



**PRIME MINISTER**

FOR PRESS

MAY 23, 1976

I.A.C. EXAMINES COMMERCIAL THEATRE INDUSTRY

The Government has sent a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission on the question of short-term assistance for the Australian commercial theatre industry.

The Commission has been asked to report by 16 July, 1976.

The reference is supplementary to the wider-ranging reference presently with the Commission on the question of long-term assistance for the performing arts.

It has been made in the light of serious and urgent financial difficulties of commercial theatre-owning companies.

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