Weather

Today's forecast: Fine, Temperatures: Max. 30, min. 20. Tides: High, 7.04 a.m. (1.8 m) and 7.09 p.m. (1.8 m). Low. 12.59 a.m. (0.2 m) and 1.13 p.m.

Weather in full on page 44.

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Telephone 52 6011 BRISBANE, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1976

asks

(0.4 m).

THE Premier (Mr. Bjelke - Petersen) has invited the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) to Maryborough.

The purpose is to discuss Fraser Island's future.

Mr. Sjelle-Petersen.
hopes Mr. Fraser will vistic be sland to see and
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any ban on sand mining to put their views to Mr.

Praser.

Mr. Bjelke-Petersen
was replying to an invitation from Mr. Praser vitation from an grase, to go to Camberra to dis-cuss the report of the committee of inquiry into sand mining on Fraser

Export ban

The report recommends a prohibition of exports of minerals min-ed on the island from leases granted by the Queensland Government. Mr. Bjelke-Petersen
said he welcomed the
Prime Minister's invitation but felt that as the mining was in Queensland and jobs were at stake, the Queensland and Com-monwealth Government should meet on the spot.

FRASER ISLAND ISSUE

THE Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) and the Queensland Mines Minister (Mr. Camm) differed publicly yesterday on the Fraser Island sand mining issue.

> Mr. Fraser in his regular weekly radio talk indicated to his electorate that he supported an end to sand mining on Fraser Island.

> Mr. Camm said the livelihood of about 1000 people could be jeopardised if sand mining on Fraser Island was prevented.

> And the Queensland Conservation Council yesterday called on the Queensland Government to face the facts and accept the recommendations of the Fraser Island environmental inquiry.

The inquiry report, released two weeks ago, recommended that all sand mining on the is-land stop and that no ex-port licences be issued.

port noences be issued.

Mr. Fraser said the
Federal Government
fully recognised its responsibility to make sure
that Fracer Island 22 that Fraser Island, as part of the national heritage, was not lost to future generations.

It was conscious that a

number of people were dependent for their live-lihood on Fraser Island's

mining operations.

"We must, however, take decisions that will be to the lasting advantage of the entife community," he said.

Spotlight

Mr. Fraser said that both the Fraser Island report and the findings of the Ranger uranium environmental inquiry's first report had turned the spotlight on the Government's enviro-mental rollers

Government's enviro-mental policies.

"The Government's stand on the environment is clear," he said.

"We recognise the quality of the environ-ment is crucial for this and future generations of Australians."

or Australians."

He gave a firm under-taking that the contents of the Ranger report would be debated soon in Parliament.

Mr. Camm, also speakmr. Cannh, also speak-ing in a radio broadcast said the question of whether export licences for Fraser Island should be granted must be taken further.

Mr. Camm said the decision would mean 300 Job losses and ramifications far greater than many people realised. "The entire mining industry in this State and Australia is being questioned," he said. Mr. Camm said the Queensland Government would fight to ensure that workers in the State could continue to earn a decent living and not be put on the dole because put on the dole because of the actions of a few protesters.

Conservation Council co-ordinator (Mr. D. Belco-ordinator (Mr. D. Bel-lin g ha m) said the Queensland Government should have presented evidence at the Fraser Island inquiry if it was as interested in Fraser Island as it claimed.

Mr. Bellingham said no

witness appeared for the Queensland Government, Mr. Bellingham said he did not believe the In-quiry recommendations would place any finan-cial hardship on the Maryborough district. "Queensland will gain more from the tourist in-

dustry on Fraser Island than it ever could from the continued rape of the island by sandminers," Mr. Bellingham said.

BRISBANE, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1976

Talks today on job loss

FROM WALLACE BROWN

CANBERRA. — The Federal Government decided yesterday to stick to its decision to ban the export of mineral sands from Fraser Island.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) will send two of his Ministers — the Transport Minister (Mr. Nixon) in his capacity as acting National Resources Minister, and the Environment Minister (Mr. Newman) to Brisbane today.

They will confer with the QueensInd Premier (Mr. Bjelke-Petersen) on
timing of the ban, on how to dileviate
unemployment in the Maryborough
area and on other defails.

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IN Brisbane yesterday Mr. Bjelke-Petersen said the State Government would "fook very seriously" at the possibility of a High Court challenge to Federal Government control over mining activities.

The swatch done if the Federal Government dations of the Fraser Island inquiry.

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The proper recommendation of the Fraser Island inquiry mining of sand mining on the listand by the use of mining of sand mining on the listand by the use of mineral export controlls.

Weather

emperatures: Max, 31, Min. 18, 188; High, 11.49 A.m. (2 m) and 12.01 a.m. (1.4 m). Low, 5.33 a.m. (0.2 m) and 6.32 p.m. (0.5 m).

BRISBANE, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1976

Price 10c Marie 22 c

Parties back State Premier against Fraser Island minerals ban

Joh angry, and

THE rift between the Federal and State governments widened yesterday with the Federal Government decision to end sand mining on Fraser Island by December 31.

A period of major confrontation appears to be ahead.

The Premier (Mr. Bjelke-Petersen) is pulling no punches and is returning to his anti-Federal Government isolationist Queensland stance, of the Whitlam era.

The Deputy Premier and Liberal Leader (Mr. Knox) is certain to back him. The joint Government parties yesterday passed a motion criticising the Federal Government's action.

