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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN. 23

BUILDERS' LICENSING.

20.2.73

The South Australian builders' licensing system is to be modified to assist small builders.

This was announced by the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, as part of the State Government's policy for the March 10 election.

"The new arrangements will be of particular benefit to migrant builders.

"Migrants have made a very great contribution to our economy and we want to ensure that they have maximum opportunity to continue to do so", Mr. Dunstan said.

The Premier said the builders' licensing scheme had served the State well in protecting the public from bad builders.

Many people had been saved thousands of dollars.

But there was one area in which it had operated unfairly, and the Government was very anxious to overcome this.

This was where a building tradesman was trying by hard work to transform himself from a tradesman into a general builder on a small scale.

The Government therefore intended to change the licensing system to introduce provisional licences in general building.

This would permit houses to be built by holders of provisional licences under supervision.

Mr. Dunstan said ~~it~~ would not apply where the houses were built for a client.

But it would allow holders of provisional licences to build a limited number of houses, speculatively, on their own account.

"This kind of operation has enabled many migrants to found successful businesses, and I believe we have an obligation to encourage it as much as possible", Mr. Dunstan said.

The Premier noted that the Government's plan to allow State Government tests to be conducted in a person's home language would be in operation by the middle of the year.

"People seeking a provisional builder's licence will be able to take that test in their home language as well as English", he said.