

In these circumstances, the first attempt by the person nominated as arbitrator at the preliminary conference should be to induce the objecting party to withdraw the objection.

If the objection is not withdrawn it is my view that the person nominated as arbitrator should rule that the requirement for service by certified mail is in the circumstances directory but that the person should further, as a matter of prudence, include as one of the orders made at the preliminary conference an order requiring the service of the Notice by certified mail. The person nominated, having entered upon the reference, should refile the service by certified mail and should indicate that at an adjourned preliminary conference, it is his intention to make exactly the same orders as he is currently making. If it is necessary to have an adjourned preliminary conference the arbitrator could then make an order that the orders made at the previous preliminary conference stand as though they have been made at the adjourned preliminary conference.

SYDNEY ARBITRATION CENTRE

Official Opening—20 June 1990

The Sydney Arbitration Centre was officially opened on 29 June 1990. Arrangements were made for the Hon Michael Duffy MP, Attorney-General, to open the Centre, however because of unfavourable weather conditions in Canberra on the day he was unable to travel to Sydney. His address was delivered by Mr George Turnbull, Attorney-General's Department, Sydney, and the full text of it appears elsewhere in this issue of the journal at page 74.

Mr F. J. Shelton, President of The Institute of Arbitrators Australia, welcomed some 70 members of the Institute and their friends to the opening ceremony, including the Hon Sir Harry Gibbs, their Honours Judges Rogers, and Cole from the New South Wales Supreme Court, Sir Laurence Street, a number of Past Presidents of the Institute and members of the New South Wales Chapter Committee. In his remarks Mr Shelton referred to the efforts of Mr John Morrissey, Past President and Hon Treasurer, and the local Chapter Committee and its immediate Past Chairman Mr Geoffrey Lumsdaine, which culminated in the establishment of the Centre.

Following the address delivered on behalf of the Attorney-General, Mr A. A. de Fina, President of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration and Senior-Vice President of the Institute, proposed the vote of thanks which was warmly supported by all present.