Thursday, Sept. 27, '02

Parliamentary Joint Committee
On Corporations & Financial Services
Parliament House
Canberra 2600



Dear Sirs

I have just heard of your proposed hearings. Might I nominate myself to give evidence.

I am a retired journalist, author of "O'Malley, MHR," a biography of the American-Aystralian economic adventurer, King O'Malley." I am thus abreast of the value to banking to rural and regional Australia of the Government bank he created, the Commonwealth Bank.

Sir Robert Cosgrove, who had been Premier of Tasmania for 18 years, told me on the bank's 50th anniversary in 1462 that "Australia couldn't possibly have developed as it has without the Commownealth Bank." I wrote about it at the time, when I was a reporter on the Hobart "Mercury."

I am abreast of the injection that Kiwibank, a Government-owne bank for which the first branches opened last February in New Zealand, In correspondence received recently, a spokesman for this bank wrote me from Wellington that the 250-plus outlets by then operating, seven months later, made Kiwibank already the largest network of branches throughout the country.

I lived in Canberra for 14 years, til 1995. I followed political issues, particularly in banking, in that time.

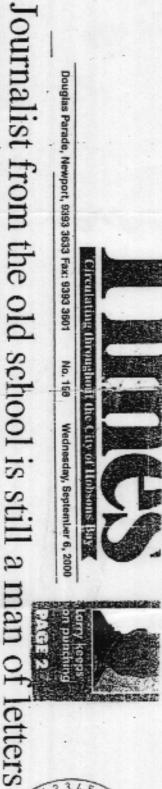
I make the long trip back only rarely, but would pay a visit because of the impartance of a hearing such as yours.

**Comparison of the impartance of a hearing such as yours.

Douglas Parade, Newport, 9393 3633 Fax: 9393 3601

No. 158

Wednesday, September 6, 2000



By Vaughan Mawbey

rager on the pulse of the comteven years, but he still has his TETERAN journalist has been retired for Larry Noye, of Altona,

> steady supply of lutters and news tips to newspapers and Mr. Noye, 72, keeps up a research, Mr. Noye published a banks in line, and O'Malley leady supply of latters and biography titled O'Malley MHR would be shooked to see that it ews tips to newspapers and in 1983.

who founded the Common-wealth Bank. After 23 years of magazines.

Quice a lot of his letters relate
to King O'Malley, a member of
the Fisher Labor Government

"Xing O'Malley would be curring in his grave if he could see what was happening today,"

was founded to keep the private "The Commonwealth Bank

has been privatived."
Mr. Noye grew up in
Footscray during World War II
and befrieaded some of the camped at Beooklyn. He went to school at the Williamstown American soldiers who were

bourne Herald "In my caclier days, boxing

to fighters such to Frank Flanscray, and the suburb was home was a big spon around Foot-

gyms in 'Scray, and there was bitter rivalry to altract the top talent between trainers Jack

"In those days I'm Shepherd was the secretary of the Footyears. He was later leader of the stray and District Football

United Press and Australian Associated Pless, and for the Australian Broadcasting Comshort-term political reporting for the news agencies Australian saw Mr Noys doing casual and

Defence in 1993 retired from the Department of public service newspaper. He contributing news stories to a Fedural Public Service, while few male stero-socretaries in the Later, he became one of the

High School, and found his way into journalism via a stint as a copy boy on the Thirth newspa-

It the Footstray Advertiser. There, he was a colleague of Bendigo, Geeleng, Laurceaton He started as a reporter on the Footsteray Adventiser in 1945, became a columnist on the Mai-Robert Coleman, who later his home town for a 16-year stay and Hobart before returning to camped at Brooklyn during soldier Chock Allera, who was United States to visit American

in retirement he flew to the

nery, who became Australian lightweight champion.

"There were four boxing

McLeod and triple Australian champion Ambrode Palmer.

(Labor) Opposition in State Par-hament."

Fourteen years in Canberra

Through his book research he became friendly with Margaret Pather, daughter of former prime

minister Andrew Fisher.

Succession of Contraction of Contrac

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her set up a portrait gallery of all minister Malcolm Fraser, to help mie Fraser, wife of former prime invited to a meeting with Tam-Robert Merzies. He also was former prime minister Sir Heather Henderson, daughter of cal divide, he lunched with Australian prime ministers. On the other side of the polit

Mr Noye recalls, "I was sorry Yarks when they were here," when my friend Chuck died last young Larry to the pictures. World War II and who took "I was fascinated by the

on his ancient Olivetti manual verted to compaters years ago, typewniter. Mr Noye still rattles out stories While most journalists con-

career. Recently he paid tribute and in the course of his long for Bert Heatley. in The Age to Footstray councilies for prominent people he's now consists of writing obmar-Much of his journalistic work

speak to local groups - and yea-terday (Tuesday) he shared his Probus Club. life story with the Williamstown Sometimes he's called on to

ages the club's prugram to sign and organ donors Pootscray Libes Club, and man-He's a member of the

Clurch and the Williamstown Williamstown Presbyterian religion is important, but says he's "ecumenical" in his church interest. He attends both the Mr Noye also believes that

