



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/2511
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:

Press release: Mr Justice Bleby

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/2511

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR DUNSTAN.

MR JUSTICE BLEBY.

13.2.74

Reported claims that a member of the South Australian judiciary had a "dual role" were unjustified, the Premier (Mr Dunstan) said today.

He was commenting on statements attributed to the State Secretary of Miscellaneous Workers Union, Mr B.F.J. Cavanagh.

Mr Dunstan said Mr Justice Bleby had no "dual role".

The facts were:

That prior to the coming into force of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1972 St Peter's College was not, and could not be, subject to the awards of the S.A. Industrial Commission. After some 20 years' service on the Council of Governors of St. Peter's College Mr Justice Bleby resigned from the Council with effect from 31st December 1972. His express reason for doing so was that the Act was about to be proclaimed. It was in fact proclaimed to come into force on January 4, 1973.

He was not, and had not since that Act came into force, been a member of the Council or been in any way connected with the administration of the school in any capacity.

The statement made by Mr Cavanagh, as published also said:

"The President of the Industrial Court, as a member of the board of governors, had attempted to negate the provisions of an order of the Industrial Commission."

The statement could be construed as seeking to bring into disrepute a judicial officer who could not himself properly reply. It was a completely unjustified attack.

MR JUSTICE BLEBY.

13.2.74

Reported claims that a member of the South Australian judiciary had a "dual role" were unjustified, the Premier (Mr Dunstan) said today.

He was commenting on statements attributed to the State Secretary of Miscellaneous Workers Union, Mr B.F.J. Cavanagh.

Mr Dunstan said Mr Justice Bleby had no "dual role".

The facts were:

That prior to the coming into force of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1972 St Peter's College was not, and could not be, subject to the awards of the S.A. Industrial Commission.

After some 20 years' service on the Council of Governors of St. Peter's College Mr Justice Bleby resigned from the Council with effect from 31st December 1972. His express reason for doing so was that the Act was about to be proclaimed. It was in fact proclaimed to come into force on January 4, 1973.

He was not, and had not since that Act came into force, been a member of the Council or been in any way connected with the administration of the school in any capacity.

The statement made by Mr Cavanagh, as published also said:

"The President of the Industrial Court, as a member of the board of governors, had attempted to negate the provisions of an order of the Industrial Commission."

The statement could be construed as seeking to bring into disrepute a judicial officer who could not himself properly reply. It was a completely unjustified attack.