submit a Supply and an Appropriation Bill to the House and attempt to use them as a test of whether his government so signally defeated by the people's votes at the election is to carry on.

He hopes, no doubt, to obtain the Support of Mr. Stott, that non-commenting man whose place in Parliament was only assured by the preferences of the Labor candidate in his district, so as to remain in office against the people's wishes.

But there has been already revealed in carefully deliberate leakages from L.C.L. headquarters a more sinister purpose for this move than a temporary denial of democratic rights.

The L.C.L. proposes electoral reform - but reform which will not remove the injustices and anomalies of the present electoral fraud - reform which will perpetuate and increase those injustices and anomalies.

Here is the situation. In 1954 the Playford Government set up an electoral boundaries commission which was directed to draw the boundaries of 26 country seats with approximately equal representation amongst themselves and 13 metropolitan seats, again with approximate equal representation amongst themselves. So each country seat would have about 7,000 voters and each city seat about 23,000 voters. That, the Playford Government said then, was fair. But since that time a number of country seats held by Labor have had a population increase so that they are quite out of proportion - the seat of Gawler, for instance, has over 20,000 voters where it should have 7,000. If there were to be a redistribution of seats even on the 1954 basis, Labor would win 2-3 extra seats in the country area, and the Playford Government would be out on its ear despite the gerrymander.

So as things are now different, they mustn't be the same - no the same in principle as they were in 1954. Oh no. The proposal now is that country districts be altered, but there are two quotas. One quota for country urban districts and one for country rural districts. In other words, the people in country towns are to be given less say than people who live outside country towns, and the towns of Murray Bridge, Whyalla, Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Mt. Gambier, Gawler and Elizabeth will be required to have a higher number of electors in seats in

the other seats in country areas now held by Liberal members.

If that happens, then Sir Thomas Playford will be able to govern with the support of only 1 in 4 electors instead of a mere 1 in 3. If any such attempt is made by the L.C.L. in Parliament, and it is projected, then I believe that every measure - and I mean every measure - would be justified to prevent it. It would be time for people to deal with the present fraudulent and immoral dictatorship as people from time immemorial have found it necessary to deal with tyranny.

Goodnight.