national archives of australia

1923 – 1929

... the leader of the government, the leader of the nation ...

stanley melbourne bruce

GUIDE TO ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA'S PRIME MINISTERS

by john connor

1919 1920 1921 1922 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940

Stanley Melbourne Bruce

Guide to Archives of Australia's Prime Ministers

John Connor

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2. Part image of Ethel Bruce from photograph in the British *Daily Graphic*, 1923. *NAA: A1486, 1*

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Abbreviations

ABC	Australian Broadcasting Commission (later Corporation)
AIF	Australian Imperial Force
ALP	Australian Labor Party
ANU	Australian National University
AWA	Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd
AWM	Australian War Memorial
ASTEC	Australian Science, Technology and Engineering Council
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
CH	Companion of Honour
CID	Committee of Imperial Defence
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FCI	Finance Corporation for Industry
GC	George Cross
GCMG	Knight / Dame Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George
KCB	Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath
KCMG	Knight / Dame Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George
MC	Military Cross
MG	Medal for Gallantry
MP	Member of Parliament
MS	Manuscript
NAA	National Archives of Australia
NLA	National Library of Australia
OBE	Officer of the Order of the British Empire
PM	Prime Minister
PC	Privy Councillor
RAF	Royal Air Force
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
RSL	Returned & Services League Limited (since 1990)
RSSILA	Returned Soldiers and Sailors Imperial League of Australia (later the RSL)
TRH	Their Royal Highnesses
UAP	United Australia Party
WO	War Office (UK)
YWCA	Young Women's Christian Association

Introduction

Stanley Melbourne Bruce, 1923-29. *NAA: A1200, L11183*

Stanley Melbourne Bruce, Nationalist Party Prime Minister of Australia from 1923 to 1929, is notable for three reasons: he is the second youngest Prime Minister after Chris Watson; he is the only Prime Minister to have lost his seat in an election; and his large and historically important collection of papers was preserved and is now held by the National Archives of Australia.

The enduring image of Bruce is of a wealthy but snobbish businessman more at home in England than Australia. It is true that Bruce disliked anyone calling him by his first name and, as Prime Minister, became famous for being impeccably dressed right down to the spats on his shoes. Bruce, however, always had definite ideas about Australia's interests and was willing to stand up for them when they clashed with British priorities.

Prime Minister Stanley Melbourne Bruce

Bruce became Prime Minister at the age of 39 when the Country Party led by Earle Page refused to work with the previous Prime Minister, William ('Billy') Morris Hughes. As Prime Minister, Bruce faced many challenges. His greatest achievement was to maintain the Nationalist–Country Party coalition for the life of his Government.

DEFENCE AND FOREIGN POLICY

Bruce's most important decision in foreign and defence policy was his agreement at the 1923 Imperial Conference that Australian security should rely on a British fleet, stationed in time of war, at a naval base to be built in Singapore. However, when Japan did attack in 1942, the Singapore strategy failed because the British fleet, already fighting the Germans and Italians, was unable to come to Australia's aid.

ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY

As Prime Minister, Bruce's economic policy can be summed up in the slogan 'men, money and markets'. Bruce wanted British migrants and investment to help develop the Australian economy, and British markets to provide an outlet for Australian products. British migrants and investment poured into Australia during the 1920s but Bruce's lobbying efforts to get the United Kingdom to change its free trade policy to favour Australian goods had little effect.

Bruce's industrial policy exacerbated Australian industrial conflict and ultimately led to his defeat as Prime Minister. His industrial policy was based on two beliefs: first, Australian workers' wages were too high and had to be cut to improve Australia's competitiveness; and second, many trade union leaders were communists who were plotting for a communist revolution in Australia. Bruce attempted to deport two unionists, but the High Court of Australia found this unconstitutional. He passed laws in an attempt to break the maritime union, but then refused to prosecute a mine owner who had locked out his miners. Finally, with both his popularity and the economy in decline, Bruce tried to give the Commonwealth's industrial relations powers back to the States. W M Hughes and other members of the Government crossed the floor to defeat this legislation. In the ensuing election, James Scullin and the Australian Labor Party (ALP) were swept to power and Bruce lost his seat.

CANBERRA

Bruce's most important legacy as Prime Minister was the move of the Australian Federal Government from Melbourne to Canberra. Bruce attended the official opening of Parliament House in May 1927 by the Duke of York (later King George VI) and became the first resident of the Prime Minister's Lodge.

HIGH COMMISSIONER

After his defeat as Prime Minister, Bruce had a second career as Australian High Commissioner in London. During the 1930s Bruce renegotiated Australian loans from British banks to lower interest rates and played a vital role in King Edward VIII's abdication. During World War II Bruce became a tireless advocate of the Australian right to be consulted on war aims and strategy and had many confrontations with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

A timeline of Bruce's life appears at Appendix 1.

The Bruce papers

Bruce's personal papers held at the National Archives concentrate on his official careers as Prime Minister and High Commissioner. Bruce brought his business experience of good recordkeeping to the prime ministership. Whereas his predecessor, Hughes, had run a disorganised Cabinet for which few records remain, Bruce reformed Cabinet practice by requiring Ministers to circulate written submissions prior to Cabinet meetings. After Cabinet discussed the issue, Bruce then made a point of writing the date and substance of the Cabinet's decision on each submission. Bruce also compiled functional indexes of his parliamentary speeches and question time responses.

The historical importance of Bruce's personal effects and papers was recognised during his lifetime but not before Bruce had begun destroying any papers not relating to his

periods as Prime Minister and High Commissioner. As Assistant Cabinet Secretary, R J Linford told the Australian High Commission in London on 13 April 1967, 'we have tried to impress upon him the vital need to retain *all* his papers and to transfer them to archival custody'[1]. The Bruce collection, although substantial, contains no family letters and little material relating to his life before he entered politics in 1918. Bruce's career in the London office of the family company, Paterson, Laing & Bruce, is largely undocumented because the company office and records were destroyed in World War II by German bombers. There are also few papers relating to Bruce's role as a peer in the House of Lords; as Chairman of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Finance Corporation for Industry (FCI); and as Chancellor of the Australian National University (ANU). Bruce's wife Ethel also left few records.

The two highlights of the Bruce papers are his personal correspondence with Richard Casey (in series *A1420* and *A1421*) and the unique collection of objects presented to him during his official career (in series *M4254*). The private correspondence between Bruce and Casey is valuable because it provides an insider's view of interwar British and Australian politics. Their private letters contain candid comments, which, as Casey wrote on 19 January 1927, 'would be out of place on official files'[2]. The large collection of objects Bruce accumulated over his official career came into the National Archives' custody because Bruce had no children to inherit them. The collection ranges from a cigarette case from Turkish President Kemal Ataturk, who had once been Bruce's foe at Gallipoli in World War I (see item *M4254, 42*), to his captain's uniform from the famous Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews in Scotland (see item *M4254, 32*).

Part of Bruce's unique collection of objects, an inscribed gold cigarette case from the Duke and Duchess of York, 1927.

NAA: M4254, 41

The Bruce papers provide a vivid picture of Australian politics and society through the eyes of the country's most important elected official: its prime minister. In 1961, Australian historian Sir Keith Hancock told Bruce that Gavin Long, the Australian World War II official historian, read his first file from the Bruce papers with 'a sparkle in his eye'[3]). It is hoped that those who use this guide to research Bruce's papers will be similarly intrigued and impressed by them.

[1] Gift of the late Lord Bruce's papers and personal effects to the Commonwealth of Australia, *NAA: A3211, 1974/735*.

[2] Correspondence between S M Bruce, R G Casey and W Henderson, *NAA: A1420, 4*.

[3] Correspondence about Bruce's records and files, *NAA: M104, 16*.

Using this research guide

In the early years of the Commonwealth, no formal arrangements for keeping Cabinet records or papers created by successive prime ministers existed. However, records of, and about, the early prime ministers are held in a variety of archives and libraries, principally the National Archives of Australia and the National Library of Australia (NLA) in Canberra.

This guide aims to make it easier for researchers to access records in the National Archives and other collections relating to Stanley Melbourne Bruce and Ethel Bruce. It is available online at www.naa.gov.au and is a companion publication of the National Archives' *Australia's Prime Ministers* website at primeministers.naa.gov.au.

The guide contains:

- biographical information on Stanley Melbourne Bruce and Ethel Bruce;
- descriptions of records created by Stanley Melbourne Bruce, including official records, letters and diaries;
- records about Stanley Melbourne Bruce including photographs, memorabilia, oral histories, films and other audiovisual materials; and
- information on records of, or about, Ethel Bruce.

This guide aims at comprehensiveness. However, given that the collection of the National Archives alone runs to an estimated 250 kilometres of records, clearly only a proportion of records of possible interest to the readers of this guide could be located and identified. Accordingly, the search has targeted the most likely sources of relevant material and is focused on public collections in Australia. In the guide, records held by the National Archives are followed by those in other national collections, and then by records held elsewhere in Australia and internationally.

RECORD DESCRIPTIONS

In the guide, National Archives records on Stanley Melbourne Bruce are grouped under relevant headings. Within each section the descriptions of series and items are organised chronologically as far as possible. In many instances, particular series have been found to contain relevant material on several aspects of Bruce's activities and responsibilities, and these have been included more than once.

Each entry in the guide describes a group of records that have been maintained together as a series. A series is made up of items, which are often individual files (sometimes volumes, sets of cards, photographs, etc) that were received by the National Archives from the creating agency or person. Series usually consist of many items (ie files), but occasionally consist of just a few or even a single item. It should be noted, however, that items described within particular series are usually only a selection of what is held.

A similar approach is adopted for records held in other libraries and archives. These collections are arranged by location, and then alphabetically by manuscript collection or chronologically depending on the material.

A sample description of a National Archives record appears on the following page.

❶ SPEECHES BY THE PRIME MINISTER S M BRUCE, 1923–28 CP362/3

❷ Recorded by: c 1923–28 The Rt Hon.Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
c 1923–28 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

❸ Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

❹ This series consists of speeches by Bruce on a range of subjects and one speech by Earle Page on the Australian economy.

❺ **Speeches by Prime Minister S M Bruce, 1928** **CP362/3, 2**

❻ This item includes a speech made by Bruce welcoming the Australian pilot Charles Kingsford Smith to Canberra after he had completed the first flight across the Pacific Ocean.

Key

❶ This information gives the **series title** and the date range of the records that make up the series. The **series number** is shown on the right-hand side.

❷ This shows the **persons** and / or **government agencies that created the series.** It also shows the date range during which each series was created or recorded. This date range does not necessarily correspond to the contents date range of the records which appears in the series title. The CP (Commonwealth person) and the CA (Commonwealth agency) numbers are a unique identifier allocated by the Archives to each person or agency. These numbers can be used to retrieve more information about the person or agency, and the records they created, from the Archives' online database, RecordSearch.

❸ This shows the **total volume of records** in the series and the **location** where the series is held. If copies of records are held in other locations, this is indicated here.

❹ This is a brief **description of the series**.

❺ This shows **the title given to the item by the person or agency** that created it. The dates of the earliest and latest document on the file are shown. The **item's identifying number** appears on the right-hand side. This number must be quoted when requesting a copy of the record or access to it. Some item titles have been edited in this guide for clarity and consistency, and will differ from those appearing in RecordSearch.

❻ This **describes the main contents of an item**. Please note that it does not describe every document on the file.

ACCESS TO THE RECORDS

To see original records, a researcher has to visit the archives or library where the material is held. The record series described in this guide are listed in the National Archives' RecordSearch database, available on the Archives website at www.naa.gov.au and in each of its reading rooms. Photocopies of records can also be purchased for a nominal charge.

CITING THE RECORDS

The correct citation of archival records in the National Archives and in other collections is important both when requesting the records and when referring to them in written or published works. Using proper citations will not only help staff to more readily locate records, but will help other researchers to find that material.

The correct form of citation for records held by the National Archives of Australia is expressed as follows: the name *National Archives of Australia* followed by a colon, the series number followed by a comma, and then the item number. An example is:

National Archives of Australia: A1495, 1

The name National Archives of Australia may be abbreviated to 'NAA' provided the full name has been used in the first citation. National Archives Fact Sheet 7 provides further information on citing the records and can be located on the website at www.naa.gov.au/publications/fact_sheets/FS07.html.

When citing records from other archives and libraries, the name of the institution should be provided, followed by the reference or call number of the collection. An example is:

National Library of Australia: MS 4744

Locating additional information

Additional information on the papers of Stanley Melbourne Bruce can be located by searching the National Archives' RecordSearch database and the databases of other institutions. Digitised copies of some records relating to Bruce can be viewed via the *Australia's Prime Ministers* website at primeministers.naa.gov.au. This website has research maps that lead researchers into the collections of a number of archives, both within Australia and overseas. State archives also hold records relating to interaction between prime ministers and State premiers.

See Appendix 2 for further reading on Bruce.

Addresses of the National Archives reading rooms are in Appendix 3 and addresses of other archival institutions holding Bruce-related material are in Appendix 4.

1

Early life and career

Bruce was born in 1883, and his wealthy family background moulded his early life. Until he was ten, his father, John Munro Bruce, was one of the partners in the importing company Paterson, Laing & Bruce. In 1893, however, Bruce was taken from school and the family mansion in Toorak was sold when the firm fell victim to the London bank collapse. Four years later, when his father had rebuilt the firm and bought out his partners, Bruce was sent to Melbourne Grammar School where he completed his education. Following the death of his father in 1901, Bruce worked in the family firm for a year before moving to England with his mother and sister where he attended Trinity College at Cambridge University. After graduation, Bruce stayed in England, qualifying as a lawyer in 1906 and becoming acting chairman of Paterson, Laing & Bruce in 1907. He married Ethel Dunlop Anderson in 1913.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

FOLDER OF COMMISSIONS, CERTIFICATES, DEGREES, MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS CONCERNING BRUCE'S CAREER, 1906–46 A1487

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consisting of one item includes documents relating to Federal portfolios, the position of Australian High Commissioner in London, League of Nations representation, military service and honorary doctorates of law.

Folder of commissions, certificates, degrees and memberships, 1906–46 **A1487, 1**
This item includes Bruce's certificate for passing his legal examination at Gray's Inn, London on 24 April 1906.

NOEL BUTLIN ARCHIVES CENTRE, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

PATERSON, LAING & BRUCE LTD PAPERS, 1854–1975

Recorded by: Paterson, Laing & Bruce Ltd

Quantity: 36.35 metres Location: Canberra

This extensive collection of company minutes, correspondence and financial records includes the following material relating to Bruce.

Ernest Bruce's letterbook, 1907 **82/13/4**
This letterbook compiled by Bruce's brother Ernest relates mostly to business matters but does include Ernest's proposal that Bruce become acting chairman in London. Ernest wrote to D H Roddick of the Melbourne office on 20 September 1907: 'Without wishing to flatter my own Brother, there is no doubt but that he is very smart …'.

Ernest Bruce's letterbook, 1908 **82/13/4**
This letterbook compiled by Bruce's brother Ernest in Australia includes twenty letters to Bruce in London. The letters mostly deal with business matters but also include correspondence about their mother's will that suggests a rift between the two and another brother, Robert.

Minutes of meetings, 26 November 1901 to 27 May 1921 **86/2/1**
Bruce chaired meetings of the Melbourne Board of Paterson, Laing & Bruce in 1914 and from 1917.

Agreements concerning appointments and salaries of Managing Directors, 20 November 1916 and 15 May 1919 **96/10**
The London office records of Paterson, Laing & Bruce were lost when the company's premises at 7–8 Australia Avenue were totally flattened by German bombing in World War II. These titles survived because the company's legal firm held them. There are two relating to Bruce: a 1916 agreement making Bruce a manager of the company with a salary of £2 500 per annum and a 1919 agreement promoting him to managing director with an annual salary of £3 500.

Photograph, 1900 **N29/126**
This photograph of the Melbourne Board of Directors of Paterson, Laing & Bruce includes Bruce's father.

War service

Bruce was visiting Australia when World War I began, but he did not enlist in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) as a private soldier. In common with many other wealthy Australian men, Bruce instead chose to travel to the UK, where his social standing ensured that he was immediately commissioned as an officer in the British Army. Bruce joined the Worcester Regiment and saw active service at Gallipoli in August and September 1915 attached to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He was wounded and was awarded the Military Cross (MC) and the French *Croix de Guerre* for bravery.

Compressed fibre identity disc: Lieutenant S M Bruce, 2 Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, 1915.
Australian War Memorial Heraldry Collection, Negative Number REL/00566

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

FOLDER OF COMMISSIONS, CERTIFICATES, DEGREES, MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS CONCERNING BRUCE'S CAREER, 1906–46 A1487

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

Please see series description on page 11.

Folder of commissions, certificates, degrees and memberships, 1906–46 **A1487, 1**
This item includes a letter from the British War Office granting Bruce his temporary commission in the 12th Battalion of the Worcester Regiment.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

HERALDRY COLLECTION

Compressed fibre identity disc: Lieutenant S M Bruce, 2 Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, 1915 **REL/00566**
This identity disc was worn by Bruce while serving with the British Army in World War I. An image of it has been digitised and is available on the collection database on the Australian War Memorial website (see page 12).

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

Portrait of Captain The Right Honourable S M Bruce **H16072**
The Australian War Memorial photographic collection includes a World War I portrait of Bruce who served with the British Army in Gallipoli and France 1915–17 and became a member of the Australian Federal Government serving from 1918 to 1933. The portrait was purchased from Broothorn Melbourne.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

WAR OFFICE: OFFICERS' SERVICES, FIRST WORLD WAR, LONG NUMBER PAPERS (NUMERICAL), 1914–22 WO339

Recorded by: War Office, UK

Quantity: 139 906 files Location: Kew, England

Bruce S M, Capt **WO339/19145**
In 1940, although bombing destroyed the main British Army officer service records series for World War I, Bruce's file survived. Held in this supplementary series, it includes a letter of recommendation from Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Clarke for Bruce to be appointed to the 12th Worcesters, which says 'I think he will be a very useful officer'. It also includes a 1917 letter to the War Office from Robert Muirhead Collins, Secretary to the Australian High Commissioner in London. The letter passes on a request from Australian Prime Minister W M Hughes that Bruce be discharged from the

British Army on the grounds that he is 'engaged in important financial work in Australia and is also assisting in recruiting'. The file does not include the recommendations for Bruce's Military Cross and *Croix de Guerre.*

Member of Parliament

Bruce returned to Australia in January 1917 to become general manager of Paterson, Laing & Bruce. He was discharged from the British Army in June 1917. On 11 May 1918, Bruce won the outer-Melbourne seat of Flinders for the Nationalist Party in a by-election and entered Federal Parliament.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRIME MINISTER, 1918–67 AA1970/555

Recorded by: 1918–67 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–29 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to economic policy including finance and industrial policy but also contains the following speeches from Bruce's early political career.

Notes and printed booklets of speeches, 1918–59 **AA1970/555, 8**
This item contains speeches delivered by Bruce as a Nationalist Party candidate, a Member of Parliament and as Prime Minister. It also includes accompanying notes written by Lord Bruce in 1959. In the notes Bruce claims that he 'must have been one of the strangest candidates that has ever stood in any election' because his speech for pre-selection for the Flinders by-election ignored all current political issues. However, the 'Rough Outline of Views expressed by Captain Bruce Nationalist Candidate for the Flinders Election' indicates that this was not the case. Here Bruce states: 'I stand solely for the principle of winning the war' and one can only assume that the war was one of the current political issues in 1918. The item also includes a 1918 speech against war profiteering and a 1919 speech criticising the Farmer's Union, the precursor of Bruce's future coalition partner, the Country Party of Australia.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (HANSARDS) FOR THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1917–29 AA1970/67

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 2.88 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of Bruce's personal copies of *Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates* (Hansard) collected while he was a Member of Parliament. The volumes cover the period 1917–29. Most have 'Mr Bruce' embossed in gold on their spines. None have handwritten annotations.

ELECTION PAMPHLET FOR NATIONALIST CANDIDATE CAPTAIN STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE, 1919 A1495

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

Copy of election pamphlet, 1919 **A1495, 1**

This series consisting of one item contains an eight-page pamphlet printed for the 1919 Federal election held on 13 December. Nationalist Candidate for the Federal seat of Flinders, Captain Stanley Melbourne Bruce gives his stance on a range of policy issues and states clearly: 'I stand for the maintenance of the British Empire, and will do everything in my power to protect this country from the insidious doctrines of the disloyalist'. A photograph of Bruce in his British Army uniform appears on the pamphlet cover (see below).

Election pamphlet for Captain Bruce, Nationalist Candidate for the Federal seat of Flinders, Victoria. *NAA: A1495, 1*

Treasurer

In 1921, Prime Minister William Morris Hughes asked Bruce to become the Minister for Trade and Customs but then offered him the more senior post of Treasurer. Bruce later recounted the story of how he became Treasurer to Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary:

> My reply to little Hughes, when he offered me the portfolio of Trade and Customs, was that I would not accept because in such a position I would not have the power to influence adequately his actions and policy. I added, however, thinking I was on safe ground that if he had asked me to become Treasurer where I would have had real power, I would have been embarrassed to refuse. Little Hughes to my surprise, and to a considerable extent consternation, promptly offered me the job of Treasurer, which my own previous words forced me to accept.[4]

Bruce served as Treasurer from late 1921 to early 1923. He faced no major policy issues during this period, but elevation to Cabinet became Bruce's stepping stone to becoming Prime Minister. The Treasury controlled the budgets of all other departments and agencies. Diligent researchers will find references to Bruce scattered through many departmental series.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON. WILLIAM MORRIS HUGHES, 1921–23 — A1492

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence between the Prime Minister and Stanley Melbourne Bruce, 1921–23 — **A1492, 1**

This series consisting of one item includes letters from Hughes to Bruce relating to Bruce becoming a minister. On 27 October 1921 Hughes wrote to ask Bruce if he would 'accept a position in the Gov[ernment]'. On 21 December Hughes invited Bruce to his swearing-in as minister by the Governor-General in the following dramatic terms: 'The hour has struck: the knell has sounded: to summon thee from the country house to the gilded halls of kings – or their representatives: the Hour is 3pm this day: the place Govern[men]t House. All is prepared[:] the Execution will be prompt & painless. Be thou there.'

SELECT DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THE HUGHES CABINET KEPT BY STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE, 1921–59 — A1494

Recorded by: 1921–59 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1922 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

Select documents concerning the Hughes Cabinet with a note written by Lord Bruce in 1959, 1921–59 — **A1494, 1**

This series consisting of one item contains a Cabinet submission from Bruce dated 8 August 1922 in which he

[4] Monthly war files, *NAA: M100, March 1942* (for further information about this series refer to pp. 94–7).

proposes a 20% cut to Federal politicians' pay. In the submission Bruce argued that this would enable the Government to call for the rest of the community to cut their living standards. The item also includes a note written by Bruce in 1959 adding some background detail to this submission and a letter from Hughes to Bruce from December 1921 referring to delays in finalising the new Cabinet, where Hughes comments: 'Cabinet making is like some deaths – an agony long drawn out'.

FOLDERS OF COPIES OF CABINET PAPERS, 1901– A6006

Recorded by: 1976–81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
1981–94 Australian Archives (CA 3196)
1994–98 Australian Archives (CA 7970)
1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 9.18 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the National Archives to accumulate papers placed before Cabinet during the 1901–38 period. No regular procedure for recording the decisions of Cabinet existed prior to 1925, and a systematic method for recording Cabinet submissions and decisions was not truly effected until 1941. This series contains copies of papers relevant to Cabinet that are not in any of the record series created by the Cabinet Office. These papers have been found in departmental files, personal collections and elsewhere. Cabinet papers from the last Hughes Ministry are sparse, but the following items refer to Bruce's period as Treasurer.

A6006 item numbers are the date of the Cabinet meeting. In some cases, items have the same item number because they relate to the same meeting. When citing items from this series, the series number, item number and title need to be quoted.

All items in the series are listed on RecordSearch, and the series is available on microfilm in all National Archives reading rooms.

Grant to Australians serving with Imperial Forces, 1922 **A6006, 1922/1/9**
This Cabinet submission asks whether it is 'reasonable that the Treasurer should continue to indefinitely provide funds to meet claims' and sets out the requirement that persons who served with the British Army during World War I must have returned to Australia within six months of being discharged in order to be eligible for the grant.

Copra pool, 1922 **A6006, 1922/11/24**
Treasury Secretary James Collins wrote to Bruce regarding this proposal to give government assistance to copra producers in Papua that 'no Bank would risk its money under the conditions set out in the memorandum'. In his Cabinet submission, Bruce supports the proposal saying that 'it seems incumbent on the Commonwealth to do something to help the planters market the only product which is now selling at a profit'.

Plague expenditure, 1922 **A6006, 1922/12/31**
Bruce raised concern in this submission regarding the cost of measures to prevent bubonic plague in Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–78 A571

Recorded by: Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 643.79 metres Location: Canberra

Fewer than 1% of the files in this main Treasury correspondence series refer to Bruce's period of Treasurer.

Bank premises – Adelaide, 1920–22 **A571, 1922/20562**
On 9 August 1922, Cabinet approved Bruce's proposal to compulsorily acquire the property on which the Commonwealth Bank of Australia branch in King William Street, Adelaide, was sited. The Commonwealth Bank had been trying for a long period to purchase the building, but had been unable to close the deal because of the owner's 'habits of insobriety rendering him incapable for long period of transacting business in a rational way'.

Resolutions of the Conference of State Treasurers, 1922–23 **A571, 1923/7921**
Bruce informally dropped in on a State treasurers' meeting on 12 August 1922 so he could hear their concerns. He agreed to cut the rate at which the Federal Government gave temporary loans to the States from 5% to 4% per annum.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

OFFICIAL HISTORY, 1914–18 WAR: RECORDS OF CHARLES E W BEAN, OFFICIAL HISTORIAN, 1914–63 AWM38

Recorded by: Dr Charles Edward Woodrow Bean (CP 467)

Quantity: 28.9 metres Location: Canberra

Papers, 1920–26 **AWM38, 3DRL 6673/667**
These papers comprise correspondence with J L Treloar, A G Pretty, Sir Brudenell White and Sir George Pearce and other documents relating to the War Museum Committee, *Australian War Memorial Act 1925* and the formation of the Board of Management. After the Department of Treasury slashed the annual budget of the fledgling Australian War Museum (later Memorial) from £55 000 to £20 000, Bruce held a meeting with the War Museum Committee. The meeting is detailed in a document entitled 'Interview between members of the Australian War Museum Committee and the Treasurer of the Commonwealth at 11 a.m. on the 28th February, 1922'. Upon realising that the War Museum was also to be a memorial commemorating Australia's war dead, Bruce told the Committee that this 'placed the whole matter in a different light' and promised that, though 'at the present time it is very difficult indeed for the Commonwealth's Treasury to advance additional sums … if he could find the additional amount required, [he] would do so'.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

HUGHES, BILLY (WILLIAM MORRIS), PAPERS, 1875–c 1979 MS 1538

Quantity: 50.35 metres Location: Canberra

While the correspondence between Bruce and W M Hughes began in 1920 when Bruce was still a backbencher, the later breakdown in relations between the two men is suggested by the fact there are only 17 letters to, or from, Bruce in Hughes' extensive collection of papers.

BRUCE, S M, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS AND CIRCULAR, 1921–39 MS 983

Quantity: 0.15 metres Location: Canberra

This collection of newspaper cuttings includes articles relating to Bruce's period as Treasurer.

2

Political issues and elections

Becoming Prime Minister

Many on the conservative side of politics distrusted Prime Minister William Morris Hughes because of his Australian Labor Party background and wanted to replace him as Nationalist Party Leader. The 1922 election resulted in the Country Party holding the balance of power and their Leader, Dr Earle Page, refusing to form a coalition with the Nationalists if Hughes remained Leader. Several weeks of negotiations between Nationalist and Country Party Leaders led to the creation of a coalition with Bruce as Nationalist Party Leader and Prime Minister.

Nationalist Party Conference, 1924.
NAA: A5954, 1347/33

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PAPERS RELATING TO NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE NATIONALIST PARTY AND THE COUNTRY PARTY IN 1923, 1923–57 A1493

Recorded by: 1923–57 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 0.07 metres Location: Canberra

Papers relating to negotiations between the Nationalist Party and Country Party in 1923, 1923–57 **A1493, 1**
This series consisting of one item contains several important documents including a memo handwritten by Bruce and signed by Dr Earle Page, which lays out the coalition agreement between the Nationalist and Country parties. There are also handwritten notes by Bruce of the negotiations between the two parties, a letter from Bruce to Page (dated 23 January) in which he says he will accept Hughes going but

not Page becoming Prime Minister, and an account of the negotiations, which was apparently written by ANU political scientist Bruce Desmond Graham in 1957.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON. WILLIAM MORRIS HUGHES, 1921–23 A1492

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

Correspondence between the Prime Minister and Stanley Melbourne Bruce, 1921–23 **A1492, 1**
This historically important series consisting of one item includes letters from Bruce and Hughes regarding Bruce becoming Prime Minister. There is a handwritten note by Hughes stating: 'Later in the day His Ex. saw Mr Bruce & asked him if he can form an administration which should satisfy HE as to its prospects of stability. Mr Bruce asked for time before giving a definite reply.' On 2 February 1923 Bruce wrote to Hughes saying that he hoped that they would continue to work together once he became Prime Minister. Hughes replied the following day: 'I am not going to interfere in any way with a job that properly belongs to you.'

