



PRIME MINISTER

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING MP

APPOINTMENT OF AUSTRALIAN STATISTICIAN

13/10/94

I am pleased to announce that Cabinet has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr Bill McLennan as Australian Statistician. The appointment will be submitted for approval by the Governor-General in Council.

Mr McLennan will replace Mr Ian Castles, who will retire on 25 November 1994.

Mr McLennan has had a distinguished career as a statistician. He was Deputy Australian Statistician from 1986 to 1992 after having worked in a wide range of areas in the Bureau since joining the organisation after his completion of his undergraduate studies. He graduated with an honours degree in Economics from the Australian National University.

In 1992, Mr McLennan accepted an appointment as Director of the Central Statistical Office and Head of the Government Statistical Service in the United Kingdom. The appointment reflected Mr McLennan's international standing in the field of statistics and the excellent reputation of the Australian Bureau of Statistics as one of the world's leading statistical organisations.

The Government is looking forward to continued high levels of achievement by the Bureau under Mr McLennan's leadership, confirming its place as a world leader in the field of statistics.

Mr McLennan will take up his appointment on 3 April 1995. The appointment is for a term of seven years.

Following the retirement of Mr Castles, Dr Richard Madden will act as Australian Statistician until Mr McLennan's arrival.

The Treasurer and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Castles for his service to the Australian Government and people over the course of his long and distinguished career.

Mr Castles was appointed Australian Statistician in April 1986 after seven years as Secretary of the Department of Finance. Before that he had been Undersecretary to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and served 15 years in the Commonwealth Treasury.

Mr Castles was a member of the Royal Commission on Australian Government Administration Task Group on Processes of Economic Policy in Australia, 1974-75, President, International Association of Official Statistics, 1991-93 and was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences of Australia in 1989.

CANBERRA
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