



Charles Carty Salmon (1860-1917)

Member for Laanecoorie (Victoria) 1901-1913

Member for Grampians (Victoria) 1915-1917

Carty Salmon was born at Amherst, Victoria, and was educated in Melbourne. He studied medicine in Melbourne and Scotland, registered as a doctor in 1891 and entered practice in South Yarra. Salmon, a close personal and political friend of Alfred Deakin, became a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly as an independent in 1893. Twice a minister, Salmon resigned his seat to contest the first federal election. As President of the Australian Natives Association in 1898-99, Salmon actively campaigned for federation.

In 1901 Salmon, a Protectionist, was elected to represent the federal seat of Laanecoorie in the House of Representatives. Salmon was Chairman of Committees in the House of Representatives 1904-05. In 1909 he became Speaker following the death of Sir Frederick Holder, and held the position until the double dissolution of April 1910. Salmon lost his seat when the electorate of Laanecoorie was abolished in 1913, but was returned to the House of Representatives as the member for Grampians in 1915.

The sole medical practitioner in the first Parliament, Salmon did not continue his practice after election to Federal Parliament. He died in office in September 1917.

The electorate of Laanecoorie was named after its locality. Laanecoorie is an Aboriginal word meaning 'resting place of kangaroo'.