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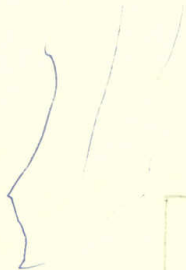
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Governor General's Office - Correspondence - Resignation of Alfred Deakin and Andrew Fisher's
assumption of the office of Prime Minister

ITEM NUMBER	
[1292]	
Imposed by Australian Archives	
INITIALS LD	DATE 8.11.84



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ITEM NUMBER	
[26217]	
Imposed by Australian Archives	
INITIALS	DATE

Melbourne,

7th November, 1908.

---- My Lord,

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 "-poisition humoursome reid twenty corner opposition
 "humoursome forrest twelve labour party humoursome fisher
 "twentyseven famegiving kindlier has staffangle made any
 "angober on position".

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

Dudley

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Governor-General.

DE-CODE.

Leader Labour Party has officially announced with-
 -drawal of support of party from Government. House of Representa-
 -tives now stands as follows:- Government, led by Deakin, fifteen
 Direct Opposition, led by Reid, twenty; Corner Opposition, led by
 Forrest, twelve; Labour Party, led by Fisher, twenty-seven. Prime
 Minister has not yet made any announcement on position.

No. 275.

Melbourne,

13th November, 1908.

My Lord,

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that on Tuesday, the 10th instant, Mr. Deakin tabled a motion in the House of Representatives, relative to the business of the House, with a view to testing the situation. Mr. Fisher, the Leader of the Labour Party, moved an amendment, and the House divided, with a result that the Government were defeated by 49 votes to 13.

On the following day Mr. Deakin informed me of his inability to carry on the business of Parliament. I then sent for Mr. Fisher, who satisfied me that he would be able to form a ministry and carry on. I therefore instructed him to proceed accordingly.

On the 12th instant Mr. Deakin tendered his resignation, which was accepted; and on the evening of
that

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

that day Mr. Fisher informed me that he had completed his arrangements.

The new Government was sworn in to-day, and is comprised as follows

The Honourable Andrew Fisher (Queensland) - Prime Minister and Treasurer.
(Minister of State for Trade and Customs in the Watson Administration).

The Honourable William Morris Hughes (New South Wales) - Attorney-General.
(Minister of State for External Affairs in the Watson Administration).

The Honourable Egerton Lee Batchelor (South Australia) - Minister of State for External Affairs.
(Minister of State for Home Affairs in the Watson Administration).

The Honourable Hugh Mahon (Western Australia) - Minister of State for Home Affairs.
(Postmaster-General in the Watson Administration).

The Honourable Josiah Thomas (New South Wales) - Postmaster-General.

The Honourable George Foster Pearce (Western Australia) - Minister of State for Defence.

The Honourable Frank Gwynne Tudor (Victoria) - Minister of State for Trade and Customs.

The Honourable Gregor McGregor (South Australia) - Vice-President of the Executive Council.
(Vice-President of the Executive Council in the Watson Administration).

The Honourable James Hutchison (South Australia) - Honorary Minister.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

Governor-General.

CP 78/2
[1292]



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Downing Street,

No. 440

30 December, 1908.

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No.275 of the 13th of November, reporting the resignation of the Honourable Alfred Deakin, and the appointment of a new Ministry of which the Honourable Andrew Fisher is Prime Minister.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble Servant,

G. G. G.

GM

GOVERNOR-GENERAL

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF DUDLEY, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.

&c. &c. &c.

DUPLICATE



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&c. &c. &c.