This afternoon the Governor-General has commissioned me to form a caretaker government.

Such the purpose of the commission is to permit the deadlock between the two houses of the parliament to be resolved, and to return Australia to stable government.

It will be my sole purpose to ensure that Australia has the general election to which it is constitutionally entitled, and which has so far been denied it.

Until the judgment of the Australian people has been registered at this election, my government will make no appointments or dismissals nor initiate new policies.

I have written to the Governor-General in the following terms: