

CONFERENCE OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMONWEALTH LANDS AND  
SURVEYS, THE SURVEYOR-GENERAL AND THE GOVERNMENT  
ASTRONOMER OF NEW ZEALAND, AND THE SURVEYORS-GENERAL  
OF THE STATES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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The Conference met at Parliament House, Melbourne, at 11.30 a.m., on Monday, 20th May, 1912, and the following representatives were present :—

<i>Commonwealth</i>	..	Charles Robert Scrivener, Esquire, Director of Commonwealth Lands and Surveys.
<i>New Zealand</i>	..	James Mackenzie, Esquire, Surveyor-General. Charles Edward Adams, Esquire, M.Sc., F.R.A.S., Government Astronomer.
<i>New South Wales</i>	..	Frederick Poate, Esquire, Surveyor-General.
<i>Victoria</i>	..	Joseph Martin Reed, Esquire, I.S.O., Surveyor-General.
<i>Queensland</i>	..	Allan Alfred Spowers, Esquire, Surveyor-General.
<i>South Australia</i>	..	Edwin Mitchell Smith, Esquire, Surveyor-General.
<i>Tasmania</i>	..	Edward Albert Counsel, Esquire, Surveyor-General and Secretary for Lands.

The Surveyor-General of Victoria having been elected Chairman, the Conference was formally opened by the Honorable King O'Malley, Minister of State for Home Affairs, who said—"I cannot tell you how pleased I am to welcome you on behalf of the Commonwealth Government; you who have so much to do with the ultimate progress and prosperity of Australia, and who have met here for the purpose of discussing matters of great importance to the Commonwealth, and of peculiar interest to the Lands and Survey Branch of my Department. I give a special welcome to the representatives of the Dominion of New Zealand, Mr. Mackenzie, the Surveyor-General, and Mr. Adams, the Astronomer, who have come so far to take part in this Conference. I am very pleased indeed to have a Conference between the Surveyors-General of the States and of the Dominion of New Zealand, and the Director of Commonwealth Lands and Surveys, with the object of advising me as to the best method to be adopted to secure the fullest measure of reciprocity and those harmonious relations between the States, the Dominion, and the Commonwealth upon matters of common interest which we all desire.

I have much pleasure in declaring this Conference open.

*The Chairman* acknowledged the kindly welcome extended by the Minister, and expressed the hope that the deliberations of the Conference would prove in every way satisfactory.