



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 278
2 July 1974

APPOINTMENTS TO THE INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

The Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, announced today that he has recommended to the Executive Council the appointment of Mr P.B. Westerway as a Commissioner of the IAC. The Prime Minister also announced the appointment of Dr J. Melville, CMG and Messrs Fisk, Poulton, Brown and Grace as Associate Commissioners of the Industries Assistance Commission.

Mr Westerway's appointment will fill the vacancy created by Mr N.V. Watson whose term as a Commissioner expired on 30 June 1974. Mr Watson, however, will continue to carry out the functions of the Temporary Assistance Authority to which he was appointed on 1 January 1974.

Mr Westerway, who is an Economics Graduate of Sydney University and post graduate student of the London School of Economics has held positions in university, television, advertising and broadcasting. He is also a former General Secretary of the New South Wales Branch of the Australian Labor Party. His interests include consumer protection, economic planning, education, mass media and social welfare. He has contributed to various branches of the media and academic journals, and travelled widely, at various times on the invitation of Governments.

Dr Melville has been appointed for the inquiry into the financing of rural research. He was formerly Director of the Grasslands Division of the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and for seventeen years a Director of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute of the University of Adelaide. He was also Chairman of the Australian Wool Industry Conference from 1964-66.

Mr Fisk has been appointed for the inquiry into the dairy industry and rural reconstruction. He has had extensive experience as a consultant in rural administration and rural economics, and owns and manages a grazing property near Braidwood (N.S.W.). His previous appointments include Member of the Consultative Committee to the Asian Development Bank on the Asian Agricultural Survey; Visiting Professor at the University of the South Pacific; and Visiting Fellow, Nuffield College, Oxford. Presently he is a Professorial Fellow in Economics in the Research School of Pacific Studies, ANU.

Mr J. Poulton has been appointed for the inquiry into paints, varnishes and lacquers. He is Director of Olex Cables Pty. Ltd. and President of the Australian Electrical Manufacturers' Association and has life long experience in the tyre and cables industries with Olympic Consolidated Industries Ltd.

Mr K. Brown is General Manager of Pak Pacific Corporation Pty. Ltd., President of the Printing and Allied Trade Employers Federation of Australia, Member of ACMA executive and was a member of the Crisp Committee on Data Integration. Mr Brown has been appointed for the inquiry into electrical machinery and equipment.

Mr C. Grace, whose present term as an Associate Commissioner expires as from 16 July 1974, has been re-appointed on a temporary basis in order to finalise a number of inquiries on which he is currently engaged.

Mr Whitlam also announced the Government's intention to amend Section 5 of the Industries Assistance Commission Act 1973 to increase the establishment of the Commission to eleven. Although the full complement of nine Commissioners has been appointed since the Act came into operation on 1 January 1974 the present workload and known future commitments arising from references that the Government intends sending to the Commission over the next three years have highlighted the need for the appointment of an additional Commissioner.

The Prime Minister stated that Mr F. Pascoe, who was recently appointed an Associate Commissioner for the inquiry into the clothing industry, would be appointed as the tenth Commissioner. Mr Pascoe has had extensive experience as a senior executive in manufacturing companies and organisations. He is Chairman of Directors, Australian Development Ltd., and a director of a number of other companies. He was President of the South Australian Chamber of Manufactures in 1972-73, and is the first President of the Amalgamated Chamber of Manufactures and Chamber of Commerce, South Australia. Mr Pascoe is currently Deputy President of the Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia.

Mr Whitlam also said that the Acting Premier of New South Wales, Sir Charles Cutler has agreed to make the services of Dr Dun of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture available to the IAC for inquiry into the financing of rural research, subject to certain administrative arrangements being satisfactorily concluded.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.