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Title:

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

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A.L.M. BROADCAST BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, HON. DON DUNSTAN, Q.C., M.P., 5-K.A., 25.6.69.

GOOD EVENING :

THE STATEMENT OF THE FEDERAL TREASURER THAT HE REGARDS THE ECONOMY IS IN BALANCE BUT WITH INFLATIONARY PRESSURES DEVELOPING IS ONE TO CAUSE SOME ALARM IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS TO EASE WHAT IT CONSIDERED INFLATIONARY PRESSURES PREVIOUSLY WERE DESIGNED SUCCESSFULLY TO SCALE DOWN EFFECTIVE DEMAND FOR THE PURCHASE OF CONSUMER DURABLES IN AUSTRALIA, MOTOR CARS AND HOME APPLIANCES. THIS HAS SEVERE EFFECTS UPON SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT WHEN IT OCCURS. OVER 70% OF OUR INDUSTRY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA IS CONCENTRATED IN THE PRODUCTION OF MOTOR CARS AND HOME APPLIANCES OR THE SUPPLY INDUSTRIES FOR THOSE PRODUCTS, AND THE MOTOR CARS AND HOME APPLIANCES WHICH WE PRODUCE ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN DOMESTIC MARKET.

WHENEVER THE AUSTRALIAN DOMESTIC MARKET FOR MOTOR CARS AND HOME APPLIANCES IS DEPRESSED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA GETS HIT HARDER THAN ANY OTHER PART OF AUSTRALIA. WE NEED, THEREFORE, NOT ONLY TO DIVERSIFY OUR INDUSTRIES BUT TO DIVERSIFY OUR MARKETS. WE NEED TO HAVE MARKETS FOR OUR PRODUCTS OVERSEAS SO THAT FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AUSTRALIAN DOMESTIC MARKET DO NOT HIT US AS HARD AS THEY HAVE HIT US PREVIOUSLY. WHAT IS MORE IT IS APPARENT THAT BRITAIN WILL PROBABLY ENTER THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. THIS WILL HAVE GRAVE EFFECTS UPON OUR IRRIGATION AREAS. HARDEST HIT OF ALL WILL BE THE DRIED AND CANNED FRUITS AND CITRUS INDUSTRIES. APPLE AND PEAR EXPORTERS ALSO WILL FACE A MUCH MORE DIFFICULT POSITION THAN PREVIOUSLY. WE MUST LOOK TO ALTERNATIVE MARKETS FOR THESE PRODUCTS BECAUSE BRITAIN'S ENTRY INTO THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET COULD INCREASE THE PRICE OF A CAN^{OF}/FRUIT FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA IN ENGLAND AS MUCH AS THIRTY CENTS. OUR PRODUCERS AND OUR MANUFACTURERS SHOULD THEREFORE BE PAYING URGENT AND CONSTANT ATTENTION TO LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS IMMEDIATELY FOR MARKETS IN ASIA.

THE EXTRAORDINARY THING IS THAT ALTHOUGH FOR INSTANCE EXPORTS TO INDONESIA AT THE MOMENT ARE COSTLY BECAUSE WE HAVE NO BACK-LOADING OF FREIGHT FROM INDONESIA, THE COST OF FREIGHT FROM AUSTRALIA TO INDONESIA IS MUCH GREATER THAN THE COST OF FREIGHT FROM JAPAN TO INDONESIA. THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE MONIES FOR AID IN ESSENTIAL EXPORTS TO INDONESIA AND CREDITS ARE READILY OBTAINABLE, AND YET A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF THE MONEY MADE AVAILABLE HAS NOT BEEN AVAILED OF. WHILE THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PROMOTING TRIPS BY BUSINESSMEN FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA TO INDONESIA AND SINGAPORE TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPORT AND ESTABLISHMENT IN THESE IMPORTANT AREAS, NO SUCH ACTIVITY HAS BEEN SEEN FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA WHICH IS INDUSTRIALLY BOTH MORE CAPABLE AND MORE NEEDY OF THE DEVELOPMENT.

I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ESTABLISH THAT THERE ARE NUMBERS OF AREAS WHERE IMMEDIATE INTEREST WOULD BE SHOWN IN INDONESIA AND SINGAPORE IN BOTH EXPORT AND IN ESTABLISHMENT AND IF BUSINESSMEN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA ARE INTERESTED IN PRODUCTS OF THIS KIND (AND I HOPE THEY WILL BE), I WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO PROVIDE THEM WITH DETAILED INFORMATION AND THE NECESSARY CONTACTS IN SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET IN IN DEVELOPING AND EXPANDING MARKETS WHICH SOUTH AUSTRALIA CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS.

GOOD NIGHT.