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Title:

Press release: Education rejection

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE ACTING PREMIER, MR. DES CORCORAN.

6/12/73.

EDUCATION REJECTION.

The South Australian Government has flatly rejected overtures on the education issue from the Leader of the Federal Opposition, Mr. Snedden.

The rejection was contained in a telegram sent by the Acting Premier, Mr. Corcoran, this afternoon, in reply to a telegram from Mr. Snedden.

Mr. Corcoran's telegram read:

"I refer to your telegram to the Premier of South Australia. The South Australian Government cannot accept your assurances as implying that a future Australian Liberal - Country Party coalition Government would maintain education policies which ensured that reasonable educational standards would be achieved for the 99% of Australian children and the 99.5% of South Australian children not attending Category A schools. Your Party's record of 23 years in Government and your attitudes in opposition suggest that your main motivation is to protect a position of privilege that has been built up over the years.

My Government considers that the Australian Government's financial proposals for education and for the permanent Australian Schools Commission should be passed unamended in view of the mandate given by the Australian people on December 2nd, 1972. At that time education policy was a central issue and your Party opposed the present Australian Government's proposals, and was subsequently defeated convincingly."

Mr. Corcoran said that if Mr. Snedden had been in doubt on South Australia's position he should no longer be after receiving the telegram.

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