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Title:

Press release headed 'Personal details - Don Dunstan MP' with criticism of the Playford Government's underspending on social services.

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Personal Details - Don Dunstan MP .

Aged 32 years, Married, has three children. Lives in George Street Norwood. Practising Barrister and Solicitor.

Educated St. Peters and St. Marks Colleges, University of Adelaide. Graduated Bachelor of Laws. Member for Norwood since 1953, he has already established a record in Parliament as the member who has succeeded in having the most private members legislation passed in the last twenty years. Was first State president of Meals on Wheels and is now a member of its executive, member University Council, honorary adviser to Old Age and Invalid Pensioners Association, and holds office in ~~large~~ ^{large} number of charitable, sporting, ^{100.} philanthropic and educational organisations in his own district.

Speaking at Norwood Mr. Dunstan said:

" The regime of the Playford Government has been tragic in its callous indifference to the personal problems of thousands of ordinary people who are entitled to community service and assistance. The Government has consistently spent less on social services in this State in proportion to population than ~~has~~ any other State Government. The wait for rental housing trust houses is 7 years and we are building less houses per year now than in 1953, although ^{demand is increasing} we face a 50% increase in people of marriageable age within the next ten years. Whereas the average public hospital bed provision in the other States is 58.8 beds per ten thousand people, this State has only 43.3 per ten thousand - the worst in the Commonwealth, ^{People can't get beds for urgent medical treatment} ~~To get to the 1956 standard of the other States we should have provided an extra 1,646 hospital beds in the last 2½ years. The Government provided only 263.~~

In education although we have more than twice the average Australian increase in enrolments in our schools, we have consistently spent less on education than the average and indeed less than any State except Queensland.

Money to spend to the level of social services existing in other States has for years been available to South Australia from the Grants Commission if we spend the money and claim the reimbursement. Sir Thomas Playford had no interest in social services, did not spend the money, and lost South Australia £millions available to better our social services. Labor is determined to reverse this situation - and give people the services they need

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PERSONAL DETAILS - DON DUNSTAN M.P.

Aged 32 years. Married, has three children. Lives in George Street, Norwood. Practising Barrister and Solicitor. Educated St. Peters and St. Marks Colleges, University of Adelaide. Graduated Bachelor of Laws. Member for Norwood since 1953, he has already established a record in Parliament as the member who has succeeded in having the most private members legislation passed in the last twenty years. Was first State President of Meals on Wheels and is now a member of its executive. Member of University Council, honorary adviser to Old Age and Invalid Pensioners' Association.

Mr. Dunstan said:- "The regime of the Playford Government has been tragic in its callous indifference. The Government has consistently spent less on social services than any other State Government. The wait for rental housing trust houses is seven years and we are building less houses per year now than in 1953, although demand is increasing. Whereas the average public hospital bed provision in the other States is 58.8 beds per ten thousand people, this State has only 43.3 per ten thousand - the worst in the Commonwealth and people can't get beds for urgent treatment.

In education, although we have more than twice the average Australian increase in enrolments in our schools, we have consistently spent less on education than the average and indeed less than any State except Queensland. Money to spend to the level of social services existing in other States has, for years, been available to South Australia from the Grants Commission, if we spend the money and claim the reimbursement. Sir Thomas Playford had no interest in social services, did not spend the money, and lost South Australia millions available to better our social services. Labor is determined to reverse this situation and give people the services they need.

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M. Dunstan,

Returned with thanks,

Owen McKenna