I had to record this talk a few days ago because by the time you hear it I will be married and out of the electorate until after the New Year. My Secretary, Mrs. Terry, will look after any urgent correspondence from the Commonwealth Parliament Offices, Melb., in the meanwhile.

It is one day short of a year since I became your Member of Parliament. It has been an eventual year, if on the domestic front a quiet one.

Major problems confronting the Government before international crises came to a head were financial ones and our ears were tuned to the Prime Minister's economic statements and our minds were set to debating the rights and the wrongs of various Government measures designed to bring an end to inflation and to set out overseas balances in order.

Perhaps the most important step the Government took in this direction was the little budget of the autumn.

In addition to these financial measures, there was the important Stevedoring Bill brought forward in an effort once more to bring greater peace and harmony to the waterfront. There was the Arbitration Bill steered through a lengthy session of Parliament by the Minister for Labour and National Service, the Rt. Hon. Harold Holt: a bill which should speed up the process of arbitration and do away with grievances prevalent under the old system.

We have had two special Premiers' conferences - one under the auspices of the Treasurer, Sir Arthur Fadden, and one chaired by the Prime Minister. Both proved useful as an exchange of ideas between the different States and the Commonwealth but both were unhappily unsuccessful in reaching any uniform plan to attack our current financial problems.

More recently our own difficulties have been pushed right into the background by the international tensions that have once again divided the Nations of the world. The unhappy events in Europe and the Middle East outline once again the very real fact that Australia is one of the two or three best countries in the world to live in and for Australians it should most certainly be the best.
I know very well because in the past we have been isolated by distance and by time from world events in Europe I think we realise now how very close and how very small modern inventions/science have made the world. Certainly our Minister for External Affairs, the Rt. Hon. R.G. Casey, has boldly and well put forward our view in the Councils of the world. He has befriended and come to understand on a personal basis many of the people in the countries of our north - a thing which is vital to us in our present world position, being the only western nation with a western civilisation and in what is generally called the Far East.

This will be my last talk over this Station for sometime, but early next year before the House sits again I will re-commence my talks to you the electors of Wannon.

I hope at times you have enjoyed these talks. I believe, as I have said before, it is part of my job to report to the electorate on what is happening in Canberra and what my views are and what the Government thinks and intends to do about problems which arise. I certainly don't expect everyone who listens or reads what I say to agree with me, but at least when I put forward my views or theb views of the Government and I explain the Government's action you will then know what has been done or what I think; if you disagree you can take me to task about it.

I have enjoyed making these reports and will look forward to being on the air over Wannon again early next year.

And please don't forget if there are matters you would like to raise with me you can always write me at Wannon or phone my Secretary in Melbourne.

Thence X'x [man]
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