

FOR PRESS :

P.M. No. 25/1965

ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt.Hon. Sir Robert Menzies

The Prime Minister and senior Ministers had discussions this afternoon on the economic situation with representatives of a group of national organisations representing industry and commerce. After the meeting the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, said that this had been a further meeting in the series of discussions commenced by the Government three years ago to obtain a first-hand account of current and prospective developments in the different sectors of the economy.

Sir Robert said that these talks allowed Ministers to get the up-to-date views of those directly engaged in commerce and industry. The talks had again proved most useful for this purpose.

Representatives who attended the meeting were :-

- Mr. H.G. Ferrier, President, Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia
- Mr. L. Atkinson, President, Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia
- Mr. A.F. Havard, President, National Farmers' Union of Australia.
- Mr. J.P. Heffernan, President, Australian Primary Producers' Union.
- Mr. T.L. Bull, President, Australian Woolgrowers' and Graziers' Council
- Mr. L.H. Heaslip, Vice-President, Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation.
- Mr. N.A. Jackson, Chairman, Australian Bankers' Association
- Mr. V.T. Edwards, President, Master Builders' Federation of Australia.
- Mr. N.W. Lawrance, President, Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries
- Mr. G. McCowan, President, Australian Council of Retailers.

This evening, Ministers will meet with representatives of the A.C.T.U. and on Thursday there will be separate meetings with the Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council and the Export Development Council.

CANBERRA,
24th February, 1965