

ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

The Prime Minister with his other Ministers had discussions this morning on the economic situation with representatives of a group of national organisations representing industry and commerce.

Representatives who attended the meeting were :-

Mr. F.R. Curtis	President, Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia
Mr. F.G. May	President, Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia
Mr. F.J. McAvoy	President, National Farmers' Union of Australia
Mr. J.P. Heffernan	President, Australian Primary Producers' Union
Mr. T.B.C. Walker	President, Australian Woolgrowers' and Graziers' Council
Mr. L.H. Heaslip, OBE	Vice-President, Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation
Mr. R.H.S. Cavan	Chairman, Australian Bankers' Association
Mr. D.C. Watkins	President, Master Builders' Federation of Australia
Mr. N.W. Lawrance	Executive Member, Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries
Sir Theo Kelly, OBE	Acting President, Australian Council of Retailers.

Mr. Holt said that the organisations had welcomed the opportunity to inform the Government of their views of the current and prospective developments in the various sectors of the economy represented by them. The Government, for its part, had found the talks of great value coming as they did before a consideration by the Cabinet at its meeting on Wednesday of the present state of the economy.

This afternoon, Ministers will meet with representatives of the Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council and the Export Development Council and this evening with representatives of the Australian Council of Trade Unions.