

## **PRICE OF MEATMEAL**

*Report From The  
Joint Committee On Prices*

December 1973

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

The Committee was appointed by resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives on 12 April 1973 to inquire into and, as appropriate, report upon:

- (a) complaints arising from prices charged by private industry and by the public sector;
- (b) movements in prices of goods and services in particular fields or sections of private industry and the public sector, for example, as measured by price indices; and
- (c) such other matters relating to prices as may be referred to the Committee by resolution of either House of the Parliament.

On 10 May 1973 the Committee resolved that two sub-committees be formed to be known as Sub-committee 'A' and Sub-committee 'B'.

The Committee resolved on 18 September 1973 that it inquire into prices charged in Australia for meatmeal and on 20 September 1973 that the Inquiry be conducted by Sub-committee 'B'.

Personnel of the Committee

Chairman .. .. ..	Mr C.J. Hurford, M.P.
Deputy Chairman .. .. ..	Rt Hon. J.G. Gorton, C.H., M.P.
Members .. .. ..	Senator A.T. Gietzelt
	Senator M.G.C. Guilfoyle
	Senator J. O'Byrne
	Senator E.W. Prowse
	Hon. R.V. Garland, M.P.*
	Hon. P.J. Nixon, M.P.
	Mr J.M. Riordan, M.P.
	Mr R.B. Whan, M.P.
	Mr R. Willis, M.P.

Clerk to the Committee      Mr M.E. Aldons

Sub-committee 'B'

Chairman .. .. ..	Senator A.T. Gietzelt
Deputy Chairman .. .. ..	Hon. P.J. Nixon, M.P.
Members .. .. ..	Hon. R.V. Garland, M.P.*
	Mr J.M. Riordan, M.P.
	Mr R.B. Whan, M.P.

Clerk to the Sub-committee    Mr C.S. Boorman

The Adviser to the Committee was Mr J.P. Carney, Principal Executive Officer, Department of Primary Industry, Canberra.

\* Mr Garland was out of Australia during the Inquiry.

## C O N T E N T S

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Page</u>
Recommendations		
1. Introduction	1-4	1
- Background	1	1
- Terms of Reference	2	1
- Public Hearings	3-4	1
2. Main Features of the Industry	5-10	2-3
3. Meatmeal Prices	11-25	4-7
- Variations in Prices	11-12	4
- Reasons for Price Increases	13-19	5-6
- Effect of Increases in Price on Users and Consumers	20-22	6-7
- Outlook	23-25	7
4. Australian Government Controls	26-31	8-9
- Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations	27-29	8-9
- Prices Justification Act 1973	30-31	9
5. Findings and Recommendations	32-36	10-11
Appendix 1	List of Witnesses and Submissions Received	12
Appendix 2	Estimated Supply and Demand of Meat, Fish and Oilseed Meals, Australia 1971-72 and 1972-73	13
Appendix 3	Sydney Wholesale Prices of Meat and Bone Meal for 50 per cent Protein Meal by Month	14

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends that:

- (i) the practice of some meatmeal manufacturers consulting on the establishment of list prices for the industry be brought to the attention of the Commissioner of Trade Practices by the Attorney-General with a view to investigation under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act; (paragraph 33)
- (ii) the power of the Australian Government to regulate the export of meatmeal under the Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations should be applied more stringently not only to ensure that the domestic market has priority in the use of available supplies but also as a means of reducing and stabilising the price of meatmeal. (paragraph 36)

## REPORT ON THE PRICE OF MEATMEAL

### 1. Introduction

#### Background

The Joint Committee on Prices has received many complaints concerning the rapid increase in the price of meatmeal. The complaints were mainly from users of meatmeal and were substantiated by evidence presented at public hearings of Sub-committee 'B' in its conduct of the Inquiry into the Stabilisation of Meat Prices. The Committee found in that Inquiry that shortages of and high prices for grains and protein meal were factors adversely affecting expansion of the white meat industry, and recommended that supplies of stock feed be assured to the industry.

#### Terms of Reference

2. Pursuant to Clause (a) of its Terms of Reference the Committee resolved on 18 September 1973 to inquire into the price of meatmeal.

#### Public Hearings

3. Public hearings were held in Canberra on 30 and 31 October 1973. Five organisations gave evidence and Appendix 1 shows the list of witnesses who gave evidence and the list of other organisations whose submissions were incorporated in the transcript of evidence.

