

MEDIA RELEASE

DEATH OF MR ALF MAIDEN

(Statement by the Acting Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. J.D. Anthony, M.P.)

I am saddened to learn of the death today of one of Australia's most distinguished public servants, and a servant in particular of Australia's primary producers, Mr Alf Maiden.

Mr Maiden was the Secretary of the Department of Primary Industry when I became the Minister in 1967. Until he became Managing Director of the International Wool Secretariat in 1969 I enjoyed, as did the Government, the benefit of the advice he was able to give from his long experience in the fields of agricultural economics and rural policy.

Subsequently, as Chairman of the International Wool Secretariat and of the Australian Wool Corporation, Mr Maiden played a role of immense significance to the Australian and world wool industries.

His death has removed from the rural industry scene a man of great strength and wisdom, and a man who devoted himself throughout his life to the cause of placing Australian agriculture on the soundest possible footing.

I express my deepest sympathy to Mrs Maiden and the family.