

insisted on the present three shifts.
Toddler drowned
 A three-year-old girl drowned yesterday in an irrigation channel west of Ayr, in north Queensland. At Noosa, police recovered the body of a man who disappeared while fishing from a dinghy off the Noosa National Park on Wednesday.

Minister won't reveal who owns Luna Park

By MARK COULTAN
 The Minister for Natural Resources, Mr Aquilina, told Parliament yesterday that he was not in a position to reveal the ownership details of Luna Park.
 In answer to the Opposition Leader, Mr Greiner, who had asked if it was true that departmental records had shown how Mr Abe Saffron was effectively able to gain control of Luna Park, Mr Aquilina said he had forwarded the details to the Minister for Police, Mr Paciullo.
 However, a spokesman for Mr Aquilina said later that the Minister had meant to say that they would be forwarded to the Attorney-General, Mr Sheehan, who announced a special investigation into any links between Mr Saffron and Luna Park.
 Mr Greiner also asked if investigations had been able to establish if the principals of Harbourside Amusements, Park Pty Ltd, the operator of the park, included three close relatives of Mr Saffron and his principal legal adviser.
 He also asked what steps had been taken to prevent a recurrence of such cases as Togima Leasing, where the Government bought Saffron out for \$2.6 million.

law.
 One such matter, he cited, was his handling of a PCA charge against the editor of *The Bulletin*, Mr Trevor Kennedy.
 Mr Kennedy had pleaded guilty and come to Mr Brise's court seeking leniency with references from the then Attorney-General, Mr Paul Landa, and the Premier.
 In his judgment, Mr Brise said

Gallagher admits defections could halve BLF membership

By MATTHEW MOORE and KEITH MARTIN
 The general secretary of the Builders' Labourers' Federation, Mr Norm Gallagher, has conceded that his union might lose half its 27,000 members in NSW, Victoria and the ACT.
 After the second day of rival unions signing up his members, Mr Gallagher admitted that the BLF had already lost 2,000 members, although figures from the Master Builders' Association (MBA) and the Building Workers' Industrial Union (BWIU) put the number at more than 3,000.
 When asked if he thought the union could lose half its membership, Mr Gallagher said: "It could go to half, it could go to that stage."
 Mr Gallagher blamed heavy police contingents - barring his organisers from entering sites as the main reason for the large numbers of defections from the union.
 The two unions which stand to benefit most from the defections are the BWIU and the Federated Engine Drivers and Firemen's Association (FEDFA) - have appealed to the ALP not to expel Senator George

Georges, the sole ALP parliamentarian who voted against legislation to deregister the BLF.
 The defections are especially ominous as they have mostly occurred on major city sites where the BLF is strongest.
 On the huge Parliament House project in Canberra, almost all the 3,400 BLF members have moved to new unions in accordance with Government regulations introduced on Tuesday.
 The executive director of the ACT branch of the MBA, Mr Michael Lonic, said 1,400 of the 2,500 members of the BLF's ACT branch had already changed unions and there were now only "pockets of resistance".
 Another 1,000 had joined other unions in NSW, and in Victoria there had been a 70 per cent defection to other unions.
 The Federal Minister for Industrial Relations, Mr Willis, said: "I think what this demonstrates is that the Government's action in deregistering the BLF has been very successful."
 Mr Don MacDonald, the State

secretary of the BWIU, which stands to gain most of the BLF membership, said last night that his union had enrolled 1,500 BLF members in NSW during the past two days.
 "We expect the momentum to pick up by day until the BLF is no more than a memory," he said.
 Meanwhile, a meeting of about 350 BLF officers and delegates in Sydney yesterday called a mass stopwork meeting of all of the union's NSW members for next Wednesday morning at Sydney Town Hall.
 Senator Georges was suspended from the Federal Labour Caucus on Tuesday for defying a Caucus decision to support the deregistration legislation.
 The BWIU and the FEDFA, which are contemplating a merger to form one of the country's most powerful unions, sent a letter yesterday to the ALP general secretary, Mr Bob McMullan.
 The letter said: "We think that in all the circumstances the Labor Party would lose by applying harsh disciplinary measures to a representative who has served the party with distinction."

