

14



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

17 AUGUST 1988

The following announcement has been made from Buckingham Palace:

"Her Majesty The Queen has graciously approved the appointment of the Honourable William George Hayden, MP, to be her Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. Mr Hayden will be sworn in as Governor-General on 16 February 1989 after Sir Ninian Stephen vacates the office".

I warmly welcome Her Majesty's appointment of Bill Hayden as Governor-General to succeed Sir Ninian Stephen. Mr Hayden, a senior Minister of the Crown, has had a career of great distinction in the public life of Australia, and is highly qualified for the task he is to undertake.

Throughout his long and successful public career Mr Hayden has served the interests of the Australian people with dedication and humanity. He has been a senior minister in two governments and was Leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party for six years. In his most recent portfolio, that of Foreign Affairs and Trade, he has assiduously and successfully promoted and furthered his country's interests in the international arena.

In all these activities Mr Hayden has enjoyed the support and understanding of his gracious wife, Dallas, and I know that their combined talents will ensure that the Australian people continue to be served, as in the past, with the utmost dedication, commitment and dignity.

Mr Hayden and Mrs Hayden have a family of one son and two daughters; Kirk, Ingrid, and Georgina.

On behalf of the Government and people of Australia, I extend very sincere congratulations to Mr and Mrs Hayden.