DROUGHT

Statement by the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies

I received a deputation today representing the Australian Woolgrowers' and Graziers' Council, the Graziers' Association of New South Wales and the N.S.W. Country Party to discuss the drought situation. My colleagues, the Treasurer, Mr. Holt, and the Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. Adermann, joined me in these discussions.

The deputation gave us details of the current drought situation, particularly in Northern New South Wales and Queensland.

I informed them of the steps my Government has already taken and gave an assurance that it would give careful consideration to the views they put forward.

The Australian Woolgrowers' and Graziers' Council was represented by its President, Mr. T.B.C. Walker, and Executive Officer, Mr. P. Nicholas, while the Graziers' Association of New South Wales was represented by its Chairman, Mr. B.A. Wright; representing the New South Wales Country Party was its Chairman, Mr. R. Hurt.

Also attending the meeting were two Liberal and two Country Farty members, Messrs. J.M. Fraser, H.J. Bate, I.A. Allan and J.A. Pettit.

CANBERRA, 10th November, 1965.