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The Sun-Herald

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SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1982

40 CENTS

LOWE: LABOR

ROMPS IN

Savage blow to the
PM's hopes

By NEIL O'REILLY

the Lowe by-election yesterday.

The swing to the Labor Party late last night was seven per cent. Even if this drops with the counting of postal votes, the result is a severe rebuff to the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser.

Sir William McMahon, the former Prime Minister and the man whose resignation brought on the by-election, visited the tally room last night and predicted Mr Maher would win his old seat by as much as 10 per cent.

IT MEANS Labor has broken the 32-year-old Liberal stranglehold on the Sydney electorate.

IT MEANS Mr Fraser's winning streak — which began with the Bass by-election in 1975 and has carried him through three Federal elections — has been broken.

IT MEANS Strike One has been made against the Prime Minister. He will now have to pull out all stops to prevent the Victorian election next month becoming Strike Two.

IT MEANS that a challenge from Mr Andrew Peacock for the Liberal leadership is now much more likely. If the Liberals fail in Victoria, it will become probable rather than possible.

IT MEANS that the standing of Mr Bill Hayden as Labor leader has been enhanced.



Mr Fraser . . . result a setback.

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REACTION: P2



Saluting the victor . . . Premier Neville Wran with new Labor MP Michael Maher.

50—and
fabulous

- The men who linked up the Harbour Bridge and put Sydney on the world map.
- The bridge is 50 years old on Friday.
- Author Thomas Kenally looks back; pictures—Pages 17, 18, 19.

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