

# HERE'S THE PROOF: CM

By OSCAR TAMSEN

The Chief Minister, Mr Steve Hatton, has produced what the CLP says is proof that his predecessor, Mr Ian Tuxworth, has been disloyal to the party.

But it is not connected with the new NT National Party.

Mr Hatton said today Mr Tuxworth was expelled from the CLP last night for disloyalty, but his alleged National Party affiliations were only part of a total and long scenario.

Mr Hatton was answering a series of questions about the CLP parliamentary wing's expulsion of Mr Tuxworth late yesterday.

Queried strongly about his claimed irrefutable proof, Mr Hatton reached into his office desk drawer and produced an official document detailing Mr Tuxworth's disloyalty.

The document formed part of the parliamentary wing's case against Mr Tuxworth.

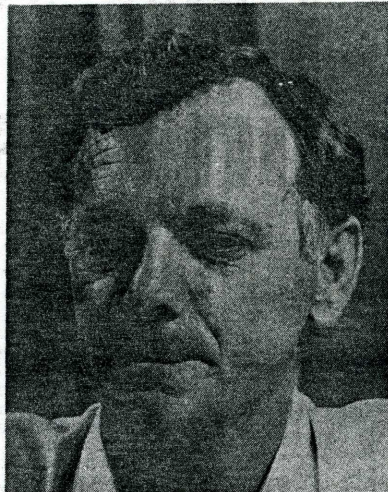
Other major developments in the Tuxworth saga during the past 24 hours include:

- A 33-3 vote of censure by Mr Tuxworth's Tennant Creek branch against the CLP over the expulsion.

- The immediate resignation of a number of his branch members in protest.

- The consideration of five options by the Tennant Creek CLP branch, including whether Mr Tuxworth should stand as an independent, join the new NT National Party or retire from politics.

- The NT National Party convener, Mr Jim Petrich, claiming he had not had any



Mr Hatton announces yesterday's decision to expel Mr Tuxworth.

contact with parliamentary wing members, but that he would welcome Mr Tuxworth as a party member.

The first National Party branch formation meeting is due to be held in Darwin later today.

Other recent events include the suspension of former Federal MP, Mr Sam Calder, from the CLP.

The party's management committee last

night unanimously acknowledged the integrity and loyalty of Territory CLP Senator Bern Kilgariff, Mr Grant Heaslip, Mr Jay Pendarvis and Mr Graeme Bevis in spite of some of their names previously being on a CLP hit list.

Alice Springs lawyer, Mr Shane Stone, was appointed acting party president after the resignation last week of Mr Graeme Lewis and the intended standing

## Govt aid out, too

Expelled CLP member, Mr Ian Tuxworth, has lost Government financial support for his defamation case against former Opposition leader, Mr Bob Collins.

Mr Tuxworth confirmed today he had received a telex from the Chief Minister, Mr Steve Hatton, advising him Cabinet had decided he no longer could be financially supported in his court action.

down of his close ally, Federal member, Mr Paul Everingham.

Mr Stone will head the party until elections are held for all vacant party positions at next month's CLP Central Council meeting.

The Tennant Creek CLP branch president, Mrs Joan Small, said today she already had indicated her intention to resign as branch chairman in line with the other members.

She said a good proportion of Tennant Creek residents were backing Mr Tuxworth and believed other CLP branches were being intimidated by the party.