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**Title:**

Press statement: Licensing of builders in force

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PRESS STATEMENT: 30th April, 1971.

FROM: THE PREMIER (MR. DUNSTAN)

SUBJECT: LICENSING OF BUILDERS IN FORCE

The licensing of builders came into force today, 1st May, 1971. From now on all general builders and sub-contracting tradesmen will need a licence to undertake building work.

Exceptions will be owner-builders building for their own use, painters who do not carry out painting work worth more than \$100 and other tradesmen who do not contract for work worth more than \$250 inclusive of labour and materials.

The Premier (Mr. Dunstan) said that South Australia was the first State to introduce the licensing of both general builders and all sub-contractors though the New South Wales Government announced this week it intends to introduce similar legislation.

"Complaints regarding the standard of building work may in the future be referred to the Builders Licensing Board for investigation by Inspectors who will shortly be appointed.

"The Board has granted 3,000 general builder's licences and 4,000 restricted builder's licences to date and several hundred late applications are being processed."

Mr. Dunstan said that the licensing of builders will provide effective safeguards for new home buyers against financial failure by small speculative builders.

"It will also help to sustain high standards of construction.

"In fact, the new arrangements provide a comprehensive system of licensing which will protect both home buyers and members of the industry itself," Mr. Dunstan said.

The Secretary of the Board (Mr. J.N. Holland) emphasized that building tradesmen not working for wages should apply for a licence if the value of their labour (or labour and materials if supplied by them) exceeded \$250 per contract or \$100 in the case of painters.