The Nationalist–Country Party coalition

One of Bruce's greatest achievements was keeping the Nationalist and Country parties in coalition during his period as Prime Minister. This required careful negotiation with Page and others and organising agreements about where each party would run candidates at elections.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE TO SENATOR R V WILSON (HONORARY MINISTER), 1924 A1496

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

Copy of personal letter to Senator R V Wilson, 1924 **A1496, 1**
This series consisting of one item contains a copy of Bruce's letter to Honorary Minister Senator Wilson, sent on 7 May 1924. Bruce informs Senator Wilson, then overseas, about the negotiations with Earle Page on an electoral agreement with the Country Party. At the time of writing the letter, Earle Page agreed in principle but would not make this public for fear of opposition within his party. Bruce's dislike of political compromise is evident in his letter to Wilson: 'I am urging him strongly to come out, and announce that he, as Leader of the Party, has entered into an agreement with me, and tell the organisations point-blank that they have got to come into line if they want him to lead the party'.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRIME MINISTER, 1918–67 AA1970/555

Recorded by: 1918–67 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–29 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to economic policy but also contains the following item relating to the 1924–25 electoral pact between Nationalist and Country parties.

Electoral pact between the Nationalist and Country parties in 1924–25, 1924–67 **AA1970/555, 2**
This item includes an explanatory note by Viscount Stanley Bruce, which gives a history of the agreement between the Nationalist and Country parties for the 1925 election. Bruce's 1967 memo says he could no longer remember which minister resigned in opposition to the agreement. It was the Minister for Works and Railways, P C Stewart of the Country Party.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

Most of this series relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London and only the following item contains material relating to Bruce's coalition negotiations.

Political – correspondence relating to press arrangements between Nationalist and Country parties, 1927–28 **AA1970/559, 19**
This item includes Bruce and Page's joint press statement regarding their agreement for the 1928 election and Bruce's letters to ministers informing them of the agreement before it became public.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL SERIES, 1906–31 A3934

Recorded by: 1926 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1926 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 1.62 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the Prime Minister's Department in 1926 to hold secret and confidential files considered no longer topical. Its contents date back to 1906. The item below relates to 1924 coalition negotiations.

National and Country parties arrangement for the continuance in office of the Composite Government, 1924 **A3934, SC42/27**
This item consists of a 1924 letter from Bruce to W G Gibson, then in London, regarding the electoral agreement between the Nationalist and Country parties.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

GRAHAM, BRUCE DESMOND, PAPERS, 1921–69 MS 8471

Quantity: 0.07 metres Location: Canberra

Bruce Graham's papers include notes from an interview he conducted with Bruce in 1957 for his book, *The Formation of the Australian Country Parties*.

PAGE, EARLE, PAPERS, 1908-61 MS 1633

Quantity: 42.67 metres Location: Canberra

Dr (later Sir) Earle Page founded and led the Country Party, and became Prime Minister (briefly) upon Lyons' death. His papers include subject files of correspondence, cables, cuttings, personal documents, reports and speeches. The files contain material about the formation of the Bruce–Page government and the Country Party including 12 letters from Bruce between 1929 and 1955.

As Prime Minister

Bruce dealt with a wide range of issues as Prime Minister. This is best shown in the variety of meetings and speeches recorded in the following series: *CP362/2*, *CP362/3*, *AA1970/559* and *A1489*, as well as the objects he received in series *M4254*.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

NOTES OF DEPUTATIONS TO THE PRIME MINISTER, 1919–29 CP362/2

Recorded by: 1923–29 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1924–27 The Rt Hon. Sir E C G Page PC, GCMG, CH (CP 715)
1919–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists primarily of transcripts of meetings between Bruce and a wide variety of community groups and organisations. The series also includes two 1919 meetings with Prime Minister Hughes and some meetings with Acting Prime Minister Earle Page and Senator A J McLachlan (representing the Prime Minister). There are no transcripts of meetings from Bruce's first two years as Prime Minister. For another example of organisations lobbying Bruce see Bessie Rischbieth's papers, *NLA: MS 2004* (see page 33).

Deputation from citrus fruit industry, 5 February 1926 **CP362/2, 1**

Limbless Soldiers' Association of Australia deputation, 9 February 1926 **CP362/2, 2**

Coalminers' Federation deputation, 20 January 1926 **CP362/2, 3**

Deputation from the United Graziers' Association of Queensland and other representatives, 17 February 1926 **CP362/2, 4**
This group of graziers, mostly from Queensland but also with representatives from other States, met Bruce to oppose the

formation of an export control board, which they claimed was being foisted on them by the Federal Government. Bruce told them it was up to the meat industry as to whether an export control board was formed.

Deputation concerning the dispute at Maribyrnong Munition Factory, 4, 5 and 6 February 1926 **CP362/2, 5**

The delegation for this series of meetings on the industrial dispute at the Maribyrnong defence factory in Victoria included Ted Holloway, who would later defeat Bruce in the seat of Flinders in the 1929 election. The initial dispute at Maribyrnong was over re-designating engineers' positions into jobs requiring less skill and therefore paid at lower rates. Bruce said this was inevitable: 'With the coming of mass production they should find the openings for skilled men were very much smaller.' A secondary dispute arose when the Defence Department made a regulation that the Public Service rather than the Arbitration Court should settle the dispute. When Bruce offered to repeal this regulation, the union delegation agreed to end the dispute.

Deputation from the Trades Hall Council and charitable and welfare organisations, 23 February 1926 **CP362/2, 6**

Organisations included representatives from the Central Unemployment Relief Committee, Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Church of Christ Public Question Committee and Anglican churches.

Deputation concerning a proposed extension of the 1924 Wine Export Bounty Act, 25 February 1926 **CP362/2, 7**

This deputation comprised representatives from the Federal Viticultural Council of Victoria, the Victorian Viticultural Society and the Australian Dried Fruits Association.

Deputation concerning Dean's Contract, Newcastle, War Service Homes Commission, 27 February 1925 **CP362/2, 8**

Deputation from the Chamber of Commerce and the Railway League, Yass, 2 March 1926 **CP362/2, 9**

Deputation from the Electrical Section of the Chamber of Manufactures of New South Wales, 16 March 1926 **CP362/2, 10**

National Defence League deputation, 16 March 1926 **CP362/2, 11**

This delegation, which included William Morris Hughes, called for the compulsory military training scheme to be restored to its pre-World War I level. Hughes told Bruce that the 'great curse of the age' was 'the lack of discipline' among young people. He maintained that military training would solve the problem. Bruce sent a copy of this deputation to the Department of Defence for comment.

Interview with a delegation from the Parliament of Tasmania, 28 April 1926 **CP362/2, 12**

Joseph Lyons, then Premier of Tasmania, led this delegation, which complained to Bruce that the Government's proposed policy would reduce the amount of Federal funding going to Tasmania.

Gold mining industry deputation, 10 August 1926 **CP362/2, 13**
This delegation of gold producers, mostly from Western Australia, met Bruce to ask for a one pound an ounce bounty to be paid to assist gold production. A E Green told Bruce that 'a vast part of Western Australia was not of use, except for gold mines'. Bruce said his Government had already considered and rejected the idea of a gold bounty, but promised he would ask the Development and Migration Commission to look into the issue again.

Twilighters deputation, 28 July 1926 **CP362/2, 14**
This item contains notes of a deputation with regard the position of the Twilighters who were transferred from the Victorian Service to the Commonwealth Service.

Apple industry deputation, 22 September 1926 **CP362/2, 15**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Fruit growers of Tasmania deputation, 20 October 1926 **CP362/2, 16**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation concerning government proposals on oil and a housing scheme, 4 October 1926 **CP362/2, 17**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation from the United Social Questions Committee concerning unemployment, 3 November 1926 **CP362/2, 18**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Australian Dried Fruits Association deputation, 9 November 1926 **CP362/2, 19**
This deputation from the Mildura District Council waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation representing workers of Broken Hill, 8 November 1926 **CP362/2, 20**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation from the Federal Council of the National Councils of Women of Australia, 14 December 1926 **CP362/2, 21**
While Bruce was away at the 1926 Imperial Conference, Dr Earle Page, the Acting Prime Minister, met a delegation from Australian women's organisations on Bruce's behalf. They asked him to ensure that women were included in the Australian delegation to be sent to study industry in the USA. Page told them that it was up to employee and employer organisations to nominate people for the delegation and if the organisations had not included women, it was not up to him to tell them to. Miss M Williamson then pointed out to Page: 'Possibly they have just done what our men have so often done – nominated men without thinking that it was just possible to nominate women'.

Deputation concerning a railway line from Port Augusta to Broken Hill, 8 November 1926 **CP362/2, 22**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation from citrus growers of Mildura and Merbein, 9 November 1926 **CP362/2, 23**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation from the Pastoralists' Association concerning country telephone facilities, c November 1926 **CP362/2, 24**
This deputation from Broken Hill waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Kyogle Shire Council deputation, 17 December 1926 **CP362/2, 25**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Victorian radiointerests deputation, 21 January 1927 **CP362/2, 26**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation from South Australian grape growers' associations, 24 January 1927 **CP362/2, 27**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Viticulturist Association of South Australia deputation, 24 January 1927 **CP362/2, 28**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation concerning the administration of the Commonwealth Literary Fund, 9 March 1927 **CP362/2, 29**
Sir Arthur Robinson, a member of the deputation, asked for the Commonwealth Literary Fund to be increased 'to assist the lot of those who were helping to write Australia's name on the literary map of the world'. Bruce thanked the deputation and said he would look into the matter.

Deputation from the Chamber of Manufactures and Australian Industries Protection League, 13 April 1927 **CP362/2, 30**

Deputation concerning Commonwealth Government assistance to growers of flax, c 1927 **CP362/2, 31**

Deputation from the Australian Natives' Association concerning immigration, c 1927 **CP362/2, 32**
The Australian Natives' Association asked Bruce to increase British migration to Australia and to hold an enquiry into 'the influx of Southern Europeans' with a view to reducing it. Bruce told the deputation that the number of southern European migrants entering Australia was so small 'there is really no danger of our racial purity being destroyed'.

Radium Company deputation, 16 November 1927 **CP362/2, 33**

Central Council of Employers of Australia deputation, 31 January 1928 **CP362/2, 34**

Deputation representing the grape growers of South Australia concerning the wine bounty, 16 March 1928 **CP362/2, 35**
These farmers met Bruce to complain that the wine bounty was being reduced. Bruce pointed out to them that this reduction was to take account of British tariff changes which now gave Australian wine preference over European wine.

Deputation protesting against the importation of foreign musicians and instrumentalists and the treatment of Australian musicians in America, c 1927–c 1928 **CP362/2, 36**
The secretaries of two musicians' unions, accompanied by James Scullin, other Labor MPs and W M Hughes, met Bruce to complain that theatre owners were bringing in Italian musicians and paying them below award wages. Bruce would not ban foreign musicians but said that they should be paid the award.

Deputation representing the principal theatrical houses in Australia regarding importation of foreign musicians, c 1927–c 1928 **CP362/2, 37**
Bruce met with a group of theatre owners who stated that should be 'no restriction of efficient musicians being brought into this country'.

Australasian Council of Trade Unions deputation about seamen employed in the Lighthouse Service, c 1927–c 1928 **CP362/2, 38**

Deputation from Associated Chambers of Commerce, 11 April 1928 **CP362/2, 39**

Deputation from Sydney Chamber of Commerce (Taxation Sectional Committee), c 1927–c 1928 **CP362/2, 40**
In reply to the tax legislation complaints put forward by this delegation from the Taxation Sectional Committee of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, Bruce said 'there was not a more difficult subject than the administration of the income tax laws'.

Deputation representing Berri fruit growers concerning the Wine Export Bounty Bill, c 1928 **CP362/2, 41**

Deputation from the Taxpayers' Association concerning land tax and the Land Tax Appeal Board, c 1928 **CP362/2, 42**

Deputation representing tobacco growers, 29 May 1928 **CP362/2, 43**

Returned Soldiers and Sailors Imperial League of Australia (RSSILA) deputation re War Service Homes, 7 August 1928 **CP362/2, 44**
When this delegation from the Queensland branch of RSSILA (now the Returned & Services League Limited) tried to discuss housing with Bruce, he stopped them and told them this was a Federal matter, which he should discuss only with the Federal Executive of the ex-service organisation.

Queensland Cotton Board deputation, 6 August 1928 **CP362/2, 45**

Canned fruit industry deputation, 20 August 1928 **CP362/2, 46**
This deputation asked Bruce to have the British government give a tariff preference to Australian tinned fruit sold in the UK. Bruce stated that this was impossible due to the strong free trade feeling in the British electorate, but said he was

trying to make the 'people who counted in Britain' see the importance of promoting imports of Australian goods and hoped they would influence policy.

Leeton rice growers' deputation, 6 September 1928 **CP362/2, 47**

British Thread Mills deputation introduced by Members of Parliament, 12 September 1928 **CP362/2, 48**

Deputation from the Friendly Societies' Interstate Conference on National Insurance, 5 November 1928 **CP362/2, 49**
This deputation waited on Senator A J McLachlan (representing the Prime Minister).

Deputation concerning employment at Cockatoo Island Dockyard, 13 December 1928 and 16 February 1929 **CP362/2, 50**
This item also includes a deputation from Cockatoo Island Dockyard staff concerning compensation following termination of service, 16 February 1929.

Deputation from public service representatives of the Amalgamated Postal-Workers Union, 4 March 1929 **CP362/2, 51**

Oversea Transport Association deputation, 1 July 1929 **CP362/2, 52**

Imperial Preference Committee deputation, 1 August 1929 **CP362/2, 53**
This deputation of representatives of employer and employee organisations met Bruce to express their concern at comments by the British Chancellor of the Exchequer (Treasurer) that he would abolish tariff preferences for Australian products. Bruce reassured them that he had contacted British Prime Minister Ramsay Macdonald who told Bruce this was not government policy.

Deputation concerning the transfer of Federal government departments to Canberra, c 1929 **CP362/2, 54**
When representatives of various community, professional and employee organisations met Bruce to discuss halting the transfer of Government departments to Canberra, Bruce told them bluntly that 'owing to the financial position … there was no prospect of further money being made available'.

Briefing document concerning 'Lighthouse Steamers – employment under the Public Service Act', c 1928–c 1929 **CP362/2, 55**

Deputation concerning wheat pooling, 11 February 1924 **CP362/2, 56**
This deputation waited on the Acting Prime Minister, Dr Earle Page.

Deputation concerning unemployed soldiers, c 1919 **CP362/2, 57**
This item contains part of the transcript of a meeting between the deputation and Prime Minister William Morris Hughes.

List of deputations received by prime ministers or their representatives, 1919–23 **CP362/2, 58**

Conference notes concerning transfer of State powers to the Commonwealth, c 26 September 1919 **CP362/2, 59**
Partial notes of a conference between Prime Minister William Morris Hughes and W A Watt (Commonwealth Treasurer), W A Holman (Premier of New South Wales), H S W Lawson (Premier of Victoria), A H Peake (Premier of South Australia),

W H Lee (Premier of Tasmania), J H Coyne (Secretary for Public Lands, Queensland) and H P Colebatch (Minister for Education and Public Health, Western Australia).

Index book to deputations, 1925–29 **CP362/2, 60**
This item is an index book of deputations received by Prime Minister S M Bruce and Acting Prime Minister Dr Earle Page.

SPEECHES BY THE PRIME MINISTER S M BRUCE, 1923–28 CP362/3

Recorded by: 1923–28 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–28 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of speeches by Bruce on a range of subjects and one by Earle Page on the Australian economy.

Speeches by Prime Minister S M Bruce, 1924–28 **CP362/3, 1**

Speeches by Prime Minister S M Bruce, 1928 **CP362/3, 2**
This item includes a speech made by Bruce welcoming the Australian pilot Charles Kingsford Smith to Canberra after he had completed the first flight across the Pacific Ocean.

Speech by the Commonwealth Treasurer, Dr Earle Page, on Australia's financial position, 1928 **CP362/3, 3**

Empire Day, 1928 **CP362/3, 4**

Speeches and answers to questions in the House of Representatives by the Prime Minister, 1928 **CP362/3, 5**
Bruce brought an increased level of recordkeeping to the Prime Minister's Department when he took office. This item is a well-indexed guide to Bruce's parliamentary speeches and question time responses during 1923.

Amery Rt Hon. L C S – dinner speech, 3 November 1927 **CP362/3, 6**

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

Most of the material in this series relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London, but the following items refer to political issues during his prime ministership.

Notes of interview with E J Holloway, 5 February 1926 **AA1970/559, 10**
In this item Bruce and ALP figure Ted Holloway (who would later defeat Bruce in the seat of Flinders in 1929) discuss a court case being brought against Bruce.

Letter to Bruce from J G Latham, 6 June 1925 **AA1970/559, 11**
John Latham was first elected in 1922 as a Liberal candidate opposed to W M Hughes and other ex-Labor men being included in the Nationalist Party. He therefore attended meetings with the Country Party rather than the Nationalists. In this letter, Latham asks Bruce's permission to join the

Nationalist Party room. Latham would lead the Nationalist Party following Bruce's 1929 defeat. For more correspondence between Bruce and Latham see *NLA: MS 1009* (see page 32).

Memoranda of interviews, minutes of Joint Party meetings, and speeches by Bruce to Parliament, 1927 **AA1970/559, 22**
This item covers several political issues including Bruce's meeting with David Sydney Jackson, Member for the seat of Bass, who asked Bruce's permission on 27 September 1927 to form a joint committee on the living standards of Aborigines. Bruce said he had no objection but would raise the matter with his Cabinet. They obviously had no objection either, as Jackson announced his proposed committee in Parliament on 13 October (*Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates*, volume 116, p. 507). Jackson stated that, as it was the first parliamentary session held in Canberra, it was 'fitting that … attention should be directed to the obligation which the nation owes to the aboriginal races of Australia'.

SPEECHES AND ARTICLES WRITTEN WHILE PRIME MINISTER, 1923–24 A1489

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consisting of one item contains 65 pages of Bruce's speeches during the 1923-24 period.

Speeches and articles written while PM, 1923–24 **A1489, 1**

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

This unique series consists of objects that Bruce collected during his official life. The items listed below relate to his duties as Prime Minister in Australia.

Three presentation keys, 1923–28 **M4254, 7**
This item contains three presentation keys from the opening of new rooms at the Royal Caledonia Society, Melbourne (18 June 1923); the Box Hill Scout Hall (5 September 1925); and the Redlands Memorial Hall, Cleveland, Queensland (5 August 1928).

Old Melburnians Lodge (No. 317), 1925 **M4254, 21**
This item contains a Bible housed in a case. The front of the Bible carries the inscription 'The United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Victoria' and the back is inscribed with the words 'Melbourne Church of England Grammar School'.

Royal Melbourne Golf Club Macleod Cup won by Stanley Melbourne Bruce, 1928 **M4254, 31**

Parliamentary Despatch Box, c 1918-c 1932 **M4254, 48 part 1**
This black leather-covered box is inscribed in gold with 'BRUCE' (the key for the box is stored in *M4254, 48 part 2*).

Parliamentary Despatch Box, c 1923–c 1932 **M4254, 48 part 2**
This black leather-covered wooden box with key has 'Rt Hon. S M Bruce' on the top centre front edge in faded gold letters.

FOLDERS OF COPIES OF CABINET PAPERS, 1901– A6006

Recorded by: 1976–81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
1981–94 Australian Archives (CA 3196)
1994–98 Australian Archives (CA 7970)
1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 9.18 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the National Archives to accumulate papers placed before Cabinet during the 1901–38 period. No regular procedure for recording the decisions of Cabinet existed prior to 1925, and a systematic method for recording Cabinet submissions and decisions was not truly effected until 1941. This series contains copies of papers relevant to Cabinet that are not in any of the record series created by the Cabinet Office. These papers have been found in departmental files, personal collections and elsewhere.

As Prime Minister, Bruce greatly improved the record keeping of Cabinet papers. He recorded the date and the decision clearly on each Cabinet submission. As there are no minutes of the Cabinet meetings, the part Bruce played in a decision generally cannot be determined. There are over one thousand items in this series for Bruce's period as Prime Minister, so this one item is included here as an example only.

A6006 item numbers are the date of the Cabinet meeting. In some cases, items have the same item number because they relate to the same meeting. When citing items from this series, the series number, item number and title need to be quoted.

All items in the series are listed on RecordSearch, and the series is available on microfilm in all National Archives reading rooms.

Captain Cook's Diary, 1923 **A6006, 1923/2/21**
A proposal for the Australian Government to buy Captain James Cook's diary resulted in the decision that 'Cabinet authorise P.M. take necessary action up to reasonable amount'. The journal was purchased and is now held by the National Library of Australia.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PEARCE, GEORGE FOSTER, (SENATOR, MINISTER FOR DEFENCE), 1907–37 PRMF0053

Quantity: 3 microfilm reels Location: Canberra

Bruce sought out the experienced Senator George Pearce as a political mentor when he became Prime Minister. Bruce and Pearce developed both an effective political relationship and a close friendship. On 24 October 1927 Bruce made the following comment to Pearce about Hughes: 'The "little man" has been troublesome whenever he saw a chance'.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

ABBOTT, HILDA AND C L A, PAPERS, 1906–71 MS 4744

Quantity: 2.1 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of these papers belong to Hilda Abbott, wife of Charles Lydiard Abbott. Abbott held the Federal seat of Gwydir from 1925 to 1929, and was also Minister for Home Affairs from 1928 to 1929. In 1931 he was re-elected, and remained until 1937. This collection contains letters, reports, manuscript notes and printed items relating to Abbott's years as a Member of Parliament. It includes letters from Bruce and a description of the workings of his Cabinet.

CRISP, LESLIE FINLAY, PAPERS, 1878–1984 MS 5243

Quantity: 20.8 metres Location: Canberra

Finn Crisp's papers contain files of newspaper cuttings and journal articles on all Australian prime ministers from Sir Edmund Barton to Malcolm Fraser.

GROOM, LITTLETON ERNEST, PAPERS, c 1880 – 1936 MS 236

Quantity: 29 boxes Location: Canberra

Sir Littleton Groom was a Member of the House of Representatives (1901–29; 1931–36) and a minister in several governments. These papers include 36 letters to or by Bruce (1921–29).

HAWKER, CHARLES ALLEN SEYMOUR, PAPERS, 1904–38 MS4848

Quantity: 1.25 metres Location: Canberra

Charles Hawker was Member for Wakefield (1929–38) and Minister for Commerce in the Lyons government (1932–34). Series 3 of the collection contains correspondence from Bruce including a letter to Hawker informing him of his appointment to the Commonwealth Board of Trade (31 January 1928) and a letter thanking him for offering to relinquish his seat of Wakefield for Bruce (20 November 1930).

LATHAM, JOHN, PAPERS, 1868–1964 MS 1009

Quantity: 18.4 metres Location: Canberra

Sir John Latham's papers contain his extensive correspondence with Bruce on many issues relating to Bruce's period as Prime Minister including the 1925 and 1929 elections, industrial policy and public finance.

PEARCE, GEORGE FOSTER, PAPERS, 1909–1952 MS 213 MS 1827 MS 1927

Quantity: 1.5 metres Location: Canberra

The three collections of George Pearce papers in the National Library include about 60 letters to, or from, Bruce. Most of the letters date from 1926.

RISCHBIETH, BESSIE, PAPERS AND OBJECTS, 1900–67 MS 2004

Quantity: 7.5 metres Location: Canberra

Bessie Rischbieth was President of the Australian Federation of Women Voters from 1921 to 1942. Her papers include nine letters written by Bruce and 22 she wrote to him on issues relating to women.

Elections

Bruce went to the electorate three times as Prime Minister. In the November 1925 election the Nationalist Party increased its majority against the Australian Labor Party, but lost seats at the next election in November 1928. The action of Hughes and five other members of the Government in crossing the floor to vote against Bruce over the Maritime Industries Bill led to an early election in October 1929 in which Labor was swept to power and Bruce became the only Australian Prime Minister to lose his own seat in an election.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRIME MINISTER, 1918–67 AA1970/555

Recorded by: 1918–67 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–29 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

Please see series description on page 22.

Correspondence with Australian and British colleagues, 1924–29 **AA1970/555, 9**
This item includes letters of thanks for hospitality, condolences over the loss of the October 1929 general election and a personal letter from Stanley Baldwin about his resignation as Prime Minister of Britain. Among letters about the election loss is Bruce's letter to Nationalist MP Archdale Parkhill in which he writes: 'There is no disguising the fact that the result of the election was something in the nature of a disaster …' and that he intended to 'rather fade out of the picture'.

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1901–71 A5954

Recorded by: 1937–71 Sir F G Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)
1937–39 Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–71 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 201.16 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of records collected by Sir Frederick Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian defence policy.

Defence activities, 1924–25 **A5954, 1347/33**
This item, from the extensive papers of Sir Frederick Shedden, Secretary of the Department of Defence (1937–56),

comprises a statement on defence policy written for the 1925 election, a pamphlet on the 1924 Nationalist Party Conference and a 1925 booklet entitled *Policy for the People: Prime Minister's Fighting Speech.*

Speeches, 1922–55 **A5954, 2400/1**
This item contains election and policy speeches by Bruce, including: 'Migration, the Trade Balance and Unemployment' (23 February 1928); 'What the Government Stands For' (8 October 1928); 'The Government Policy' (8 October 1928); 'Facts about the Bruce–Page Government' (1928); and 'Sanity in the Industry' (18 September 1929).

SECRET RECORDS, 1904–33 CP46/2

Recorded by: Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

Following the 1917 communist revolution in Russia, fear of communists (also known as Reds, Bolsheviks or Bolshies) spread among conservatives in many parts of the world including Australia. Bruce served for a short period as Minister for Trade and Customs and this item from a Department of Trade and Customs secret correspondence series exemplifies the fear of communists common among 1920s conservatives.

Russian propaganda films, 1928 **CP46/2, 54**
In June 1928 Bruce gave Ernest Hall, Comptroller-General of the Department of Trade and Customs, a list of films not to be allowed into Australia on the grounds they were communist propaganda. Included in the list was Sergei Eisenstein's classic 1925 film *Battleship Potemkin.*

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

HOLLOWAY, EDWARD JAMES, PAPERS, 1943–63 MS 2098

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

Ted Holloway was the Australian Labor Party candidate who defeated Bruce in the seat of Flinders in 1929. His papers include an unpublished typescript autobiography entitled 'From Labour Council to Privy Council' in which he credits his victory solely on Bruce's shortcomings: 'He had pulled his safe seat from under himself by the wilfulness and overbearing class bias of his policies. I was fully conscious that the Flinders vote was a vote *against* Bruce and *for* Labour: E J Holloway just happened to have been the man endorsed by Labour.'

STONEHAVEN, JOHN LAWRENCE BAIRD, PAPERS, 1893–1941 MS 2127

Quantity: 0.81 metres Location: Canberra

Lord Stonehaven was Governor-General for most of Bruce's term as Prime Minister. His papers include 11 letters to and from Bruce and many references to Bruce in correspondence

with others. The papers of many of Bruce's contemporaries include assessments of Bruce as Prime Minister and Stonehaven's papers are no exception. In a letter dated 10 May 1926 to Lord Irwin (then Viceroy of India, and later, as Viscount Halifax, British Foreign Secretary) Stonehaven describes Bruce as 'an outstanding example of what can be done by a combination of an Australian Public School and a British University'.

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

ScreenSound Australia (previously known as the National Film and Sound Archive) holds two Nationalist Party advertisements for the 1925 election. These election advertisements show how anti-communism played a major part in Bruce's campaign. There is also a newsreel featuring events following Bruce's defeat in the 1929 election.

NATIONALIST–COUNTRY PARTY CINEMA ADVERTISEMENT FOR 1925 ELECTION: THE BRUCE–PAGE GOVERNMENT

COVER TITLE NO. 34054
SEGMENT TITLE NO. 226353

This two-minute silent election advertisement from 1925 includes the following captions:

'Go to the poll. Record your vote on November 14th. Never, not even in the days of the war were we faced with issues as momentous to every man, woman and child in Australia today and to the generations that will come afterwards.'
'The Bruce Page Government. Removed from low priced tickets. The entertainment tax, which the West Australian (Labour) Government is now trying to reimpose.'