4. Evidence given at the public hearings is available in Hansard form for purchase from Australian Government Publishing Service bookshops and is available for inspection at the Committee Office of the House of Representatives and at the National Library.

2. Main Features of the Industry

5. Meatmeal, together with other protein meals, is used as a supplement in stock food to increase the nutritional value of that food. It is a particularly important input to the intensive animal industry comprising pigmeat and poultry meat, eggs and, to a lesser extent, red meat, milk and butter. Appendix 2 shows the estimated supply and demand position of protein meals in 1971-72 and 1972-73.

6. Meatmeal and tallow are joint by-products of the meat industry. Offals, butchers' shop waste and condemned carcasses are ground and cooked, and from this process meatmeal and tallow are produced.

7. Establishments producing meatmeal are of two types, namely meatworks, which operate rendering establishments and rendering works which function independently of meatworks.

8. Meatworks with rendering establishments derive raw materials from the slaughter floor in the form of inedible offals and condemned carcasses. Non-abattoir rendering works purchase raw materials from retail butcher shops, boning rooms and, to a lesser extent, from small meatworks without rendering facilities.

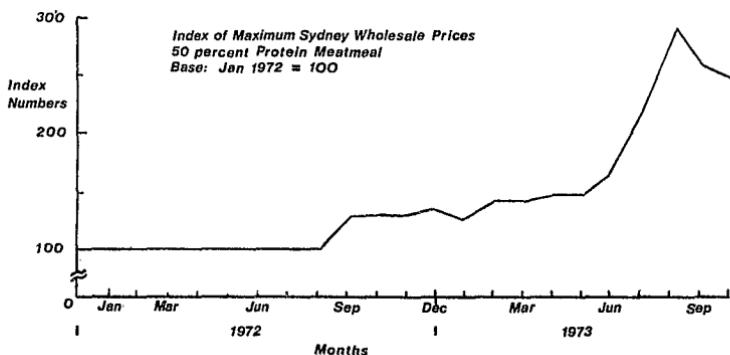
9. The evidence indicated there were difficulties in establishing the cost of production of meatmeal. The Metropolitan Meat Industry Board, which operates an abattoir at Homebush in Sydney stated that it did have a costing of its by-products division. Even if costs of production were obtained for individual manufacturers, comparisons of costs would be difficult because of the differences in age of the plants, the processes employed and cost of raw materials.

10. Meatworks with rendering facilities make no payment for raw inedible offals from their slaughtering sections but revenue obtained from the sale of by-products is taken into account when slaughtering fees are determined. Non-abattoir rendering works have indicated that prices paid for shop waste vary in line with prices received for the processed products. Prices paid for shop waste in the Sydney Metropolitan area increased from 0.64 cents per pound to 2.732 cents per pound for bones between November 1972 and September 1973 and, in the same period, the price of fat increased from 2.48 cents per pound to 6.618 cents per pound.

3. Meatmeal PricesVariations in Prices

11. There are variations in prices quoted for meatmeal, both on the domestic and overseas markets. These variations are attributable to the location of plants, variability of the product and commercial marketing practices. For example, the public abattoirs generally quote prices that are lower than those quoted by private enterprise.

12. Wholesale prices quoted in Sydney for 50 per cent crude protein meatmeal are indicative of prices elsewhere in Australia and are shown in Appendix 3. It can be seen that prices remained relatively stable from January to September 1972, then increased from \$92 to a peak of \$268 per short ton in August 1973, a yearly increase of \$176 per short ton or 190 per cent. In September and October 1973 prices on the world market eased following the lifting of restrictions on exports of protein feed-stuffs by the United States of America (U.S.A.) and the prospects of record crops of soya beans. This led to a fall in domestic prices of \$42 per ton.



Source: Derived from figures compiled by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture.

Reasons for Price Increases

13. The Committee finds that the dramatic increase in domestic prices for meatmeal is predominantly due to the shortage of protein meal on the world market, particularly fish meal and soya bean meal.

14. The failure of the Peruvian anchovy catch in the 1972-73 season was the most significant factor influencing the market. The shortage was further accentuated by embargoes on the export of cereals and oil seeds by Canada and the U.S.A.

