

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL LIBRARY COUNCILStatement by the Acting Prime Minister Hon. J. McEwen

The Acting Prime Minister, Mr. McEwen, announced today that the Government had appointed Dr. A. Grenfell Price, C.M.G., of Adelaide, as Chairman of the National Library Council.

In the House last Thursday, Mr. McEwen outlined the Government's decisions on the National Library. These decisions included the division of the National Library into two parts - the Parliamentary Library and the National Library. The National Library would be administered by a Council, appointed on an interim basis pending passage of the necessary legislation through Parliament, probably later this year.

Mr. McEwen said: "We are fortunate in being able to secure the services of such an eminent man for this responsible position.

"Dr. Grenfell Price, who was a Member of the Commonwealth Parliament from 1941 to 1943, has had wide experience in the literary and library fields.

"He is a well known geographer, historian and educationist, and was Master of St. Mark's College, University of Adelaide, from 1924 to 1956.

"In 1936 he was appointed to report on libraries in South Australia maintained or assisted by the State, and he also was a member of the Committee under Sir George Paton which produced the report on the National Library on which the Government's recent decisions were based.

"Dr. Grenfell Price is at present Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Commonwealth Literary Fund, a position which he has held since 1953. He recently resigned as Secretary of The Humanities Research Council, a position he had held since its inception.

"He will, I am sure, bring to the responsible position of Chairman of the National Library Council much energy and knowledge and the Government is gratified that he has been able to accept the appointment."

Dr. Grenfell Price's appointment is for three years.
CANBERRA, 8th May, 1960.