'Will provide 20 000 000 pounds for housing so that any man may build and own his own home. Will introduce a scheme of insurance against sickness, accident and unemployment. Will keep the Reds out of Australia.' (Authorised by Archdale Parkhill, York St Sydney)

'Mr Garden and two other Australia delegates photographed among Bolsheviks at Moscow not long ago.'

'The colour of Mr Garden's comrades would not be popular in white Australia.'

'Do your duty as an Australian citizen on November 14th and vote.'

NATIONALIST PARTY: 1925 FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN. JACK AND JILL: ADVERTISEMENT

COVER TITLE NO. 423735
SEGMENT TITLE NO. 43042

This 1925 Nationalist Party advertisement commences with the caption:

'Our characters Jack and Jill are just average Australians and our story opens with Jack and Jill, newlyweds, having their first quarrel. Jack, being of age, wanted to vote, but Jill – womanlike – had different plans – vacation in the mountains.'
Shows Jack and Jill on the steps of their suburban house

followed by scenes of ships in harbour and newspaper headlines about waterfront strikes.

The next caption '– our wheat and wool too –' shows the wheat harvest and produce stuck in railway yards due to the waterfront strike. The caption '– while men are out of work, women and kiddies at home without assistance' follows.

The ad climaxes with the following caption:

'Vote by all means – your vote does count – but before you vote think. Remember things and conditions in the past. Smooth talk and suave manners have swayed many a noble head. Prime Minister Bruce has proven his worth. Let's be gone with wiggle wobble and Bolshies – keep Bruce on the job – Authorised by Archdale Parkhill – Nationalist Head-quarters Sydney'. The final scene is of an Australian flag.

PARAMOUNT WEEKLY GAZETTE. PARAMOUNT NEWS SPECIAL: EXCLUSIVE MOTION PICTURES OF AUSTRALIA'S NEW GOVERNMENT

EPISODE TITLE NO. 13133

This 1929 Paramount newsreel shows the change of govern-ment in Canberra after Bruce's overwhelming defeat. It shows James Scullin arriving in Canberra by train and Bruce getting into his car with the caption 'Mr S M Bruce, ex Prime Minister leaving his department after relinquishing office'.

3

Foreign and defence policy

Bruce's most important foreign and defence policy decision was to agree at the 1923 Imperial Conference to base Australia's defence on the 'Singapore Strategy'. According to this strategy if war were to break out between the British Empire and Japan, the main British fleet would be sent to a naval base to be built in Singapore. Bruce said at the conference on 22 October 1923:

> While I am not quite as clear as I should like to be as to how exactly the protection of Singapore is to be assured, I am clear on this point, that apparently it can be done.[5]

Jeffrey Grey in *A Military History of Australia* describes this comment – where Bruce places the security of his nation in a concept he did not understand – as 'one of the most unfortunate statements of prime ministerial judgment ever'. When Japan did attack in 1942, the British fleet was fighting the Germans and Italians and could not be sent to Singapore. Australia was undefended until the United States Navy came to its protection. The other main foreign policy issues of Bruce's prime ministership were his attempts to convince the British Government to give preference to Australian goods in the British market, and his support of Australian involvement in the League of Nations, the international organisation formed after World War I.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN S M BRUCE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LIAISON OFFICER (LONDON), MAJOR R G CASEY, 1924–29 — A1420

Recorded by: 1924–30 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1924–30 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

This important series consists of private letters between Bruce and Richard Casey on British politics, international affairs and other issues. As private letters they are more candid and revealing than official reports Casey sent to the department. These letters have been published (see Appendix 2). For Casey's diary see *NLA: MS 6150* (see pages 49 and 84).

Correspondence between S M Bruce and R G Casey, 27 November 1924 – 28 May 1925 — **A1420, 1**

This item contains correspondence on various topics including international relations, British–Dominion relations, the League of Nations, international treaties and protocols,

[5] Imperial Conference 1923, *NAA: A981, IMP 111.*

trade, Imperial defence and British politics. On 11 February 1925 Casey reports on his audience with King George V where the King, without mentioning Japan by name, 'said it was unfair for other nations to regard Singapore as a menace to them'. Casey shows the initial high hopes for the League of Nations on 25 February when he describes it as 'the only lifeboat in a sea of trouble'.

Correspondence between S M Bruce and R G Casey, 4 June – 23 December 1925 **A1420, 2**

This item contains correspondence on topics including international relations, migration agreement, diplomatic appointments, Imperial defence, Dominion loans, industry, trade, the Imperial Conference, the League of Nations, British and Australian politics and the British press. On 29 October 1925 Casey told Bruce that the British Government was about to sign the Locarno treaties in which signatories promised never to violate the boundaries between France, Belgium and Germany. The British had negotiated these treaties without any consultation with Australia or the other Dominions.

Correspondence between S M Bruce and R G Casey, 1 January – 26 November 1926 **A1420, 3**

This item contains correspondence on various topics including the League of Nations, international disputes and treaties, British–Dominion relations, the Imperial Conference, civil aviation, defence, Australian diplomatic arrangements, trade and the visit by the Duke and Duchess of York for the opening of Parliament in Canberra. On 4 May 1926 Casey describes the rivalry of European powers over the control of the African nation of Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) in the following brutal terms: 'It all seems to me a typical – and inevitable – manoeuvre on the part of the Powers to exploit for their own individual advantage a State that is a thousand years behind the times. Who is to blame them? If they don't get their share of the pickings in Abyssinia, someone else will. As long as lions exist, lambs will have to die.'

Correspondence between S M Bruce, R G Casey and W Henderson, 12 January – 29 December 1927 **A1420, 4**

This item contains correspondence on various topics including the League of Nations, international relations (especially China, Soviet Russia, United States, Egypt, Japan and Italy), Australian diplomatic representation in United States, the Naval Conference, British blockade rights at sea, Imperial defence, and communist activity in Britain and Australia. Casey on 19 January 1927 apologised to Bruce for writing so many private letters to him, but said: 'There are in fact so many things that I want to bring to your notice & which contain information that would be out of place on official files …'.

Correspondence between S M Bruce and R G Casey, 5 January – 30 April 1928 **A1420, 5**

This item contains correspondence on various topics including British–Dominion relations, Imperial defence, the League of Nations, international diplomacy and finance, the British Royal Family, Australian shipping, British politics and

economy, a British industry delegation to Australia, Middle Eastern oil, appointment of Dominion governors-general and Department of External Affairs administrative arrangements. Bruce's workload as Prime Minister meant he was rarely able to reply to Casey's letters. A rare example in this series of Bruce writing to Casey is on 15 February 1928 where he refers to a British Government inquiry on India to which no Indian representatives were appointed. Bruce justifies this on the grounds that: 'India is not a nation and it would take twenty Indians to be the least representative; and as this would wreck the commission, it was decided to have none'. This item also includes Casey telling Bruce on 17 May that a wax model of Bruce is on display at Madame Tussaud's in London with the caption: 'he has done much to strengthen the affection that exists between Great Britain and her colonies'.

Correspondence between S M Bruce and R G Casey, 1 May – 27 December 1928 **A1420, 6**

This item contains correspondence on many topics including British–Dominion relations and communications, Australian politics, the Asia–Pacific region, Antarctica, British politics, the British economy and administrative arrangements, international finance, reorganisation of Department of External Affairs, the British Royal Family, the British press, a British industry mission to Australia, international diplomatic arrangements, Imperial defence and air transport. As Bruce's political and economic difficulties in Australia increased, Casey wrote to Bruce on 21 March 1929: 'I am appalled at the problems that face you'.

Correspondence between S M Bruce and R G Casey, 8 January 1929 – 30 April 1929 **A1420, 7**

This item contains correspondence on various topics including air transport and communications, the Imperial and Imperial Economic Conferences, Australian shipping, Antarctica, British and Australian politics, International Labour Conference, Imperial defence, Papua and New Guinea, British naval officers in Australia, international finance, Australian loans, Department of External Affairs administrative arrangements, international diplomacy, Anglo-American relations, trade and industry.

Correspondence between S M Bruce, W Henderson and R G Casey, 2 May – 19 December 1929 **A1420, 8**

This item contains correspondence on various topics including British and Australian politics, British–Dominion relations, Anglo–American relations, international business and finance, Antarctica, Imperial defence, reparations, the Imperial Conference, international air services, the League of Nations, Dominion governors-general, British–Egyptian relations, Papua and New Guinea, and Department of External Affairs arrangements. The election of Ramsay MacDonald and the Labour Party into Government in Britain in 1929 led to a flurry of letters between Bruce and Casey on the new Government's policy towards the construction of the Singapore base. On 4 July Casey told Bruce: 'The Labour Government have not yet decided what they will do about

Singapore. One fears the worst and hopes for the best.' MacDonald's Government had pacifist tendencies and stopped construction. On 29 August 1929, Casey wrote scathingly of MacDonald: 'It is a strange commentary on democracy that men of such mediocre ability as this gentleman … should hold such a high post. He is vain to a degree, lacks clarity of thought and expression, and wraps up anything he has to say in a dense cloud of meaningless words. Also, to my mind, he has a shifty eye, looks the reverse of almost everything that a man in his position should be.' When Bruce sent these letters back to Casey on 29 April 1966 (see item *A463, 1966/1577*, page 111), Bruce used Casey's description of MacDonald as an example of the sort of comment that Casey may not want kept in an official file.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRIME MINISTER, 1918–67 AA1970/555

Recorded by: 1918–67 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–29 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to economic policy including finance and industrial policy.

Reports and speeches, c 1923–c 1929 **AA1970/555, 3**

This item contains records and speeches about the Imperial Economic Committee, the Empire Marketing Board and Imperial trade and preference, plus a 1923 letter to Bruce about Imperial Defence Resolutions. It also contains a copy of Bruce's speech to the 1923 Imperial Economic Conference and a letter from Lord Salisbury, Leader of the House of Lords, telling Bruce that opposition from the other Dominions had led to the Imperial Conference resolution on the Singapore base being watered down.

Correspondence with the British Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, The Rt Hon. L C M S Amery, 1924–26 **AA1970/555, 6**

These letters between Bruce and Amery cover a variety of topics from the Singapore base to the Treaty of Locarno. Amery praises the way Casey has gone about his job as Liaison Officer, saying he 'has made friends everywhere and won the confidence of the offices he deals with'.

Notes and printed booklets of speeches, 1918–59 **AA1970/555, 8**

This item contains speeches delivered by Bruce as a Nationalist Party candidate, a Member of Parliament and Prime Minister, and includes accompanying notes written by Lord Bruce in 1959. Speeches from Bruce's visit to the USA and Canada in 1927 are also included. In a speech to the Industrial Club in Chicago, Bruce tried to explain the autonomy of Dominions like Australia within the British Empire to Americans: 'There are still people in this country whose minds have not developed since the War of Independence, and who fail to realise that the whole world has since marched on'. In a speech to the Canadian Women's Club in Winnipeg, Bruce points out that women have often

been written out of history: 'We have heard of the Pilgrim Fathers, but not of the Pilgrim Mothers'.

Correspondence with Australian and British colleagues, 1924–29 **AA1970/555, 9**

This item includes letters of thanks for hospitality, condolences over the loss of the October 1929 general election and a personal letter from Stanley Baldwin concerning his resignation as Prime Minister of Britain. It also contains a 1924 letter to Bruce from Samuel Chapman, MP for South Edinburgh, offering to resign his seat to enable Bruce to enter British Parliament. Chapman wrote: 'Scotland has done much to make and unite the Empire, just as Robert the Bruce did to unite and make Scotland. I cannot conceive anything that will touch the hearts of Scotsmen more than that another Bruce – for however short a time – be a Member of this ancient Assembly …' Bruce politely turned down Chapman's offer.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

Most of this series relates to Bruce's time as Australian High Commissioner in London, but the following items refer to the foreign and defence policy issues he faced as Prime Minister.

Imperial Conference, 1923–26 **AA1970/559, 1**

This item contains cables on various topics to and from Acting Prime Minister Earle Page, R G Casey, Sir Joseph Cook, Lord Stonehaven, Senator Pearce and Sir James Fairfax during a trip to Britain for the 1926 Imperial Conference. A summary of proceedings of the 1923 Imperial Conference is included, along with appendixes. One telegram from Bruce to Casey asks him to organise private accommodation for the Bruces prior to the 1926 Imperial Conference: 'Would be preferable within reasonable distance of London so that my wife could go to town for the day … Good golf links imperative'. In a later telegram Bruce says he has abandoned this idea due to pressure of work.

Speeches, 1923 **AA1970/559, 13/1**

This item contains several speeches Bruce made while in the UK for the 1923 Imperial Conference. These include the speech he delivered upon accepting Freedom of the City in London. The casket presented to Bruce on this occasion is in *M4254, 40 part 1* (see page 44).

Memoranda of interviews, minutes of Joint Party meetings, and speeches by Bruce to Parliament, 1927 **AA1970/559, 22**

This item includes Bruce's note of a 1927 meeting with the Japanese Consul-General where Bruce states: 'We have a great respect for the Japanese … the basis of the "White Australia" policy was purely and simply an economic one'.

CORRESPONDENCE, CITATIONS AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS VERIFYING S M BRUCE'S HONORARY DEGREES AND FREEDOM OF CITIES, 1923–67 A1488

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

The one item in this series consists of citations, newspaper clippings and correspondence relating to freedom of cities and honorary degrees conferred on Bruce in the UK and Canada. Bruce's private secretary, Nora Roberts, compiled this file in 1967.

Correspondence, citations and newspaper clippings verifying honorary degrees and freedom of cities, 1923–67 **A1488, 1**

During his visit for the 1923 Imperial Conference, Bruce received freedom of cities from London and Sheffield, and honorary degrees from Cambridge and Edinburgh. Three years later, during his trip for the 1926 Imperial Conference Bruce also received freedom of cities from Manchester, Edinburgh, Kidderminster, Stoke-on-Trent, Exeter and Canterbury, and honorary degrees from Oxford and Toronto. Many of these certificates with accompanying caskets or tubes are held in series *M4254*.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF CANTERBURY
AND COUNTY OF THE SAME [TO WIT]

In open Court of our Sovereign Lord King George V held at the said City and County, the Right Honourable Stanley Melbourne Bruce M.C.M.P. Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, took the customary oath and was admitted an Honorary Freeman of the said City and County of Canterbury, in the Mayoralty of George Pope, and was entered on the Roll relating to Freemen on Wednesday, the Fifteenth day of December, 1926

In Witness whereof the Corporate Seal of the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the City and Borough of Canterbury and County of the same was hereunto affixed in the presence of

Mayor.

Town Clerk.

Framed honorary certificate of freedom to the City, Borough and County of Canterbury presented to Prime Minister S M Bruce, December, 1926.

NAA: M4254, 14 part 1

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

This unique series consists of objects that Bruce collected during his official life. Bruce received the following items while overseas attending the 1923 and 1926 Imperial Conferences.

Canterbury Freedom Casket (with key), 1926 **M4254, 1**
This casket was presented to Bruce in December 1926. See *M4254, 14 part 1* below for accompanying citation.

Small presentation casket containing presentation spade and plaque from Exeter University, 1926 **M4254, 8**
The casket and spade are both inscribed with 'Exon Semper Fidelis'. The spade also carries the inscription, 'The Rt Hon. S M Bruce PC MC 6 Dec 1926' and the plaque, 'University College of the South West of England Exeter'.

Framed 1926 Imperial Conference photograph, 1926 **M4254, 10 part 1**
The photograph in this item features Dominion prime ministers, British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin and King George V in court dress with their signatures written on the borders.

Unframed 1926 Imperial Conference photograph, 1926 **M4254, 10 part 2**
The photograph in this item features Dominion prime ministers, British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, British Ministers of State and senior British civil servants with signatures featured on the borders. The image was produced by court photographers, Bassano Limited.

Framed print of the 'Rt Hon. William Pitt, first Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer', 1926 **M4254, 11**
This print was presented to Bruce by Lady Milner when he visited England for the 1926 Imperial Conference in memory of the close association Bruce had with Lord Milner at the 1923 Imperial Conference.

Crockery set (part of): Teacups and bowl, 1919–57 **M4254, 12**

Engraving of painting by Douglas Chandor, 1923 **M4254, 13**
Painting of prime ministers attending the 1923 Imperial Conference, shown at 10 Downing Street, November 1923.

Framed honorary Freedom of the City, Borough and County of Canterbury, 1926 **M4254, 14 part 1**
This item was presented to Prime Minister Stanley Melbourne Bruce in December 1926 (see certificate on page 42).

Framed honorary Freedom of the City of Stoke on Trent, 1926 **M4254, 14 part 2**
This item was presented to Prime Minister Stanley Melbourne Bruce late in 1926.

Framed original *Punch* cartoon by Bernard Partridge, 1923 **M4254, 28**
This cartoon commenting on the 1923 Imperial Conference depicts a lion as representing Britain and cubs as representing the Dominions.

Freedom of the City of London, 1923 **M4254, 40 part 1**
The casket in this item features the City of London coat of arms, a waratah insignia and Stanley Melbourne Bruce's initials and is housed in a black leather case. Perhaps the most striking object in this series, this richly ornamented gold casket was one of three made for presentation to Bruce, British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin and Canadian Prime Minister MacKenzie King. All three caskets are decorated with the City of London coat of arms and scenes of the London Guildhall and Mansion House. Bruce's casket features a waratah on the lid. The British and Canadian prime ministers' caskets have a rose and a maple leaf.

Freedom of the City of Manchester silver casket, 1926 **M4254, 40 part 2**
This scale-patterned casket is accompanied by parchment housed in a wooden case.

Freedom of the Borough of Kidderminster gold and silver casket and accompanying parchment, 1926 **M4254, 40 part 3**
This casket is housed in a dark blue leather case and features Stanley Melbourne Bruce's initials and a design representing a bolt of material, reel of thread and a needle.

Freedom of the City of Edinburgh silver casket and parchment, 1926 **M4254, 40 part 4**
This casket is housed in a green leather case and features a lion holding a shield engraved with Australia.

Honorary Freedom of the City of Exeter silver casket, 1926 **M4254, 40 part 5**
This casket in this item has an accompanying citation as well as Stanley Melbourne Bruce's acceptance.

Mounted shell nose cap from HMS *Calypso*, c 1919–c 1957 **M4254, 52**
The plaques on the base of this nose cap are inscribed with 'HMS *Calypso*' and 'Khelia'. Why and when Bruce was presented with this object is not known. HMS *Calypso* was a British cruiser launched in 1917 and sunk by an Italian submarine in the Mediterranean in June 1940. The word 'Kheila' has an air of mystery about it – it is neither the name of a British warship or merchant ship, nor is it listed as a placename in contemporary gazetteers.

VOLUME OF PRESS CUTTINGS CONCERNING VISIT TO BRITAIN BY STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE FOR IMPERIAL AND ECONOMIC CONFERENCES, 1923–24 A1486

Recorded by: 1923–24 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–24 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series contains a volume of newspaper clippings from British and French newspapers relating to Bruce's visit to the UK to attend the 1923 Imperial Conference.

Volume of press cuttings concerning visit to Britain for Imperial and Economic Conferences, 1923–24 **A1486, 1**

PAPERS RELATING TO VISIT TO LONDON, USA AND CANADA, 1924–27 CP362/5

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series contains papers relating to Bruce's 1927 visit to the USA and Canada following the 1926 Imperial Conference.

Papers relating to visit to London, USA and Canada – miscellaneous, 1926–27	**CP362/5, 1**
Papers relating to visit to London, 1924	**CP362/5, 2**

PAPERS RELATING TO IMPERIAL CONFERENCES, 1907–37 CP290/10

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 1.26 metres Location: Canberra

Accumulated between 1907 and 1937, this Prime Minister's Department series consists of reports and other printed papers relating to Imperial Conferences held between 1911 and 1937. The following items relate to conferences held during Bruce's prime ministership.

Items stored in bundles sometimes have the same series number and bundle number. In such cases, the series number, bundle number and key title words need to be quoted.

Imperial Economic Conference, 1923	**CP290/10, bundle 1**
Pacific Cable Board, 1924–26	**CP290/10, bundle 2**
Committee of Imperial Defence, 1923–27	**CP290/10, bundle 2**
Press statement – New York Stock Exchange quotations, 1926	**CP290/10, bundle 2**
Expenses of delegates to international conferences, 1926	**CP290/10, bundle 2, 47**
Permanent Court of International Justice, 1926	**CP290/10, bundle 2, 59**
Fruit Board, 1926	**CP290/10, bundle 2, 60**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E1–E11**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E12; E16; E52**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E75**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E76–E82**

Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E83; E95–E101**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E102; E104–E108**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E111–E113; E115–E119**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E120–E122; E124–E130**
Imperial Conference 1926, duplicates of series E papers	**CP290/10, bundle 3, E131–E138**

Material relating to Bruce's attendance at Imperial and Economic Conferences can also be found in other series created by the Prime Minister's Department and the Department of External Affairs. The following examples refer to the 1923 Imperial Conference.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1921–1970 — A981

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 146.8 metres Location: Canberra

This External Affairs series, created on the instruction of Richard Casey in 1927, includes the following items.

Imperial Conference, 1923 — **A981, IMP 111**
This item includes a summary of proceedings and conclusions, memoranda on naval policy and reports of meetings.

Notes of statement made by the Prime Minister on his return from the Imperial Conference, 1923 — **A981, IMP 113**
This item appears to be a draft of Bruce's statement to the House of Representatives following his return from the 1923 Imperial Conference. Similar material is held in *CP103/12, bundle 9*, below.

RECORDS OF IMPERIAL CONFERENCES, 1897–1933 — CP103/12

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 4.32 metres Location: Canberra

This Prime Minister's Department series contains material on Imperial Conferences.

Imperial Conference papers, 1923 — **CP103/12, bundle 9**
This item contains Bruce's 'Layout for 2 hour speech on Imperial and Economic Conferences' which he gave in the House of Representatives on 27 March 1924, as well as copies of minutes of the 1923 Imperial and Economic Conferences.

COPIES OF CABLES SENT TO AND RECEIVED BY THE RT HON. S M BRUCE WHILE IN LONDON, 1923–24 CP290/4

Recorded by: 1923–24 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–24 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

The one item in this series is a bound volume of Bruce's telegraphic communications during his absence from Australia for the 1923 Imperial Conference.

Cables and telegrams sent to and received by Rt Hon. S M Bruce while in London, 1923–24 **CP290/4 whole series**

PRESS CUTTINGS RELATING TO IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1923 A1072

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.72 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of five leather-bound volumes of articles from British and Irish newspapers on the 1923 Imperial Conference. The Australian High Commission in London probably compiled the newspaper cuttings.

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 1**

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 2**
The London *Daily Telegraph* of 28 August 1923 includes the text of a speech Bruce made before leaving Australia for the Imperial Conference in which he argued: 'Australia had been taken from the aboriginals because it was thought that such a productive country ought not to remain in the hands of an uncivilized race. It was taken in order to develop it for the world. Therefore Australians should not pursue a selfish policy, but one in the interests of the whole Empire.'

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 3**
This item includes an article from the *Daily Mail* 4 October 1923, which describes Bruce as 'a typical modern business man, suave, self-assured, and unperturbed'. It also includes a story from the *Morning Post* of 5 October 1923 about Bruce's arrival for the Imperial Conference being delayed due to storms in the English Channel.

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 4**
This item includes an editorial from the *Westminster Gazette* 11 October 1923 entitled 'The Danger of Mr. Bruce' that argues that Bruce's policy of 'men, money and markets' would result in higher taxes on British consumers. There are also several articles dated 13 October 1923, which describe Bruce, British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin and Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King receiving the freedom of the City of London. The articles explain the symbolism of the decorations of the gold caskets presented to the three men. Bruce's casket is held in *M4254, 40, part 1* (see page 44).

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 5**

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL SERIES, 1906–31 A3934

Recorded by: 1926 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1926 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 1.62 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the Prime Minister's Department in 1926 to hold secret and confidential files considered no longer topical. Its contents date back to 1906. It includes a number of items referring to foreign and defence issues from the early part of Bruce's term in office.

Geneva Conference, 1924 **A3934, SC11/8**
The Geneva Protocol was a proposed amendment to the League of Nations Covenant, which would have created a compulsory system of arbitration for disputes between countries in an international court. Bruce feared that Japan would use the Protocol against the White Australia Policy. This item consists of correspondence between Bruce and Attorney-General Sir Littleton Groom, leader of the Australian delegation to the League of Nations in 1924. Bruce told Groom to abstain from voting on the Protocol but Groom disobeyed this direct order from his Prime Minister and voted for it.

Imperial and Economic Conferences, 1923–24 **A3934, SC11/12**
This item consisting of material relating to the 1923 Imperial Conference includes a request from the BBC for Bruce to speak on radio. The request pointed out that during the autumn months the London station alone would 'have a nightly audience of 250 000 persons'. The file does not indicate whether Bruce took up the invitation.

HMAS *Australia* – sinking of, 1923–24 **A3934, SC15/47**
While Bruce was in London for the 1923 Imperial Conference, a British admiral suggested to him that HMAS *Australia*, which had to be destroyed in accordance with the Washington naval disarmament treaty, should be sunk by British and Australian warships shooting at it. Bruce passed on this suggestion to Acting Prime Minister Earle Page, saying this 'might appeal more to Australian sentiment' than simply opening valves and letting the ship sink. Page replied to Bruce: 'Fear suggestion would not be acceptable here', and HMAS *Australia* was scuttled off Sydney on 12 April 1924.

Spare copies of press statements and newspaper cuttings about Singapore, 1923–25 **A3934, SC15/58**
This item consists of articles from Australian newspapers in 1923 and 1924 regarding the halt and resumption of the construction of the Singapore naval base caused by two changes of government in the UK. There is also a copy of Bruce's press statement from March 1925 where he states: 'Adequate naval defence was essential to the maintenance of the Empire. The Pacific Ocean might look very distant and unimportant from Whitehall but it was very near to Australia.'

Correspondence and cables in connection with the Treasurer's visit to Canada (December 1924), 1924–25 **A3934, SC40/4**

In February 1925, Bruce sent a telegram to Earle Page saying 'strongly advise that you do not proceed to Great Britain owing to fact that difficult questions with regard to [League of Nations] protocol will be under discussion about that time, and this would be source of great embarrassment to you if you were then in Great Britain'. Page replied that he could not avoid passing through London, 'but will stay only one day and will avoid all awkward interviews'.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

CASEY FAMILY, PAPERS, 1820–1978 MS 6150

Quantity: 11 metres Location: Canberra

These papers include R G Casey's 1921–24 diary and make reference to his arrival in London in November 1924 to take up the position of Department of External Affairs Liaison Officer. The diaries of Casey include references to Bruce.

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH FLEET AT MELBOURNE, 1924 COVER TITLE NO. 749

In 1924 the Royal Navy's Special Service Squadron, led by the battle cruiser HMS *Hood*, visited Australia as part of an Empire tour. This film of the ships arriving in Melbourne includes footage of Bruce talking to Senator George Pearce, Minister for Home and Territories and a former long-serving Defence Minister. During World War II, HMS *Hood* would be sunk by the German battleship *Bismarck*.

BRITAIN'S BIRTHRIGHT COVER TITLE NO. 14770

This 1924 British film follows the Royal Navy's Special Service Squadron's Empire tour and includes scenes of Bruce as part of the ships' visit to Australia.

ANZAC DAY, MELBOURNE, APRIL 25TH 1926 COVER TITLE NO. 682

This silent film of a wet Anzac Day in Melbourne in 1926 features Bruce and Sir John Monash, the World War I Australian commander.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

BRUCE PAPERS, 1926 73, 55

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Melbourne

This small collection relates to the conferral of honorary degrees on Bruce and the leaders of South Africa and

Newfoundland by Cambridge University while they were in the UK for the 1926 Imperial Conference.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

BALDWIN PAPERS, 1923–37

Quantity: Unknown Location: Cambridge, England

Stanley Baldwin was British Prime Minister during most of Bruce's term as Prime Minister. Baldwin's papers include correspondence with Bruce on Imperial issues and other Australian-related material. They have been microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and are available in major Australian libraries on Australian Joint Copying Project reel M2497.

4

Economic issues and industrial relations

Bruce's economic policy was an ambitious development plan based on 'men, money and markets'. It aimed to increase the Australian population with British immigration, improve primitive Australian infrastructure with British investment and export the increased output of this larger economy into British markets. British migration and investment did increase under Bruce, but he was unable to gain special access for Australian goods into Britain.

Bruce pursued a policy of confrontation against the union movement believing that cuts to Australian wages would make Australian production more competitive. Bruce's attempt to deport two union leaders gained him popular support and victory in the 1925 election, but his attempt to give industrial powers back to the States led to his landslide defeat in 1929.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

CORRESPONDENCE WITH FRANK LIDGETT MCDOUGALL, 1924–29 M111

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Frank Lidgett McDougall carried on a private correspondence with Bruce from 1924 to 1929, which is almost as important as Casey's correspondence with Bruce (see series *A1420* and *A1421*, pages 37–40, 71 and 89). McDougall worked as a lobbyist promoting Australian exports into Britain, partially paid by the Australian Dried Fruits Control Board and partially by the Federal Government. He had an office in the Australian High Commission in London but did not hold an official position. McDougall's letters to Bruce from this series were published in 1986 (see Appendix 2). Bruce again worked closely with McDougall on economic matters when he was Australian High Commissioner in London during WWII (see item *M104, 10* as described on page 100).

