



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

6 DECEMBER 1977

The Prime Minister announced today that the Government had recently received proposals from the Queensland Government for subsidising the cost of transporting cattle by road from remote areas in Queensland as a means of assisting beef producers.

It is understood that the proposed subsidy schemes are supported by the United Graziers' Association of Queensland.

The Queensland Government has been requested to provide further information relating to the proposals.

The Prime Minister recalled that, in the beef aid package of 22 September, the Government undertook to examine charges within the Federal responsibility for producers in the more remote and isolated pastoral centres of Australia. The Queensland Government has also been invited to make submissions in this regard.

Mr. Fraser said that a decision on Commonwealth participation in the cost of a road transport subsidy scheme would be a matter for the incoming Government, and that if a Liberal National Country Party Government were re-elected it would give urgent consideration to the Queensland proposals.