15. As a result of these shortages Japan greatly increased its purchases of Australian meatmeal.

16. The domestic prices for meatmeal followed escalating world prices. However, domestic prices were generally below those ruling on the world market. Over many years the export price has been the basis of negotiation for local prices.

17. Sub-committee 'B' was told that meatmeal manufacturers' selling prices are fairly similar. Some manufacturers get together and establish list prices for the succeeding month by averaging their prices of the previous month. Other evidence was of speculation and of withholding supplies. Evidence presented by stock feed manufacturers and representatives of the pigmeat and poultry industries demonstrated that at times and in certain locations it was difficult to obtain supplies. The manufacturers of meatmeal said that at times it was difficult to meet demand.

18. These factors and overseas buying not only contributed to increases in meatmeal prices but also caused a reduction in apparent local sales of protein meals. Thus, while exports increased by 52,000 tonnes or 62 per cent

between 1971-72 and 1972-73, local sales of protein meal fell by 39,000 tonnes or 8.5 per cent. The apparent local sales of meatmeal fell by 10,000 tonnes in the same period. Further details are provided in Appendix 2.

19. Following the lifting of export restrictions by the U.S.A. on 1 October 1973, mainly as a result of record soya bean crops, the Japanese have substantially withdrawn from the Australian market for meatmeal. World prices for meatmeal have declined accordingly and this decline has been reflected in domestic prices.

Effect of Increases in Price on Users and Consumers

20. Stock feed comprises 70 to 80 per cent of total costs for both poultry meat and pigmeat. Meatmeal as a proportion of the cost of stock feed varies from 8 to 12 per cent for poultry meat and 15 to 20 per cent for pigmeat. For every \$100 per ton variation in the price of meatmeal, the cost of production varies by about 3 cents per dozen for eggs, 3 cents per pound for pigmeat and by about 1.7 cents per pound for poultry meat. As the maximum price increase of meatmeal was \$176 per ton over the last 12 months, this means a cost of production increase of 5.3 cents per dozen for eggs, 5.3 cents per pound for pigmeat and about 3 cents per pound for poultry meat.

21. The cost of production arising from increased prices of meatmeal is only one factor influencing the price paid by the consumer. Other factors are supply and demand and the percentage mark-up of wholesalers and retailers. Figures published by the Bureau of Census and Statistics show that in Sydney the retail price of 60 gram eggs increased by 16 cents per dozen between September 1972 and September 1973. Over the same period the retail price of pork chops increased by about 13 cents per pound and the price of frozen chickens by about 18 per cent.

22. It can thus be seen that an important factor in the increase in the price of eggs, poultry meat and pigmeat was the increase in the price of meatmeal.

Outlook

23. Factors likely to influence the price of meatmeal are the current shortage of fish meal on the world market, increases in the supply of soya bean meal and grains suitable for stock feed, particularly from the U.S.A., and a further decrease in Japanese buying of Australian meatmeal as protein meals and grains from other sources become available.

24. It is expected that demand in Australia for protein meals will increase and this will be balanced by increased production of meatmeal as more livestock become available for slaughter and sowings of soya beans and other oil seeds are increased.

25. The Committee notes that the price of meatmeal has recently fallen. Some witnesses said that the price of meatmeal would stabilise at about the present level whilst others said that price would continue to fall. However, the Committee considers that the price is unlikely to decrease to the levels of 1972.

4. Australian Government Controls

26. The constitutional authority for direct control of prices rests with the State Governments.

Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations

27. The Australian Government, however, has the power to control exports of protein meals under the Third Schedule of the Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations. Protein meal may not be exported without the approval of the Department of Primary Industry. In exercising this control the Department uses several criteria including:

- the priority for the domestic market in the use of available supplies;
- the distance of some meatmeal producers from the points of domestic consumption;
- difficulties associated with the storage of surplus production; and
- the desirability of preserving established overseas markets by providing some continuity in supply.

28. The Department administers this control in consultation with the State Departments of Agriculture as well as the meatmeal and stock feed industries. Assessments of local requirements and availability are made on the basis of information submitted on the level of stocks, production and sales estimates by the industry. In most States quotas are issued to meatmeal manufacturers. These quotas relate to the maximum quantity of meatmeal the Department will approve for export by each firm in the month concerned. The documentation required by the Collector of Customs (Restricted Goods Export Permit) is issued by the Regional Offices of the Department in each State.

