On Tuesday 29 June, the Prime Minister announced that the Government had agreed to the creation of a single wool marketing commission to be known as the Australia Wool Marketing Corporation. The Government also laid down broad guidelines with which the Corporation should conform when it made any submission to the Government relating to acquisition of the wool clip. That decision is already a milestone in the history of the wool industry and a victory for the forces of wool marketing reform.

It took the Government only three weeks to act on that cabinet decision. On July 11 the Minister for Primary Industry Mr Sinclair was able to announce the membership structure of the new Corporation. The membership will be generally in line with the Australian Wool Industry Conference as a quick glance at the industry's proposals and Mr Sinclair's announcement will clearly show. The members of the corporation will be:

- an independent chairman appointed by the Minister for Primary Industry
- four wool grower representatives appointed by the Minister after nomination by the Australian Wool Industry Conference
- three members with special qualifications appointed by the Minister after consultation with the A.W.I.C.
- one government representative whom the Minister will appoint.
The nine-member corporation therefore does not vary significantly from that recommended by the wool industry. The A.W.I.C. proposed a board of nine members including four wool growers, plus two executive directors with no voting rights.

The structure of the Corporation's management is designed to operate on an effective commercial basis. This is in line with the guidelines mentioned in the Cabinet Decision which amounted to a condition that the Corporation should make any recommendation for acquisition on a commercial basis. I am confident that the Corporation, as soon as it is formed, will turn its attention to considering marketing reforms and that they will put proposals to the Government concerning acquisition. The Government has of course decided that the question of subsidy or other financial support would be dealt with separately from the method of marketing.

A good deal of comment has been made about the Randall report on the wool industry, a report prepared for the Government by a committee chaired by Sir Richard Randall, former secretary of the Treasury. It is interesting to note therefore, that Mr. Sinclair when announcing the structure of the Corporation, also took the opportunity to say that the Randall report would be made public as soon as it could be published. I hope now that it will soon be available for anyone who wants to read it.
The speed with which the Government has acted on the initial Cabinet Decision demonstrates a genuine concern for wool reform. I feel we can look forward confidently to the appointment of the members of the Board and for changes which we know are so needed in the wool industry.
My colleague, the Minister for Labour and National Service, Mr. Lynch, recently produced some interesting figures.

He said that only 65 men had without reasonable cause failed to report for national service for the 12 months to June 30. This represents less than one per cent of the men called up.

He also made the interesting observation that despite all the efforts of all those opposed to national service, men did not normally continue in their default when brought to account. Of 45 cases involving failure to report which had been finalised in the past 12 months, only seven had persisted in their refusal to comply.

Of the rest, 19 had agreed to enlist and had done so, 11 had been granted recognition as conscientious objectors by a court, and eight had been found not to meet the required medical standards.

On June 30 there had been 101 cases which had not been finalised, in which men had failed to report for service. In 32 cases prosecution proceedings had been initiated and in 18 of those, including that of Victorian ALP candidate Barry Johnston, warrants had been issued for the arrest of the men concerned.

I refer to these figures only to demonstrate one point. I believe that the Government's policy
National Service is correct. In these times of changing international alignments and the effect they have on our own region of the world, National Service is necessary to maintain the military strength Australia requires. But more than this, I believe that the great bulk of Australian people, including its young men accept the rule of law for what it is, the mainstay of our democratic system. This is at least an encouraging sign at a time when we should all be concerned at the attempts within our community to change laws by breaking them rather than attempting to change them through the long standing democratic avenues available to us.
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