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Title:

Statement: Liberal Party's opposition to Modulock

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date February 4, 1976

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre
Victoria Square, Adelaide
South Australia 5001
228 4811

LIBERAL PARTY'S OPPOSITION TO MODULOCK.

"The Liberal Party's opposition to the \$1M Modulock Development at Mt. Gambier clearly shows the Liberal Party's hypocrisy on industrial development and its disregard for the improvement of the South East", the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today.

Mr. Dunstan said the Modulock factory, which will build prefabricated houses at a factory near Mt Gambier was a major boost to industrial development in the South East and would ensure added markets for the forestry industry of the region.

"The new factory will employ at least 35 people directly and many more in support industries and in the erection of these new homes. It is a great boost to the economy of Mt Gambier in particular, and the South East in general.

"The Liberal Party has criticised the proposal ever since it was first put forward and in Parliament this week an Opposition Shadow Minister, Mr. Evans, moved a motion directly opposing the plan.

"Mr. Evans moved in the House on Tuesday -

'That in the opinion of this House the role of the South Australian Government is to stimulate development through private enterprise not to act as a disincentive to private enterprise as instanced by the proposal to establish a house manufacturing industry in competition with private industry'.

"It is clear from Dr. Tonkin's statements and this motion that the Liberal Party do not want decentralisation.

"The Government's consistent policy has been that industries must grow on the basis of utilising a local resource. Modulock is

based on one of the South East's main resources, the timber industry, yet the Liberal Party opposes our attempts to boost employment in Mt Gambier simply because the Liberal Party is hysterical about the Government taking a role in any venture.

"Dr. Tonkin is so obsessed by this that he never ceases to knock South Australia, he never ceases to criticise any Government venture which will help the people of this State.

"The question the people of Mt Gambier must be asking is how will their local Liberal Member, Mr. Allison, vote when this comes before Parliament. Will he support the people of the district and vote in favour of Modulock with all the jobs and income it will generate? Or will he follow Party loyalties and vote against a proposal which will clearly help Mt Gambier and which will help industrial development of the South East?"