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Looking at 1971 - Press Release

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LOOKING AT 1971 - BY DON. DUNSTAN.

1971 promises to be a year of unparalleled development in South Australia.

Most important will be the announcement of new and expanded industries for the State.

They will be industries which fit into our established industrial base and use the skills we have developed and consolidated.

The year will also see the development and establishment of the most comprehensive services by Government to industry in Australia.

Expansion of Industrial Development Branch.

They will include an extensive marketing - research network extending from an expanded Industrial Development Branch to key market and finance areas in Australia and overseas.

The expanded Industrial Development Branch will be working with our overseas agencies and trade officers to take advantage of on-the-spot market research and encouragement of investment in South Australia.

Research will also take place at tertiary level in the development of new products, processes and industrial organisation methods.

Significant and expanded design assistance will be given to industries, so that they can take advantage of the know-how needed to maximize their sales on a world-wide basis.

State Planning.

Hand-in-hand with this intensive effort to develop the State's industrial potential will go the implementation of effective town and regional planning concepts.

A new philosophy will also be announced on which the State's future transport planning will be based.

The control and safeguarding of the natural environment will be undertaken to ensure that in addition to working well we will be able to live well.

Without effective planning and control our precious natural assets could be lost forever.

In all these things I believe South Australia will be leading the way for the whole Australasian region.

Further implementation of measures designed to ensure consumer protection will take place in 1971 so that people can be assured that both what they buy and how they pay for it is covered by real safeguards.

The Government insurance office will also be established in the new year, and in addition to providing effective and economical insurance policies for people it will, after initial consolidation, be able to provide loan monies for desirable semi-government works such as recreation areas.

The Tourist industry in South Australia will see a greater range of activity than ever before, and announcements will be made on major and significant developments that will ensure Adelaide becomes a 'must' for interstate and overseas tourists.

Commonwealth-State Financial Relations.

On the debit side, the new year could well see a show-down in Commonwealth-State financial relations.

The possibility of new stop-go economic policies in Canberra, following the six percent national wage rise, could create significant strains on the national economy. The State Government will be following developments carefully to see that measures to solve Canberra's problems are not ones which adversely affect South Australia.

In 1971 it will be necessary for the States to undertake a real offensive in Canberra to obtain additional funds for essential services such as schools and hospitals.

It will also be necessary to fight hard for the acceptance by Canberra of responsibility in the redevelopment of inner-city areas and the expansion of modern public transport systems.

The Commonwealth in the new year must be required to show that it intends to help the States make the Federation work effectively. Without this, the nation as a whole will suffer grievously.

1971 will also see demands for Commonwealth-State co-operation in the reconstruction of the rural sector of the economy. Canberra's responsibilities in this will have to extend to providing the States with sufficient money and services to enable retraining for new employment of those people whose work on the land is no longer economic.

Major Works in 1971.

It can be also expected that final agreement will be reached in 1971 on a number of other major works for South Australia. They include final agreement on new River Murray storages; the development of an efficient standard gauge link between Adelaide industries and the Indian-Pacific line at Port Pirie; the building of the new rail link to Whyalla; and the adoption of the final plan for the new railway to Alice Springs.
