



PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement No. 575
14 October 1975

CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Prime Minister today announced that following an amendment to the Administrative Arrangements Order approved by the Governor-General, the Minister for Science and Consumer Affairs, the Hon. Clyde Cameron, M.P., has assumed responsibility for administration of consumer protection provisions (Part V) of the Trade Practices Act.

The Minister for Science and Consumer Affairs will administer these matters and the staff of the Trade Practices Commission which has been handling consumer protection matters in Canberra and all State capitals are being transferred from the Trade Practices Commission to the Department of Science and Consumer Affairs for this purpose.

These arrangements consolidate under the Minister for Science and Consumer Affairs the Government's policies in the field of consumer protection. The Government contemplates that ultimately consumer protection functions will be undertaken by the Australian Consumer Protection Authority. A Bill to establish that Authority is to be introduced into the Parliament today.

The Trade Practices Commission will now cease to handle any consumer protection matters. Current investigations and proceedings will be continued by the transferred staff. All enquiries on consumer protection matters should now be directed to the Department of Science and Consumer Affairs.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.