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Title:

Year of Achievement - Premier and Minister of Development

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YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT.PREMIER AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT.

Much progress was made during the new Labor Government's first year in office in implementing the promises set out in our election policy statement, in progress in implementing those not yet accomplished and in setting the guidelines for future policy.

Below is an itemised list of some of the more important legislative, regulative and administrative measures in specific areas for which Don Dunstan has direct responsibility.

Premier's Department.

Legislation was passed during the first session of State Parliament providing for the establishment of a State Insurance Commission to cover the entire insurance field apart from life assurance. Key personnel have been appointed and the Commission will begin operations shortly.

A comprehensive system of builders' licensing giving home buyers more effective safeguards against undercapitalised speculative builders was introduced and took force from April 30th, 1971.

The State Bank was authorised to increase its maximum loans for new houses from \$8,000 to \$9,000 and for established houses from \$7,000 to \$8,000.

Amendments to the River Murray Waters Agreement approved by Parliament retain South Australia's right to the Chowilla Dam while providing for construction of the Dartmouth scheme. At year's end the other parties to the agreement had not made known their views on this.

The Premier made a series of approaches to the Federal Government for special assistance to complete sealing of the Eyre Highway, offering \$3M from State funds towards this.

Intervention by the Premier resulted in South Australia gaining significant concessions from Canberra in the linking of Adelaide with the standard gauge rail system.

Shortly after taking office, the Premier initiated the establishment of the new "Policy Secretariat", a small, specialist group within the Public Service, to provide expert advice and recommendations on policy questions referred to it, this providing far more informed, streamlined decision making.

A special study was commissioned to examine the possible establishment of a South Australian film unit and development of the State as a film-making and processing centre.

Government support for the Festival Theatre was increased and a new policy of assistance for the performing arts was introduced. Such assistance will, in future, go only to professional or semi-professional groups apart from those already receiving support.

Industrial Development.

Immediately on taking office Don Dunstan began a vigorous programme of industrial development designed to widen the markets available to South Australian manufacturers and producers, secure new industries and more jobs and to diversify the State's present industrial base.

Legislation provided for the creation of a new Industries Assistance Corporation to help smaller industries at an early, and often critical, stage of their development by providing financial aid. The Corporation will also foster industrial decentralisation. It is enabled to make non-repayable grants.

Trade agencies have been set up in regional centres, Singapore, Djakarta, Tokyo and Hong Kong with Singapore and London based roving trade officers to seek new markets for South Australian products.

An Industries Research Institute is being formed to make grants for product research.

An extra grant of \$16,000 was made to the Industrial Design Council of Australia to employ three designers to advise local industrialists in the field.

Major industrial development projects during the year include:

June, 1970

\$12M expansion of the APCEL pulp and paper mill near Millicent. It is expected to increase employment from 470 to more than 750 and employment of women will rise from 150 to about 250.

July, 1970

The first major contract in connection with the West Lakes project was awarded to A.W. Boulderstone - \$670,000 - construction and diversion of the Henley and Fulham and Routledge Road stormwater drains, together with earthworks to reclaim 72 acres of land. Land will be developed and subdivided into 290 large residential allotments.

August, 1970

The main contract was let for construction of a 200-acre recreational lake and the reclamation of 1300 acres of swampland at head of Port River. \$3M-\$5M 4-year contract.

July, 1970

A \$1M. self-adhesive material production plant, employing 70 people, to be established by FASSON PTY. LTD., at Elizabeth West.

July, 1970

CONTROL DATA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD. - premises opened. This is an important addition to the State's computer field.

August, 1970

A veneer plant which will cost more than \$200,000 has been established at Tarpeena. Owned and operated by KAURI TIMBER CO. LTD.

August, 1970

Managing Director of G.M.H. (Mr. A.D. Rhea) announced that G.M.H. was to expand its Elizabeth plant at a cost of \$8.7M.

October, 1970

\$450,000 expansion by CHRYSLER involving an extension of Company's stamping plant - necessary because of the Company's increased export programme.

October, 1970

Joint Dutch-S.A. company to be created by Lips NV of Holland and Johns and Waygood Perry Engineering Ltd. To be known as LIPS PERRY PTY. LTD.

