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Press release: Price Control

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN

PRICE CONTROL.

Proposed changes to South Australia's price control laws by Liberal members of the Legislative Council were completely unacceptable to the Government, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan said tonight.

"The amendments are obviously designed to destroy price control in South Australia.

"Coupled with recent statements by Mr. DeGaris (Leader of the Opposition in the Council) about land prices, it is evident that the reactionaries in the Council die hard.

"Protection of the average family and the working man's pay packet does not interest them. Their concern is with profiteering."

Mr. DeGaris' amendment proposes to make prices orders the subject of regulation and parliamentary inquiry.

"This would introduce a degree of political lobbying and uncertainty into prices administration which would make it unworkable."

Another Liberal Councillor, Mr. Dawkins, has proposed that the Prices Act should again be renewable annually.

"This completely ignores the fact that the prices laws are an integral part of the Government's consumer protection measures - a major part of its programme.

"It is significant that the L.C.L. in the Lower House made no such proposal.

"These amendments are totally unacceptable to the Government. To introduce them at this time is to display an extraordinary degree of unreality and regard for the needs of ordinary people."

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