

Opening of New Offices of Quinlan Miller & Treston

Marking the Firm's Centenary

6.30pm Wednesday 10th November 1999

Level 32 MLC Centre

Chief Justice Paul de Jersey

I am very pleased this evening to honour this great Queensland firm, as it both opens these new offices and does so in its centenary year. As to the former, the offices display a restrained elegance which I am sure will reassure, while not intimidating, clients interested among other things these days in the size of their accounts. I understand this is an increasingly prevalent client attitude. As to the latter, the firm's centenary, I am confident it will shortly receive its letter of congratulations from the Queen of Australia, she has recently been a little pre-occupied with other things.

The mega firm is another increasingly prevalent feature of Queensland's legal landscape. Especially in that context, it is wonderfully reassuring to see "smaller" firms like Quinlan Miller and Treston, if I may put it that way, going from strength to strength. Quinlan Miller and Treston effectively dates from the admission in May 1899 of Ernest Edward Quinlan, joined in practice in 1929 by Brock's father, Albert James Miller. Then in 1957, the youthful Thomas Treston joined the firm. And now 100 years from its inception, we see a firm with six partners with more than fifty staff sustaining an extremely strong client base, interested especially in the fields of insurance, litigation and industrial law. Those clients are very well served by experienced, expert lawyers who have the additional advantage of being extremely nice people.

I warmly congratulate the firm on its centenary, and have great pleasure in formally marking its occupancy of these fine new offices.