October, 1970

SIMSMETAL expansion announced.

November, 1970

SOLA INTERNATIONAL PTY. LTD. - new laboratories at Lonsdale opened.

December, 1970

McPHAR GEOPHYSICS PTY. LTD. - offices and laboratories opened. Has been established in Australia for nine years and headquarters have been in Adelaide since 1964.

December, 1970

Establishment of a new industry producing highly sophisticated electronic and resistance welding equipment at Elizabeth by CUTLER-HAMMER AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.

February, 1971

\$200,000 factory at Whyalla to construct pre-stressed concrete sleepers for the broad gauge rail link between Port Augusta and Whyalla announced constructed by MONIER- PRE-STRESSED CONCRETE.

February, 1971

Big new clothing factory at Elizabeth announced. CONWAY BROS. PTY. LTD. - will be most modern-equipped clothing plant in South Australia.

February, 1971

\$2M. frozen vegetable processing plant opened at Mount Gambier by ASSOCIATED PRODUCTS AND DISTRIBUTION PTY. LTD.

February, 1971

The Premier announced that work had begun on a \$5M. factory complex at Salisbury - NYLEX CORPORATION. 200 people will be employed by January, 1972, and up to 300 when factory goes into full production.

March, 1971.

G.H. MICHELL AND SONS PTY. LTD. of Adelaide to embark on a multi-million dollar development programme.

May, 1971

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL INDUSTRIES plans to establish a \$2.7M. new industry in South Australia. Production press forge plant at Dry Creek.

Housing.

New policies have been framed to revitalise the S.A. Housing Trust's approach to home construction to ensure that at least as much emphasis is given to aesthetic and social factors as economic ones.

The S.A. Housing Trust completed 2,289 houses and flats in the twelve months, an increase of 511 houses and flats over the previous year, or an increase in production of almost 28%.

In the greater metropolitan area the major areas of activity were at Ingle Farm where 353 houses were completed, Christies Beach 304 and Elizabeth 145.

At 1st June, 1971, 838 houses were under construction in these three areas.

Country towns where the Trust completed ten or more houses were:

Whyalla, Port Augusta, Mount Gambier, Berri, Port Pirie, Murray Bridge, Renmark, Port Lincoln, Ceduna, Padthaway, Millicent, Mount Barker, Naracoorte.

During the period 183 three storey walk-up flats were completed at Gilberton (66), Findon (72), Elizabeth (33) and a block of 12 at Black Forest for the Commonwealth Government.

The Housing Trust received the Civic Trust of South Australia's award for the medium density housing project at Marden.

The Trust built 155 cottage flats for occupation by aged pensioners during the year. This is a dramatic increase in production of this type of accommodation for during the whole of 1969-1970, 65 were completed.

Work is progressing on more pensioner flats.

The Trust was able to assist 4,256 families in rental accommodation in the period under review.

The Trust, which, in some ways, pioneered walk-up flats on a reasonably large scale in Adelaide and has recently been developing relatively small mixed medium density areas in the metropolitan area, such as Marden, is moving into significantly large areas of medium density development, one at Marion and, later, at West Lakes.

Two senior Trust officers are to investigate the best medium density development overseas to incorporate the very latest in this type of design in South Australian development.

Mining.

Cabinet approved the site plan for the development of the Mineral Science Complex adjacent to the Australian Mineral Laboratories at Glenside. A \$3M. project involves a new building which will house the Department of Mines Headquarters, Australian Mineral Foundation and despatch centre for the Natural Gas Pipeline Authority. The Government is contributing the site and new Mines Department building.

Revision of the Mines Act was introduced to State Parliament eliminating restrictive and obsolete provisions of the old Act and providing the basis for expanded development of the State's underground resources.

Further important natural gas flows were discovered in the Mid-North during the year.

Tourism.

New policies were laid down to provide the basis for major expansion of South Australia's tourism industry. This involves development of areas such as Kangaroo Island, the Barossa Valley, the Murray River, Cornish Mining towns and Flinders Ranges.

Plans were made for major new hotel development in Adelaide, for new emphasis on publicising the State's attractions interstate and overseas and for training hotel and catering personnel.