Correspondence with Frank Lidgett McDougall, 1924 **M111, 1924**
This correspondence primarily concerns Empire trade and preferences. It includes a letter from McDougall to Bruce on 6 March 1924 describing his persistent lobbying of British MPs of all parties to make them support Imperial tariffs.

Correspondence with Frank Lidgett McDougall, 1925 **M111, 1925**
The correspondence in this item primarily concerns Empire trade, preferences and marketing. Following the signing of a UK–Greek commercial treaty, McDougall collected information on the 'extremely insanitary conditions' in which 'currants and sultanas are harvested and marketed' in Greece and told Bruce on 19 March 1925 that this material would help the sales of Australian dried fruits in the UK 'if used in small doses for publicity purposes'.

Correspondence with Frank Lidgett McDougall, 1926 **M111, 1926**
The correspondence in this item primarily concerns Empire trade, preferences and marketing. On 25 May 1926 the indefatigable McDougall reported to Bruce that he had produced a statistical breakdown of the House of Commons dining room wine list and found it consisted of 152 non-Empire wines, three South African, and only one Australian wine. McDougall then told Sir Park Goff MP, a member of the responsible committee, that 'Australia produced a certain quantity of really reputable wine which no one need be ashamed to drink at dinner'.

Correspondence with Frank Lidgett McDougall, 1927 **M111, 1927**
The correspondence in this item primarily concerns Empire trade, preferences and marketing. McDougall told Bruce on 16 August 1927 that the Minister for Trade and Customs, Senator George Pearce, during a visit to the UK, had made an 'unfortunate impression' in a newspaper interview when he complained that British industry was 'like Oliver Twist always asking for more preference'. McDougall suggested to Pearce that 'he might take a somewhat different line' and instead praise the British for the emergence of 'a strong Empire sentiment in this country'.

Correspondence with Frank Lidgett McDougall, 1928 **M111, 1928**
The correspondence in this item primarily concerns Empire trade, preferences and marketing. On 16 February 1928 McDougall warned Bruce that a 'very widespread … distrust of Australian economic policy' had developed in 'very large sections of influential opinion in this country'. Their main concern was that Australian wages were too high.

Correspondence with Frank Lidgett McDougall, 1929 **M111, 1929**
The correspondence in this item primarily concerns Empire trade, preferences and marketing. On 17 October 1929, following Bruce's devastating election loss, McDougall wrote to offer his commiserations: 'No man has given Australia more devoted, unsparing and sustained service than you have.' Bruce replied on 7 November, thanking McDougall for 'the invaluable help and assistance you have given me ever since we joined forces in 1923'.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRIME MINISTER, 1918–67 AA1970/555

Recorded by: 1918–67 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–29 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to economic policy including finance and industrial policy.

Act No. 4 of 1929 **AA1970/555, 1**

Act No. 4 of 1929 validates an agreement concerning financial arrangements made on 12 December 1927 between the Commonwealth of Australia and the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania assented to on 18 March 1929. This financial agreement, while kept by Bruce, does not bear his signature. It is signed by the Governor-General Lord Stonehaven, Treasurer Earle Page and several Treasury officials.

Reports and speeches, c 1923–c 1929 **AA1970/555, 3**

This item contains records and speeches concerning the Imperial Economic Committee, the Empire Marketing Board and Imperial trade and preference, plus a 1923 letter to Stanley Melbourne Bruce about Imperial Defence Resolutions.

Letter from Sir G Mason Allard and Sir William Vicars, and note by the Prime Minister, 1924–27 **AA1970/555, 4**

This letter of 31 August 1927 complains about Bruce's decision for a government takeover of the radio company Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd (AWA).

Correspondence concerning the visit of Sir Arthur Duckham and a British industry delegation to Australia, 1928 **AA1970/555, 5**

In a letter dated 3 September 1928 Bruce explained to Sir Arthur Duckham KCB how the Australian and British economies were complementary: Australia needed British migrants, British investment and British markets for agricultural produce, while Britain needed Australia to develop so it would buy more British manufactured goods.

Memoranda recording interviews with the Prime Minister plus other memoranda and correspondence, 1921–29 **AA1970/555, 7**

This item contains memoranda and correspondence concerning Australia's war debt to Great Britain, as well as material on the Commonwealth Bank and overseas shipping. It also includes a memorandum of a 1927 conversation in which Bruce tells fellow Nationalist William Watt that the current economic downturn was due to poor agricultural conditions and 'to the general economic and industrial position which had grown up as a result of the Tariff and the system of Compulsory Arbitration in Australia … [I]f we had a good season the problems would be solved, if not no government could solve it'.

Notes and printed booklets of speeches, 1918–59 **AA1970/555, 8**

This item contains speeches delivered by Bruce as a Nationalist Party candidate, a Member of Parliament and Prime Minister and includes accompanying notes written by Lord Bruce in 1959. Included are the notes for Bruce's 1923 speeches to the Imperial Economic Conference and to London bankers (a pamphlet of this speech, entitled *Australia: Her Resources and Her Progress*, is in *A981, IMP 112*, see page 58); a booklet with Bruce's 1926 speech to London bankers entitled *The Financial Position of Australia*; a pamphlet of Bruce's Joseph Fisher Lecture in Commerce, entitled *The Financial and Economic Position of Australia*, delivered at the University of Adelaide on 1 July 1927; and pamphlets of Bruce's parliamentary speeches on the coal dispute and the Maritime Industries Bill printed for the 1929 election.

Proceedings and decisions of conference of Commonwealth and State ministers, 1929 **AA1970/555, 10**

This item contains the proceedings and decisions of the first premiers' meeting held in Canberra, 28–30 May 1929. It also includes a speech made to the conference by Bruce on 28 May 1929. Bruce's speech tells the premiers that Australia faces 'a national crisis' unless costs can be cut: 'Expenditure can and must be reduced by the elimination of waste, and by the exclusion of unnecessary expenditure'.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

Most of the material in this series relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London, but the following items refer to economic issues and industrial relations dealt with by Bruce during his prime ministership.

Notes of interviews with various organisations and individuals including colleagues, 1928 **AA1970/559, 3**

This item contains notes of interviews with various organisations and individuals including colleagues. It includes Bruce's memo of a fiery 1928 meeting with Malcolm Brodie on prohibiting the export of Australian apples: 'I told him that it was not the slightest use coming to talk to me if he was going to adopt that attitude; that I had only seen him because of my personal relations with him, and that from the tone of his letter and memorandum if I had had them from anyone else I would have told him to go to devil, and declined to have anything more to do with him. … He then started talking about the iniquity of Governments interfering, and I told him quite frankly that the Government had no desire to interfere, but that private enterprise in practically every one of our exportable products had so mismanaged the business that they had very nearly ruined Australia's reputation and chances in the British market. I suggested to

him that it would be very much better if private enterprise would adopt the attitude of putting its own house in order, instead of talking nonsense whenever the Government was forced, through the lack of action of private enterprise, to take steps to protect the good name of Australia's production.' This item also includes papers detailing Bruce's order to make military weapons available to arm volunteer constables in South Australia in 1927 after Premier Richard Butler said he expected 'trouble from the red element' during a waterfront strike.

Interview with Sir Robert Gibson, c 1 February 1926 **AA1970/559, 9**
In 1926 Bruce met Sir Robert Gibson, Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board, to discuss board appointments.

Interview with Mr Schwelk, 24 February 1926 **AA1970/559, 12**
This item relates to a 1926 request from the Employers Federation of New South Wales for Bruce to intervene in a pay dispute at the Sydney dockyards. Bruce refused.

Interview with Sir Robert Gibson, 24 February 1926 **AA1970/559, 14**
Bruce discussed the Commonwealth Bank's view on oil prices and housing policy in this meeting.

Miscellaneous papers, 1926–27 **AA1970/559, 15**
This item includes Bruce's memorandum of a 1927 meeting with the directors of the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac) about giving the Commonwealth Bank the responsibility to be Australia's reserve bank. It also includes Bruce's notes of his telephone conversations with South Australian Premier Richard Butler regarding military aid during a waterfront strike. Butler initially asked Bruce to call out troops, but Bruce refused.

Interviews, 1926 **AA1970/559, 16**
These memorandums of meetings during 1926 include Bruce's meeting with Lord Vestey regarding Vestey's cattle stations in the Northern Territory.

Report of the British Economic Mission, 1926–29 **AA1970/559, 17**
This item includes the 1926 British trade delegation report accompanied by notes dated 1929 (possibly written by Casey).

Interviews with Commonwealth Council of Federated Unions, February and April 1926 **AA1970/559, 18**
Bruce met these union leaders in a 'most friendly and frank' discussion about Bruce's industrial legislation.

Notes for speech to Manchester Branch of the Federation of British Industries, 1928–29 **AA1970/559, 20**
This item contains the Manchester speech as well as Bruce's speeches on migration and the sale of the Commonwealth Shipping Line printed for the 1928 election.

Shipping conference, 1929 **AA1970/559, 21**
In 1929 British and European shipping companies increased freight rates to Australia. Lord Inchcape, Chairman of the P&O shipping company, secretly lobbied the other company directors on Bruce's behalf to stop the increase. Inchcape afterwards wrote to Bruce: 'I am greatly gratified to have

been the instrument of effecting a settlement in conformity with your wishes. Your messages and mine will be sealed up and never disclosed.'

Memoranda of interviews, minutes of Joint Party meetings, and speeches by Bruce to Parliament, 1927 **AA1970/559, 22**

This item includes material on a 1927 meeting with employer Sam McKay asking Bruce to end compulsory industrial arbitration. Bruce warns McKay that to say this openly would be 'quite fatal' and suggests he should try a publicity campaign to try to change public opinion.

CARBON COPIES OF SPEECHES BY STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE CONCERNING ECONOMIC ISSUES, 1924–66 A1490

Recorded by: 1924–66 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1924 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of one item holding 19 speeches made by Bruce in September and October 1924 on economic issues. The speeches covered the following topics: 'The Dairying Industry', 'The Beef Industry', 'The Apple Industry', 'The Wine Industry', 'The Dried Fruit Industry', 'The Canned Fruit Industry', 'The Wheat Industry', 'Orange Growing', 'The Wool Industry', 'Notes on the Organisation and Protection of Australia's Primary Industries', 'The Utilisation of Irrigation Areas', 'Population and Land Settlement', 'British Markets', 'Export Control Boards', 'Publicity for Our Products', 'The Imperial Economic Committee', 'Empire Economic Policy', 'Protection and Efficiency' and 'Arbitration and Efficiency'. There is also a 1966 note by Bruce which comments on how the content of these speeches illustrate his thinking on economic issues at that time.

Carbon copies of speeches concerning various economic issues, 1924–66 **A1490, 1**

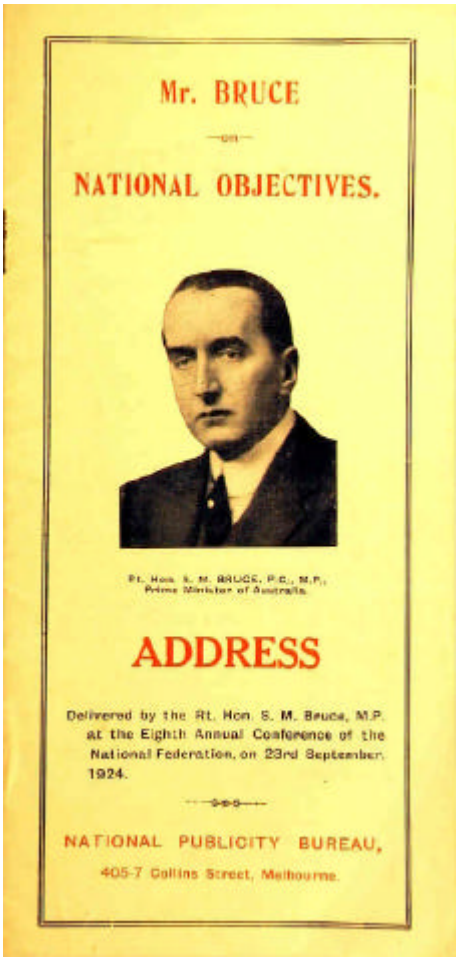
PRINTED PAMPHLETS OF ADDRESSES DELIVERED BY THE PRIME MINISTER, STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE, 1924–25 A1491

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.05 metres Location: Canberra

This series consisting of one item has two printed pamphlets. In *Mr Bruce on National Objectives*, a speech delivered to the Nationalist Party Annual Conference in 1924, Bruce gives the main principles of the party as 'loyalty to the King, the maintenance of the unity of the British Empire, and the continuance of constitutional government'. Bruce says his economic policy means 'fair wages and good labor conditions for the worker and a fair return on his capital and energy for the employer', contrasting this with 'the destructive doctrine of the class war preached by the Labour Party'. In 'The Dairying Industry: The Commonwealth Government's Proposals', a speech given at a 1924 dairy industry conference, Bruce proposes stabilising export prices in cooperation with producers.

Two printed pamphlets of addresses delivered by Stanley Melbourne Bruce, 1924–25 **A1491, 1**


Mr. BRUCE

ON

NATIONAL OBJECTIVES.

Rt. Hon. S. M. BRUCE, P.C., M.P.,
Prime Minister of Australia.

ADDRESS

Delivered by the Rt. Hon. S. M. Bruce, M.P. at the Eighth Annual Conference of the National Federation, on 23rd September, 1924.

NATIONAL PUBLICITY BUREAU,
405-7 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Mr Bruce on National Objectives pamphlet of a speech delivered to the Nationalist Party Annual Conference in 1924.

NAA: A1491, 1

PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE OF PRIME MINISTER S M BRUCE, 1923–29 CP362/4

Recorded by: 1923–29 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series is a small collection of papers mostly on economic and migration matters.

Wine, 1923–24 **CP362/4, 1**

Executive Commission for development of Northern Australia, 1923 **CP362/4, 2**

Northern Territory development – Senator Pearce's scheme, 1923 **CP362/4, 3**

Migration of Methodists to Australia – correspondence from Sir Robert Perks, 1923–24 **CP362/4, 4**

Migration – NSW agreement, 1923–24 **CP362/4, 5**

London – maintenance of motors at Commonwealth expense, 1923 **CP362/4, 6**

Personal telegrams and correspondence of S M Bruce, 1926–29 **CP362/4, 7**

Diligent researchers will find references to Bruce's economic policies scattered throughout other series such as those listed below.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL SERIES, 1906–31 A3934

Recorded by: 1926 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1926 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 1.62 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the Prime Minister's Department in 1926 to hold secret and confidential files considered no longer topical. Its contents date back to 1901. The series includes items referring to economic issues from the early part of Bruce's term in office.

Loan Conference (July 1925), 1925–26 **A3934, SC17/8**
In July 1925 Bruce asked major newspaper owners to support his policy of converting the war loan. All major newspapers, even the *Labor Daily*, supported the Government, and in December Bruce sent owners a letter stating: 'I desire to thank you for consistent help which you gave in your columns.'

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1921–1970 A981

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 146.8 metres Location: Canberra

This External Affairs series, created on the instruction of Richard Casey in 1927, includes the following speech by Bruce on economic matters.

Imperial Conference speech, 1923 **A981, IMP 112**
This item consists of a speech made by Bruce to London bankers on 13 December 1923, which was published as a booklet entitled *Australia: Her Resources and Her Progress*. At the conclusion of the speech, Bruce calls: 'I ask you – the leaders of finance in London, the financial centre of the world – to turn your eyes towards Australia …'

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1901–71 A5954

Recorded by: 1937–71 Sir F G Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)
1937–39 Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–71 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 201.16 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of records collected by Sir Frederick Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian defence policy. This enormous collection of papers includes the following speech made by Bruce on economic policies.

***The financial position of Australia* by the Rt Hon. S M Bruce, Prime Minister, 1926** **A5954, 829/11**
A booklet of Bruce's speech to London bankers in 1926.

PAPERS OF SIR JOHN LATHAM AS AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE AT THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926 CP463/1

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Sir John Greig Latham PC, GC, MG (CP 148)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

Attorney-General Sir John Latham was part of the Australian delegation to the 1926 Imperial Conference. This series consists of papers relating to the conference sub-committees of which he was a member.

Papers of Sir John Latham, Australian representative at the 1926 Imperial Conference, 1921–27 **CP463/1, bundle 1**

This item includes a memo Latham wrote for Bruce on how to improve the promotion of Australia in Europe and the UK. Bruce wrote his responses to Latham's points in the left margin before returning the memo. Among Latham's suggestions was that Australia House in London should screen newsreels of both Australian rural and city life as prospective migrants 'will be more attracted to rural life by seeing that there are fine big cities than if they think that Australia is merely a wheat and sheep growing country'.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1899–1939 A458

Recorded by: 1923–27 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1923–34 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 50.05 metres Location: Canberra

This main Prime Minister's Department series includes some items dating back to 1899. The following items contain references to Bruce during his term as Prime Minister.

Publicity – Immigration – financial, 1924–25 **A458, D392/1**

The type of migrant Bruce was looking for can be seen from the titles of these pamphlets published by the Prime Minister's Department's Director of Migration and Settlement: *Wheat and Sheep Farming*, *Dairying*, *Tropical Agriculture*, *Fruit Growing*, *Farm Boy*, *Domestic Girl* and *Farm Labourer*.

Ministerial motor cars, 1922–30 **A458, H374/1**

Bruce did not require a Commonwealth car when he was Prime Minister as he used his own chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce. One of Bruce's first actions on becoming Prime Minister was to save money by putting all Commonwealth cars under the control of the Defence Department. On 8 March 1923 Defence Minister Eric Bowden wrote to Bruce that 'the first steps taken have been to secure economy'. Unfortunately this entailed making two drivers redundant. One of these men was father of eight, F W Boykett, whose wife wrote to Ethel Bruce to complain about the way her husband had been retrenched (see item *A3934, SC25/4* on page 117).

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

BROOKES, HERBERT, PAPERS, 1869–1970 MS 1924

Quantity: 25.6 metres Location: Canberra

Herbert Brookes was a businessman and close associate of Bruce. His papers include correspondence with Bruce relating to the Tariff Board and copies of official communications to Bruce while Brookes was Australian Commissioner-General in the United States in 1929. There are around 120 letters written by, or to, Bruce in these papers.

BRUCE, S M, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS AND CIRCULAR, 1921–39 MS 983

Quantity: 0.15 metres Location: Canberra

This collection of newspaper cuttings includes a circular refering to Bruce's 1926 industrial relations legislation.

COPLAND, DOUGLAS BERRY, PAPERS, 1920–70 MS 3800

Quantity: 16 metres Location: Canberra

Economist Douglas Copland's papers include correspondence with Bruce relating to a tariff inquiry in 1928–29.

SIMON, ERNEST DARWIN, DIARY NOTES, 1925 MS 7871

Quantity: 0.01 metres Location: Canberra

British industrialist and politician Ernest Simon visited Australia in 1925. His diary includes detailed notes of conversations with various prominent men including Bruce.

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

The following films of Bruce visiting regional South Australia, Victoria and Queensland indicate his economic preoccupation with developing agricultural industries in rural areas rather than manufacturing in the cities.

S M BRUCE OPENS THE CHILDREN'S WARD AT RENMARK HOSPITAL, SA, 1925 COVER TITLE NO. 19078

This 1925 film shows Bruce with his wife opening a ward at Renmark and meeting a deputation of fruit growers at Berri during a tour of South Australia.

THE 'BETTER FARMING TRAIN', 1925 COVER TITLE NO. 12756

This 1925 film shows Bruce inspecting the Victorian Government's 'Better Farming Train' in Bunyip, Victoria. The train was designed to publicise modern farming methods and featured a pig carriage, a dairy carriage, a fertiliser and pasture carriage and a women's domestic science carriage.

PRIME MINISTER BRUCE VISITS QUEENSLAND, 1926 COVER TITLE NO. 13688

This 1926 film shows Bruce in Brisbane, Mackay and Charters Towers while on a tour of Queensland.

WILTSHIRE AND SWINDON RECORD OFFICE

THE POLITICAL PAPERS OF WALTER HUME LONG, 1ST VISCOUNT LONG OF WRAXALL, 1854–1924

Recorded by: Viscount Long (Walter Hume Long)

Quantity: Unknown Location: Trowbridge, England

The Empire Development Union **Long Papers, 947/882**

In 1923 Viscount Long, a prominent British Conservative politician and former Colonial Secretary, became first President of the Empire Development Union, a lobby group formed to promote an Imperial tariff. Before the 1923 Imperial Conference, Long sent letters to all the Dominion prime ministers in support of giving British tariff preference to Empire goods. Bruce responded with a telegram to Long on 19 July 1923 asking the Empire Development Union to 'commence a campaign in favor of Empire goods which will culminate in the visit of the Dominion Prime Ministers'. Bruce's correspondence with Long has been microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and is available in major Australian libraries on Australian Joint Copying Project reel M1119.

5

Canberra

As Prime Minister, Bruce oversaw the long-delayed move of the Commonwealth Government from Melbourne – where it had been located since Federation in 1901 – to the new capital of Canberra. In May 1927 the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth) officially opened Parliament House in Canberra and Bruce became the first Prime Minister to live in The Lodge. Canberra remained in Bruce's affections and after his death his ashes were scattered over the city.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PRIME MINISTER, 1918–67 — AA1970/555

Recorded by: 1918–67 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1923–29 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)–

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to economic policy but includes the following item connected to the opening of Parliament House in Canberra in 1927.

Notes and printed booklets of speeches, 1918–59 — **AA1970/555, 8**
This item contains speeches delivered by Bruce as a Nationalist Party candidate, a Member of Parliament and as Prime Minister, and includes accompanying notes written by Lord Bruce in 1959. It includes a booklet containing Bruce's toast to the Duke of York at a dinner held in London in 1926 before the Duke and Duchess began their journey to Australia to open the new Parliament House. This booklet is also held in *NLA: MS 1977* (see pages 68 and 84).

PRESENTATION FOLDERS AND MEMORABILIA, c 1922–c 1964 — AA1970/556

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This series of oddments retained by Bruce's long-time secretary Nora Roberts contains some items relating to the opening ceremonies in Canberra including the roll of members and senators who attended the first parliamentary sitting on 9 May 1927 (see item *AA1970/556, 6*). There is also a pen (in *AA1970/556, 2*) presumably used by Bruce on a significant occasion (now-forgotten) as well as an item titled

'Empty folders' (*AA1970/556, 3*) which – as the title suggests – consists of empty folders (6 file covers, 3 with alphabetical dividers 'K-Y').

Photographs of a rowing event on Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra, c 1964 **AA1970/556, 1**

Ink pen with a metal nib, c 1930 **AA1970/556, 2**

Empty folders, c 1922–c 1950 **AA1970/556, 3**

Passport No. A94514, 26 Nov 1929–25 Nov 1939 **AA1970/556, 4**

Federal Executive Council – The Rt Hon S M Bruce, c 1932 **AA1970/556, 5**

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia. Senate and House of Representatives Member's Roll on the occasion of the first meeting at Canberra, 9 May 1927 **AA1970/556, 6**

SPEECHES BY THE PRIME MINISTER S M BRUCE, 1923–28 CP362/3

Recorded by: 1923–28 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–28 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of speeches by Bruce on a range of subjects and one speech by Earle Page on the Australian economy. It includes the following welcome speech by Bruce at the first Institute of Engineers meeting in Canberra.

Speech – PM welcoming Annual Conference of Institute of Engineers to Canberra, 4 February 1928 **CP362/3, 7**
Bruce spoke to the first meeting of the Institute of Engineers in Canberra. He told his audience that while there had been much criticism of Canberra, of 'the idea itself, its layout, its expense, and its hopeless future, not one word of criticism has been heard against the work of its engineers'.

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

This unique series of objects collected by Bruce during his official life includes two historically important items relating to Canberra.

Prime Minister's Lodge visitors' book, 1927–29 **M4254, 2**
Ethel Bruce provided the first visitors' book for The Lodge. The first signatures in this gold-trimmed leather-bound book are those of the Duke and Duchess of York and Governor-General Lord Stonehaven. Other signatures include Richard Casey, British Dominions Secretary Leo Amery and record-breaking aviator Charles Kingsford Smith.

Gold cigarette case with diamond monogram (EA), 1927 **M4254, 41**
This cigarette case from the Duke and Duchess of York carries the inscription 'To Mr Bruce from Albert and Elizabeth Canberra May 9th 1927'. The Duke and Duchess of York – later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth – presented this

cigarette case to Bruce to commemorate the opening of Parliament House in Canberra (see page 7).

FOLDERS OF COPIES OF CABINET PAPERS, 1901– A6006

Recorded by: 1976–81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
1981–94 Australian Archives (CA 3196)
1994–98 Australian Archives (CA 7970)
1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 9.18 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the National Archives to accumulate papers placed before Cabinet during the 1901–38 period. No regular procedure for recording the decisions of Cabinet existed prior to 1925, and a systematic method for recording Cabinet submissions and decisions was not truly effected until 1941. This series contains copies of papers relevant to Cabinet that are not in any of the record series created by the Cabinet Office. These papers have been found in departmental files, personal collections and elsewhere. The following items, discussed by Bruce and his Cabinet, relate to the official opening of Parliament in 1927 by the Duke and Duchess of York.

A6006 item numbers are the date of the Cabinet meeting. In some cases, items have the same item number because they relate to the same meeting. When citing items from this series, the series number, item number and title need to be quoted.

All items in the series are listed on RecordSearch, and the series is available on microfilm in all National Archives reading rooms.

Visit of Duke and Duchess of York, 1926 **A6006, 1926/07/26**

Royal Visit expenditure, 1926 **A6006, 1926/11/05**

Laying of War Memorial Foundation Stone by the Duke of York, 1926 **A6006, 1926/12/31**

Representatives of Dominions to be invited to opening of Parliament House, Canberra, 1926 **A6006, 1926/12/31**

Visit of Duke and Duchess of York, 1927 **A6006, 1927/02/16**

Public holiday arrangements about Royal Visit, 1927 **A6006, 1927/03/07**
Bruce's Cabinet met to discuss a Prime Minister's Department submission regarding public holidays to be granted during the Royal Visit on 7 March 1927. Cabinet decided that there should be a public holiday in the Federal Capital Territory (now the Australian Capital Territory) for the opening of Parliament and a State-wide public holiday when the Duke and Duchess of York arrived in that State.

Opening ceremony at Canberra, 1927 **A6006, 1927/06/01**

Cost of Royal Visit to Canberra, 1927 **A6006, 1927/12/31**

Royal Visit to Canberra – holidays, 1927 **A6006, 1927/12/31**

Royal Visit – temporary telephone facilities, 1927 **A6006, 1927/12/31**

Prime Minister Bruce speaking at the opening of Parliament, 1927. *NAA: A6180, 20/5/74/42*

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1899–1939 A458

Recorded by: 1923–27 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1923–34 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 50.05 metres Location: Canberra

The following items from this Prime Minister's Department series refer to the Duke and Duchess of York's visit to Australia to open the new Parliament House in Canberra.

Itinerary – general, 1925–27	**A458, D748/3**
Financial, 1926–28	**A458, E748/3**
Commemorative Medal of Opening of Parliament, 1926–29	**A458, G748/3**
Loan of pictures from Melbourne National Gallery, 1926–30	**A458, K748/3**
Press representation, 1926–27	**A458, M748/3**
Broadcasting arrangements, 1927	**A458, AA748/3/27**
Phono films, 1927–28	**A458, AL748/3**

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–50 A461

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 145.98 metres Location: Canberra

Although this correspondence series was commenced in 1934, it contains many older items top-numbered into the series including the following item about the Prime Minister's Canberra residence.

Prime Minister's residence, 1927–30 **A461, E4/1/12 part 1**

The move to Canberra required the construction of a prime minister's residence in the new capital. This item indicates that Bruce took a great interest in the fitting out of the house. While in London for the 1926 Imperial Conference, Bruce wrote to Leo Amery, the British Dominions Secretary, asking for signed photographs of the King and Queen to display in the residence. A 1928 memo from the Prime Minister's Department to the Federal Capital Commission conveys Bruce's request for 'a small Electric Stove' to be installed in the kitchen. Most importantly, this item includes a letter from the Melbourne interior decorator Ruth Lane Poole to the Prime Minister's Department on 15 April 1927, which notes Bruce's approval that the house should be known as the 'Prime Minister's Lodge'.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 'C' PREFIX, 1929–50 A292

Recorded by:

1930–32	Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)
1932–38	Works and Services Branch [I] (CA 740)
1938–39	Department of Works [I] (CA 30)
1939–46	Works and Services Branch [II] (CA 742)
1946–49	Works Director (CA 743)

Quantity: 24.95 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of items relating to Public Works projects in Canberra. Bruce features in the following item.

