

RETIREMENT OF DIRECTOR - E.W. TIMCKE

Mr. E.W. Timcke, Director of the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology retired on April 1st, 1955, being the fourth occupant of this position since the Meteorological Service was transferred from State to Commonwealth control in 1908.

A graduate of Adelaide University and a Member of the A.I.F. during the 1914-18 war, Mr. Timcke commenced his meteorological career in the Divisional Office, Adelaide. After the war, he was attached to the British Meteorological Office for six months and on returning to Australia resumed duty as Meteorologist at the Divisional Office, Sydney, where he remained for some 10 years.

Transferring to the Central Meteorological Bureau, Melbourne in 1929, he remained at this centre until retirement, for various periods in the early years being in charge of the Research and the Aviation Sections.

Mr. Timcke served in the R.A.A.F. with rank of W/Cdr. from April 1941 until August 1946, in the capacity first of Assistant Director (Administrative) and later, Assistant Director (Technical). He remained in the latter position on reversion to the civil organization until the middle of 1947. Again appointed Assistant Director (Administrative) he deputised during prolonged absences of the late Mr. H.N. Warren whom he succeeded after the latter's death. In the course of his Service, Mr. Timcke made official visits to many other Meteorological Organizations, and in the activities of the W.M.O. he was a member of the Synoptic, Aeronautical and Maritime Technical Commissions. He was the Australian representative at the First W.M.O. Congress (Paris 1951) and at the Regional Association for the South West Pacific (Melbourne 1954). Mr. Timcke was a member of the Antarctic Planning Committee of Department of External Affairs. In 1953, he was the honoured recipient of the Coronation Medal.

Mr. Timcke gave his entire public service, practically a lifetime of loyal efficient service, to the Meteorological Bureau, and he has been instrumental in furthering the science and application of Meteorology in Australia, not only by his work within the Bureau, but also by his activities as the Australian Representative at various meetings overseas.

In recent years, matters associated with the expanding services of the Meteorological Bureau had occupied a great deal of his attention, nevertheless he did not permit them to interfere with his interest in the daily weather forecasts, the most prominent public service of the Bureau. He maintained a keen and critical interest in the forecasts, and his comments and discussions were always aimed at the achievement on an improved standard.

In farewelling Mr. Timcke, his colleagues extend to him their best wishes for a long and active retirement in health and happiness.

.....

Mr. L.J. Dwyer has been appointed Director of Meteorology to succeed Mr. Timcke.

.....