



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

**PROFESSOR FENNER'S AWARD -
A GREAT HONOUR FOR AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE**

Prime Minister Keating wrote last week in the following terms to Professor Frank Fenner AC, of the John Curtin School of Medical Research at the Australian National University, whose award of the Royal Society's Copley medal was announced in Britain on 11 July:

"I was delighted to learn that you have been awarded the prestigious Copley medal by the Royal Society for your work at the John Curtin School of Medical Research in the Australian National University.

This award is a great honour for you personally and a great honour for Australian science.

Your work in virology and, particularly, your contribution to the global eradication of smallpox, have brought incalculable benefits to millions of people around the world. Your achievements in this field, through your work at the John Curtin School and in association with the World Health Organisation, will be remembered in the history of medical science.

It is only fitting that the Royal Society has honoured you for it by adding your name to those of other great recipients of the Copley medal such as Benjamin Franklin, James Cook, Charles Darwin and our own MacFarlane Burnet.

All Australians will join me in congratulating you on this great distinction."

CANBERRA
14 July 1995