

WODONGA-MELBOURNE STANDARDISATION

Message for "AGE" Supplement, by the Prime Minister, the
Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies

The completion of the standard gauge railway link between Wodonga and Melbourne is an event of great significance for Australians everywhere.

The immediate advantages which it confers on the industrial south-east of our great continent are apparent, for elimination of the break of gauge between New South Wales and Victoria should considerably enhance the volume of commercial traffic and the speed of shipment and handling which are so vital to an expanding economy. Further, the convenience to inter-State travellers of an unbroken and restful journey between our two greatest cities should win unreserved approval and greater use

But beyond these benefits to travellers or to commerce, this consummation of a long-held dream is a symbol of the new Australia which lies in the near future.

The Wodonga-Melbourne rail link is but one of a great number of development projects - standardisation from Kalgoorlie to Perth is another - designed to win from our country greater productivity to the greater good of all our citizens.

I believe that if we see this event in that light we will have a truer appreciation of its importance. In the years to come, those of us who are lucky enough to be here will see changes wrought across the face of our land in which we will properly take immense pride, as I do in the project which this supplement celebrates.

R.G. Menzies.

CANBERRA,

3rd January, 1962.

FOR THE PRESS:

COMPOSITION OF THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION
TO ATTEND THE SECOND COMMONWEALTH
EDUCATION CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI THIS
MONTH.

The Prime Minister announced today the composition of the Australian delegation which will attend the Second Commonwealth Education Conference to be held in New Delhi this month.

The Prime Minister of India will open the Conference in VIGYAN BHAWAN, New Delhi, on Thursday morning, 11th January, and Dr. K.L. SHRIMALI, Minister of Education, will be its Chairman. About 200 delegates from 13 Commonwealth countries and from colonial territories are expected to attend. The Conference will end on 25th January.

The agenda for the Conference has been drawn up by the Commonwealth Education Liaison Committee in London and the Governments concerned. This Conference will discuss ways by which educational co-operation between the countries of the Commonwealth can be made more effective. Following the First Commonwealth Education Conference, which was held at Oxford in July, 1959, a scheme of scholarships was initiated and other forms of Commonwealth co-operation in education were planned. Australia has undertaken to provide 100 scholarships at any one time under this scheme and has made arrangements for sending educational experts to other countries of the Commonwealth and for special visits and courses for educationists in Australian universities, technical colleges and education departments.

The Australian delegation will be as follows -

Sir ALLEN BROWN, Deputy High Commissioner, London
(Leader).

Professor J.P. BAXTER, Vice-Chancellor, University of
New South Wales.

Dr. H.S. WYNDHAM, Director-General of Education, New
South Wales.

Dr. T.L. ROBERTSON, Director-General of Education,
Western Australia.

Dr. J.T. GUNTHER, Assistant Administrator, Territory
of Papua-New Guinea Administration.

Mr. E.J.B. FOXCROFT, First Assistant Secretary,
Prime Minister's Department.

Mr. J.J. PRATT, Deputy Director, Commonwealth Office
of Education.

Mr. H.S. AMOS, Assistant Secretary, Department of the
Treasury.

The delegation will be assisted by officers from the
Office of the Australian High Commissioner in New Delhi.

CANBERRA.
8th January, 1962. P.M.