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**Title:**

ALP broadcast regarding 'wait for rental housing trust homes has been getting longer and longer'.

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A.L.P. BROADCAST 22/8/60DCN DUNSTAN - MEMBER FOR NORWOOD

Good Evening,

I want to tell you tonight about a situation which is getting worse and worse and is already desperate, and to appeal to you personally to help if you can.

For some years now the wait for rental housing trust homes has been getting longer and longer. Anyone going in to the Trust to seek a rental home has been told that the wait is 4-5 years. In practice in my district, it now works out about 7 years. In 1957 it was already clear that within 10 years there would be a 50% increase in people of marriageable age in this State. We are still building no more rental houses per year than in 1954, when the number was insufficient to reduce the back-log of applications.

It was inevitable that from time to time people through no fault of their own, would have nowhere to go and would need some assistance to find a place. There were the temporary houses owned by the Government and administered by the Trust - and in the most desperate cases a vacancy in these could sometimes be found. But Sir Thomas Playford, instead of taking some action to try to minimise risk to life through the fires in these timber and asbestos constructions, said that because he had been politically attacked over the fires he would demolish them and get an extra £1,000,000 loan money with which to do it. Although he didn't get that loan money, he is still demolishing the temporary houses. This has had two results. The first is that the wait for rented houses will be even longer, as the tenants moving out of the temporary houses have to be accommodated in the existing rental program. The second is that there is no State or community provision for families who are faced with dire emergency. The result is quite terrible. There are families now living in the metropolitan area in acute distress and under the constant threat of being thrown in the street with nowhere to go. I am going to tell you of some of these

cases now. I have been unable to find any rental accommodation for them at a price which they can pay. There are premises and parts of houses available for rental, but as rent control does not apply to them the rents demanded are far beyond what a working man can meet. What worker with a wife and children to support can afford to pay £6, £8, £10 per week and it is the latter two figures which are commonly demanded - you are lucky if you can find a place at £6 per week.

So I am asking you - if you have, or know of, accommodation which can be offered some of these poor souls, will you please let me know. Please either write to me at Parliament House or ring my secretary at W5095 and I will get in touch with you. I cannot over-emphasise the need of these families - I beg your help if you are able to do anything. Every member of Parliament has cases such as these to deal with in the metropolitan area. If you have accommodation or know of it, but think it is not suitable for the cases I am going to instance, it may suit another case and please do not hesitate to let me know.

And now to tell you of a few particular cases.

Mr. A has a responsible job in a Government Department. He came to South Australia not long from another State. He has a wife and five children. He had saved enough money to come close to a deposit on a house. However, a friend at work arranged that he should take over the lease of a house in which that friend had an interest, so Mr. A. used his money to buy a block of land on which he hoped to build in due course. The deal about taking over the house lease suddenly, through no fault of Mr. A's came unstuck and he was left stranded. He was unable to resell the block of land. The Housing Trust told him they could not help him. As a result Mr. A. and his wife and five children are living in a small caravan in a backyard in my district. Two of the children sleep there and the mother and father and the other three children on a small unlit verandah on the same premises. The tenants of the house who took them in

through kindness have been threatened with eviction if they do not leave as the premises are being overcrowded. They will shortly, quite literally, be in the street. The only premises so far offered have been at a minimum of £8/8/- per week which they cannot afford. Can you help?

Mrs. B. is a migrant lady. She has been here 10 years. She has three children - 2 small ones and a daughter of 16 who is working age. She and her husband had bought a wee home in a new suburb and looked forward to a happy future. However, he developed cancer, spent months in hospital and has now had to go to America in a last desperate effort to undergo an operation which it is thought could yet save his life. Inevitably, in that period with only social service payments coming in apart from the daughter's very small wage, the payments on the house could not be met and the mortgagee has foreclosed and obtained an order for the mother and the three children to leave the house. It is expected that the warrant to put them out in the street will be executed tomorrow. If you are able to help this case, would you please let me know.

Mrs. C. is an old lady aged eighty two and she has a daughter living with her aged sixty two. The house in which she is living formed part of an estate and has been sold by the trustees of the estate. A warrant for her eviction has been issued. She has been unable to find anywhere to go.

Mrs. E. is the widow of a blind pensioner. They lived in a blind pensioner cottage, but when her husband died recently she was forced to vacate the cottage, as she herself is not blind. She is staying temporarily with friends but this cannot last long. She cannot find a place to go.

Mrs. F. and Mrs. G. are similar cases. Mrs. F. is a widow and has small children and is living in portion of a house owned by a migrant. He has decided he wants it for relatives who are coming and so in order to get her out has been making life completely unbearable for her. She cannot last there much

longer and has nowhere to go. Mrs. G. has a husband who has bouts of illness. They are sharing premises owned by a migrant family. Their lives have also been made intolerable as that family has decided it wants the portion of the house in which they are. They have found nowhere to go.

Mr. & Mrs. H. have several children. The husband is out of work, but the older children are working for small wages. They were unable to find accommodation in the city and are living in a leaky shed in the hills.

I could go on and on, but these cases will give you an idea of the problems which must be coped with in common humanity.

Please help if you can.

Good Night.