29. As a result of a world shortage of protein meals the Department intensified its supervision of all exports of protein meals in 1973. The Department claims that the restrictions are proving effective.

Prices Justification Act 1973

30. Some meatmeal manufacturers come within the jurisdiction of the Act because their annual turnover exceeds \$20 million. The Tribunal has exempted these companies from notifying it of proposed price increases if certain conditions apply. These conditions are where the meatmeal is sold by auction, where prices are fixed by contracts entered into following the submission of competitive tenders or competitive quotations, or where increases in price are due entirely to and accurately reflect the amount of an increase in the cost of raw materials.

31. Similarly, exemptions have been granted to stock feed manufacturers where increases in the price of prepared stock feed are due entirely to and accurately reflect the amount of an increase in the cost of raw materials used in manufacture.

### 5. Findings and Recommendations

32. The main cause of the increase in the price of meatmeal in Australia was the rapid increase in export prices in the last 12 months because of world shortages.

33. The Committee finds that the extent of the increase in domestic prices, however, has been influenced by a practice which has resulted in prices being higher than those established under more competitive conditions. This practice is that of some meatmeal manufacturers consulting on the establishment of list prices for the industry. The Committee therefore recommends that this matter be brought to the attention of the Commissioner of Trade Practices by the Attorney-General with a view to investigation under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

34. The Committee also finds that the increase in the price of meatmeal has contributed to higher prices paid by consumers for eggs, poultry meat and pigmeat. Evidence presented during the Inquiry confirms the Committee's findings in its report on the Stabilisation of Meat Prices that there is a need for assured supplies of stock feed to the white meat industry.

35. The Australian Government has the power under the Customs (Prohibited Export) Regulations to regulate the export of meatmeal and a policy criterion under which the Department of Primary Industry operates is that the domestic market has priority in the use of available supplies. The Committee notes, however, that the regulations have not been used as a means of controlling prices.

36. The Committee therefore recommends that the power of the Australian Government to regulate the export of meatmeal under the Customs (Prohibited Export) Regulations should be

applied more stringently not only to ensure that the domestic market has priority in the use of available supplies but also as a means of reducing and stabilising the price of meatmeal. The Committee suggests that the administering authority use the year 1971-72 as a base for establishing the requirements of the domestic market. The authority should take into consideration the growth of the intensive animal industry and its need for other protein meals.

6<sup>th</sup>  
December 1973



C.J. HURFORD  
Chairman

LIST OF WITNESSES  
AND  
SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

BRANDER, Mr W.M., President, New South Wales Stock Feed Manufacturers' Association.

CAMERON, Mr R.G., Chief Executive Officer, North West Co-operative Pig Marketing Group Ltd and representing the Australian Commercial Pig Producers' Federation.

DWYER, Mr J.F., Secretary, New South Wales Tallow Manufacturers' Association.

HICKS, Mr G., Federal President, Stock Feed Manufacturers of Australia.

HORE, Mr J.A., Executive Officer, Poultry Division, Victorian Farmers' Union and representing Federal Council of Poultry Farmers' Association of Australia.

STUBBS, Mr E.A., Secretary, Council of Australian Public Abattoir Authorities.

THOMPSON, Mr B.M., Works Accountant, Goulburn City Council Abattoir Department.

The following also presented submissions which were incorporated in the transcript of evidence:

Australian Chicken Meat Federation  
Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation  
Primary Industry, Department of  
Meat and Allied Trades' Federation  
Victorian Renderers' Association  
Wonga Projects Pty Ltd.

ESTIMATED SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF MEAT, FISH AND  
OILSEED MEALS, AUSTRALIA 1971-72 AND 1972-73  
(Tonnes)

