



Now the last thing I want to say to you is this. References have been made to the Department of the Interior which has done magnificent work, and the Department of Works, to my expensive friend Mr. Overall, the Chairman of the Commission..... Oh, by the way I will interrupt myself. I must tell you something about Mr. Overall, do you mind? Occasionally if you say to a Minister, or to a Department, "Yes, we'll approve of that", nothing much happens for a month or two. But when Mr. Overall has some proposal up, and it is usually a very expensive one, before the Government and he knows it has been considered in Cabinet that day, he will ring up the secretary to the Cabinet before midnight and say, "How did my proposal get on?" If the answer is "It was approved", he has the bulldozers on the site at 8 o'clock next morning. (Applause) This dynamic drive has meant a great deal to Canberra, and I am sure has meant a great deal to you.

But you may talk about the Department of the Interior, you may talk about Government policy, you may talk about the Capital Commission, but there is no Government Department that administers humanity. There is no Department of Humanity. There can't be. You can't deal with kindness and goodwill and human understanding by regulations or rules, or by a Department. What you need to convert to a place like this from being a collection of bricks and mortar, into being a collection of individual homes is human understanding. And it is on that side that those for whom Mr. Sautelle speaks matter so much: people who have maintained their interest. I see a dozen of them here this afternoon who, as I know, have devoted a lot of their time and a lot of their attention to this matter. This is where humanity comes in, and escapes through the red tape, escapes through the specifications escapes through the Statutes or regulations, and converts the whole place into your home, somebody' else's home, the home of your friend, in which you are not ordered about, but are assisted to live your own lives in the happiest possible fashion.

Sir, it is because of all these things that I have the greatest pleasure in the world in declaring the building Open.

---