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PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

TUESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 1982

MR JEFF KENNETT

I should like to congratulate Mr Jeff Kennett on his election as Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party in Victoria and Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Kennett has been the Member for Burwood in the Legislative Assembly since 1976, and served effectively as the Minister for Housing and the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs between 1981 and 1982.

He is the youngest Parliamentary leader in Australia and his youth will bring with it a dynamism and freshness of ideas which will play a major role in regaining Government in Victoria.

The Liberal Party in Victoria has a very great responsibility to oppose with great vigour the big spending, high tax policies which the Cain Government has introduced in its recent budget. These policies can only do enormous damage to the Victorian economy. They will undermine the living standards of Victorian families and they will harm business confidence and investment prospects.

Mr Kennett will not only oppose those policies effectively and with vigour, I am sure he will lead the Liberal Party back to Government at the next State election.

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