

PRE-BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Statement by the Prime Minister,
Mr. Harold Holt



Members of the Economic Committee of Cabinet had discussions today with a group of national organisations representing industry and commerce, and had separate meetings with representatives of the Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council and the Export Development Council. The national organisations which participated in the discussions were the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia, Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia, National Farmers' Union of Australia, Australian Primary Producers' Union, Australian Wool Growers' and Graziers' Council, Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation, Australian Bankers' Association, Master Builders' Federation of Australia, Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries and the Australian Council of Retailers.

The Prime Minister said that these talks allowed Ministers to get the up-to-date views of those directly engaged in commerce and industry. The present discussions had been particularly timely as Cabinet would be having discussions during the remainder of the week on Budget matters, preparatory to the Budget's presentation in Parliament on August 16th. The Government would be greatly assisted in its discussions by the views and information presented today.

CANBERRA
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