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Title:
Press statement - Electoral Commission (Corcoran)

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PRESS STATEMENT: 25. 3. 69.

FROM: ACTING LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (MR. CORCORAN).

SUBJECT: ELECTORAL COMMISSION.

The Acting Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Corcoran) today disclosed that he had written to the Premier (Mr. Hall) who is the Acting Attorney General, urging him to examine the appointment of another commissioner to the Electoral Commission to replace Mr. Justice Chamberlain.

The Commission is at present investigating the redistribution of the SA electoral boundaries, and is receiving written submissions up to April 14.

It will hear oral submissions on April 28.

However, Justice Chamberlain, who is chairman of the Commission, is ill.

In his letter, Mr. Corcoran says that he understands that Justice Chamberlain will not be available for some time.

He has pointed out to the Premier that under Section 5, sub-section 2 of the Electoral Districts (Redivision) Act, the chairman and one other Commissioner need to be present to constitute a quorum.

He says that under Section 4, sub-section 4 of the Act, it is possible for another Commissioner to be appointed in Justice Chamberlain's place.

Mr. Corcoran said today that if the Government did not make moves to replace Justice Chamberlain, the vital work of the Commission could not continue.

"It is imperative that the Government acts quickly on this matter if the Commission is to complete its work in time to report to the next sitting of State Parliament," he said.

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