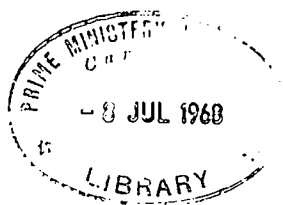


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ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. John Gorton

The Government began its series of pre-Budget consultations in Canberra today.

The first day's discussions were with national organisations representing primary industries, manufacturing industries and commerce. Instead of holding these talks jointly as in previous years, the Government today saw these organisations in three separate groups.

We had decided that there would be mutual advantage in having separate meetings, and the new arrangements proved satisfactory. The talks were worthwhile in providing Ministers with an up-to-date appreciation of the views of those directly involved in commerce and industry.

The series of pre-Budget consultations will continue tomorrow when Ministers will hold separate discussions with representatives of the Manufacturing Industries' Advisory Council, the Export Development Council and the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

Attached is a list of those taking part in today's talks.

CANBERRA
4 July 1968

NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTED AT
ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

4 JULY 1968

Primary Industry Group

National Farmers' Union of Australia	President	Mr. F. J. McAvoy
Australian Primary Producers' Union	President	Mr. J. R. McKindlay
Australian Wool Growers' and Graziers' Council	President	Mr. T. B. C. Walker, O. B. E.
Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation	Vice- President	Mr. L. H. Heaslip, O. B. E.
Australian Wheat Growers' Federation	Vice- President	Mr. K. McDougall
Australian Mining Industry Council	Acting President	Sir Harold Raggatt, C. B. E.

Manufacturing Industry Group

Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia	President	Mr. W. W. Pettingell, C. B. E.
Master Builders' Federation of Australia	President	Mr. C. G. Archer
Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries	Executive Member	Mr. N. W. Lawrance

Commercial Group

Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia	President	Mr. B. R. Macklin
Australian Bankers' Association	Chairman	Mr. C. H. Rennie
Australian Council of Retailers	President	Mr. T. Luxton, D. S. O., M. B. E.

Ministers accompanying the Prime Minister at today's discussions
were Mr. McEwen, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Anthony, Mr. Hulme, Mr. Fairbairn,
Mr. Bury, Mr. Sinclair and Senator Anderson.