Uren attacks Labor proposal to end double share taxation

By STEVE BURRELL
 CANBERRA: A left-wing Federal minister launched an attack yesterday on the Government's proposal to eliminate the double taxation of share dividends, a key aspect of its tax reform package.
 The Minister for Local Government and Administrative Services, Mr Uren, says in a paper circulated to the Federal Labor Caucus that "the imputation of company tax is diametrically opposed to the traditional philosophy of the labour movement" and calls for "strong and vocal opposition to the proposal".
 "The loss of Labor's traditional base of support witnessed at the December 1984 election can only be exacerbated by its introduction," he argues.
 Mr Uren's comments are further evidence of the growing disquiet within parts of the Government about the direction of economic policy, which has seen the gradual erosion of traditional populist policies in favour of economic rationalism.
 The Uren paper says that the proposal ignores inequities which will result from making dividends tax-free and reduces the progressivity of the tax system.
 These arguments sit uneasily with the current concern within the Labor Party that the present system is encouraging takeovers financed by debt. Mr Uren questions whether imputation will reverse this tendency.
 He also rejects the proposal on the grounds that it further erodes the labour philosophy that income from non-personal exertion should pay a higher tax than income earned by labour.

Robertson tipped for 2BL return

The newscaster on the Channel 7 current affairs program *New World*, Clive Robertson, pictured at right, is believed to be preparing for a comeback to radio.
 It is thought that he will be returning to the spot he occupied for 12 years - on 2BL's breakfast show.
 "I can't say anything at the moment because nothing has been ratified," Robertson said, "but I have had discussions with a number of people."

The program manager at 2BL, Mr Mike Jeffries, indicated that he liked the idea of a line-up which included Margaret Throsby, Holger Brockmann, John Wood and Robertson.
 Mr Jeffries said he had been having discussions with Robertson but would not confirm or deny that a contract was discussed with him. He said he did not want to prejudice the outcome of any discussions.



Govt wants promise in writing

CANBERRA: The Federal Government this week sent letters to the Savings banks requesting written confirmation of their promise to boost home lending before any of its proposed \$140 million interest subsidy is paid.
 The letters, issued by the Acting Treasurer, Mr Hurford, say that the banks will be required to use the subsidy to boost deposit rates, take early steps to increase home lending to a level equivalent to \$6 billion a year and offer more "low-start" loans to assist low-income earners.
 Their performance will be closely monitored by the Reserve Bank and the Federal Treasury, which will demand detailed information on the level and direction of lending.
 Bank spokesmen said last night there will be further negotiations to hammer out the precise mechanisms involved in monitoring the banks' performance, particularly in the area of low-start loans.

Soeharto article aimed to upset relations: senator

CANBERRA: A report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* about the vast fortune acquired by President Soeharto of Indonesia and his family had been "deliberately designed to upset growing good relations between Indonesia and Australia," according to a Liberal senator.
 Senator Baden Teague (Lib, SA) told the Senate yesterday that the story, by the *Herald's* Foreign Editor, David Jenkins, may also have been a "payback for the recent deaths of five Australian journalists in East Timor more than 10 years ago".
 The page one article, published on April 10, said the president and his family had accumulated billions of dollars through Government concessions and contracts.
 Senator Teague said its publication had been wantonily negligent of Australia's national interests and had had a scandalous impact.
 The Parliament had no evidence to verify any of the allegations which had been made and Jenkins had not sought to document the allegations, he said.

Two deny Nazi charges

Two of the six men named in the NSW Parliament as having been Nazi war criminals strongly denied the claims yesterday.
 One of the six, Romanian-born Mr Constantine Untaru, said he had arrived in Australia with a letter of introduction from Britain's wartime Chancellor of the Exchequer, Hugh (later Lord) Dalton. He said he still had a copy of the letter and "if there was any suspicion that I was a war criminal, it is possible I would have been given such a letter".
 "I spent two years in the Buchenwald concentration camp," he said, "I am not a Nazi but a victim of the Nazis."
 Mr Untaru, 79, said he believed he had been singled out for attack because he had long been an anti-communist and an active member of the Captive Nations' Day Committee.
 He was one of six post-war immigrants from communist-controlled eastern European countries named by the Minister for Housing, Mr Walker, as war criminals linked with the Liberal Party. He claimed they were among hundreds of Nazis who had entered Australia in the Menzies era.
 Another of the six, a former Croatian activist, Mr Srecko Rover, who lives in retirement in Melbourne, said he no

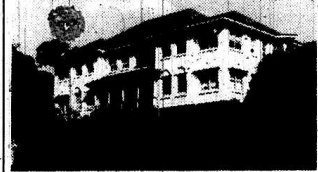
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