Type of protein meal	1971-72	1972-73
<u>Blood meal</u>		
Stock at beginning of year	1,654	2,602
Production	10,024	12,867
Imports	<u>NIL</u>	<u>NIL</u>
Total supplies	11,678	15,469
Less exports	<u>NIL</u>	613
Total available to local market	11,678	14,856
Less stock at end of year	<u>2,602</u>	<u>1,459</u>
Apparent local sales	9,076	13,397
<u>Meatmeal</u>		
Stock at beginning of year	26,750	26,364
Production	335,192	358,185
Imports	<u>NIL</u>	51
Total supplies	361,942	384,600
Less exports	<u>80,854</u>	<u>121,480</u>
Total available to local market	281,088	263,120
Less stock at end of year	<u>26,364</u>	<u>18,525</u>
Apparent local sales	254,724	244,595
<u>Fish meal</u>		
Stock at beginning of year	5,702	5,133
Production	2,315	1,690
Imports	<u>83,336</u>	<u>17,191</u>
Total supplies	91,353	24,014
Less exports	<u>587</u>	<u>498</u>
Total available to local market	90,766	23,516
Less stock at end of year	<u>5,133</u>	<u>1,340</u>
Apparent local sales	85,633	22,176
<u>Oilseed meal</u>		
Stock at beginning of year	17,867	24,918
Production	94,070	129,218
Imports	<u>26,693</u>	<u>12,590</u>
Total supplies	138,630	166,726
Less exports	<u>3,025</u>	<u>14,210</u>
Total available to local market	135,605	152,516
Less stock at end of year	<u>24,918</u>	<u>11,332</u>
Apparent local sales	110,688	141,184
<u>Total</u>		
Stock at beginning of year	51,973	59,017
Production	441,601	501,960
Imports	<u>110,029</u>	<u>29,832</u>
Total supplies	603,603	590,809
Less exports	<u>84,466</u>	<u>136,801</u>
Total available to local market	519,137	454,008
Less stock at end of year	<u>59,017</u>	<u>32,656</u>
Apparent local sales	460,120	421,352

Source: Derived from figures provided by the Department of Primary

SYDNEY WHOLESALE PRICES OF MEAT AND BONE MEAL  
FOR 50 PER CENT PROTEIN MEAL BY MONTH  
(\$A per short ton)

Month	Minimum	Maximum
1972		
January	87	92
February	85	92
March	82	92
April	80	92
May	80	92
June	80	92
July	80	92
August	82	92
September	92	117
October	92	120
November	92	120
December	100	125
1973		
January	100	117
February	100	130
March	112	130
April	112	135
May	112	135
June	112	150
July	163	200
August	163	268
September	163	236
October	n.a. *	226

\* not available

Source: Derived from figures compiled by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture.

Senator Gretzelt has  
handed them in  
at the Table, and  
an indication that  
they should be  
attached to the  
Report he tabled  
this morning.

AFLC.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Thursday 29 November 1973

Present: Mr Hurford (Chairman)

Senator Gietzelt	Mr Nixon
Senator O'Byrne	Mr Riordan
	Mr Whan

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 27 November 1973 were read and confirmed.

Inquiry into the Price of Meatmeal:

Recommendation (i) amended and agreed to.

Recommendation (ii) amended and agreed to.

Paragraph 1 amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 2 to 4, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraphs 5 to 10, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraphs 11 and 12, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraphs 13 to 17, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraph 18 amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 19 to 25, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraphs 26 to 29, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraph 30 amended and agreed to.

Paragraph 31 agreed to.

Paragraphs 32 to 37 amended and agreed to.

Appendices 1 to 3, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Resolved - On the motion of Senator Gietzelt - That the Report on the Price of Meatmeal, as amended, be the Report of the Committee.

Resolved - On the motion of Senator O'Byrne - That Senator Gietzelt bring up the Report on the Price of Meatmeal in the Senate.

The Committee recorded its appreciation of the services of its adviser, Mr J. Carney of the Department of Primary Industry in its inquiry into the price of meatmeal.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

C.J. HURFORD  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Tuesday 27 November 1973

Present: Mr Hurford (Chairman)

Senator Gietzelt	Mr Nixon
Senator Guilfoyle	Mr Riordan
Senator O'Byrne	Mr Whan
	Mr Willis

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 6 November 1973 were read and confirmed.

Inquiry into the Price of Meatmeal:

Senator Gietzelt presented the Report of Sub-committee 'B' on the Price of Meatmeal. The Chairman brought up for consideration the Report of Sub-committee 'B's' Inquiry into the Price of Meatmeal.

The Committee deliberated.

Inquiry into the Price of Carpet Tiles:

Recommendation amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 1 to 13, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraph 14 amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 15 to 25, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraph 26 amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 27 to 34, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Paragraph 35 deleted.

Paragraph 36 amended and agreed to.

The Appendix agreed to.

