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**Title:**

Broadcast by the Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Don Dunstan, QC, MP.

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3534 (1)

BROADCAST BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, HON. DON DUNSTAN, Q.C.M.P.

FRIDAY, 11/10/68. 5-K.A. 6.55 P.M.

GOOD EVENING :

THE BILL INTRODUCED BY THE HON. C.D. ROWE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO SLIGHTLY INCREASE, AND I EMPHASIZE THE WORD "SLIGHTLY", THE FRANCHISE OF THE VOTERS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IS AN AFFRONT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. GOVERNMENT MEANS THE PARTICIPATION BY THE PEOPLE, AND ANY FORM OF RESTRICTION TO THE NUMBERS PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT IS A TRAVESTY OF THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY. PARLIAMENT CONSISTS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR PERPETUATING THE ANOMALY OF THE RESTRICTED FRANCHISE FOR THE UPPER HOUSE. EVEN IF THE UPPER HOUSE IS A POLITICAL ANACHRONISM, LET ITS ONLY FUNCTION BE ('THOUGH THIS IS ARGUABLE) A BRAKE ON HASTY LEGISLATION. THE LABOR PARTY HAS MADE IT CLEAR FROM TIME TO TIME THAT IT WOULD OPPOSE ANY MOVE DESIGNED TO RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO ELECT HIS OWN

GOVERNMENT AND THEREBY TO PARTICIPATE IN FORMULATING LAWS FOR SOCIETY FOR THE TIME BEING. IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS BILL IS AN ATTEMPT BY THE <sup>LIBERAL</sup>~~LABOR~~ PARTY NOT ONLY TO BOLSTER UP ITS WANING FORTUNES BUT TO CONTINUE, AS IT HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN IN THE PAST, A PARTY REPRESENTATIVE OF SECTIONAL INTERESTS.

THE HISTORY OF THE LIBERAL PARTY'S ATTITUDE IN THE UPPER HOUSE WAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED WHEN THE LABOR PARTY WAS IN POWER FROM 1965 TO 1968 WHEN A NUMBER OF MEASURES FOR WHICH THE PEOPLE HAD VOTED WERE EMASCULATED IN THE UPPER HOUSE. IT SEEMS NOT AN UNJUSTIFIABLE INFERENCE THAT THE LIBERAL PARTY IS NOT INTERESTED IN ELECTORAL REFORM, BUT INTENDS BY THE VERY NATURE OF THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THE CONSTITUTION ACT TO PERPETUATE ITS NEGATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY.

IT IS PATENTLY CLEAR THAT THE LIBERAL PARTY DO NOT PROPOSE TO MAKE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL A HOUSE OF REVIEW LIKE THE HOUSE OF LORDS IS, BUT INSTEAD PROPOSES IN ITS CHARACTERISTIC MANNER TO MAINTAIN ITS CONTROL OVER LEGISLATION PASSED BY THE LOWER HOUSE.

AFTER THE 1965 ELECTIONS, THE LABOR PARTY, ACTING ON ITS MANDATE, PASSED SEVERAL BILLS IN THE LOWER HOUSE WHICH WERE BLOCKED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WHO WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF A SMALL SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, THEREBY FRUSTRATING THE GENERAL WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

WE ARE LIVING IN AN AGE AND IN A SOCIETY SUCH AS OURS WHEN IT IS AXIOMATIC THAT GOVERNMENT IS BY THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE, AND IN CONSEQUENCE IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT EVERY INDIVIDUAL SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN THE REGULATION OF HIS AFFAIRS.

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THE LABOR PARTY IS DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF MANKIND IN THAT EVERY MAN SHOULD HAVE AN EQUAL RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE GOVERNMENT HE WANTS AND TO REJECT THE GOVERNMENT HE DOES NOT WANT, AND UNTIL THIS IS ACHIEVED MY PARTY WILL LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED.

I ASSURE THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE THAT AS LEADER OF THE LABOR PARTY I SHALL CONTINUE TO VINDICATE THE RIGHT OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT.

GOOD NIGHT.

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