

Mr. Justice Robert Marsden Hope A.C. C.M.G.

On Australia Day it was announced that Mr. Justice Hope had been appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia for services to law, government, learning and conservation.

The Companion of the Order of Australia is, of course, first in precedence of the Australian honours and is awarded for "eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large".

His Honour's services to law are well known. He took silk in 1960 and was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in September 1969 and a Judge of Appeal in August 1972. For many years he lectured in law at the University of Sydney - mainly in property law.

It has been through his services to government that His Honour is best known to the public. He has served the past three Federal Governments, particularly reporting on the Royal Commission into intelligence and security matters. From 1974-1977 he was Commissioner in the Royal Commission into Security and Intelligence. In 1983 he was Commissioner in the Royal Commission into Intelligence and Security which became known as the Hope Royal Commission. It included the controversial Coombe-Ivanov Inquiry. In 1979 he conducted the Inquiry into Protective Security for the Federal Government.

His Honour's contribution to conservation includes his involvement in the Committee of Enquiry into the National Estate to which he was appointed as Chairman by the Whitlam Government in 1973. The report of that committee became the foundation of modern government and legislative approach to conservation. In 1978 he was appointed the first Chairman of the Heritage Council, a position he still holds.

The honour also recognises his contribution to learning. He served on the senate of the University of Sydney from 1970-1975 and has been Chancellor of the University of Wollongong since 1975. He was Chairman of the Old Tote Theatre from 1970 until the late 1970s and was on the board of the Nimrod Theatre from its inception until the late 1970s. He is presently on the board of Musica Viva. He was President of the Australian Council for Civil Liberties from 1967-1969. □

Frederick Jordan Chambers

On Wednesday 5th April 1989 Counsels' Chambers Limited purchased Frederick Jordan Chambers, 233 Macquarie Street, Sydney for \$14.5 million. The building is presently occupied by 80 barristers all of whom will be invited to become members of Counsels' Chambers. This purchase further secures the presence of the bar at its traditional location.

Masterful

Bill Windeyer, senior partner of Windeyer Dibbs and immediate past President of the Law Society of New South Wales is to be sworn in as Master in Equity in the Supreme Court on 29 May, 1989. Mr. Windeyer has had an extensive equity/probate practice and considerable litigation experience in his 28 years as a solicitor. The Bar Association welcomes his appointment. □

Australian Bar Association

The new office bearers of the Australian Bar Association are:
K.R. Handley Q.C., (President)
E.W. Gillard Q.C., (Senior Vice-President) (Victoria)
G.J. Lunney Esq., (Junior Vice-President) (A.C.T.)
D.L. Harper Q.C., (Treasurer) (Victoria)

Robing in the Family Court of Australia

Justice Ellis has indicated that counsel should only robe when appearing in contested matters in the Family Court.

This is in keeping with the Chief Justice's direction that Judges should only robe when hearing substantial contested proceedings. Judges do not currently (and will not) robe when sitting on duty lists and when hearing undefended dissolutions of marriage and the like.

In the case of urgent and ex-parte duty matters, counsel should go to the Court prepared to robe, notwithstanding that most such matters are listed before the Duty Judge who would normally not robe. As members will appreciate, urgent duty matters are often referred to a Judge other than the Duty Judge should such other Judge(s) become available to assist the Duty Judge during the course of the day. The requirement to robe or not can then be made upon the basis of the particular Judge's circumstances. □

Visiting Counsel to the Northern Territory

Many counsel from other jurisdictions are admitted to the Bar and have signed the roll as "visiting counsel" of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory. Not all such counsel also join the Northern Territory Bar Association, although many do.

In view of recent events, I believe that many visiting counsel do not realise that it is an offence under the Legal Practitioners Act for them to practice in the Northern Territory unless they hold a current practising certificate. Worse, they cannot seek payment for their services.

In order to obtain a practising certificate, visiting counsel should write to the Secretary of the Law Society of the Northern Territory, P.O. Box 2388, Darwin, N.T. 0801 seeking the appropriate application forms and advice.

In the next few weeks, the Law Society will be writing to all Law Societies and Bar Associations enclosing guidelines to admission in the Territory and details as to practising certificates (how to apply; cost etc.).

Practising certificates, for those who already have them, fell due for renewal on 1 October 1988.

The purpose of this note is to ask that you bring to the attention of all members of the A.B.A. the need for visiting counsel to the Territory :-

- (a) to be admitted here;
- (b) to sign the roll as "visiting counsel"; and
- (c) to have a current practising certificate.

DEAN MILDREN Q.C., President
Northern Territory Bar Association □