Findings, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Willis -  
That the Report on the Price of Carpet Tiles, as amended, by the report of the Committee.

Resolved - On the motion of Senator Guilfoyle -  
That Senator O'Byrne bring up the Report on the Price of Carpet Tiles in the Senate.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

O.J. HURFORD  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

**SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'**

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Thursday, 27 November 1973

Present: Senator Gietzelt (Chairman)

### Minutes:

The Minutes of Proceedings for 11, 18, 22, 23, 30, 31 October and 20 and 22 November 1973 were read and confirmed.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

SENATOR A.T. GIETZELT  
Chairman.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Thursday, 22 November 1973

Present: Senator Gietzelt (Chairman)

Mr Riordan Mr Whan

Meatmeal Inquiry: The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Whan -  
That the Chairman's draft report  
on the Price of Meatmeal, as amended  
be the report to the Committee.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

Senator A.T. Gietzelt  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

**SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'**

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Tuesday, 20 November 1973

Present: Senator Gietzelt (Chairman)

Meatmeal  
Inquiry:

The Chairman brought up for consideration his report on the Price of Meatmeal.

The Committee deliberated.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

SENATOR A.T. GIETZELT  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Wednesday, 31 October 1973

Present: Senator Gietzelt (Chairman)

Mr Riordan Mr Whan

Frozen and Canned Vegetable Inquiry: The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - That the Clerk request the Australian Industrial Development Corporation to submit comments on the establishment of a grower owned vegetable processing plant to be located in Tasmania, as proposed by the Australian Farmers' Union.

Resolved - That the Clerk request the Department of Overseas Trade to submit comments on the operation of the Joint Australia-New Zealand Pea and Bean Industry Panel, particularly in respect to the regulation of imports of frozen peas into Australia.

Meatmeal Inquiry:

Public Hearings: Press and public admitted.

Mr Robert Graeme Cameron, Executive Officer, North West Co-operative Pig Marketing Group Ltd, and representing the Australian Commercial Pig Producers' Federation, was called, sworn and examined.

Ordered - That the written submissions of the Australian Commercial Pig Producers' Federation dated 12 and 15 October 1973 be taken as read and incorporated in the transcript of evidence.

The witness withdrew.

Mr Eric Alfred Stubbs,  
Secretary,  
Council of Australian Public Abattoir  
Authorities; and

Mr Barry Moffat Thompson,  
Works Accountant,  
Goulburn City Council Abattoir Department,

were called, sworn and examined together.

Ordered - That the written submission of the  
Council of Australian Public  
Abattoir Authorities dated 16 October  
1973 be taken as read and incorporated  
in the transcript of evidence..

The witnesses withdrew.

Ordered - That the written submissions of  
Australian Chicken Meat Federation  
dated 24 October 1973, Australian  
Wool and Meat Producers' Federation  
dated 30 October 1973, Department of  
Primary Industry dated 25 October 1973,  
Meat and Allied Trades Federation  
dated 11 October 1973, Victorian  
Renderers' Association dated 17 October  
1973, and Wonga Projects Pty. Ltd.  
dated 18 October 1973 be incorporated  
in the transcript of evidence.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Riordan -  
That pursuant to the power conferred  
by Section 2(2.) of the Parliamentary  
Papers Act 1908-1963 this Committee  
authorises publication of the  
evidence given before the Committee  
at public hearings this day.

Press and public withdrew.

Private Meeting: The Committee deliberated.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

Senator A.T. Gietzelt  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Tuesday, 30 October 1973

Present: Senator Gietzelt (Chairman)

Mr Riordan Mr Whan

Meatmeal Inquiry:

Public Hearings: Press and public admitted.

Mr John Frederick Dwyer,  
Secretary,  
N.S.W. Tallow Manufacturers' Association,  
was called, sworn and examined.

Ordered - That the written submission of the  
Tallow Manufacturers' Association  
dated 18 October 1973 be taken as  
read and incorporated in the  
transcript of evidence.

Mr John Alan Hore,  
Executive Officer Poultry Division,  
Victorian Farmers' Union and representing,  
Federal Council of Poultry Farmers' Associations  
of Australia.

was called, sworn and examined.

Ordered - That the written submission of the  
Federal Council of Poultry Farmers'  
Associations be taken as read and  
incorporated in the transcript of  
evidence.

