

FOR PRESS :



P.M. No. 51/1966

LIBERAL NOMINATIONS PLAN IN QUEENSLAND

Comment by the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt

The Queensland State Division is well known to be strongly of the view that it should campaign actively through all areas of Queensland in order to build support for the Party in a growing State, and to make the policies of the Party more widely known.

It has been the practice for each State Division of the Liberal Party to decide its own policy on the selection of candidates and the seats which it will contest. When the position of members of the Federal coalition Ministry could be affected by these decisions, it has been usual for some discussion to take place between the Division concerned and the Federal Parliamentary Leader. I have been in touch with Dr. Hartwig, the President of the Queensland Division, suggesting that as he will be in Canberra for the meeting of the Federal Executive to be held on Thursday, we take the opportunity to have a talk about the matter. He said he would welcome a discussion between us.

The coalition Government, although drawn from two Parties, has not at any time functioned along Party lines. We have developed a very good personal relationship. Our teamwork has been close, harmonious and co-operative. It follows that I could not join in opposing loyal Cabinet colleagues in my own Government.

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CANBERRA,

8th June, 1966