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When the Liberal Government took office in Canberra in 1949, planning was a dirty word to it and all thought of planning was discarded. Australia has suffered badly in development and the conditions of life of its citizens as a consequence. The Federal Government is wedded to the idea that the optimum pattern of development will occur through the haphazard whims of private investors. In any modern society this is shown to be nonsense. The countries like Japan and Italy, which have achieved a significant growth rate far in excess of ours, have done it by effective planning. Planning in Australia can only take place through joint action of Commonwealth and State Governments but it is in this area that the Gorton Government is at its most negative.

The States are responsible for development, for education, for health and hospital services. In each of these spheres, expenditure needs to expand at a greater rate per annum than the rate of increase in population in order for us to keep pace with comparable countries. The Commonwealth has financed an increase in its own departmental expenditures and particularly its extraordinarily wasteful defence expenditure at the expense of the States' responsibilities, and every State in the Commonwealth has been squeezed as a result.

In order to achieve development in a modern industrial society, there must be effective co-operation between public and private investment. Surveys of development potential must establish the gaps in the industrial complex which then need to be filled by joint public and private action. This course has in Italy achieved an extraordinary growth rate in a country with

no better resources than our own. The States, however, have not the funds to pursue such a course and the Commonwealth will not provide them or engage in any joint action of the States to ensure that the process is undertaken. As a result, we see the State Premiers tripping overseas attempting to attract industry on the basis of quite haphazard information as to industries which might be interested in establishing, and instead of public investment stimulating and co-ordinating the work of development, all that is offered to industry is a series of special benefits far less than those offered in other countries like Singapore and ^{Ireland} ~~France~~. At the same time, the State services in education and health and hospitals have not kept pace with the needs of provision of facilities or staff.

Because the Federal Government is opposed to planning, it refuses to follow the course of the Federal Governments in Canada and the United States and undertake joint projects with the States in urban planning and renewal and any effective projects for urban transit. The conditions of life of Australian citizens under such a Government must steadily deteriorate. Unless our urban centres, already containing over 80% of our population are adequately planned, we will get into the intolerable mess which can be seen in the low-density cities of the United States already.

In stark contrast to the present Government, in every one of these areas, the Labor Party has shown enthusiasm for co-ordinating planning and development, to chart the way ahead and use our resources to the full, and to provide an adequate investment and adequate services to citizens. The choice in this election is PLAN OR NO PLAN, DEVELOPMENT OR CHAOS.