

16 January 2006

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bruce Felmingham's articles are enjoyable and informative, but he should stick to his chosen field of expertise namely economics and business.

Indeed he reminded us (Sunday Tasmanian - 8 January) of the cost in the form of higher interest rates for Tasmanians during periods of a hung parliament; and the resulting adverse affect on business and employment.

However, Bruce made a strange claim that "the great majority of Tasmanians would prefer to keep the Hare-Clark system" of voting on the basis that "they would see any loss in business confidence as a reasonable price to pay".

Voters do like to express their preferences, but my impression is that Hare-Clark does not mean anything much, and most are confused about it. Many think it also applies in the Legislative Council, but it does not.

What most people do want is stable Government; a Government that can deliver its promises responsibly; a Government that creates jobs, and continues to bring economic prosperity; a Government that continues to give high priority to Law and Order, Health, Education and the Economy.

So long as the Hare-Clark system continues to produce a majority Government with these priorities it will serve Tasmania well.

HON DOUG PARKINSON MLC
Member for Wellington