QUESTION: Prime Minister, will the Government definitely stand behind the reserve price of 250¢ in the wool market?

PRIME MINISTER: Certainly it will do so and it will do so throughout the 1975/76 wool selling season. I am aware of statements which have been made particularly by the leader of the National Country Party which are obviously designed to undermine woolgrowers confidence in the market support scheme of the Australian Government. I repeat, the decision by the Government is a firm one, it will apply throughout the 1975/76 wool selling season. I can't imagine what motivates the Opposition in their efforts to create uncertainty, presumably an attempt to embarrass the Government and win a few votes is more important to them than stabilizing Australia's greatest rural industry. They do neither a service to the wool industry nor a service to Australia.

QUESTION: Sir, at present you are planning some moves within Cabinet. Could these moves lead to an additional move to relower the floor price to 200¢?

PRIME MINISTER: Not a chance. This decision was made by the members of the present Minister and whatever changes may be made in portfolios they will remain the Ministry and in any case I can beat the gun to this extent by saying that Senator Wriedt, the Leader of the Government in the Senate will certainly remain the Minister for Agriculture. He has my confidence. I believe he is entitled to have the confidence of woolgrowers, woolbuyers and the whole country.

QUESTION: Cables into our office this morning from overseas indicated that if Mr Hayden was appointed Treasurer, that as he supported 200¢ before he may make a new move in this direction. Could you kill that rumour?

PRIME MINISTER: There is no chance of Mr Hayden making this but you are asking me to comment on newspaper reports on speculation in part. Now I have told you the position, there is no change in that position.

QUESTION: 250¢ for the full season?

PRIME MINISTER: For the third time, for the full season, throughout the 1975/76 wool selling season. Make no mistake about it.

****