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Title:

Statement: Press release - appointments to Savings Bank board

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date ~~15th~~ December 1975

Embargo

State Administration Centre
Victoria Square, Adelaide
South Australia 5001
228 4811

PRESS RELEASE -- APPOINTMENTS TO SAVINGS BANK BOARD

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan today announced the appointment of Mr. E. H. Crimes and Mr. R. D. Bakewell to the Board of the Savings Bank of South Australia.

Mr. Bakewell will be appointed Chairman of the Bank, and Mr. Crimes a Member of the Board. They will fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Mr. G. H. P. Jeffery the former Chairman, and Sir William Bishop.

Mr. Dunstan said that during 1976, Mr. Bakewell would relinquish his position as Permanent Head of the Premier's Department and would work full time with the responsibility for expanding and improving the banking services of the State. As well, Mr. Bakewell will remain on the Boards of a number of public undertakings, including as a Director of Austral-Asia Developments Pty. Ltd., and a Director of Australia-Asia International Development Sdn Bhd (Malaysia).

"Mr. Bakewell's innovative and energetic approach is well suited for his new role in the banking activities of South Australia."

"Mr. Bakewell's ability is recognised and respected throughout Australia. Before joining the South Australian Public Service he was a Principal Research Officer for the Chairman of the Tarrif Board, the Director of the Petroleum Products Division of the Department of Customs and Excise and Head of the Labour and Welfare Desk at the Department of External Territories."

Mr. Dunstan said Mr. Crimes' appointment was by mutual agreement, for a limited period until such time as an industrial democracy model could be drawn up for the Savings Bank of South Australia. When an acceptable model was completed, Mr. Crimes would stand down and his replacement on the Board would be a Director elected by the staff of the Savings Bank of South Australia.

"Mr. Crimes has a long history of public service in South Australia and a very wide range of experience which will be of great benefit to the Savings Bank Board."

Mr. Dunstan said he wished to thank the retiring Chairman Mr. G.H.P. Jeffery for the valuable service he had given the bank.

"George Jeffery has had a distinguished career of service to South Australia and his Chairmanship of the Savings Bank has been marked by the same dedication to serving the State.

"I would also like to thank Sir William Bishop who is retiring from the Board after a long period of valuable service", Mr. Dunstan said.

Replying to Dr. Tonkin's criticism of the appointments, Mr. Dunstan said, "To suggest that Mr. Bakewell's appointment as Chairman of the Savings Bank of South Australia has political overtones is an improper reflection upon a very senior public servant. Mr. Bakewell's integrity, ability and dedication to the service of the people of South Australia is beyond question. It is strange that Dr. Tonkin criticised Mr. Bakewell's appointment to the Savings Bank Board, but he did not criticise Mr. Bakewell's appointment to the State Bank of South Australia.

"Mr. Bakewell's appointment is in line with long-standing and frequently stated Government policy of having the Chairman of the Savings Bank sit on the Board of the State Bank, and the Chairman of the State Bank sit on the Board of the Savings Bank. During next year Mr. Bakewell, as I said when I announced the decision, will relinquish his position as Permanent Head of the Premier's Department, and will work full time on expanding and improving banking facilities in South Australia".

"The appointment of Mr. Crimes is only temporary, until such time as the staff of the Savings Bank of South Australia can approve of a workers participation model and they elect a director to represent them. The Director who represents the staff will, I am sure, be a responsible member of the Board, and will not be selected by the staff on any political grounds.



STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date ~~18th~~ December 1975.....

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre
Victoria Square, Adelaide
South Australia 5001
228 4811

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