

## **Election comments (Results not yet known): Robert Menzies, Prime Minister (LP)**

***Melbourne, April 28 1951***

“Nobody knows at the moment what the final result will be.

The vote for the Senate is splendid. I do not think the results indicate that we cannot get a Senate majority in Queensland.

We might get a Senate majority in West Australia. We cannot get fewer than 30 of the 60 seats.”

It is obvious that electors are influenced by the Government’s wool legislation.

In the country, with a great deal of hard lying on the wool sales deduction legislation, we have lost some ground.

All I can say is that when those people who voted against us get their next income tax assessments, they will pass a vote of thanks to us.

I am not greatly worried by the country vote, except that there will be casualties among some of our colleagues.

The wool tax vote was a vote engineered in one of the most extraordinary campaigns.

The irony of it is that the Labour Party passed the wool legislation, then decided to use it against us in the country.

So a number of people came to give their votes for a party which had completely perjured itself on this matter.

This election, so far, has gone as we thought it might. In the metropolitan areas, I think the figures were magnificent. Take Barton, for instance.

I am neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I did say to people when I came back from N.S.W. that if the learned doctor won, he should win by hundreds, not thousands – and if he is lucky he will.”

Source: Compiled from The Canberra Times, April 30<sup>th</sup> 1951, page 1 and The Age.