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SKA BROADCAST - 11.1.65

Good Evening,

We have been given a New Year present by the Premier - a bottle done up in fancy packaging - but containing, when opened, the mixture as before.

In his new year message the Premier regaled us with an account of the glorious vistas he foresaw for industrial development in South Australia. Few great new industries would be established here. But as on several prior occasions, he was so involved in negotiations concerning these that he could not say what they were. Then there was headlined in the Sunday Mail "£200,000,000 projects in 1965" and the gullible reader was left to draw the conclusion that the £200,000,000 would be spent in 1965. Not so. Of the £200,000,000 £150,000,000 is the estimated total cost of the Ferraro Island power station which has been announced on innumerable occasions for the last five years. Nothing approaching £190,000,000 will be spent on this project in 1965.

In December the Premier announced that a new teaching hospital would have to be built at Tea Tree Gully in conjunction with a New University - about which no discussions whatever have taken place to date. In fact the Government is currently negotiating with the Tea Tree Gully district council for the erection of a small district hospital at Tea Tree Gully, a subsidised hospital not a general one at all.

Now the Premier has announced - just this week - that a S.V. district general hospital will be built - or at least he is looking for land for it - close to Bedford Park University College - obviously he now proposes to put the Teaching Hospital there - or does he know what he proposes to do? So many of these weekly forecasts of his are simply taken from the realms of fantasy that it is hard to say.

But in the realms of practical reforms affecting the lives of the average citizen we hear nothing from the Government. Nothing is being done to reform the education system. The Government has no plans for adequate teachers college development to overcome a situation in which we are faced with a chronic shortage of teachers and an education department staffed by teachers a high proportion of whom are unqualified. It has no plans for infirmaries to aid the elderly sick who are in dire distress. It has no plans for expanding youth services. It has no plans for providing the townplanners office with sufficient staff to do anything urgent and effective about town planning. It has no plans for expanding the financing of home building, which it could do from its existing finances - it has no plans for the effective control of unqualified speculative builders whose depredations have caused untold hardship to many young families. It has no plans for the re-organization of the Public Service. The Public Service of South Australia is divided up into over 50 departments - numbers of them overlapping. Indeed the Public Service Regulations date from 40 years ago - they are all out of print and there are only about two extant copies of the complete Public Service Regulations in South Australia. It is extremely difficult to find what they contain. The Public Service Commissioner is required by Section 22 of the Public Service Act to furnish to the Parliament at least once in each year a report on the efficiency of the Public Service. Indeed the Public Service is so efficient in this way that the last report was made three years ago - and reports only came to light at that time because of continued Opposition pressure over the fact that for very

many years there had been no report.

In fact this Government has become tired and inefficient in office and it is not doing the things it needs to do in the ordinary way for ordinary citizens. The tired should be retired. It is time we had a Government answerable to the people.

Goodnight.