



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 22

15 December 1972

ELIZABETH EVATT

The Prime Minister, Mr. Whitlam, has announced the appointment of Miss Elizabeth Evatt as a Presidential Member of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission.

Deputy President Evatt is the first woman to hold such a position. A vacancy on the Bench occurred following the resignation of the Hon. Deputy President, Vernon Watson, to take up a position as a Judge on the Industrial Commission of New South Wales.

The decision to replace Mr. Watson with Deputy President Evatt was made after consultations between Mr. Whitlam and the nominated Minister for Industrial Affairs, Mr. C.R. Cameron.

Deputy President Evatt has accepted the position and will take up her appointment at Easter.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

BACKGROUND

Miss Evatt graduated from the University of Sydney with the Law Medal in March 1955. She was admitted to the New South Wales and Federal Bars in that year and to the Inner Temple three years later. She later obtained the Degree of Master of Arts at Harvard.

She lives in London with her husband, Mr. R. Southends, of the London Bar and their son Robert, 9, and daughter, Anne, 3.

She is at present a staff member working in family law reform for Lord (Justice) Scarman's Law Commission.

Miss Evatt is the daughter of well-known Sydney Queen's Counsel, Mr. Clive Evatt, and the niece of former Labor Leader, Dr. H.V. Evatt.