Prime Minister's residence and Government House – staff, 1926–32 **A292, C8185**

This item includes a memo from Sir John Butters, Chief Commissioner of the Federal Capital Commission, to the Commission Secretary on 27 November telling him that Bruce 'spoke to me very forcibly this morning' about the dirty condition The Lodge had been allowed to get into while he had been absent from Canberra.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, TWO–NUMBER SYSTEM WITH LETTER PREFIX, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL SERIES (THIRD SYSTEM), 1903–44 A1606

Recorded by:

1926–27	Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1926–39	Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 5.85 metres Location: Canberra

This Prime Minister's Department series covers a wide range of subjects dating back to 1903. It includes the following items on the Duke of York's visit to Australia for the official opening of Parliament House in Canberra.

Visits – Duke of York, 1927 **A1606, B40/1**

Invitation – Duke and Duchess of York, 1926 **A1606, B40/1 attachment**

The invitation to the Duke and Duchess of York to perform the official opening ceremony of Parliament in May 1927.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES AND PRINTS, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES WITH 'L' [LIBRARY] PREFIX, 1911–71 A1200

Recorded by: 1945–50 Department of Information (CA 34)
1950–71 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 81.9 metres Location: Canberra

This series of images collected by the Australian News and Information Bureau from the late 1940s includes earlier items such as the following photograph of Canberra.

Historical - events - the Duke and Duchess of York open Federal Parliament, 1927 **A1200, L13361**
This item is a photograph taken from inside the House of Representatives on 9 May 1927 during the opening of the first Parliament in Canberra.

MILDENHALL COLLECTION OF GLASS PLATE NEGATIVES, 1913–35 A3560

Recorded by: 1921–35 William James Mildenhall (CP 491)
1921–24 Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)
1925–30 Federal Capital Commission (CA 226)
1930–31 Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Branch, Department of Home Affairs [II] (CA 756)
1932–35 Civic (ACT) Administration Branch (CA 757)

Quantity: 82.80 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of over 7 000 glass plate negatives, mainly of Canberra and surrounding areas. Some images date back to 1913, but most were taken after 1921 by William James Mildenhall in his official capacity as Information Officer for the Federal Capital Commission. The series contains many images of Bruce including several of the opening of Parliament House in Canberra on 9 May 1927.

Royal Visit – the dais at the Royal Review, May 1927 **A3560, 3033**
Photograph of the Duchess of York and Hon. S M Bruce at the dais of the Royal Review.

Royal Visit – Parliament House steps, May 1927 **A3560, 3085**
Photograph of the Rt Hon. S M Bruce speaking to the Duke and Duchess of York on the steps of Parliament House.

Royal Visit – Canberra Railway Station, May 1927 **A3560, 3089**
Photograph of the Duke and Duchess of York with Prime Minister Rt Hon. S M Bruce at Canberra Railway. The station notice on the pillar reads 'Canberra Anglican Cathedral Site. Sunday May 8th Open Air Service'.

Royal Visit – Rt Hon. S M Bruce with Sir John Butters and Lady Butters, May 1927 **A3560, 3092**

Duke and Duchess of York and Prime Minister S M Bruce on Parliament House steps, 1927 **A3560, 7113**
Photograph of the Duke and Duchess of York and Prime Minister S M Bruce on Parliament House steps for the Royal Review.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

BRUCE, S M, PRINTED MATERIAL, 1926–38 — MS 1977

Quantity: 0.01 metres Location: Canberra

This collection includes a printed booklet of Bruce's toast to the Duke of York at a London dinner in 1926. A copy of this booklet is also held in item *AA1970/555, 8* (for item description see pages 14, 40, 54 and 62).

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

The following examples indicate how extensively filmmakers covered the opening of Parliament House in Canberra and the Royal Tour of Australia.

THE ARRIVAL OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK: SYDNEY, 26 MARCH 1927 — COVER TITLE NO. 793

This official film shows Bruce and NSW dignitaries welcoming the Duke and Duchess of York to Sydney.

ARRIVAL OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK IN SYDNEY, 1927 — COVER TITLE NO. 294001

This *Australasian Gazette* newsreel shows Bruce welcoming the Duke and Duchess of York to Sydney. — EPISODE TITLE NO. 1108

ARRIVAL OF DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK IN MELBOURNE, 1927 — COVER TITLE NO. 744

This film shows Bruce welcoming the Duke and Duchess of York to Melbourne.

THE DAILY DOINGS OF TRH THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, 1927 — COVER TITLE NO. 15236

This film of the Duke and Duchess of York at Anzac Day ceremonies in Melbourne includes scenes of Bruce.

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF CANBERRA BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF YORK: MAY 9TH 1927: PARAMOUNT SPECIAL — COVER TITLE NO. 56926

The negative of this newsreel of the opening of Parliament House was taken to an aircraft immediately after the ceremony and arrived in Sydney for processing after a flight of only 90 minutes.

THE OPENING OF CANBERRA: AUSTRALIA'S CAPITAL CITY, 1927 — COVER TITLE NO. 10536

The official 14-minute film of the opening of Parliament House. It features Bruce making a speech and inviting the Duke of York to open the door of Parliament House.

TRH THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK AT CANBERRA, 1927 — COVER TITLE NO. 16788

As the title suggests, this item consists of additional footage of the official opening of Parliament House in Canberra, including scenes of Bruce making a speech.

STATE LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The State Library of New South Wales collection includes two photographs by Sam Hood of Bruce at the official opening of Parliament House in Canberra.

S M Bruce with Duchess of York and Lady Stonehaven at the opening of Federal Parliament, Canberra	**Home & Away, 5318**
S M Bruce and Lady Bruce await the arrival of the Yorks at the opening ceremony of Parliament House, Canberra	**Home & Away, 7965**

Stanley Melbourne Bruce and Mrs Bruce at The Lodge, Canberra, February 1928. *NAA: A1200, L83837*

6

Australian High Commissioner in London

Bruce returned to Parliament after the 1931 election, but with Joseph Lyons now Prime Minister, Bruce saw he had no chance of returning to the top job. Bruce led the Australian delegation to the 1932 Ottawa Imperial Conference and played an important role in winning tariff preference for Australian goods in the British market. He then became Honorary Minister in London until he resigned from Parliament and became Australian High Commissioner in 1933. Bruce's period as High Commissioner in London is perhaps as important as his term as Prime Minister. Bruce took an active role in promoting Australian interests. The range of Bruce's activities can be seen in the following four examples: his 1934 attempt to replace Sir Isaac Isaacs as Governor-General with a member of the British Royal Family; his 1936 chairing of the League of Nations' Montreux Conference; his firm intervention in the 1936 abdication crisis; and his 1938 attempt to provide an Australian safe haven for refugees fleeing Hitler's Germany. Although Bruce considered returning to Australian politics upon Lyons' death in April 1939 (see items *M104, 7/1* and *M104, 7/3* on pages 77 and 99), he chose instead to remain as High Commissioner, a position he held when World War II broke out in September 1939.

Bruce at Australia House from an album of portraits of High Commissioners for the Dominions and India, and Ambassadors to the Court of St James in the Coronation Year, 1937. *NAA: M114, 1*

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

CORRESPONDENCE WITH ASSISTANT TREASURER R G CASEY, 1932–38 A1421

Recorded by: 1933–38 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–38 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This important series consists of correspondence between Casey and Bruce from January 1932 to July 1938. Most of the material relates to economic, financial and monetary matters, but both Casey and Bruce enlivened their letters with candid comments on contemporary politics. (For Casey's diary see *NLA: MS 6150,* on pages 49 and 84.)

Official and personal correspondence with R G Casey, 1932–34 **A1421, 1**
Bruce was only one of many former prime ministers to become Australian High Commissioner in London. Bruce, however, did not rate Prime Minister Joseph Lyons as a suitable future High Commissioner. In a letter to Casey dated 19 January 1933, Bruce indicated that he thought Lyons would be 'out of his depth' in London. He believed that Lyons' Catholic faith and large family 'would be very considerable handicaps' to the position. In another letter to Casey, dated 13 September 1933, Bruce admitted he had no future political career in Australia, adding 'I could do better work by remaining here than by returning to Australia'.

Official and personal correspondence with R G Casey, 1935 **A1421, 2**

Official and personal correspondence with R G Casey, 1936 **A1421, 3**
In March 1936 Italy under Mussolini conquered the East African nation of Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) and Germany under Hitler broke the Treaty of Locarno by sending troops into the demilitarised zone on the border with France. Bruce was President of the League of Nations Council when these storms broke and in a letter to Casey, dated 9 April 1936, wrote: 'Here I am perched in Geneva with both Italo–Abyssinian and the brawl over the German breach of Locarno raging to the nth degree'.

Official and personal correspondence with R G Casey, 1937–38 **A1421, 4**
Following the near-defeat of Robert Gordon Menzies in the recent Federal election, Casey told Bruce on 17 November 1937: 'People have the idea that he has a contempt for the average man, and they don't like it.'

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN LYONS (PRIME MINISTER) AND BRUCE (RESIDENT MINISTER IN LONDON) ON LOAN CONVERSIONS, 1932–33 A11874

Recorded by: 1932-33 The Rt Hon. J A Lyons, PC, CH (CP 254)
1932-33 Department of Treasury (CA 11)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

Conversion loans – conversations, 1932–33 **A11874, 1**
Notes of interviews in London made by Bruce.

Personal and secret – from Mr Bruce to PM, 1933 **A11874, 2**
This item contains notes of interviews and telephone conversations held in London about debt conversion.

Overseas conversions including confidential and personal communications from Mr Bruce, 1933 **A11874, 3**
This item contains cables, correspondence and notes of telephone conversations.

Overseas conversions between J A Lyons, S M Bruce, W Massy Greene and J G Latham, 1933 **A11874, 4**
This item contains cables, correspondence and notes of telephone conversations.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London.

Cables to and from Australia – August 1932 **AA1970/559, 2**
This item mainly contains cables exchanged between Prime Minister Lyons in Australia and the Australian Delegation to the Imperial Economic Conference, Ottawa, led by Bruce. The economic collapse in world trade caused by the Great Depression led to the 1932 Imperial Economic Conference. The conference agreed to create tariff barriers for non-Empire goods in an attempt to encourage trade between the UK and the Dominions. This historically important item includes a telegram sent from Lyons before the conference commenced telling Bruce that a 'firm stand [is] essential', and a telegram from Bruce to Lyons after the conference saying: 'Think that you will agree arrangement is more satisfactory than anything anticipated obtaining when left Australia'.

Correspondence, memoranda and speech notes, 1932 **AA1970/559, 4**
This item contains correspondence, memoranda and notes on various topics including Anzac Day, conversion loans, presentation of Captain Longstaff's picture to Australia, Australian securities, Australian political news, Committee of Imperial Defence, Imperial Economic Conference, shipping and trade in Empire timber. The 1932 Imperial Economic Conference in Ottawa features in this item. Bruce explains in a letter to Lyons how the Australian delegation split into two groups at the conference, 'one being concerned with the concessions we were endeavouring to obtain, and the other dealing with the concessions we were prepared to give'. Bruce tells Pearce in a private letter that he did not trust the Canadian delegation and thought British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin was 'useless' but that Neville Chamberlain (who would eventually succeed Baldwin as Prime Minister) impressed him.

Ottawa Agreement, 1932–33 **AA1970/559, 5**

This item contains copies of memoranda and correspondence concerning articles 9–14 of the Ottawa Agreement. It also contains correspondence between Bruce and Prime Minister Lyons on various topics including the conversion of Australian loans in London to new loans with lower interest rates, the King's Christmas radio message to the Australian people, civil air communications, Australian diplomatic representation to America, and Bruce's resignation from Parliament and his appointment as High Commissioner.

Correspondence, 1934 **AA1970/559, 6**

This item includes correspondence with Montagu Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, and Lyons regarding the conversion of Australian loans. It also includes a memorandum of a meeting between Bruce and J D Mooney of General Motors in which Bruce said that unless the USA began offering markets to Australian goods, Australia would put quotas on the importation of American cars and other products. Bruce wrote that Mooney 'departed, with, I imagine, the intention of communicating with his friends in America the dangers of the Australian position'.

The Rt Hon. J A Lyons, 1933 **AA1970/559, 7**

Correspondence with Prime Minister Lyons on various topics including the dairy industry, conversion of loans, shipping, appointment of the Prince of Wales to the Royal Australian Navy, wireless communications, position of Australian High Commissioner in London, Dominion representation to League of Nations and Victorian centenary celebrations. Lyons, in a letter to Bruce asking him to become High Commissioner, says the position should be held by a person who 'will repay the taxpayers for the cost and not merely be utilised either to reward someone for past service nor to show gratitude to another who may be merely a camp follower'.

Imperial Conference, 1926–29 **AA1970/559, 8**

This item contains reports outlining agenda items for the forthcoming Imperial and Imperial Economic Conferences.

Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation papers, 1937–38 **AA1970/559, 23**

The item is a collection of correspondence on a variety of issues from 1937 of which the formation of the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation happens to be the topmost document. The Coronation of King George VI and the League of Nations' response to Italy and Germany are also included. A memo from Bruce states that the best policy is to 'sink the moral issue involved in Germany's breach of the treaty obligations … and accept Hitler's offer to negotiate, but widen the scope of the negotiations to an examination of the whole system of securing world peace'.

Australian High Commissioner, 1939–45 **AA1970/559, 24**

This item contains assorted papers Bruce accumulated as Australian High Commissioner in London. It includes the record of a meeting on 27 July 1939 – five weeks before the outbreak of World War II – where two German railway officials asked Bruce how to increase the number of

Australian tourists visiting Germany! Bruce writes: 'I told them, however, that they had to recognise at the present time there were tensions in Europe which were certainly discouraging to travel by Australians in Germany.'

Coronation stamps, 1937 **AA1970/559, 25**
In 1937, at the request of the Australian Postmaster-General's Department, Bruce submitted its designs for stamps of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth for Royal approval. Without a photograph of the King in uniform, the Post Office had come up with an ingenious solution but the design could not be used. As Viscount Lascelles from Buckingham Palace explained to Bruce: 'The King's head is admirable, but unfortunately they have grafted it on to the Duke of Windsor's body, wearing the uniform of the Seaforth Highlanders – a regiment with which the King has never been connected'.

Meat, 1936–37 **AA1970/559, 26**
As well as material on the export of Australian meat to the UK, there are also telegrams from Lyons relating to the Australian–Japanese trade dispute of 1936.

Nutrition, 1936 **AA1970/559, 28**
The item relates to the 1936 League of Nations Committee on Nutrition.

Miscellaneous interviews, 1936 **AA1970/559, 29**
This item includes the memorandum of a meeting with Western Australian Agent-General Sir Hal Colebatch relating to the Japanese attempt to establish an iron ore mine at Yampi Sound in Western Australia. Bruce described the possibility as 'extremely dangerous'. In the end the Lyons Government stopped the mine going ahead by banning the export of iron ore out of Australia. The item also contains Bruce's memorandum of an important discussion he had with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden in Brussels on 6 November 1937. Bruce's pro-appeasement stance is shown when he suggests 'if we adopted a more sympathetic attitude towards Germany and indicated that we were in no way opposed to their ambitions in Eastern Europe, provided they achieved their aims by peaceful methods, we would place ourselves on a new footing vis-a-vis Germany …'. Bruce also said that 'France had to be talked to very definitely and given to understand that we did not propose to be dragged into any trouble which might arise in Eastern Europe'.

Interviews and speeches, 1937 **AA1970/559, 30**
This item contains Bruce's speech to the Bisley shooting competition in 1937. In light of M E Foster becoming the first woman to win the King's Prize at Bisley in 1930, Bruce told the female competitors that although they could not expect to win as Foster had done, they had 'shown that even in this exacting sport, they [were] capable of challenging the supremacy of men'.

Miscellaneous papers – shipping deals, 1933 **AA1970/559, 31**
This item includes material on subjects including shipping deals, civil air communications, Australian defence policy,

Australian monetary policy, Australian politics, Australian exports and loans, development of north west Australia, the Ottawa Agreement, the return of the *Emden* nameplate to Germany and Australia Day celebrations in London. It contains material about the news leak of Bruce's appointment as Australian High Commissioner in London and a letter from newspaper magnate Keith Murdoch to Bruce saying that he should not stay in London as he could still have a political career in Australia. Also included is Bruce's Australia Day radio broadcast from London in 1933 which began: 'Hullo, Australia! and greetings to you all on Australia Day. I hope it has been a very pleasant holiday. I expect most of you have just arrived home, tired and happy, after a jolly time on the beach or by the river, or in some shady glen …'.

Australian participation in the Empire Air Mail Scheme, 1936 **AA1970/559, 32**
This item refers to 1936 meetings of Bruce, Page and Menzies with the British Air Ministry on air services between Britain and Australia.

Correspondence, meeting notes and speeches, 1936–37 **AA1970/559, 33**
This item contains correspondence and notes on many issues including the League of Nations, abdication of Edward VIII, Australia Day, the Aviation Syndicate, the Australian Aircraft Commission and miniatures of medals for W M Hughes. The item also includes an invitation to Bruce from Fred Burley to open the newly constructed Berlei women's lingerie factory at Slough, just outside London. Burley pointed out to Bruce that his Australian company was bringing to the UK 'the benefit of scientific research which has advanced the art and craft of the corsetiere to a stage previously unequalled'. Bruce refused the invitation.

Australian Prime Minister and others, 1935 **AA1970/559, 34**
This item includes a letter where Bruce tells Menzies that the British Air Ministry 'is in a purple fury' over an Australian suggestion to allow the Dutch airline KLM to temporarily service the Singapore–Darwin route.

FOLDERS OF ANNUAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1926–64 M104

Recorded by: 1926–64 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

This important series of Bruce's correspondence includes two 1926 letters but mostly relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London.

Correspondence, 1932 **M104, 1**
This item consists of correspondence between Bruce and Joseph Lyons, John G Latham and Walter Massy Greene relating to meat exports to Britain, Commonwealth ships, wireless communications, Australian war debt liabilities and loans, State-Federal financial relations and Lyons' health. It also contains a note by Bruce dated 10 February 1967.

Miscellaneous papers, pamphlets and letters, 1926–34 **M104, 2**
This item includes a 1930 letter from Bruce to Pearce blaming his 1929 loss on the fact that the election happened 'before public opinion was sufficiently educated to make a right decision'; a script for a 1932 radio broadcast where Bruce explained the Ottawa Conference decision to Americans; and a memo of a 1933 discussion with British MP Anthony Eden on disarmament which Bruce described as 'in some respects, the most interesting evening I had ever spent'.

Notes for speeches, reports and correspondence, 1932–35 **M104, 3**
This item includes a note by Bruce on the Italian invasion of Ethiopia, a League of Nations report on nutrition, and dinner speeches to the Japanese Ambassador and to the Belfast Chamber of Commerce.

Correspondence, speeches and notes of interviews, 1937 **M104, 5/1**
This item includes some letters in which Bruce gives political advice to Joseph Lyons prior to the 1937 election. There are also speeches and memos relating to the 1937 session of the League of Nations. In Bruce's keynote address, he warns that if the session concentrates on political issues 'the world will again receive an impression of futility' and that the League should instead concentrate on economic matters. Bruce coined the phrase 'economic appeasement' to describe his attempt to blunt the demands by Germany, Italy and Japan for more territory by giving them more access to international trade. On a more personal note, Bruce records a meeting he had with Bank of England Governor Montagu Norman where he asks for advice on his private finances, which had been severely affected by the Depression.

Economic appeasement, 1937 **M104, 5/2**
This item has correspondence from Richard Casey, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, Bank of England Governor Montagu Norman and others, replying to Bruce who had sent them a memo on 'economic appeasement'. The item does not include a copy of the memo.

Notes of conversations and correspondence, 1938 **M104, 6/1**
During 1938 the international situation began to deteriorate and much of the correspondence in this item is concerned with defence preparations and the crises caused by the German annexations of Austria and part of Czechoslovakia. There is a memo of a meeting with Leslie Hore-Belisha, the British War Secretary, in which Bruce complains that Hore-Belisha had earlier avoided a meeting to discuss a telegram Lyons had sent to Chamberlain on air defence, causing 'a gross discourtesy to the Commonwealth Government and my Prime Minister'.

Czecho–Slovakia, 1938 **M104, 6/2**
This important file on the 1938 Czechoslovakian crisis includes a memo of Bruce's meetings with Malcolm MacDonald, the British Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs in which Bruce complained that the British Cabinet was making decisions without consulting the Dominions. MacDonald passed Bruce's comments to Chamberlain who

then asked all the Dominion High Commissioners to give him their views on paper. Bruce says the High Commissioners all supported the German occupation of part of Czechoslovakia and opposed any attempt to confront Germany, which might lead to world war. Bruce wrote a long letter to Lyons in October on the Czech crisis and Chamberlain's policy of appeasing Germany in which he states: 'I am convinced that the line he is following is the only one that holds the slightest prospect of avoiding a world war …'.

Aircraft manufacture in Australia, 1938–39 **M104, 6/3**

This item includes Bruce's discussions with the British Air Ministry in 1938 and 1939 on the production of aircraft in Australia. There is also a letter from Bruce to new Prime Minister Robert Menzies on 14 June 1939 regarding a British–New Zealand agreement on the training of New Zealand pilots in the UK for service with the Royal Air Force (RAF). Bruce suggests to Menzies that Australia should make a similar proposal 'as it would enable us to expand our training facilities without a material increase in our financial obligations'. Bruce does not consider in his letter that such a scheme would put personnel under British, rather than Australian, control and this would become the major failure of the Empire Air Training Scheme created in December 1939 following the outbreak of World War II.

Correspondence and notes of interviews, 1939 **M104, 7/1**

This item includes telegrams and memos of telephone conversations regarding the proposal that Bruce return to Australia and become Prime Minister following Lyons' death in April 1939. Menzies opposed the idea and took the prime ministership himself, commenting 'they were indeed bankrupt in the Parliament if they had to go outside to get a Leader'. There is also a memorandum of July meetings Bruce and South African High Commissioner, Charles te Walter held with British Foreign Secretary, Lord Halifax, in which Bruce states 'some way should be found to avoid Danzig [a city mostly populated by Germans but within Poland] becoming the basis of a world upheaval'. Bruce suggests Halifax should negotiate with Mussolini to find a compromise, which would prevent war between Germany and Poland. Halifax pointed out to Bruce that Mussolini would automatically pass onto Hitler the details of any negotiations and he would then conclude that Britain was reneging on her guarantee of support for Poland. On 1 September Germany invaded Poland, beginning World War II.

Speech notes and papers concerning wheat, 1937–39 **M104, 7/2**

In 1939 Bruce made a series of speeches in Australia in which he stressed both the importance of strengthening Australian defence and the importance of not causing a world war through confrontation with Hitler. Among these is a speech made on 24 January to the Millions Club in Sydney in which he defends British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's appeasement policy, stating that it had been developed after consultation with the Dominions (see item *M104, 7/1* above). Bruce justified the recent German dismemberment of

Czechoslovakia by claiming that the German minority in the Sudetenland had 'real grievances' against the Czechs and that Czechoslovakia was 'the highly-armed associate of France in a policy of German encirclement'. This item also includes papers on selling Australian wheat to the UK following the outbreak of World War II.

Conversations – USA, 1939 **M104, 7/4**
Bruce met US President Franklin D Roosevelt on 4 May 1939 and described to him the attempt to have him return to Australia to become Prime Minister following Lyons' death. He said he had spent a week on the US West Coast 'not being sure from day to day whether I was going westward to Australia or eastward to America'. Roosevelt told Bruce that Hitler would continue his aggressive moves in Europe and that it was up to Chamberlain and French President Edouard Daladier to decide when the time had come to resist.

BINDERS OF DEBT CONVERSION CONVERSATION NOTES, CABLES AND CORRESPONDENCE, 1932–33 M110

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of two neatly organised folders of copies of memos of conversations, copies of telegrams and original correspondence relating to Bruce's delicate negotiations on the conversion of Australian loans in London to loans on lower interest rates.

Debt Conversion – conversation notes, 1932–33 **M110, 1**

Debt Conversion – cables and correspondence, 1932–33 **M110, 2**

TRAVEL AND APPOINTMENT DIARIES MAINTAINED BY STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE, 1930–40 M113

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of nine blue Smythson's 'Featherweight' pocket diaries. They include dates for lunches and dinners as well as meetings and conferences. The 1937 diary includes entries regarding the Coronation of King George VI and the Imperial Conference held that year.

Travel and appointment diary, 1930 **M113, 1**
This diary covers the period 27 January – 1 October 1930.

Travel and appointment diary, 1931 **M113, 2**
This diary covers the period 30 March – 11 December 1931.

Travel and appointment diary, 1932 **M113, 3**
This diary covers the period 21 January – 16 December 1932 and has gold embossed initials 'SMB' on the front cover.

Travel and appointment diary, 1933 **M113, 4**
This diary covers the period 12 January – 19 December 1933.

Travel and appointment diary, 1934 **M113, 5**
This diary covers the period 1 January – 19 December 1934.

Travel and appointment diary, 1935 **M113, 6**
This diary covers the period 11 January – 20 December 1935 and has gold embossed initials 'SMB' on the front cover.

Travel and appointment diary, 1937 **M113, 7**
This diary covers the period 25 January – 16 December 1937.

Travel and appointment diary, 1938 **M113, 8**
This diary covers the period 18 January – 14 December 1938.

Travel and appointment diary, 1940 **M113, 9**
This diary covers the period 4 January – 28 June 1940.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM – HIGH COMMISSIONERS FOR THE DOMINIONS AND INDIA AND AMBASSADORS TO THE COURT OF ST JAMES, LONDON, 1937 M114

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series contains a leather-bound photograph album featuring portraits of High Commissioners for the Dominions and for India and Ambassadors to the Court of St James. The photographs were taken to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI and were originally published in the London *Daily Telegraph*. Bruce's portrait shows him sitting at his desk in Australia House (see page 70). The album includes a photograph of German Ambassador Joachim von Ribbentrop, who was convicted at the Nuremburg trials and executed in 1946 for war crimes committed during World War II.

Photograph album, 1937 **M114, 1**

OFFICIAL PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE MAINTAINED BY STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE IN LONDON, 1932–45 M2236

Recorded by: 1932–45 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of some minor papers from Bruce's period as High Commissioner.

Monetary problems, 1932 **M2236, 1**
This item contains cables, handwritten notes, newspaper clippings and letters concerning monetary problems particularly with the Australian, British and United States currencies. It includes correspondence from London-based Australian businessman Clive Baillieu to Bruce, mostly regarding the decline in the British currency during 1932.

Committee of Imperial Defence (CID), 1932–38 **M2236, 2**
This item contains material about CID meetings, agendas and correspondence; meetings with British Chiefs of Staff of Defence Services; and correspondence on the Cabinet Office Box key. It includes British CID agenda papers from 1938 and routine correspondence from the early 1930s.

Miscellaneous papers, 1932–39 **M2236, 3**
This item contains papers on various matters including the British War Cabinet, ex-servicemen's organisations, foreign affairs information to Dominion governments, sugar, Jewish refugees, the Empire Exhibition, Australian business and trade, the White Star Line, wheat agreements, Australian loans in London and civil air communications. It contains a wide range of correspondence, including a 1937 letter from a British MP on the importation of budgerigars into the UK and a telegram from Menzies on retaining diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union after it had joined Germany in invading Poland in 1939.

CORRESPONDENCE, CITATIONS AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS VERIFYING S M BRUCE'S HONORARY DEGREES AND FREEDOM OF CITIES, 1923–67 A1488

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

The one item in this series consists of citations, newspaper clippings and correspondence relating to freedom of cities and honorary degrees conferred on Bruce in the UK and Canada. Bruce's private secretary, Nora Roberts, compiled this file in 1967.

Correspondence, citations and newspaper clippings verifying honorary degrees and freedom of cities, 1923–67 **A1488, 1**

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

This unique series of objects collected by Bruce includes the following items from the period when he was Australian High Commissioner in London.

Melbourne Centenary china jug, 1934 **M4254, 15**
The jug features two images, one of Melbourne in 1934 with the Yarra River in the foreground, and the other of men in a boat with the caption '1835 John Batman on the Yarra' and 'This will be a nice place for a Village'.

MS 'Duntroon' silver box, 4 April 1935 **M4254, 19**
This box features British and Australian flags on the front.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–50 A461

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 145.98 metres Location: Canberra

This large correspondence series was commenced in 1934 but contains many older items top-numbered into the series. It includes the following items relating to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London.

Dinner for the Rt Hon. S M Bruce and Mrs Bruce, 1939 **A461, AD317/1/8**
This item contains invitations and other materials relating to a dinner Joseph Lyons held in the Bruces' honour in Melbourne on 13 February 1939. Considering Lyons' imminent successor as Prime Minister, it was fitting that this dinner was held at the Menzies Hotel.

