

CHAIRMAN OF COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt

Sir Leslie Melville, K.B.E., has been appointed Chairman of the Commonwealth Grants Commission as from tomorrow (1st October). Sir Leslie, who is already a member of the Commission, will replace Mr. P.D. Phillips, C.M.G., Q.C., whose term of appointment as Chairman expires today (30th September).

Mr. Phillips has occupied the position of Chairman of the Grants Commission since 1960. During his period as Chairman, Mr. Phillips has made a significant contribution to the work of the Commission and has maintained the high standard set by his predecessors in this office.

The new Chairman, Sir Leslie Melville, has had a distinguished career as an economist and has also occupied a number of important positions in the service of both the Commonwealth and State Governments. He was an Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund from 1950 to 1953, Vice-Chancellor of the Australian National University from 1953 to 1960, and Chairman of the Tariff Board from 1960 to 1963. Sir Leslie has also been a member of the Reserve Bank Board from 1959 to 1963 and again since 1965. Prior to his appointment as a member of the Grants Commission in 1965, he occupied a senior position with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The Commonwealth Government is fortunate in having the services of a man of Sir Leslie's standing and experience.

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CANBERRA,  
30th September, 1966