Press and public withdrew.

In Camera  
Hearings:

Mr John Alan Hore of the Victorian Farmers'  
Union was further examined.

The witness withdrew.

Public Hearings:

Press and public re-admitted.

The following witnesses representing the Federal Council of Australian Stockfeed Manufacturers' Association, were called, sworn and examined together:

Mr Gary Peter Hicks,  
President; and

Mr William Maxwell Brander,  
New South Wales President.

Ordered - That the two written submissions dated 19 and 24 October 1973 be taken as read and incorporated in the transcript of evidence.

Press and public withdrew.

In Camera  
Hearings:

The witnesses representing the Federal Council of Australian Stockfeed Manufacturers' Association were further examined.

The witnesses withdrew.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Riordan - That pursuant to the power conferred by Section 2(2.) of the Parliamentary Papers Act 1908-1963 this Committee authorises publication of the evidence given before the Committee at public hearings this day.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

Senator A.T. Gietzelt  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Thursday, 11 October 1973

Present: Senator Gietzelt (Chairman)

Mr Riordan      Mr Whan

Frozen and Canned  
Vegetable Inquiry:      The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - That the Committee hold public hearings on 22 and 23 October 1973 in Canberra.

Resolved - That the Clerk write to Mr W. T. Foo, Chairman of Directors, Independent Frozen Food Distributors Association of New South Wales, directing him to appear before the Committee.

Meatmeal Inquiry:      The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - That the Committee hold public hearings on 30 and 31 October 1973 in Canberra.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

A.T. GIETZELT  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Thursday 20 September 1973

Present: Mr Hurford (Chairman)

Senator Gietzelt	Mr Gorton
Senator O'Byrne	Mr Nixon
	Mr Riordan
	Mr Whan
	Mr Willis

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 18 September 1973 were confirmed.

Sub-committees for New References: Resolved - On the motion of Mr Riordan - That Sub-committee 'A' inquire into and report to the Committee on prices charged for carpet tiles and that Sub-committee 'B' inquire into and report to the Committee on meatmeal prices.

Additional Sub-committees: The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Senator Gietzelt - That the Chairman and Deputy Chairman prepare a report which would canvass the question of whether there should be three Sub-committees and indicate a programme of inquiries for 1974.

Refusal to Provide the Committee with Information: The Committee deliberated on the letter dated 10 September 1973 from Harper and Row (A'asia) Pty Ltd in which the Company proposed to withhold a reply until it was legally bound to supply the information.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Willis - That the Secretariat prepare a paper on the powers of the Committee to send for persons, papers and records.

Tabling of Report on Stabilisation of Meat Prices: The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Nixon - That the Chairman raise today in the House, as a matter of privilege, the premature disclosure of Committee recommendations on stabilisation of meat prices by the Sydney Sun on Tuesday 18 September 1973.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

C.J. HURFORD  
Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRICES

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Canberra, Tuesday 18 September 1973

Present: Mr Hurford (Chairman)

Senator Gietzelt	Mr Nixon
Senator Guilfoyle	Mr Riordan
Senator Prowse	Mr Whan
Senator O'Byrne	Mr Willis

Timetable to  
December 1973:

The Committee deliberated.

New References:

The Committee considered reports from the Secretariat on meatmeal, carpet tiles and copper.

Resolved - On the motion of Senator O'Byrne -  
That pursuant to complaints received  
under Term of Reference 1(a) the  
Committee inquire into prices charged  
for meatmeal, and carpet tiles.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Whan -  
That the Secretariat seek the opinion  
of the Department of Minerals and Energy  
on the advisability of the Committee  
inquiring into copper prices.

Report to  
Parliament on  
Term of Reference  
1(a):

The Committee deliberated on the minute prepared  
by the Secretariat.

Procedures for  
Dealing with Terms  
of Reference 1(a)  
and 1(b):

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Willis -  
That the Committee authorise the  
publication of information received  
under Terms of Reference 1(a) and 1(b).

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Riordan -  
That Sub-committee 'C' be formed to deal  
with Terms of Reference 1(a) and 1(b) and  
that Sub-committee 'C' consist of Mr  
Hurford, Mr Gorton and Mr Whan.

The Committee adjourned until 9 a.m. Thursday  
20 September 1973.

Confirmed.

C.J. HURFORD  
Chairman