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Speech at Elizabeth Rotary Luncheon, Kariwara Hotel

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KARIWARA HOTEL. 28.2.74

Mr Haynes, Gentlemen:

Thank you very much for asking me here today for the launching of the Elizabeth and District Foundation.

It's a forward looking, imaginative scheme which will benefit some of the most worthy organisations in the State - Barkuma - the mentally retarded services unit, the District Bush Nursing Society, Meals on Wheels, the Elizabeth Counselling Corporation and the Elizabeth Community Unit.

All of them do vital work and all of them need money. The State Government gives what help it can - particularly through subsidies for capital works.

But there's a limit to our resources.

We just don't have the cash to do all we would like and so these organisations have to look to the generosity of South Australian firms and individuals to provide them with the resources to carry on. The Foundation provides the machinery for low cost fund raising now and in future years. It's a clever conception which should have wide appeal.

The first year's target \$25-thousand is, I think, ambitiously realistic. It'll take some hard work to reach it. But it is an attainable figure - particularly bearing in mind the generosity and warm heartedness of the people of the Elizabeth area.

I was having another look the other day at some of the material the Government has used to publicise Elizabeth across Australia and overseas.

One thing that is frequently and I think very properly mentioned is it's a city which has grown up very quickly and which has a strong and happy sense of community.

Both of these characteristics - steady expansion and a distinctive character are still very much part of the Elizabeth scene today.

The last time I spoke in this area - some months back - I mentioned some of the developments taking place here.

The list is even more impressive now.

Industrial expansion projects involving the Housing Trust which are currently in hand or on the drawing board in the Elizabeth area are in the order of \$4-million.

That, of course, is going to mean considerably increased job opportunities - and I think pretty effectively gives the lie to those knockers who only seem happy when they're running this State down, accusing us of being the home of industrial anarchy and the like.

The industrialists of Elizabeth obviously don't agree with them.

Let me itemise the current projects involving the Trust to show you what I mean.

Sketch plans are being prepared for extensions to Texas Instruments - a \$250,000 scheme.

Work is in progress on extensions to plant at Iplex Plastic Industries costing \$618,000.

Plant extensions by Cable Makers Australia worth \$650,000 have been approved by the Industrial Development Committee.

Approval has also been given for the provision of factory premises costing \$520,000 for Ceramic Tile Makers.

Building extensions are progressing at Krommenie Floors at a cost of \$288,000.

The Industrial Development Committee has approved extensions for Fasson Australia Ltd., worth \$745,000.

Sketch plans are being drawn up for proposed extensions for Levi Strauss plant estimated at \$375,000.

Tenders have closed for extensions to S.A. Battery Makers at an estimated \$175,000.

And tenders have been called for new premises for Chloride Australia Ltd., at a cost of about \$180,000.

(Since I gather the first part of the Elizabeth Foundation Appeal is to the business community I've probably just given Don Haynes some new addresses - if he hasn't got them already.)

But I would make two general points.

That is by no means an exhaustive list of development in the Elizabeth-Salisbury area since it mentioned only those projects with Trust involvement.

Additionally you'll have noticed that most of the work now in hand is to help existing industry - a very good sign of growth.

We can look forward to still more industrial expansion around this area - to further ensure that Elizabeth continues to develop as a city with its own secure employment base rather than as a dormitory suburb for Adelaide.

We are currently looking at industrial development prospects for that other exciting new city - Monarto. In the necessary planning work I can assure you that the needs and opportunities offered by the Elizabeth-Salisbury complex won't be overlooked. The two aren't competitive. They are complementary and development will reflect this fact.

Once again my congratulations to the Rotary Club of Elizabeth for organising this Foundation scheme. It's obvious that a great deal of planning and hard work has gone into it and I hope it will very quickly achieve the success it deserves.

Thank you.