Governor-General – Appointment of Duke of Kent, 1939 **A461, B7/1/7**
As High Commissioner, Bruce had an audience with George VI on 24 October 1938 where the King gave formal approval to the Duke of Kent's appointment as Governor-General. Bruce sent a telegram to Lyons after this meeting.

Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent – Address of welcome, 1939 **A461, D7/1/7**
This item includes the minutes of a Cabinet sub-committee meeting held on 7 July 1939 to discuss the amount of Australian government money the Duke of Kent was spending on consumer items to bring to Australia for his term as Governor-General. The Committee feared the Duke's expenditure would lead to criticism in Australia, but instead of telling the Duke directly, they decided to tell Bruce of their concerns and then leave the matter 'entirely in the hands of the High Commissioner'.

Governor-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent – Arrival in Australia, 1938–39 **A461, E7/1/7**
On 4 September 1939, the day after war was declared on Germany, Bruce sent a telegram to Menzies saying that the Duke of Kent would have to return to military service and would therefore not become the Australian Governor-General. The Duke of Kent served with the Royal Air Force and was killed in an air crash in 1942.

Duchess of Kent shooting incident, 1939–43 **A461, T7/1/2**
On 8 June 1939, Ledwidge Vincent Lawlor, who had served with the AIF in World War I, fired at, but did not injure, the Duchess of Kent. That day Bruce sent a telegram to Menzies asking for details of Lawlor's military record to pass on to the British police. Lawlor pleaded guilty to minor charges and was placed on a one-year good-behaviour bond on condition he returned to Australia.

CABLES BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER (JOSEPH ALOYSIUS LYONS), DR EARLE PAGE AND OTHERS, 1935–38 CP290/5

Recorded by: 1935–38 The Rt Hon. J A Lyons PC, CH (CP 254)
1937 The Rt Hon. Sir E C G Page PC, GCMG, CH (CP 715)
1935–38 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity 0.18 metres Locations: Canberra

While Bruce and Lyons did not carry on a personal correspondence, the nature of their positions as High Commissioner and Prime Minister required them to constantly send telegrams to each other on economic and foreign policy issues. As the items below indicate, this series mostly consists of telegrams between Lyons and Bruce on

issues ranging from the 1936 International Sugar Conference to Hitler's violation of the Treaty of Locarno.

Cables between Lyons and S M Bruce and others, 1936–38 **CP290/5, 2**
This item contains cables sent between Lyons and Bruce, as well as from the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs and others, concerning the Treaty of Locarno and the international situation.

Cables regarding sugar, 1935–37 **CP290/5, 5**
This item contains cables between Lyons and Bruce regarding the International Sugar Conference, and between Hon. R G Casey and Dr Earle Page (Acting Prime Minister) regarding the Sugar Agreement.

RECORDS OF IMPERIAL CONFERENCES, 1897–1933 CP103/12

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 4.32 metres Location: Canberra

This Prime Minister's Department series on Imperial Conferences includes the following items relating to Bruce's part in the Imperial Economic Conference held in Ottawa, Canada in 1932.

Items stored in bundles sometimes have the same series number and bundle number. In such cases, the series number, bundle number and title need to be quoted.

Letters – McDougall to Bruce, 1930–32 **CP103/12, bundle 19**
This item consists of a few letters McDougall wrote to Bruce from London accompanied by newspaper cuttings.

Letters – McDougall to Bruce, 1932 **CP103/12, bundle 19**
This item also consists of a few letters McDougall wrote to Bruce from London accompanied by newspaper cuttings.

Cables – Ottawa, 1932–33 **CP103/12, bundle 19**
This item consists of telegram correspondence between Lyons and Bruce.

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1901–71 A5954

Recorded by:
1937–71 Sir F G Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)
1937–39 Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–71 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 201.16 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of records collected by Sir Frederick Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian defence policy. Frederick Shedden, later the long-serving Secretary of the Department of Defence, worked under Bruce in London as Australian Liaison Officer in 1932. Shedden's extensive collection of papers includes some speeches he wrote for Bruce and correspondence with Bruce after he became departmental secretary in 1937.

Personal correspondence – Overseas – S M Bruce, 1935–58 **A5954, 71/7**

This item contains correspondence between Shedden and Bruce after Shedden's period in London as Australian Liaison Officer. Most of the letters are covering notes to the many packages of speeches and documents that Shedden sent to Bruce. Typical of these is a 1936 letter, which accompanied some speeches Shedden wrote for the Sir Archdale Parkhill, Defence Minister. Shedden brings one speech to Bruce's attention, pointing out that it 'stresses the theme of how lucky we are to be a member of the British Empire and not like other small nations who live on the sufferance of powerful neighbours'. On a more human note, Shedden concludes one letter from 1935 by promising Bruce that he will 'become fully civilised by learning golf'. Among the few letters from Bruce in this item is one from 1936 where he mentions that he has been talking to Minister for Defence, Sir Thomas Inskip, regarding the importance of increasing defence production throughout the British Empire. Bruce cautions Shedden not to mention this: 'I have not, however, written of any of these things to your Minister or to the Government because it seems to me a lot of quiet spade work has got to be put in before they get to the point of entering the realm of practical politics.'

Mr Bruce – notes for speeches, 1932–33 **A5954, 956/5**

This item consists of Shedden's notes for speeches made by Bruce in 1932. Shedden was then Australian Liaison Officer in London and later served as Secretary of the Department of Defence from 1937 to 1956. The item also includes a copy of the BBC magazine *The Listener* dated 27 September 1933 which features a piece by Bruce introducing a radio series on the British Empire.

Booklet No. 2, speeches, 1937-39 **A5954, 1137/3**

This item contains speeches delivered by the Prime Minister, the Minister for Defence, the Commonwealth Treasurer, the Minister for Supply and Development, the Rt Hon. S M Bruce and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Curtin). This bound volume of printed speeches on Australian defence policy includes Bruce's speech to the Millions Club in Sydney on 24 January 1939 (Bruce's typescript of this speech is held in item *M104, 7/2*, see pages 77–78).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PEARCE, GEORGE FOSTER (SENATOR, MINISTER FOR DEFENCE), 1907–37 PRMF0053

Quantity: 3 microfilm reels Location: Canberra

Bruce and Pearce continued to correspond after Bruce became High Commissioner in London. On 25 November 1932 Bruce wrote two letters to Pearce expressing his concern about the Australian Government's difficulty in getting adequate defence advice. At the height of the Depression the chiefs of the Australian army, navy and air force were naturally unwilling to suggest ways in which the services' budget

could be cut. Bruce argued that the best way to get results was to talk informally to the chiefs of the British services and asked Pearce, who was the Defence Minister, to ask Lyons to authorise Bruce to approach them.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

The Australian War Memorial photographic collection includes two photographs of Bruce at the opening of the Australian National War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux in France in 1938 (*NLA: MS 1977* below contains Bruce's invitation to the opening ceremony). This memorial commemorates Australians who died in France during World War I and includes the names of 10 885 Australians who were killed there but have no known grave.

Villers-Bretonneux, France, 22 July 1938 **H17440**
This photograph shows Monsieur Lebrun, the President of the French Republic, arriving at Villers-Bretonneux Cemetery and being guided to a meeting place by the Right Honourable Stanley Bruce and Sir Alexander Hardinge.

Villers-Bretonneux, France, 22 July 1938 **H17442**
This photograph shows Monsieur Lebrun, the President of the French Republic, arriving at Villers-Bretonneux Cemetery and being guided to a meeting place by the Right Honourable Stanley Bruce and Sir Alexander Hardinge.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

BRUCE, S M, BANQUET INVITATIONS TO GUILD HALL, 1933–39 MS 1598

Quantity: 5 folios Location: Canberra

This collection contains five invitations to Bruce from various Lord Mayors of London to banquets at the Guildhall, London.

BRUCE, S M, PRINTED MATERIAL, 1926–38 MS 1977

Quantity: 0.01 metres Location: Canberra

This collection includes Bruce's invitation and other papers regarding the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth as well as the order of ceremonial for the 1938 opening by King George VI of the Australian National War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux in France. This memorial commemorates all Australians who died in France during World War I and includes the names of 10 885 men killed in France who have no known grave.

CASEY FAMILY, PAPERS, 1820–1978 MS 6150

Quantity: 11 metres Location: Canberra

These papers include 32 of R G Casey's diaries dating from December 1939 to June 1976. The diaries include many references to Bruce and cover some of the period Bruce was High Commissioner in London.

LYONS, JOSEPH ALOYSIUS, PAPERS, 1924–39 MS 4851

Quantity: 1.5 metres Location: Canberra

The Lyons papers include some correspondence with Bruce written between 1932 and Lyons' death in 1939.

MCDOUGALL, FRANK LIDGETT, PAPERS, 1903–58 MS 6890

Quantity: 0.56 metres Location: Canberra

McDougall's papers include letters from Bruce relating to the 1930 Imperial Conference.

MENZIES, SIR ROBERT, PAPERS, 1905–78 MS 4936

Quantity: 80.92 metres Location: Canberra

Menzies was Bruce's political rival, so it is not surprising to find there are only 14 letters from Menzies to Bruce and 23 letters from Bruce to Menzies in Menzies' extensive collection of papers.

PEARCE, GEORGE FOSTER, PAPERS, 1909–1952 MS 213 MS 1827 MS 1927

Quantity: 1.5 metres Location: Canberra

The three collections of Pearce papers in the National Library include some correspondence from the early part of Bruce's term as High Commissioner.

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

The following film and sound recordings indicate the range of Bruce's activities while Australian High Commissioner in London.

HIGH COMMISSIONER OPTIMISTIC OF FUTURE: RT HON. S M BRUCE ON HIS BRIEF RETURN TO AUSTRALIA DISCUSSES EFFECTS OF OUR FINANCIAL POLICY ABROAD, 1934 COVER TITLE NO. 66217 SEGMENT TITLE NO. 136324

This Movietone newsreel (A0057: [NO. 03]) features Bruce visiting Australia.

TALK BY HON. S M BRUCE FROM GENEVA – 24.9.36 BROADCAST BY RADIO NATIONS THE RADIO STATION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS COVER TITLE NO. 179245

The League of Nations radio station in Switzerland made this recording of a 1936 broadcast by Bruce just after he had completed his term as President of the League Council.

A N A [AUSTRALIA] DAY MESSAGE [ON THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA]; THE MARCH OF SCIENCE: SUNDAY, JULY 10 [1938] COVER TITLE NO. 197005

This item includes an Australia Day radio broadcast by Bruce.

AUSTRALIA A NATION: EPISODE 3, PART 2

COVER TITLE NO. 196506
SEGMENT TITLE NO. 518497

This is a recording of a January 1939 radio broadcast by Bruce

S M BRUCE – SPEECH AT ROTARY CLUB, LAUNCESTON WITH INTRODUCTORY ANNOUNCEMENT

COVER TITLE NO. 244319
SEGMENT TITLE NO. 244361

This 1939 recording is of Bruce speaking to the Launceston Rotary Club on Australia's part in World War I, the Depression, the British Empire and the League of Nations.

STATE LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The State Library of New South Wales collection includes two photographs by Sam Hood of Bruce returning to Australia probably in 1934.

Lord Bruce — **Home & Away, 3630**

Lord Bruce arrives from England by ship with Lady Bruce — **Home & Away, 3629**

BANK OF ENGLAND ARCHIVES

RECORDS, 1781–1960

Quantity: Unknown Location: London, England

The Bank of England Archives includes correspondence with Bruce relating to the refinancing of Australian loans. This correspondence and other Australian-related material was microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and is available in major Australian libraries on Australian Joint Copying Project reels M2924-2970.

CHURCHILL ARCHIVES CENTRE

HANKEY PAPERS, 1890–1963 — HNKY

Recorded by: Maurice Pascal Alers Hankey, 1st Baron (1877–1963)

Quantity: 135 boxes Location: Cambridge, England

Papers — **HNKY 4/26**

In 1934 Bruce, on behalf of the Australian Government, invited Sir Maurice Hankey, Secretary of the Committee of Imperial Defence, to visit Australia. In the official letter of 5 February 1934, Bruce invited Hankey to attend the centenary of Melbourne celebrations 'as a guest of the Commonwealth'. In fact the real reason for Hankey's visit was to advise on Australian defence in the light of Japanese aggression in Asia.

Papers **HNKY 8/31**
This item includes the notes for Hankey's speech on his arrival in Western Australia in 1934 in which he refers to his invitation to visit Australia from 'Mr. Bruce, your famous High Commissioner in London'.

HOUSE OF LORDS RECORD OFFICE

BLUMENFELD PAPERS BLU

Quantity: Unknown Location: London, England

Blumenfeld Letters **BLU/1/4/BRU.1–2**
The papers of Ralph D Blumenfeld, editor of the London *Daily Express* newspaper, include two letters from Bruce accepting and refusing invitations. The letters are dated 14 February 1933 and 5 April 1935. Though Bruce became a member of the House of Lords in 1947, he did not deposit any papers there. These letters are therefore the only known Bruce correspondence in the House of Lords Record Office.

Attempt to install a Royal Governor-General, 1933–34

Members of the British Royal Family had served as Governors-General in Canada and South Africa and Bruce desperately wanted to have a Royal Governor-General in Australia. As a proud Melburnian Bruce set himself the deadline of getting a Royal Governor-General installed in Australia in time for the Melbourne centenary celebrations in 1934. To fit in with this timetable would require Sir Isaac Isaacs – the first Australian-born Governor-General – to be replaced before his term expired. As these items show, Bruce worked independently of both the Australian and British governments as he schemed without success to remove Isaacs.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London.

The Rt Hon. J A Lyons, 1933 **AA1970/559, 7**
Correspondence with Prime Minister Joseph Lyons on various topics including conversion of loans, shipping, appointment of the Prince of Wales to the Royal Australian Navy, wireless communications, dairy industry, the position of Australian High Commissioner in London, Dominion representation to League of Nations and Victorian centenary celebrations. Bruce suggested to Lyons in 1933 that the Earl of Athlone, then Governor-General of South Africa, should

replace Isaacs, saying 'I have no doubt [Isaacs'] resignation could be obtained where the object was to make way for the appointment of a Royalty as Governor General of Australia'.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

DOMINIONS OFFICE AND COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE: ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1915–1971 DO35

Recorded by: British Dominions Office

Quantity: 10914 files & volumes Location: Kew, England

Victoria Centenary Celebrations – note of a conversation between Sir E Harding and Mr Bruce re a royal visit **DO35/464/20538/24**
Sir Edward Harding, Permanent Under Secretary in Dominions Office, recorded a meeting with Bruce on 23 October 1933 in which Bruce proposed that Sir Isaac Isaacs, the first Australian-born Governor-General, should be replaced by a member of the British Royal Family who should take office in Australia in time to officiate at Melbourne centenary celebrations in 1934. Harding pointed out to Bruce that King George V would not approve Isaacs being replaced before the end of his term. This item was microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and is available in major Australian libraries on Australian Joint Copying Project reel 5349.

Montreux Conference, 1936

Following the Italian conquest of Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) in March 1936, Turkish President Kemal Ataturk became concerned about Italy's designs towards Turkey. At this time Italy occupied the Dodecanese Islands just off the Turkish coast, and Turkey was prevented by treaty from fortifying the Dardanelles. At the Turkish Government's request, the League of Nations held a conference at Montreux in Switzerland, which agreed to revise the Straits Convention on shipping in the Dardanelles and Bosphorus to allow the Turkish Government to refortify the straits. Bruce, who had just completed his term as President of the League of Nations Council, chaired the conference.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

COMMEMORATIVE PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM OF CONFERENCE DE MONTREUX, MONTREUX PALACE, 1936 M112

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

This series consisting of one item contains a leather-bound photograph album featuring scenes of the 1936 conference held at Montreux in Switzerland.

Commemorative photograph album of the Montreux Conference held at Montreux Palace, Switzerland, 1936 **M112, 1**
The album includes photographs of the Montreux Conference and the conference venue, the Montreux Palace (which still

operates today as a luxury hotel). Bruce was conference president and was probably presented with the album.

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

This unique series contains objects collected by Bruce during his official life.

Gold cigarette case presented to S M Bruce, 1936 **M4254, 42**
Kemal Ataturk presented this cigarette case to Bruce for his work as President of the League of Nations Montreux Conference. Bruce and Ataturk had fought at Gallipoli during World War I on opposing sides, and this gold cigarette case given to Bruce by his former foe became one of Bruce's most prized possessions. According to Alfred Stirling, one of the few photographs Bruce had in his library was of Ataturk.[6]

CORRESPONDENCE WITH ASSISTANT TREASURER R G CASEY, 1932–38 A1421

Recorded by: 1933–38 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–38 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This important series consists of correspondence between Casey and Bruce from January 1932 to July 1938.

Official and personal correspondence with R G Casey, 1936 **A1421, 3**
After the Montreux Conference, Bruce told Casey 'I have by some evil chance, established a reputation as the Professional Chairman for International Conference'. Bruce talks about his attempts 'in dodging the unpleasant and sticky job they will try and hand me with.'

King Edward VIII's abdication, 1936

King Edward VIII became the British monarch with the death of King George V in 1936. However, a crisis arose when King Edward attempted to marry the divorcee Wallis Simpson, as this would be inconsistent with his position as head of the Church of England. Opposition to the marriage forced the King to abdicate in December 1936 in favour of his brother who reigned as King George VI. Bruce as the Australian High Commissioner in London played an important role in the abdication crisis by telling the British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin that Australia would not accept King Edward marrying Mrs Simpson. Bruce had not consulted with the Australian Government before he talked to Baldwin.

[6] Alfred Stirling, *Lord Bruce: The London Years*, Hawthorn Press, Melbourne, 1974, p. 468.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 — AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

The bulk of this series relates to Bruce's period as Australian High Commissioner in London.

Correspondence, meeting notes and speeches, 1936-37 — **AA1970/559, 33**
This item contains correspondence and notes on many issues including the League of Nations, abdication of the King, Australia Day, the Aviation Syndicate, the Australian Aircraft Commission and miniatures of medals for W M Hughes. It includes a copy of Bruce's telegram to Lyons giving his opinion on King Edward VIII which he had just given to British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin: 'if King is determined on marriage he must abdicate, that in event of King's abdication for such a reason the Duke and Duchess of York would be most acceptable to the people of Australia'.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–50 — A461

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 145.98 metres Location: Canberra

This correspondence series was commenced in 1934 but contains many older items top-numbered into the series.

Abdication of King Edward VIII, 1936–49 — **A461, V396/1/1**

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE AUSTRALIAN AND UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENTS ON THE ABDICATION OF EDWARD VIII, 1936 — CP4/10

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Main file – Abdication of King Edward VIII, 1936 — **CP4/10, 1**

Constitutional – Abdication of King Edward VIII, 1936 — **CP4/10, 3**

German refugees, 1938

The Nazi Government in Germany discriminated against Jews and those with Jewish ancestry from the moment it gained power in 1933. Before the outbreak of World War II, Hitler aimed to make Germany 'Jew-free' by forcing Jews to emigrate. Once war broke out and Jewish expulsion became impossible, Hitler introduced his 'Final Solution', which led to the murder of six million European Jews. During the 1930s thousands of German refugees tried to find safety in Australia. As these items show, Bruce's attempts to help these people in dire need were not matched by the Australian Government.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 2 (RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION), 1919–50 A433

Recorded by: 1939 Department of the Interior [I] (CA 27)
1939–45 Department of the Interior [II] (CA 31)
1945–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 12.6 metres Location: Canberra

This correspondence series was commenced in 1939 but contains older items top-numbered into the series.

Refugees (Jewish and other) – general policy file, 1938–44 **A433, 1943/2/46**
On 5 April 1938 Bruce told Lyons that Australia House was receiving 120 inquiries every day from refugees seeking asylum in Australia. Bruce's telegram alarmed Department of Interior Assistant Secretary T H Garrett, who wrote to his departmental head: 'Unless the immigration of Jews into Australia is strictly controlled, it is reasonable to assume, in view of present conditions in Europe, that Australia will be flooded with them.' When Bruce sent a telegram to Lyons on 21 November 1938 calling for Australia to take 30 000 refugees over three years, J A Carrodus, Secretary of the Department of Interior, responded with a memo stating that Australia could only absorb 15 000 refugees over this period. When Cabinet discussed the issue, it agreed to take the Department of Interior's lower number of refugees.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

DOMINIONS OFFICE AND COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE: PRIVATE OFFICE PAPERS, 1911–1955 DO121

Recorded by: British Dominions Office

Quantity: 224 files Location: Kew, England

Some items from this series have been microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and are available in major Australian libraries on Australian Joint Copying Project reels PRO 6010-6015.

Records of conversations between Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, Mr Malcolm MacDonald, and individuals, 15 November 1933–23 December 1938 **DO121/2**
This item – which was not microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project – consists of transcripts of meetings held by the British Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, Malcolm MacDonald, from 1933 to 1938. Bruce met MacDonald on 29 November 1938 to tell him that he was urging the Australian Government to agree to take 30 000 refugees. MacDonald records Bruce as saying: 'He hoped that they would agree to this, but they had been rather busy with other domestic affairs lately, and had not given him a definite reply. He would go on urging them.' Two days later Bruce

told MacDonald that the Australian Cabinet had decided to take only 15 000 refugees and asked if Jewish refugees could be sent to the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar because he 'could find nowhere else in the world where they might settle in large numbers without causing a great deal of trouble'.

Stanley Melbourne Bruce with Australian troops in London, 1940.
State Library of Victoria Argus Newspaper Collection: H98.105/4011

7

Australian High Commissioner during World War II

Bruce served as Australian High Commissioner in London for the entire duration of World War II (1939–45). As High Commissioner, he made some unpopular decisions, such as allowing the Empire Air Training Agreement to put Australian airmen outside the control of the Australian Government. After 1942 Bruce played an important role in demanding Australia's right to be consulted on war aims and strategy. This led to some memorable confrontations between Bruce and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Australian High Commissioner, Mr S M Bruce and Mrs Bruce with 2nd AIF men in London.
State Library of Victoria Argus Newspaper Collection: H99.201/239

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY WAR FILES, 1939–45 M100

Recorded by: 1939–45 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1939–45 Australian High Commission (CA 241)

Quantity: 4.86 metres Location: Canberra

This series is the single most important collection of documents on Australian–British relations during World War II. Bruce was in constant contact with the Australian Government and corresponded and met with a wide range of important British figures. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's attempts to prevent Australians taking part in wartime decision-making and Bruce's efforts to gain a seat on the British War Cabinet are outlined in great detail. The series items are organised by month and are listed below in chronological order. The list is followed by a selection of particularly relevant items.

M100, September 1939 – M100, December 1939

M100, January 1940 – M100, December 1940

M100, January 1941 – M100, December 1941

M100, January 1942 – M100, December 1942

M100, January 1943 – M100, December 1943

M100, January 1944 – M100, December 1944

M100, January 1945 – M100, August 1945

September 1939 **M100, September 1939**

This item includes papers relating to Bruce's part in creating the Empire Air Training Scheme in which Dominion personnel were trained for service in the Royal Air Force. In a letter to Menzies, dated 25 September 1939, Bruce wrote that air power would be important in the war and that 'we must utilise suitable man power available and organise its training on an Empire basis'. However Bruce did not attempt to ensure that Australian personnel were placed together in Australian units. They were scattered throughout the Royal Air Force and the Australian Government had no say in their deployment.

June 1940 **M100, June 1940**

In May 1940, Germany invaded France. After the British Army was cut off and evacuated from Dunkirk in northern France, the German Army then advanced at will through France, capturing Paris on 14 June. The new British Prime Minister Winston Churchill offered a political union between France and the UK in order to keep the French in the war. Typically, Churchill had not consulted the Dominions before announcing this offer. On 17 June Menzies sent a telegram to Bruce about the proposed British–French Union. Menzies did not mind that he had not been consulted but asked that the British Government be informed that 'we have our own local problems of citizenship notably under the White Australia

Policy, which would particularly affect our attitude towards non-European French citizens'. Menzies' concerns proved irrelevant as Churchill's union came to nothing. The same day that Menzies had sent his telegram, the new French Prime Minister Marshal Phillipe Pétain had begun negotiating for an armistice with Germany. Bruce told Menzies in reply: 'Nothing known here beyond fact French have ceased fighting'.

July 1940

M100, July 1940

Following the fall of France, the Royal Navy could no longer rely on the French Navy's assistance. The British Government told Bruce that it would be unable to send a fleet to Singapore and asked for an Australian infantry division to be sent there instead. Bruce informed Menzies on 3 July that he had told the British: 'I would flatly refuse to entertain their request unless I received a great deal more information as the United Kingdom Government's appreciation of the situation resulting from the French collapse and of their plans and strategy for the future conduct of war'. In October Menzies agreed to troops of the 8th Division being sent to Singapore and these men became prisoners of the Japanese after Singapore fell in February 1942.

August 1940

M100, August 1940

The German victory over France led Japan to adopt a more aggressive posture in Asia. In an August 1940 memo Bruce suggests that the threat of a UK–US trade embargo against Japan (which was reliant on imports for her oil supply) 'might well bring Japan to her senses'. Ironically it was the imposition of the US oil embargo against Japan in August 1941 that led Japan to attack Malaya and Pearl Harbor.

December 1941

M100, December 1941

This item contains a telegram dated 8 December from Casey in Washington to Bruce stating that the US State Department had just told him that Japanese aircraft had attacked Manila and Pearl Harbor. There is also a telegram from Curtin to Bruce asking for copies of any British military staff appreciations written to take account of the 'new situation' of war with Japan.

February 1942

M100, February 1942

This item includes a copy of Churchill's famous telegram to Curtin of 22 February in which he told Curtin that he had diverted a convoy of Australian troops towards Burma without asking the approval of the Australian Government. Bruce told Curtin that he thinks Churchill's actions were 'arrogant and offensive' but cautioned Curtin to use restraint to avoid 'a crisis … in the relations between Australia and the United Kingdom'. Curtin did avoid a crisis but asserted his authority over the deployment of Australian forces.

March 1942

M100, March 1942

Bruce met Churchill on 30 March. In his notes of the meeting, he claims that Churchill began with 'a tirade' against the 'impossible and quite unhelpful' Australian Government. Bruce stood up to Churchill and told him that he had also 'contributed to the trouble'. Bruce wrote that Churchill told

him that the UK would send troops if Australia found itself in 'dire peril' – Churchill would later claim he never used this phrase.

April 1942 **M100, April 1942**

On 3 April Churchill wrote to Bruce saying that British troops would only be diverted from the Middle East to Australia if the Japanese actually invaded. Churchill stated that he had 'never said anything about diverting troops to meet threats'.

September 1942 **M100, September 1942**

In August 1942, Churchill circulated to the War Cabinet a paper written by Air Marshal Arthur Harris, Commander-in-Chief of Bomber Command, in which he argued the bombing campaign against Germany should have first priority for resources over the rest of the air force and the army and navy. Bruce complained about Harris' paper on two grounds. The first, as Bruce wrote to Churchill on 28 August, was that Harris' claim for resources for Bomber Command only 'further embitters a controversy which has been allowed to go on for too long'. The second was that Harris' paper had gone straight to Churchill without being seen by the Chiefs of Staff and Churchill had circulated it without realising its contents. On 2 September Bruce told Curtin, who was concerned that Harris' paper meant a sudden change in British war strategy, that Churchill had 'not really seriously considered the paper' as he was currently 'almost entirely preoccupied' with the crucial defence of Alamein in Egypt. Churchill did not take too kindly to Bruce's criticisms and used his reply of 4 September to again show his displeasure at having Bruce sitting with the War Cabinet: 'I had intended it [Harris' paper] for circulation only among my own colleagues in the War Cabinet of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is necessary that I should be the judge of what to circulate in this particular group.'

July 1943 **M100, July 1943**

Bruce writes on 6 July of a meeting with H V Evatt that he was 'amazingly cordial' and supported his fight against Churchill in the British War Cabinet.

April 1944 **M100, April 1944**

Bomber Command suffered its worst losses of the war in a raid on the night of 30–31 March against the German city of Nuremberg. Bruce attended the War Cabinet meeting on 3 April where he records that there was 'considerable discussion' about the Nuremberg raid. Churchill was telling the Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal, to change his tactics when Bruce 'intervened and urged that it would be fatal if the hands of the Air Force command were to be hampered by political direction'. On a lighter note, this item includes a telegram from Curtin to Bruce stating that Curtin's luggage for his upcoming trip to the UK would be limited because he was travelling by air and asking whether a dinner suit would be sufficient for social occasions rather than the traditional full morning and evening dress.

June 1944 **M100, June 1944**

Following the Allied landings in France on 6 June, Bruce wrote to the Australian Deputy Prime Minister, Frank Forde, that he was surprised that there had been 'few signs of jubilation' in London at the news of the invasion.

