

Press release



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
News and Information Bureau,
Australia House, Strand, W.C.2.
TEMple Bar 2435

November 7, 1951.

NOT TO BE USED BEFORE
1.20 P.M. NOVEMBER 9, 1951

AUSTRALIA'S GREETINGS TO LORD MAYOR

The following is the text of the illuminated address of welcome and congratulations from Australia's Prime Minister, Mr. R.G. Menzies, which the Australian High Commissioner, Mr. T.W. White, will read to the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Leslie Boyce, at a brief ceremony outside Australia House at approximately 1.20 p.m. on November 9:-

Congratulations from the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Right Honourable R.G. Menzies, C.H., K.C., on behalf of the people and government of Australia.

Your pride and the honour now conferred on you are shared today by the land of your birth and by all its people.

[For the first time in the long history of London, a citizen born in a British Dominion overseas has become its Lord Mayor.]

You now preside over the civic destinies of the most venerable city in the British world; city of riches in tradition and prestige; in wisdom and in courage; in all those parts and qualities which the people of our race and Commonwealth hold most dear.

In upholding these qualities and traditions, Australia believes you will be no less successful than your many illustrious predecessors; believes moreover that in the coming months you will draw closer still, ties of kinship and affection which have always bound us to the motherland.]

Today therefore we send you this expression of our warm greetings and goodwill.

[We salute the great city of which you are now the First Citizen.]

We wish you a happy and fruitful period of office.

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LORD MAYOR'S REPLY TO AUSTRALIA'S
ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Your Excellency,

As an Australian citizen, and as the First Citizen of London, I wish to express through you to the Prime Minister, the Government, and the people of the Commonwealth of Australia, my profound gratitude for the signal honour that my native land has just bestowed upon me, by presenting me with this most inspiring Address.

The knowledge that I have the goodwill, the confidence and the encouragement of my fellow countrymen in undertaking the onerous and responsible duties of this ancient and historic Office of Lord Mayor of London will not only sustain me throughout the year, but, I trust, with the Prime Minister of Australia, draw even closer those ties of kinship and affection which have always bound us to the Mother Country

Press release



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8th November, 1951.

COLOURFUL CEREMONY OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA HOUSE

High Commissioner to Present Address to First Australian Lord Mayor in London's History.

Five other British Commonwealth High Commissioners and the Agents-General of the six Australian States will support the Australian High Commissioner, Mr. T.W.White, to-morrow when he halts the Lord Mayor's procession to present an illuminated address of welcome and congratulations to Sir Leslie Boyce, the first Australian in history to become Lord Mayor of London.

On the dais in front of the main Australia House portals as Sir Leslie Boyce's coach sweeps to a stop soon after 1.15 p.m. will be Mr. White, the High Commissioners for Pakistan (Mr. Habib Ibrahim Rahimtoola), India (Mr. V.K.Krishna Menon), South Africa (Dr. A.L.Geyer), Ceylon (Mr. E.A.Wijeyeratne) and Southern Rhodesia (Mr. K.M. Goode-nough) and the Agents-General for New South Wales (Mr. J.M.Tully), Victoria (Mr. J.H.Lienhop), Queensland (Mr. D.J.Muir), Western Australia (Mr. W.H.Kitson), Tasmania (Mr. Eric von Bibra) and Acting Agent-General for South Australia (Mr. A.H.Greenham). The High Commissioners for Canada and New Zealand are at present in Paris for the sittings of the United Nations.

The address of welcome has been written by Australia's Prime Minister, Mr. R.G.Menzies. It is illuminated with Australian indigenous flowers such as the waratah, wattle and flowering gum.

The ceremony outside Australia House will be carried to British, Australian and world audiences by press, newsreel companies, the B.B.C., still photographs and a special film of record being made under the direction of the Australian News and Information Bureau.

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