

-AND THE MIGRANT VOTE COULD BE VITAL

MAMMA LENA— SHE CAN 'TURN' LOWE



MRS GUSTIN — "Mamma Lena"

when preferences are distributed.

The poll is seen as a crucial test of the Fraser Government's current standing.

Mamma Lena's potential support cannot be undervalued. An estimated 40 per cent of the Lowe electorate consists of migrants, of whom nearly half are of Italian origin.

In addition, she is well known to many non-migrants for her community work and could also be seen as a good representative for the many elderly people in Lowe.

"In the 25 years I have been in Australia, I have seen the many, many problems that migrants are faced with," Mamma Lena told The Sun.

"I have never had an office or other resources, but I have still been fortunate in being able to help a lot of people in need.

"A group of people in the migrant community wanted to stand a candidate in Lowe and they picked me.

"We may not win this time, but we could prepare the

road for someone to get in maybe next time."

For 25 years Mamma Lena has conducted an Italian language program on Sydney radio stations — first 2KY, then 2CH, 2SM and now 2SER-FM.

Apart from Italian and English, she speaks French and Spanish.

ACTU SEEKS \$25-PLUS PAY RISE

POST-INDEXATION wage rises of more than the community standard \$25 should go to sections of the workforce, ACTU advocate Mrs Jan Marsh told the National Wage Case in Melbourne today.

The increases should be paid on the basis of "special factors," she said.

Mrs Marsh said she could not specify in what industries these special factors applied, but recent Arbitration Commission decisions had recognised their existence.

Mrs Marsh was making the ACTU's opening submission on the first full day of the National Wage Hearing, the first since the abandonment of indexation in July.

The ACTU has asked the Arbitration Commission to complete the current community wage round of \$25 at tradesman level.

It also is seeking a mid-term \$14, based on Consumer Price Index rises, for workers who have not been granted such an adjustment under industry agreements.

CASE PUT TO HEARING

The third prong of the ACTU application is for a system of full quarterly wage indexation for Australia's six million wage earners.

Mrs Marsh said the ACTU did not expect the Commission to hand down a general wage rise.

"We cannot have it both ways," she said.

She told the Full Bench that large sections of the work force had already received pay rises, and a large national rise could not be expected as well.

The ACTU claim was, in essence, a catch-up claim for workers who had not been part of the community wage round.

HUNT FOR MISSING BARMAID



Debbie Pritchard

DETECTIVES hunting for missing barmaid Debbie Pritchard hope a taxi driver may provide the first clue to her mysterious disappearance.

Miss Pritchard, 24, was last seen walking away from Newcastle nightclub early on Sunday morning.

She told the nightclub's doorman she intended to catch a taxi to her boyfriend's house at Whitebridge.

She never arrived.

Police hope a taxi driver may recall picking up Miss Pritchard.

Miss Pritchard's boyfriend Peter Shaw today made an emotional plea for anyone with information to come forward.

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