September 1944 **M100, September 1944**

In early August, the Allies broke out of the Normandy beachhead and advanced rapidly towards Germany. Bruce reflects the optimism of this time in a telegram to Curtin dated 5 September where he reports 'armies are sweeping on and even rumour finds it difficult to keep up with them'. However, the German Army recovered and by the end of September had halted the Allies in the Netherlands and on the German border. This item also contains telegrams about Australian participation constructing the atomic bomb, including a message from Bruce to Curtin on the importance of the Australian Government gaining control over all Australian uranium deposits because of the 'possible critical importance of this material to the future peace of the world'.

April 1945 **M100, April 1945**

On 11 April Bruce sent a telegram to Curtin stating that Queen Mary's Private Secretary had asked that Queen Mary be allowed to send items duty-free to her son, and new Australian Governor-General, the Duke of Gloucester. Although the British Royal Family was in as good a financial position to pay duty as its subjects, Bruce told the Secretary that he was sure there would be no difficulty.

May 1945 **M100, May 1945**

Adolf Hitler committed suicide on 30 April and Berlin surrendered to the Soviet Army on 2 May. Bruce told Curtin on 4 May that 'rumour and speculation' of an imminent German surrender were 'rife' and that in his opinion 'the end is very near'. On 8 May, an unconditional German surrender came into effect and the day was declared V-E (Victory in Europe) Day. On 9 May Bruce wrote a magnanimous letter to Churchill where he stated: 'In this your hour of triumph and achievement[,] the greatest accorded to any man in history[,] I send you my hearty gratitude.' Churchill replied in a letter dated 15 May. Bruce's secretary Ethel Wood cut the signature from Churchill's letter and kept it as a souvenir.

August 1945 **M100, August 1945**

Churchill was defeated in the British election in July and Clement Atlee became British Prime Minister. On 1 August Bruce wrote to the new Australian Prime Minister Ben Chifley that he expected that 'many of the difficulties we have experienced in the past will disappear under the new Government'.

NAME INDEX TO MONTHLY WAR FILES, 1939–45 M101

Recorded by: 1943–45 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1943–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series is, as its title suggests, an alphabetical name index to correspondents in *M100*. It was apparently created in 1943 and updated until the end of World War II.

War files index A–G, 1939–45 **M101, A–G**

War files index H–Z, 1939–45 **M101, H–Z**

SUBJECT INDEX TO MONTHLY WAR FILES, 1939–45 M102

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series is an index by name or subject to *M100*.

War files index, No. 1, 1939–42 **M102, 1**

War files index, No. 2, 1943–45 **M102, 2**

SUPPLEMENTARY WAR FILES, 1938–43 M103

Recorded by: 1938–43 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1938–43 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of material that supplements Bruce's main monthly war files series (*M100*). Though small, this series contains some items of great interest.

Supplementary war file, 1938–39 **M103, 1938/39**
New Australian Prime Minister Robert Menzies showed how little he understood about the international situation on the outbreak of World War II in a letter to Bruce on 11 September 1939. Menzies told Bruce 'I feel quite confident that Hitler has no desire for a firstclass war' and expected that Germany, once it had defeated Poland, would withdraw, except from German-populated Danzig, and re-establish the Polish State. Menzies' naive idea that Hitler had no desire to conquer and rule non-Germans had already been proved false in March 1939 when Germany had occupied the Czech lands. At this stage of the war, Menzies expected Australian troops would go overseas only to relieve British garrisons in Singapore, India and Egypt, and would do no actual fighting.

Supplementary war file, January–June, 1940 **M103, 1940 Jan–June**

Supplementary war file, July–December, 1940 **M103, 1940 July–Dec**
Following the fall of France in June 1940, the Japanese put diplomatic pressure on the British to close the Burma Road, the main supply route for Chinese opposing the Japanese invasion of their country. On 30 September, the British Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Richard Butler, wrote a memo setting out various options of how the British Empire

could appease Japan. One proposal was for Australia and other Dominions to scrap their restrictions on Asian immigration. Bruce replied to Butler on 30 September 1940 stating his opinion that Australia would be willing to drop the White Australia Policy 'for certain classes such as merchants, students' as long as it could still 'enforce restrictions upon residents based upon economic considerations'.

Supplementary war file, 1941 **M103, 1941**

Supplementary war file, 1942 **M103, 1942**
The level of Bruce's anger at the way Churchill and the British Government had refused to consult the Australian Government when establishing strategic policy can be seen in his handwritten May 1942 memo entitled 'Policies on which we were not consulted'. Bruce lists British policy towards the USA, USSR and Vichy France among his complaints.

Supplementary war file, 1943 **M103, 1943**

FOLDERS OF ANNUAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1926–64 M104

Recorded by: 1926–64 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

This series includes important wartime correspondence mostly on economic matters.

Correspondence and notes of interviews, 1939 **M104, 7/1**
This item includes a letter from Earle Page to Bruce from October 1939 where Page explains that he refused to serve in a government with Menzies and resigned the leadership of the Country Party to enable Fadden to lead the party into a coalition with Menzies.

Correspondence and cables, 1939 **M104, 7/3**
This item contains the correspondence and cables of Bruce and Mr J S Duncan (Acting High Commissioner to Britain) and refers to the underwriting of a new Australian loan.

Australian–American relations, 1940 **M104, 8**
This item contains correspondence and notes of meetings with Dr Ian Clunies Ross. Clunies Ross, then in London with the International Wool Publicity and Research Secretariat, wrote a paper in 1940 on the need for closer relations between Australia and the United States.

British Empire and America – memoranda and letters, 1941 **M104, 9/1**
This item includes letters of introduction Bruce wrote for Frank Lidgett McDougall addressed to US Vice-President Henry Wallace and US Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles, as well as an August 1941 memorandum by Bruce on plans for the postwar economy entitled 'Freedom from Want'.

Telegram to Prime Minister R G Menzies, 1941 **M104, 9/2**
This item, dated 9 July 1941, refers to the proposed sale of Australian sugar to Canada.

Australian loans papers, 1941 **M104, 9/3**
This item consists of correspondence with Prime Minister R G Menzies and Acting Prime Minister Arthur Fadden regarding the conversion of Australian loans in 1941.

Visit of Prime Minister R G Menzies to England, 1941 **M104, 9/4**
This item consists of papers relating to the organisation of Menzies' trip to the UK in January–February 1941.

Correspondence with W S Kelly, July–October 1941 **M104, 9/5**
W S Kelly, the Australian member of the International Wool Publicity and Research Secretariat in London, sent Bruce these papers on improving British agriculture.

Wheat Conference, USA, 1941 **M104, 9/6**
This item consists of correspondence to Bruce from McDougall, who was attending a conference in the USA on ensuring the stability of postwar wheat prices.

Correspondence and memoranda, 1941–42 **M104, 10**
This item consists of correspondence in 1942 from McDougall in the United States to Bruce in 1942 relating to meetings with Vice President Henry Wallace, Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles and Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau on the role food and agriculture policy would play in postwar reconstruction. There are copies of cover notes indicating Bruce passed copies of some of McDougall's reports to British Minister of Food, Lord Wootton, and the Lord Privy Seal, Sir Stafford Cripps.

Four Power Plan, 1943 **M104, 11/1**
These papers, on the structure of the postwar international organisation, were sent to Bruce by Sir Stafford Cripps, British Minister for Aircraft Production.

Speech notes, 1943 **M104, 11/2**
This item includes Bruce's notes for his speech to the Knights of the Round Table Club in London on 30 July 1943. For a newspaper report of this speech see item *A5954, 2060/5* (see pages 104 and 111).

Civil aviation, 1943 **M104, 11/3**
During World War II, the British Government created committees to plan the shape of postwar international civil aviation. This item and item *M104, 12/2* contain copies of reports sent to Bruce along with some correspondence.

Correspondence and memoranda, 1943 **M104, 11/4**
During 1943 McDougall sent correspondence to Bruce relating to a number of subjects including the formation of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, which provided aid to refugees and other victims of war.

Correspondence and speech notes, 1944 **M104, 12/1**
The speeches in this item include one titled *British–American Co-operation*, published by the American and British Commonwealth Association. Correspondence items include a letter to the Duke of Gloucester, then Australian Governor-General designate, congratulating him on the birth of his second child.

Civil aviation, 1944 **M104, 12/2**

Future world organisation, 1944 **M104, 12/3**
This item includes a 1944 memo by Bruce proposing that the postwar international organisation should include a 'World Peace Council' consisting of the four main powers (USA, USSR, UK and China), which would have the responsibility of maintaining world peace. Bruce's proposal is similar to the Security Council that was actually created with the formation of the United Nations.

Correspondence and memoranda, 1944 **M104, 12/4**
This item consists of correspondence to Bruce from McDougall relating to postwar planning for food and agriculture.

Sterling funds, 1944 **M104, 12/5**
The Bretton Woods Conference in 1944 mapped out a scheme for a postwar international monetary system that would affect the status of Australian holdings of British pounds (Sterling). This item includes the text of a telegram from Bruce to Curtin regarding the Bretton Woods Conference. See also item *M104, 13/1* below.

Commonwealth public service, 1944 **M104, 12/6**
Bruce's long-term concern at the low standards of the Australian public service can be seen in his 1944 suggestion to Curtin that he should appoint a committee to look at the public service, chaired by either Pearce or Scullin.

Sterling funds, 1945 **M104, 13/1**
This item contains correspondence on paying off and converting Australian loans and on setting up the postwar international monetary system.

Miscellaneous papers, 1945 **M104, 13/2**
This item contains assorted papers including a letter from Bruce to McDougall in which Bruce provides the following pen-portraits: Frank Forde '… turned out to be a very well meaning and quite amiable person with an unrivalled capacity to mouth platitudes'; H V Evatt '… was, as usual, somewhat difficult'; and French leader Charles de Gaulle was '… a dull and angular fellow and I cannot avoid the impression that he is not the man to handle France in the difficult period that lies ahead'. Bruce was only partially correct in this prediction: de Gaulle did resign as President in 1946, but he then returned to hold the position from 1958 to 1969.

Speeches and notes, 1945 **M104, 13/3**
This item includes Bruce's speeches to the UK Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a lecture to the RAF Staff College on the importance of the San Francisco Conference (which created the United Nations) and a radio broadcast to celebrate the end of the war in Europe.

DETAILED NAME AND SUBJECT INDEX TO MONTHLY WAR FILES, 1939–41 M109

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series is a detailed index of items in *M100* covering the period September 1939 to June 1941.

Lord Bruce's war files, 1939–41 **M109, 1**
This index to Bruce's monthly war files covers September 1939 to June 1941 inclusive.

MONTHLY WAR FILES (PARTIAL SET OF PHOTOCOPIES), 1939–41 AA1969/275

Recorded by: 1939–41 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1939–41 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 1.62 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of photocopies of some papers from *M100* made for reference purposes.

PAPERS ACCUMULATED AS PRIME MINISTER, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BRITAIN, 1923–56 AA1970/559

Recorded by: 1923–56 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1923–29 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.45 metres Location: Canberra

This series covers Bruce's time as Prime Minister and his time as Australian High Commissioner in London. The following items include papers on World War II.

Australian High Commissioner, 1939–45 **AA1970/559, 24**
This item contains assorted papers Bruce accumulated as Australian High Commissioner to Britain. Bruce looked into allegations of Australian troops' misbehaviour at the fall of Singapore in 1942, and this item includes the draft for a telegram to Curtin in which Bruce states: 'there are some allegations in the War Office records as to members of the AIF but they are probably circumstantial and unproved statements'. The War Office report Bruce referred to was not released by the Public Record Office until 1992, 50 years after the fall of Singapore.

Air Commodore McNamara, 1942 **AA1970/559, 27**
This item features complaints by Frank McNamara, then Air Officer Commanding RAAF (Royal Australian Air Force) in UK, that he was not promoted to Air Vice Marshal.

OFFICIAL PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE MAINTAINED BY STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE IN LONDON, 1932–45 M2236

Recorded by: 1932–45 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.18 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of some minor papers from Bruce's period as High Commissioner.

Miscellaneous papers, 1939–45 **M2236, 4**

This item contains papers about various matters, including Cheltenham College Speech Day, the Royal Society Conference, University of London lectures on the British Commonwealth, air transport and communications, correspondence with Lt Col Clive Garcia on the war and personal representations. Most correspondence in this item was answered on Bruce's behalf by his private secretary. It includes a 1941 Foreign Office memo stating that 'a short black coat' should be worn for the first reception held for the Greek King since his arrival in the UK.

Article VII discussions, 1943–44 **M2236, 5**

This item contains discussions between the United Kingdom, the Dominions and the United States concerning monetary, commercial and employment policy. It consists primarily of telegrams from Bruce to Prime Minister Curtin and refers to the discussions for the 1944 Bretton Woods agreement on the postwar monetary system.

Prime Minister's visit to United Kingdom, 1944 **M2236, 6**

This item refers to arrangements for Prime Minister Curtin's attendance at a meeting of Dominion prime ministers.

Third Commonwealth and Empire Conference on Radio for Civil Aviation, 1945 **M2236, 7**

This item contains conference papers, agendas and a list of delegates for the third Commonwealth and Empire Conference on Radio for Civil Aviation.

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1901–71 A5954

Recorded by:

1937–71	Sir F G Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)
1937–39	Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)
1939–42	Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–71	Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 201.16 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of records collected by Sir Frederick Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian defence policy. During World War II Shedden was Secretary of the Department of Defence and he accumulated the following items relating to Bruce.

Australian representation in United Kingdom – termination of S M Bruce as High Commissioner, 1945 **A5954, 461/4**

This item consists of copies of letters between Bruce and Chifley relating to Bruce's retirement from the position of High Commissioner. Bruce told Chifley in August 1945 that the lack of progress in increasing consultation between Australia and Britain was 'almost entirely due to the temperament and outlook of the late Prime Minister [Churchill]. With all his great qualities he is not a co-operator, and he appears quite incapable of realising the developments that have taken place in Empire relations during recent years and the new status of the Dominions … The necessity of consulting the Governments of the Dominions always

irritated him and at times during the war that irritation has developed into very real anger.'

Australian representation in UK War Cabinet, 1943 **A5954, 649/2**
This Department of Defence file includes copies of correspondence between Bruce and Curtin in which Bruce details his difficulties in being the Australian Accredited Representative to the British War Cabinet. In a report of his first nine months in the position dated 5 March 1943, Bruce writes that he has two main problems: '(A) The personality of Mr. Churchill, and (B) The fact that the War Cabinet is not a War Cabinet except in name.' Bruce complains that Churchill resents his presence and calls War Cabinet meetings without inviting him. Bruce does say, however, that his 'long association with individual Members of the Government' enables him to find out a lot of what is going on through personal contact outside meetings.

Press file – statements by Lord Bruce, 1943 **A5954, 2060/5**
The title of this item is somewhat misleading as it includes newspaper cuttings relating to Bruce from 1942 to 1955. It does, however, include an article from the *Age* dated 2 August 1943, which mentions a speech made by Bruce to the Knights of the Round Table Club in the UK. In the speech he states: 'I do not believe the people of this country have the faintest knowledge of how near "a go" Australia had after Japan's success in the Pacific. We had sent everything we had overseas, both trained men and weapons. The only difference between Britain, after Dunkirk, and Australia, was that Britain had an air force. The people here still fail to realise that.' Bruce's notes for this speech can be found in item *M104, 11/2* (see page 100).

Letter from Mr Bruce to PM on Keyne's draft of Eden's speech at Mansion House, 1941 **A5954, 2386/2**
This item consists of a copy of a 1941 letter and attachments from Bruce to Menzies relating to a speech made by Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, part of which dealt with the postwar economy. Bruce includes text written by the economist John Maynard Keynes that was dropped from the final draft. Bruce also tells Menzies that Eden put a section on the importance of eliminating poverty into his speech at Bruce's suggestion.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–50 A461

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 145.98 metres Location: Canberra

This correspondence series was commenced in 1934 but contains many older items top-numbered into the series.

Taxation – The Rt Hon. S M Bruce, 1942–44 **A461, AA344/3/3**
This item consists of correspondence regarding Bruce's tax payments during World War II.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

FILM COLLECTION

The film collection of the Australian War Memorial includes the following four films featuring Stanley Melbourne Bruce.

Australia Day 1941 **F01243A**
This silent footage of less than three minutes' duration shows Australia Day ceremonies in London on a wintry January day.

Repatriated Australian POWs from Germany in England **F01273**
This 30 minute silent film shows Bruce meeting Australian prisoners-of-war following their release in May 1945 at the end of the war in Europe.

Mr Forde visits No. 464 (Mosquito) Squadron RAAF **F01629**
Coverage of the visit by Australian Deputy Prime Minister F M Forde to No. 464 (Mosquito) Squadron RAAF at Rosieres-en Santerre, France. Forde is accompanied by Australian High Commissioner S M Bruce.

Visit of Bruce to Australian camp and Australian hospital **F01753**
This film with sound of just over three minutes' duration shows Bruce visiting Australian troops in the UK at the height of the Battle of Britain in August and September 1940.

Mr S M Bruce, High Commissioner for Australia, welcomes the Right Honourable Mr John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, to England for Dominion talks. *Australian War Memorial Negative Number SUK12096*

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

The Australian War Memorial photographic collection includes almost 70 photographs of Bruce in the UK and France during World War II. Most of these images are propaganda shots of Bruce on official duties meeting Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen serving in the UK. Some of these images also appear in the State Library of Victoria's Argus Newspaper Collection of Photographs (see below). The collection also includes photographs of Bruce with two Australian Prime Ministers Robert Menzies and John Curtin during their visits to Britain and with Army Minister (and future Prime Minister) Frank Forde and External Affairs Minister, H V Evatt.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

OFFICER, KEITH, PAPERS, 1911–69 MS 2629

Quantity: 3.2 metres Location: Canberra

Papers **MS 2629/1/920–28**

In 1943, Bruce wrote a letter to Officer, then in Moscow, saying that he had cultivated a close connection with the British Chiefs of Staff. He stated: 'I probably have more information with regard to strategic and operations questions than any of the members of the War Cabinet with the exception of the Prime Minister himself'.

STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

ARGUS NEWSPAPER COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

The State Library of Victoria holds a collection of World War II images taken by photographers from the *Argus* newspaper. This vast collection includes about 30 photographs of Bruce as High Commissioner and includes images of Bruce with Australian troops in London (see pages 92–93) and visiting RAAF aircrew serving with RAF fighter squadrons.

CHURCHILL ARCHIVES CENTRE

CHURCHILL PAPERS, 1690–1965

Recorded by: Sir Winston Churchill, 1874–1965

Quantity: 2185 boxes Location: Cambridge, England

Winston Churchill's papers are all held by the Churchill Archives Centre at Churchill College, Cambridge. The papers are divided into two collections. Papers created before 27 July 1945 (when Churchill's first prime ministerial term ended) were originally owned by the Chartwell Trust and are called the Chartwell Papers. Papers created after 27 July 1945 are

known as the Churchill Papers and were presented to Churchill College by the family in 1969.

Items from the Chartwell Papers that contain either correspondence between Bruce and Churchill, or correspondence by Churchill and others referring to Bruce, are listed below. For reasons of space only one item has been described in detail, but there are descriptions of all these items in the Churchill Archives Centre's online catalogue (www.chu.cam.ac.uk/churchill_papers/).

The Chartwell Papers **CHAR 20/54A/75**

Churchill wrote to Bruce on 4 September 1942 saying he was sorry that Bruce had been offended by a memo by Air Marshal Arthur Harris, Commander-in-Chief of Bomber Command (see *M100, September 1942*, page 96).

CHAR 1/385/13–15
CHAR 2/137/55–56
CHAR 2/296A–B
CHAR 2/522
CHAR 18/29
CHAR 18/43
CHAR 18/77
CHAR 20/2B/139
CHAR 20/4B/97–105
CHAR 20/4B/106
CHAR 20/39/54–56
CHAR 20/52/76–78
CHAR 20/53B/178–179
CHAR 20/53C/289
CHAR 20/54A/32–34
CHAR 20/54A/75
CHAR 20/54B/143
CHAR 20/73/145
CHAR 20/75/110
CHAR 20/75/125
CHAR 20/76/20
CHAR 20/76/27
CHAR 20/93A/7
CHAR 20/93B/186
CHAR 20/94A/63
CHAR 20/94A/64
CHAR 20/94B/172
CHAR 20/94B/213
CHAR 20/94B/226
CHAR 20/94B/238
CHAR 20/94B/251
CHAR 20/95B/156
CHAR 20/95B/166
CHAR 20/95B/167
CHAR 20/95B/168
CHAR 20/140B/219
CHAR 20/140B/220
CHAR 20/140B/238
CHAR 20/146A/33
CHAR 20/146A/34
CHAR 20/194A/15
CHAR 20/196/50
CHAR 20/196/51
CHAR 20/196/52
CHAR 20/226/31
CHAR 20/226/32
CHAR 20/226/33
CHAR 20/226/34

8

Later years

Bruce retired as High Commissioner in 1945 but this did not mean the end of his official career. In 1947 he became a British peer – taking the title Viscount Bruce of Melbourne – and became the first Australian to sit in the House of Lords. Bruce also became founding Chairman of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in 1947 and the first Chancellor of the Australian National University in Canberra in 1951. In his latter years Bruce began organising his papers for their eventual return to Australia, but he was unable to complete this task before his death on 25 August 1967.

Stanley Melbourne Bruce at the Australian National University with Sir Earle Page.

NAA: A1200, L25029

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

FOLDERS OF ANNUAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1926–64 M104

Recorded by: 1926–64 The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)
1933–45 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

This series of Bruce's correspondence includes some items from his later life.

Papers concerning the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation, 1946–1948 **M104, 14/1**
This item consists of speeches and United Nations (UN) papers relating to Bruce's period as Chairman of the FAO.

Bundle of fourteen reports by the UN FAO, 1946–52 **M104, 14/2**

Suggested creation of Finance Corporation for Industry (FCI) in Australia, 1952 **M104, 15**
Bruce became Chairman of the British Finance Corporation for Industry and this item consists of correspondence from Bruce to Richard Casey, Harold Holt and Senator W H Spooner, Minister for National Development, regarding a 1952 proposal to form the FCI in Australia.

Correspondence about Bruce's records and files, 1961–66 **M104, 16**
This item contains letters about the value of Bruce's papers from Sir Keith Hancock, Mr Gavin Long, Professor Nicholas Mansergh, Professor Spann and the Hon. P M C Hasluck.

CORRESPONDENCE, CITATIONS AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS VERIFYING S M BRUCE'S HONORARY DEGREES AND FREEDOM OF CITIES, 1923–67 A1488

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.54 metres Location: Canberra

The one item in this series consists of citations, newspaper clippings and correspondence relating to freedom of cities and honorary degrees conferred on Bruce in the UK and Canada. Bruce's private secretary, Nora Roberts, compiled this file in 1967.

Correspondence, citations and newspaper clippings verifying honorary degrees and freedom of cities, 1923–67 **A1488, 1**

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

Even after he ceased to be High Commissioner, Bruce continued to accumulate objects including those listed below.

Wooden-bound CSIR Twentieth Anniversary Book, 1946 **M4254, 3**
As Prime Minister, Bruce created the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in 1926. This book was presented to him in 1946 as evidence of 20 years of progress in a scientific enterprise he had initiated. It contains text and photographs depicting CSIR buildings and activities. The CSIR was renamed the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in 1949.

Pope Pius XI medal in red case, c 1923–c 1939 **M4254, 5**
Bruce met Pope Pius XII in 1950 as part of his work with the FAO. It is possible that the Pope may have presented Bruce with this medal of his predecessor, Pius XI.

Silver-plated lighthouse in two parts, 1957 **M4254, 9**
This lighthouse carries the inscription 'To Viscount Bruce of Melbourne from the Board of Management Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind 18/12/57'.

Citation for doctorate of law, 1947 **M4254, 22**
This item includes an accompanying graduation ceremony document from Glasgow University, 25 June 1947.

Citation of honorary doctorate of law, 1955 **M4254, 23**
This doctorate from the University of St Andrews is housed in a red St Andrews document cylinder.

Freeman certificate, 1947 **M4254, 24**
This item contains a certificate admitting Bruce as a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London.

Viscountcy seal and illuminated parchment, 1947 **M4254, 25**
The seal features images of King George VI, on one side seated on the throne and on the other seated on a horse. The parchment is housed in a red leather-covered case.

Captain's red coat and black trousers, c 1947–c 1949 **M4254, 32**
This item contains the coat and black trousers of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St Andrews, Scotland.

Presentation gavel from Food and Agriculture Organisation Preparatory Commission, 1947 **M4254, 33**
The gavel carries the inscription: 'Presented to Rt Hon. Viscount Bruce CH MC FRS In appreciation of his services to The FAO Preparatory Commission Washington – 1947'.

Cigarette box presented by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, c 1951 **M4254, 34**
The box is inscribed: 'To Viscount Bruce of Melbourne Chairman of the Council of FAO Sept 1947 – Nov 1951'.

Red academic hood with white piping, 1919–57 **M4254, 36**

Institute of Directors certificate of fellowship, 1951 **M4254, 38**

Certificate for election, 1949 **M4254, 39**
This item contains the certificate for election of 'The Right Hon. Viscount Bruce of Melbourne as a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, London, 10 January 1949'.

Silver cigarette case decorated, 1946 **M4254, 43**
This cigarette case, decorated with the image of a dancer and housed in a red case, was presented by the Siamese Delegation, FAO.

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1901–71 A5954

Recorded by: 1937–71 Sir F G Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)
1937–39 Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–71 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 201.16 metres Location: Canberra

This series contains records collected by Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian defence policy. Sir Frederick Shedden, was Secretary of the Department of Defence from 1937 to 1956. He continued to correspond with Bruce and collect newspaper cuttings on his activities until Bruce's death.

Personal correspondence – overseas – S M Bruce, 1935–58 **A5954, 71/7**
This item contains newspaper cuttings on Bruce and some letters between Bruce and Shedden. In a 1964 letter Bruce

describes some draft chapters of Cecil Edwards' biography he has read as 'excellent', saying: 'Over the years I have been approached many times to write my memoirs. I have however resisted all these suggestions. Apparently however on some occasion I indicated that if a responsible person was stupid enough to want to write my biography I presumed I would have to help him and make available my papers.' Bruce also wrote to Shedden in 1947 giving his reasoning for taking a peerage: 'When I found there was no niche for me in Australia, I decided I might want a platform at some time, and accordingly reversed all my previous decisions'. Shedden had a reputation for pedantry and the file also includes a 1947 Department of Defence memo written for Shedden on the correct way to address Bruce once he had become a Viscount.

British Commonwealth Co-operation – Lord Bruce's plan for Council of British Nations, 1947–48 **A5954, 1908/3**

In 1947 Bruce made a speech in the House of Lords calling for a 'Council of British Nations' to be formed with a full-time secretariat similar to the United Nations. This item consists of newspaper cuttings regarding this still-born proposal.

Press file – statements by Lord Bruce, 1943 **A5954, 2060/5**

The title of this item is misleading as it includes newspaper cuttings relating to Bruce from 1942 to 1955. Postwar cuttings include a story from the *Argus* of 17 July 1946 in which Bruce says that in taking on directorships with a number of companies, he is 'sinking into a life of ease and comfort'; and a story in the Melbourne *Herald* of 11 October 1952 which describes Bruce as 'the pre-eminent Anglo–Australian'. The item also includes a note by Shedden telling of a conversation he had with Chifley in 1947 about Bruce's peerage: 'The PM said that Mr Atlee [the British PM] had advised that Mr Bruce now said he was an English citizen. Mr Atlee referred to the proposal to confer a peerage on him. Mr Chifley replied that it was entirely a matter for the UK Govt & if any need for comment arose that was all that he intended to say.'

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1903– A463

Recorded by: 1956–71 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1971– Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)

Quantity: 542.63 metres Location: Canberra

This correspondence series was commenced in 1956 but contains older items top-numbered into the series.

Lord Casey's request for copies of correspondence exchanged with Lord Bruce between 1924–31 **A463, 1966/1577**

In 1966, Lord Casey asked both the Department of External Affairs and the Prime Minister's Department if they had the letters he had written to Bruce during the 1920s and 1930s. After searches, neither department could find them in its records. Casey then asked Bruce, who replied on 29 March 1966 that he had 'practically a complete file of the correspondence'. Bruce sent the letters to Casey the following month. Casey showed the letters to Ian Maclean, the Chief

Archivist at the Commonwealth Archives Office (now National Archives of Australia), who realised their historical value and organised for their transfer to the Archives collection where they are held in series *A1420* and *A1421*.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1960 – A3211

Recorded by: Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 139.88 metres Location: Canberra

Gift of the late Lord Bruce's papers and personal effects, 1966–80 **A3211, 1974/735**

This item concerns papers and personal effects as gifted to the Commonwealth of Australia. It includes correspondence beginning in 1966 while Bruce was still alive, regarding the transport of Bruce's papers and other items to Australia. After Bruce's death, Nora Roberts began sorting through his papers. She immediately sent Bruce's collection of *Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates* (see series *AA1970/67*, page 14) to clear some space so she could work more easily in the cluttered office in which the papers where housed.

