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Title:

Press statement - Big New Industry for South Australia - National Ind. Ltd.

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BIG NEW INDUSTRY FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Australian National Industries Ltd., plans to establish a \$2.7M. new industry in South Australia the Premier (Mr. Dunstan), announced today.

The proposal is for a production press forge plant to be set up at Dry Creek.

It would provide jobs for 100 men in the first year of operation and for 300 by 1976.

Mr. Dunstan, who is also Minister of Development, said the S.A. Housing Trust proposes to erect and lease factory premises for the scheme on a 20 acre site at Dry Creek.

The Premier said he has referred the proposal to the Industries Development Committee for examination.

Cost of the land, buildings and site works are estimated at \$1M., and the company would be given an option to purchase the factory.

Development of the forge and die shops by A.N.I. Ltd., was estimated to cost a further \$1.7M., over five years.

The Adelaide plant will produce a wide range of forgings and components for the automotive, earth moving, aircraft and other engineering industries.

It would supply to the whole Australian market and also export some of its products and would not therefore be subject to fluctuations in local demand, Mr. Dunstan said.

"South Australia will gain from this scheme not only a major new source of employment but also the introduction of a new technology, that of press forging, and addition of new hammer forging capacity to that now here", Mr. Dunstan said.

A.N.I. Ltd. at present operates two hot metal forges in Australia, at Lidcombe in New South Wales and Footscray in Victoria.

The company decided earlier this year to build a third plant to meet anticipated growth in demand.

Mr. Dunstan said the company had decided after detailed investigation of various sites that South Australia offered the most advantages.

"Among factors considered by the company were the State's cheaper land, lease-back arrangements by the Trust, established supply of natural gas and the more stable labour situation in South Australia.

"I welcome the decision by A.N.I. as further proof of the advantages South Australia offers as a base for industrial investment", Mr. Dunstan said.

By the fifth year of operation A.N.I. plans to have a throughput of 10,000 tons of steel annually at the Adelaide plant. The company will arrange for a number of locally recruited employees to be trained at its other works and also plans a considerable amount of "on the job training" for others. By the fifth year of operation the company expects to be consuming one million tons of natural gas annually - which would place it among the three largest users in the State.