

MINUTE APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS CONVENING
THE CONFERENCE.

The necessity for securing reciprocity between the Commonwealth and the States in the matter of surveys and associated subjects is obvious, and has been brought under notice by me from time to time.

It is requisite that the whole of the survey operations (both field and office) carried out by the Commonwealth should be under the direction of an authority who would be responsible for and secure consistency throughout Australia, not only of the actual surveys themselves, but of the production of the original plans and their subsequent reproduction. He would also organize and direct the General Survey of Australia, which would embrace the Geodetic Survey of the coast line and its ultimate extension.

The Commonwealth is now employing surveyors for various purposes, working under the licenses issued by the State Governments, between whom and the Dominion of New Zealand terms of reciprocity have been arranged. It is desirable that the Commonwealth should now be included in this arrangement, especially as in the near future it will be necessary to issue Certificates of Title for lands in the Federal Territory and elsewhere.

I therefore submit for approval the recommendation of the Director of Commonwealth Lands and Surveys for a Conference between him and the Surveyors-General of the States and New Zealand, to advise generally as to the steps to be adopted to secure reciprocity and to make such suggestions as they may desire on the subject.

(Sgd.)

DAVID MILLER,

Secretary.

Department of Home Affairs,
21st November, 1911.

Approved—

(Id.) K. O'M.

Minister for Home Affairs,
22nd November, 1911.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED AT THE CONFERENCE OF SURVEYORS-GENERAL,
MAY, 1912.

Geodetic Survey of Australia.

Revision of the Map of Australia, now in course of preparation, with regard principally to nomenclature.

Discussion on the participation of Australia and New Zealand in the production of a Map of the World on a scale of 1 in 1,000,000.

Issue of Licences by the Commonwealth Government and reciprocity between the several States, and the Dominion of New Zealand and the Commonwealth.

Commonwealth Lands Titles Office.

On the desirableness of uniformity in the declarations made by Surveyors on Plans of Survey under the various Lands Acts and Torrens Act.

The carrying out of Surveys by the several States for the Commonwealth Government.

The spelling of names of Australian places,