SUBJECT FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1943–68 M2606

Recorded by: 1959–67 The Rt Hon. H E Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1959–66 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)
1966–67 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.6 metres Location: Canberra

This correspondence series of Harold Holt was commenced in 1959 but contains older items top-numbered into the series. It includes the following letters from Bruce.

Correspondence, 1965–66 **M2606, 87**

This item contains letters between Bruce and Dame Mabel Brookes. It includes correspondence about Graylands Migrant Hostel, Rhodesia, Vietnam and by-elections. On 16 February 1966 Bruce sent a copy of Cecil Edwards' biography *Bruce of Melbourne* to Holt. In the accompanying note Bruce suggested Holt look at the subjects raised in the book so Holt would know what papers to keep to assist a future biographer.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

BRUCE, S M, INTERVIEW, 1962–63 ORAL TRC 187

Quantity: 4 tape reels Location: Canberra

These interviews with Stanley Melbourne Bruce were recorded in 1962–63 by Cecil Edwards while he was researching his biography, *Bruce of Melbourne.*

EDWARDS, CECIL, LETTERS, 1962–67 MS 4637

Quantity: 0.48 metres Location: Canberra

Cecil Edwards' papers include about 150 letters between Bruce and Edwards.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Recorded by: Australian National University

Quantity: 2 boxes Location: Canberra

Bruce destroyed all papers he received relating to his position as Chancellor of the Australian National University, so the following papers held in the ANU Archives are the only remaining record of this part of his life.

Lord Bruce, Chancellor ANU **2001/16, box 3, 4.2.6.1 part 1**

This item includes a 1951 letter from ANU Vice-Chancellor Douglas Copland asking Bruce informally if he would be willing to be the first Chancellor of the Australian National University. There is also a 1957 letter from Bruce to Vice-Chancellor L G Melville, where Bruce informs Melville that he has offered an honorary degree from the ANU to British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, who was about to visit Australia. Bruce adds: 'Whether the Chancellor has any authority to take such independent action I have no idea, but the hard facts are I have done it.'

Lord Bruce, Chancellor ANU **2001/16, box 3, 4.2.6.1 part 2**

This item contains a 1961 letter from Bruce to ANU Vice-Chancellor L G H Huxley where Bruce describes the ANU's naming a residential college after him as 'a charming gesture'. It also includes the order of service for Bruce's memorial service in St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London on 26 September 1967, and the memorial service at All Saints' Anglican Church, Ainslie, Canberra on 20 March 1968.

The Chancellor, Viscount Bruce of Melbourne **2001/16, box 3, 4.2.6.1 (c)**

This item includes a 1951 letter from E H Clark, the ANU's London administrative officer, to the ANU Vice-Chancellor, Sir Douglas Copland, where Clark says that Bruce had discovered that the traditional woollen chancellor's robe would cost £470: 'shortly after discovering this he had been at some wool industry function and had dropped a hint that the industry might provide the best material it could produce as a fitting gesture. Apparently no-one has risen to this suggestion'.

Installation of 1st Chancellor Lord Bruce, 22–23 October 1952 **2001/14, box 4**

This item consists of photographs of the ceremony in which Bruce became ANU Chancellor and related events.

Installation of Lord Bruce as Chancellor **2002/25**

This small collection of ceremonial documents concerning the celebrations marking Bruce's installation includes a copy of the honorary degree conferred on Bruce, scrolled greetings from universities around the world and a list of universities that were represented at the ceremony. It also contains a copy of the program for the event, which was held in the Albert Hall, Canberra.

SCREENSOUND AUSTRALIA

NAMES IN THE NEWS: S M BRUCE RETURNS FROM LONDON — COVER TITLE NO. 30465 — SEGMENT TITLE NO. 90619

This 1945 Movietone newsreel (A0646) shows Bruce arriving in Australia and giving a speech.

DICHIARAZIONE DELEGATO FAO: LORD BRUCE PRES[IDENT] FAO — COVER TITLE NO. 188503

This Italian recording is of Bruce making a speech as FAO President on 9 May 1950.

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE — COVER TITLE NO. 19888

Bruce is the subject of this 1966 ABC television documentary.

THE AUSTRALIAN TRADITION: EPISODE 17, BRUCE OF MELBOURNE — COVER TITLE RADIO NO. 449783

Bruce is the subject of this episode of this 1980s Australia documentary series.

CHURCHILL ARCHIVES CENTRE

CROFT PAPERS, 1908–47 — CRFT

Recorded by: Henry Page Croft, 1st Baron (1881–1947)

Quantity: 20 boxes Location: Cambridge, England

Correspondence — **CRFT 1/5**

Henry Croft was a Conservative politician and wartime Under-Secretary for War who was then elevated to the peerage. This item includes one letter from Bruce to Lord Croft dated 1 August 1947 regretting that he cannot attend a Primrose League meeting because that organisation is ‘too closely linked to the Conservative Party’. Bruce had previously refused to attend Conservative Party functions when he was Prime Minister visiting the UK for the 1923 and 1926 Imperial Conferences.

Bruce’s death and funeral

Stanley Melbourne Bruce died on 25 August 1967 at the age of 84. His long and extraordinary life was commemorated with memorial services in St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London on 26 September 1967, and at All Saints’ Anglican Church, Ainslie, Canberra on 20 March 1968. During this latter service, Bruce’s ashes were scattered over Canberra from an aircraft of No. 34 Squadron RAAF. A possibly apocryphal story tells that while the aircraft flew overhead the drinkers in the beer garden at the Ainslie Hotel (now known as Olims) in Canberra covered their glasses with their hands to avoid any ashes falling into their beers.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

MENZIES AND HOLT MINISTRIES – CABINET FILES 'C' SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1949–85 A4940

Recorded by: 1958–67 Secretary to Cabinet / Cabinet Secretariat [I] (CA 3)

Quantity: 77.76 metres Location: Canberra

This is the main series maintained by the Cabinet Office for the administration of Cabinet business between 1958 and 1967. It also contains some slightly older items top-numbered into the series.

Death of Lord Bruce, 1967 **A4940, C4634**
This item consists of draft and final press releases announcing the Cabinet decision that, in accordance with his wishes, Bruce's ashes would be scattered over Canberra.

SECOND HOLT AND MCEWEN MINISTRIES – FOLDERS OF DECISIONS OF CABINET AND CABINET COMMITTEES, 1966–68 A5840

Recorded by: Secretary to Cabinet / Cabinet Secretariat [I] (CA 3)

Quantity: 0.36 metres Location: Canberra

Cabinet Minute – death of Lord Bruce, 1967 **A5840, 533**
Cabinet decided on 29 August 1967 that a motion of condolence would be moved in Parliament for Bruce.

Cabinet Minute – request in Lord Bruce's will, 1967 **A5840, 727**
On 30 November 1967 Cabinet discussed Bruce's wish that his ashes be scattered over Canberra and decided that this should occur when Parliament resumed in 1968 to enable members and senators to attend his memorial service.

9

Ethel Bruce

Lady Ethel Bruce was born Ethel Dunlop Anderson in Melbourne in 1879. She married Stanley Melbourne Bruce in 1913.

Ethel Bruce played an important part in supporting her husband's political career, but her work remained largely invisible. She was as stylish and dignified a figure as Bruce and fulfilled her official tasks with aplomb, both at home and abroad. She was the first prime ministerial wife to reside at The Lodge.

Lady Bruce died in March 1967, a little over five months before her husband's death. Her letters have not survived and only a few references to her appear in Bruce's papers and in departmental files held by the National Archives.

Ethel Bruce photographed for the British *Daily Graphic*, London, 1923. *NAA: A1486, 1, p. 18*

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

FOLDER OF COMMISSIONS, CERTIFICATES, DEGREES, MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS CONCERNING BRUCE'S CAREER, 1906–46 A1487

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 0.09 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of one item and includes documents relating to Federal portfolios, the position of Australian High Commissioner in London, League of Nations representation, military service and honorary doctorates of law.

Folder of commissions, certificates, degrees and memberships, 1906–46 **A1487, 1**

This item includes a letter from the British War Office to Ethel Bruce, then living in London, enclosing her husband's *Croix de Guerre* 'for retention until his return to this country'.

PRESS CUTTINGS RELATING TO IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1923 A1072

Recorded by: Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.72 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of five leather bound volumes of articles from British and Irish newspapers on the 1923 Imperial Conference. The newspaper cuttings were probably compiled by the Australian High Commission in London and include the following items relating to Ethel Bruce.

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 3**
This item includes a cutting from the *Times* dated 9 October 1923 describing the reception held for Ethel Bruce at the Australian High Commission in London during the 1923 Imperial Conference.

Imperial Economic Conference (press cuttings), 1923 **A1072, volume 4**
This item includes an article from the *Sunday Times* of 14 October 1923 on the wives of the Dominion prime ministers in which Ethel Bruce is quoted as saying 'I love London, but as yet I have had no time to visit the shops.'

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL SERIES, 1906–31 A3934

Recorded by: 1926 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1926 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)

Quantity: 1.62 metres Location: Canberra

This is an artificial series created by the Prime Minister's Department in 1926 to hold secret and confidential files considered no longer topical. Its contents date back to 1906. The series includes the following items from 1924 referring to Ethel Bruce.

Imperial and Economic Conferences – Mr Bruce's personal matters, 1923–24 **A3934, SC11/12**
This item contains material relating to the 1923 Imperial Conference. It includes a January 1924 telegram from Bruce to Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King in which Bruce says they will be unable to visit Canada as planned because his wife has had an operation.

Letters from Mrs F W Boykett, December 1924 **A3934, SC25/4**
Ethel Bruce received a letter from a Mrs F W Boykett, asking for her help in finding her unemployed husband a job. Mr Boykett worked as a driver and mechanic in the Commonwealth Public Service until he was retrenched when Bruce decided to reduce the Commonwealth car fleet (see item *A458, H374/1* on page 59). Mrs Boykett writes: 'I am not one for telling my troubles but I am stranded with a husband out of work & 8 children to keep'. Ethel Bruce obviously took up the case, as there is a letter from the Prime Minister's private secretary to Mrs Boykett asking her to get her husband to call the Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department regarding the possibility of work. There is no indication of whether this led to Mr Boykett regaining employment.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–50 A461

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 145.98 metres Location: Canberra

Although this correspondence series was commenced in 1934, it contains many older items top-numbered into the series including the following example about the Prime Minister's Canberra residence.

Prime Minister's residence, 1927–30 **A461, E4/1/12 part 1**
Ethel Bruce took an active role in overseeing Ruth Lane Poole's fitting out of The Lodge in Canberra. This item includes a telegram sent from Europe (while Bruce was attending the 1926 Imperial Conference) with the following warning from Ethel to Lane Poole: 'Do not change bed room.'

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 'C' PREFIX, 1929–50 A292

Recorded by: 1930–32 Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)
1932–38 Works and Services Branch [I] (CA 740)
1938–39 Department of Works [I] (CA 30)
1939–46 Works and Services Branch [II] (CA 742)
1946–49 Works Director (CA 743)

Quantity: 24.95 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of items relating to Public Works projects in Canberra.

Prime Minister's residence and Government House – staff, 1926–32 **A292, C8185**
This item includes a memo organising the reimbursement by the Federal Capital Commission to Ethel Bruce for the wages of a cook and a parlourmaid for The Lodge which she had been paying out of her own pocket.

STANLEY MELBOURNE BRUCE'S COLLECTION OF DECORATIONS, INSIGNIA, PRESENTATIONS AND OTHER OBJECTS, c 1918–c 1957 M4254

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Viscount S M Bruce PC, CH, MC (CP 23)

Quantity: 70.76 metres Location: Canberra

This unique series contains objects Bruce collected during his official life.

HMAS 'Hobart' bell and wooden stand presented to Mrs Ethel Bruce, wife of Stanley Melbourne Bruce, 1938 **M4254, 18**
The bell is decorated with a lion motif and the plaque on the stand is inscribed with the words 'Presented by the Captain, Officers and Ship's Company to Mrs S M Bruce on the occasion of naming the Ship at Devonport, 14th October 1938'. This item was presented to Ethel Bruce after she had officially named the *Leander* Class cruiser HMAS *Hobart*. This ship had been built as the British warship HMS *Apollo* but was renamed when it was transferred to the Royal Australian Navy as part of Australia's desperate rearmament just prior to the outbreak of World War II.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS PRIME MINISTER, 1929–68 M2684

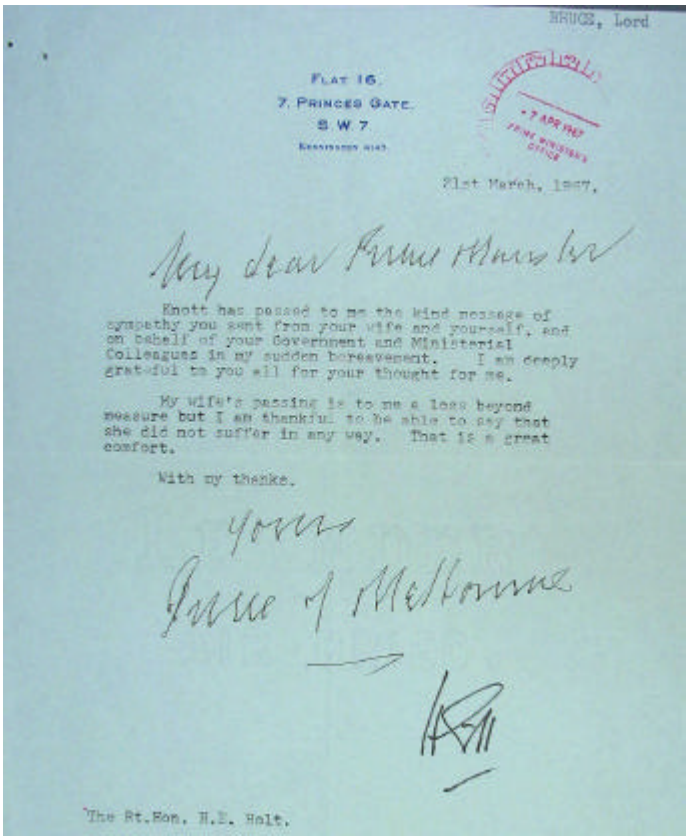
Recorded by: 1966–67 The Rt Hon. H E Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966–67 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.06 metres Location: Canberra

This correspondence series of Harold Holt as Prime Minister was commenced in 1966 but contains many older items top-numbered into the series.

Correspondence, 1966–68 **M2684, 78**

This item contains correspondence about Holt's disappearance, a demonstration outside his Toorak home, Viscount S M Bruce, the Corio by-election, Reverend Sir Irving Benson and F A Bland. It includes a letter from Bruce on 31 March 1967 thanking Holt for his condolences on Lady Bruce's death.



BRUCE, Lord

FLAT 16,
7, PRINCES GATE,
S.W.7.

21st March, 1967.

My dear Prime Minister

Knott has passed to me the kind message of sympathy you sent from your wife and yourself, and on behalf of your Government and Ministerial Colleagues in my sudden bereavement. I am deeply grateful to you all for your thought for me.

My wife's passing is to me a loss beyond measure but I am thankful to be able to say that she did not suffer in any way. That is a great comfort.

With my thanks.

Yours

Bruce of Melbourne

The Rt.Hon. H.E. Holt.

Letter from Bruce to Holt, 1967.

NAA: M2684, 78

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1901–71 A5954

Recorded by: 1937–71 Sir F G Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)
1937–39 Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–71 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 201.16 metres Location: Canberra

This series consists of records collected by Sir Frederick Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian defence policy.

Personal correspondence – overseas – S M Bruce, 1935–58 **A5954, 71/7**

This item contains newspaper cuttings on Bruce and some letters between Bruce and Shedden. Shedden wrote to Bruce offering his condolences for Lady Bruce's death. Bruce's reply is typed but signed in shaky handwriting. The item also contains an obituary for Bruce from the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 26 August 1967, which includes the following quote from Bruce about his wife. He says: 'She made my career her hobby, really. She flogged over every inch of Australia when I was Prime Minister. She has a hell of a good memory. Any credit I got for remembering people really belonged to her.'

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

The Australian War Memorial photographic collection includes about a dozen photographs of Ethel Bruce meeting Australian service personnel in the UK during World War II and at official functions. Some of these images also appear in the State Library of Victoria's Argus Newspaper Collection of Photographs (see below).

STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

ARGUS NEWSPAPER COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

The State Library of Victoria holds a vast collection of World War II photographs taken by photographers from the *Argus* newspaper. The collection includes some images of Ethel Bruce with Australian troops in London during World War II.

Mrs Bruce pours tea for Australian soldiers, London, 1940.
State Library of Victoria Argus Newspaper Collection: H99.201/153

Appendix 1 Timeline

1879	25 May	Ethel Dunlop Bruce (née Anderson) was born in Melbourne.
1883	15 April	Stanley Melbourne Bruce was born in St Kilda, Melbourne.
1901		Bruce's father, John Munro Bruce, died.
1902		Bruce travelled to England with his mother and sister where he attended Trinity College at Cambridge University.
1905		Bruce graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree.
1906	24 April	Bruce passed his legal examination at Gray's Inn, London.
1907		Bruce became acting chairman of Paterson, Laing & Bruce.
1913	12 July	Bruce married Ethel Dunlop Anderson in England.
1915	7 February	Bruce was commissioned as an officer in the Worcester Regiment of the British Army and saw active service at Gallipoli in August and September. He was wounded and was awarded the Military Cross (MC) and the French Croix de Guerre for bravery.
1917	January	Bruce returned to Australia to become general manager of Paterson, Laing & Bruce.
	June	Bruce was discharged from the British Army.
1918	11 May	Bruce entered Parliament after winning the Flinders by-election.
1921		Bruce was appointed Australian delegate to the first General Assembly of the League of Nations
1921	21 December	Bruce replaced retiring Sir Joseph Cook as Treasurer.
1923	9 February	Bruce became Prime Minister when the Country Party refused to remain in coalition with the Nationalists if Hughes remained Leader.
1927	4 May	The Bruces move into The Lodge.
1927	9 May	Bruce attended the opening of Parliament House in Canberra by the Duke of York (later King George VI).
1929	22 October	Bruce lost his own seat in the Federal election. The Australian Labor Party (ALP) under James Scullin formed Government.

1931	19 December	The United Australia Party (UAP) under Joseph Lyons won the Federal election in a landslide. Bruce was elected as the Member for Flinders.
1932	6 January	Lyons appointed Bruce Honorary Minister in London.
	21 July–20 August	Bruce led Australian delegation to the Imperial Economic Conference in Ottawa, which agreed on a policy of imperial preference to deal with the Depression.
1933	7 October	Bruce resigned from Parliament and Lyons appointed him Australian High Commissioner in London.
1936		While President of the League of Nations Council, Bruce chaired the Montreux Conference on the status of the Dardanelles.
1936		Bruce was nominated by the Australian government for the Nobel Peace Prize.
1942	June	John Curtin appointed Bruce as Australian representative to the British War Cabinet.
1945		Bruce retired as Australian High Commissioner in London.
1947	1 January	King George VI raised Bruce to peerage as Viscount Bruce of Melbourne. He was the only Australian Prime Minister to become a British Peer.
		Bruce served as Chairman of UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) from 1947 to 1951.
1951	August	Bruce was appointed as the first Chancellor of the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra
1954	May	Bruce was elected Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews in Scotland.
1961	May	Bruce retired as ANU Chancellor.
1963	4 August	Four years before his death, Bruce signed his last Will.
1967	16 March	Lady Bruce died.
	25 August	Bruce died in London.

Appendix 2 Further reading

Cumpston, I M, *Lord Bruce of Melbourne,* Longman Cheshire, Melbourne, 1989. Cumpston makes extensive use of archival material in this book.

Edwards, Cecil, *Bruce of Melbourne: Man of Two Worlds,* Heinemann, London, 1965. Edwards wrote this biography when Bruce was still alive. It includes extensive quotes from interviews he conducted with Bruce.

Edwards, P G, 'The Rise and Fall of the High Commissioner: S M Bruce in London, 1933–45', in A F Madden and W H Morris-Jones (eds), *Australia and Britain: Studies in a Changing Relationship,* Sydney University Press in association with the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, Sydney, 1980, pp 39–56.

Hudson, W J and Jane North (eds), *My Dear PM: R G Casey's letters to S M Bruce 1924–1929,* Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1980.

Hudson, W J and Wendy Way (eds), *Letters From a 'Secret Service Agent': F L McDougall to S M Bruce 1924–1929,* Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1986.

Stirling, Alfred, *Lord Bruce: The London Years,* Hawthorn Press, Melbourne, 1974.

Tsokhas, Kosmas, *S M Bruce, The Imperial Wool Purchase and the Pastoral Lobby, 1939–1945,* Working Papers in Economic History, No. 110, Australian National University, Canberra, 1988.

Appendix 3 Addresses of National Archives' offices

The main office of the National Archives is located in Canberra, where we have galleries and a reading room. We also have offices and reading rooms in each state capital and Darwin.

Records in our collection can be accessed via our website or viewed in our reading rooms. Copies can be obtained from the National Reference Service.

National Reference Service

Email: ref@naa.gov.au
Website: www.naa.gov.au

Postal address:
PO Box 7425
Canberra Business Centre
ACT 2610

Reading Room addresses

Canberra
Queen Victoria Terrace
Parkes ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6212 3900
Fax: (02) 6212 3999

Postal address:
PO Box 7425
Canberra Business Centre ACT 2610

Sydney
120 Miller Road
Chester Hill NSW 2162
Tel: (02) 9645 0110
Fax: (02) 9645 0108
TTY: (02) 9743 8419

Postal address:
Locked Bag 4
Chester Hill NSW 2162

Sydney Records Centre
2 Globe Street
The Rocks

Melbourne Archives Centre
Casselden Place
2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel: (03) 9285 7999
Fax: (03) 9285 7979

Postal address:
PO Box 8005
Burwood Heights VIC 3151

Brisbane
996 Wynnum Road
Cannon Hill Qld 4170
Tel: (07) 3249 4226
Fax: (07) 3399 6589

Postal address:
PO Box 552
Cannon Hill Qld 4170

Perth
384 Berwick Street
East Victoria Park WA 6101
Tel: (08) 9470 7500
Fax: (08) 9470 2787

Postal address:
PO Box 1144
East Victoria Park WA 6981

Adelaide
78 Angas Street
Adelaide SA 5000
Tel: (08) 8409 8400
Fax: (08) 8409 8499

Postal address:
PO Box 6536
Halifax Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Hobart
85 Macquarie Street
Hobart TAS 7000
Tel: (03) 6230 6111
Fax: (03) 6230 6134

Postal address:
GPO Box 309
Hobart TAS 7000

Darwin
Kelsey Crescent
Millner NT 0810
Tel: (08) 8985 0300
Fax: (08) 8985 0399

Postal address:
PO Box 24
Nightcliff NT 0810

Appendix 4 Institutions holding Bruce-related material

Australia

CANBERRA, ACT

Australian National University Archives Program

Noel Butlin Archives Centre (NBAC)
The Noel Butlin Archives Centre collects the papers of businesses and unions. It contains some material about Bruce in the Paterson, Laing & Bruce Ltd Papers.

Noel Butlin Archives Centre
Australian National University
Canberra ACT 0200

Tel: (02) 6125 2219
Fax: (02) 6125 0140
Email: butlin.archives@anu.edu.au
Website: www.archives.anu.edu.au

Australian National University Archives
The Australian National University Archives, which is co-located with the Noel Butlin Archives Centre, holds papers relating to Bruce's period as Chancellor of the Australian National University. Contact details appear above.

Australian War Memorial
The Australian War Memorial holds Bruce's World War I identity discs, about 70 photographs featuring him and material relating to him in the papers of Charles Bean and Sir George Pearce.

Australian War Memorial
GPO Box 345
Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6243 4315
Fax: (02) 6243 4325
Email: info@awm.gov.au
Website: www.awm.gov.au

National Library of Australia
The National Library of Australia holds printed material collected by Bruce in three separate manuscript series: MS 983, MS 1598 and MS 1977.

The National Library also holds papers of many of Bruce's contemporaries including the Holloway papers (MS 2098), Officer Papers (MS 2629) and Stonehaven papers (MS 2127).

National Library of Australia
Canberra ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6262 1111
Fax: (02) 6257 1703
Website: www.nla.gov.au

ScreenSound Australia, Canberra
ScreenSound Australia, formerly known as the National Film and Sound Archive, holds several film and sound recordings of Bruce, including Nationalist Party advertising for the 1925 election and film of the 1927 official opening of Canberra.

ScreenSound Australia
McCoy Circuit
Acton ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6248 2091
Fax: (02) 6248 2222
Email: access@screensound.gov.au
Website: www.screensound.gov.au

NEW SOUTH WALES

State Library of New South Wales
The State Library of New South Wales holds some photographs of Bruce at the official opening of Canberra and while Australian High Commissioner in London.

State Library of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: (02) 9273 1414
Fax: (02) 9273 1255
Email: library@sl.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.sl.nsw.gov.au

VICTORIA

State Library of Victoria, Melbourne
Although Bruce was born in Melbourne, the State Library of Victoria does not hold any Bruce papers. It does, however, hold a number of photographs of Bruce as Australian High Commissioner in London in the Argus Newspaper Collection of World War II Photographs.

State Library of Victoria
328 Swanston Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Tel: (03) 8664 7000
Fax: (03) 9639 3673
Website: www.slv.vic.gov.au

University of Melbourne Archives
The University of Melbourne Archives holds a small collection of papers relating to Cambridge University's conferral of an honorary degree on Bruce in 1926.

University of Melbourne Archives
Parkville VIC 3010

Tel: (03) 8344 9893
Fax: (03) 9347 8627
Email: archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au
Website: www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/archives/archgen.html

Overseas

ENGLAND

Bank of England Archives, London
The Bank of England Archives includes correspondence with Bruce. It has been microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and is available in major Australian libraries.

The Archivist
Archive Section HO–SV
The Bank of England
Threadneedle Street
London EC2R 8AH
England

Tel: +44 20 76015096
Email: archive@bankofengland.co.uk
Website: www.bankofengland.co.uk/archiveholdings.htm

Cambridge University Library, Cambridge
The Baldwin Papers, held at the Cambridge University Library, include correspondence with Bruce. They have been microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and are available in major Australian libraries.

Department of Manuscripts and University Archives
Cambridge University Library
West Road Cambridge CB3 9DR
England

Tel: +44 1223 333000
Fax: +44 1223 333160
Email: library@lib.cam.ac.uk
Website: www.lib.cam.ac.uk

Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge
The Churchill Archives Centre has a large collection of papers relating to Bruce in Churchill's papers (Chartwell collection) and small collections in the Croft and Hankey papers. The Croft and Hankey collections are searchable online at www.a2a.pro.gov.uk.

Churchill Archives Centre
Churchill College
Cambridge CB3 0DS
England

Tel: +44 1223 336087
Fax: +44 1223 336135
Email: archives@chu.cam.ac.uk
Website: www.chu.cam.ac.uk/archives/home.shtml

House of Lords Record Office, London
Although Bruce became a member of the House of Lords in 1947, he did not deposit any papers there. The only known Bruce correspondence held by the House of Lords Record Office consists of two minor letters in the Blumenfeld papers.

House of Lords Record Office
London SW1A 0PW
England

Tel: +44 20 7219 3074
Fax: +44 20 7219 2570
Email: hlro@parliament.uk
Website: www.parliament.uk

Public Record Office, Kew

The Public Record Office, which is the national archives for England and Wales, holds Bruce's World War I British Army officer record and Dominion Office papers relating to his periods as Prime Minister and Australian High Commissioner in London. Some of the Dominion Office papers relating to Bruce have been micro-filmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and are available in major Australian libraries.

Public Record Office
Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU
England

Tel: +44 20 8876 3444
Fax: +44 20 8392 5286
Email: enquiry@pro.gov.uk
Website: www.pro.gov.uk

Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office, Trowbridge

The Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office holds some correspondence between Bruce and British politician Walter Long. The Long papers can be searched online at www.a2a.pro.gov.uk. The Bruce-Long correspondence has been microfilmed as part of the Australian Joint Copying Project and is available in major Australian libraries.

Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office
County Hall East
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8BS
England

Tel: +44 1225 713709
Fax: +44 1225 713993
Email: wsro@wiltshire.gov.uk
Website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk

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1923 – 1929

This guide describes the archival records on Stanley Melbourne Bruce and Ethel Bruce held by the National Archives of Australia and other institutions.

Stanley Melbourne Bruce was Australia's second-youngest Prime Minister and led the first all Australian-born Cabinet. In his later career he was High Commissioner to Britain (1933–45) and the first Chancellor of the Australian National University (1951–61).

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