Mr. Bicke-Petersen from as id yesterday there seemed to be little difference between that Occerment and the Pract of the Carolina of the Carolina of the Carolina of the Carolina decision." In disposition of the Premier and Carolina decision." In Premier and South Wales of the Carolina of the Carolina

ermier said.
"The New South Wales do Victorian Federal ar liamentarians who fluenced him are proby happy now — but help with the beautiful for the beautiful for the work be for long. "I challenge them to to Maryborough and lik to the people whose bis they've taken away, hey wouldn't have the burage."

Francis passed a motion criticising the Federal Covernment's action.

Agay and bitter, the premier yeastery side a pressure present present year and state, the pressure present year and a pressure present year. This is a political department of the present years and street the Maryborough to covern and the Euroromotian and

CANBERRA.— The Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) told Federal Parlia-ment yesterday the decision on Fraser Island had been difficult.

CANBERRA.— The Prime Minister (Mr. Frazer) taid Federal Parliament ment yesterday by the decision on Frazer Island had been difficult.

There were lestimate interests in conservation on the properties of the environmental But and the environmental But the But the Environmental But the But the But the But the But the But th

Mr. Newman formally announced the Coveriment's decision in Parte ment's decision in Parte returned from Brebane. He said the environmental inquiry took. Its manual inquiry took. Its manual inquiry took. Its manual in the environmental feature in the crivity detailed and comprehensive review of the crivity of the said minering industry."

Mr. Newman said Fra-

EMISSARIES from Canberra in the Parliament House office of the Premier (Mr. Bjelke-Petersen) yesterday. Waiting for him to finish a telephone call were (from left) the Federal Transport Minister (Mr. Nixon), the Federal Environment Minister (Mrs. Pokwania) "and the Federal Mailond Country Party Member for Wide Bay" (Mr. Millar).

Next it's

uranium

From WALLACE BROWN

From WALLACE BROWN

CANBERRA.— The Federal Government is expected nove to move on to the big notional issue of uronium mining.

Several Ministers last cannight said they anticipated that the Government would agree 46-the naticipated with the Government would agree 46-the man and the said they expected in the said they expected the said the said they expected the

The Courier-Mail

Our liberty depends on the Freedom of the Pres and that cannot be limited without being lost, -

Hypocrisy over Fraser Island

HE Fraser Government is laying itself open to a charge of gross hypocrisy over the future of Fraser Island. There will be considerable support for

a ban on mining on the island, but the Fraser Government is going about securing this in

completely the wrong way.

a short-sighted and unprincipled manner it is using its constitutional power over trade and commerce to override a State Government on a completely unrelated matter — mining and the environment. It is doing this on the advice of two Canberra who comprised the island public servants

mining inquiry. The Fraser Government is doing, in fact. what it has criticised the Labor Government for doing. Labor at least was open about its centralism. Mr. Fraser and his colleagues

have not been

Certainly the State Government is notto be applauded for dismissing out of hand the Commonwealth report which urges a ban on mining. The depth of both the Common-wealth report, and of a State report which favoured mining, probably leaves something favoured mining, probably leaves something to be desliged. The State inquiry was widely held to be a rationale for mining, rather than a deep probe into environmental problems.

But that is no excuse for the Federal Government blandly overriding the State Government in direct defiance of the spirit

of the Constitution, if not of its small print. The Member for Wide Bay, Mr. Millar (N.C.P.), has given Parliament notice of a motion declaring that the export licensing

power should not be involved in matters not

directly related to that power. Every Liberal and National Country Party backbencher should support this motion and thus discipline a Government which, while parading in federalist feathers, has showed no scruples about betraying its

has snowed no sciences accur because in stated principles.

If moves to stop or delay the Commonwealth Government on this matter fail, the Federal Treasurer must take full responsibility for all the costs arising out of the Commonwealth's action, and they will

amount to many millions of dollars.

The Commonwealth will have to provide

funds to create employment for the hundreds of people it will throw out of work in the Maryborough district. And it will have to provide compensation to the mining companies. at least for their now-useless investments in Fraser Island before the Commonwealth inquiry into mining the island was announced.

Disappointed city



MARYBOROUGH .- Shock, dismay and better disappointment were the first reactions in Maryborough to the Federal Government's decision to halt sand mining on Fraser Island.

The city's economy will be badly affected by the decision.

The Chamber of Commerce president (Mr. G. Bezant) said community leaders had worked out that at least \$50 million compensation would be needed over the next 15

vestment confidence in least 300 workers would the district would take a severe blow he said. The District Development Board secretary

manager (Ald John Jurss) will fly to Canberra today to try to present Maryborough's point of view to both the media and the Government

300 out

He and other community leaders were shocked at the Government's "indecent haste" to accept the inquiry recommendations

Workmen at DM Mineral's Maryborough plant were rocked by the deci-

The company's purchasing officer (Mr.

Business and in- Frank Grant) said at pected to cease mining full text of his Governon the island by the end ment's decision. be affected. of the year.

Some of the men had been sacked from Walkers shipyards when they stopped production a few years ago.

Mr. Grant said he was amazed at the decision. "No one in his right mind could be so stupid," he said

Many people from that DM owned 98 per cent of the island and planned to rip it to This was entirely

wrong, Mr. Grant added. DM was working only two leases in the south of the island and beauty spots could not be mined under lease agreement.

Alderman Anderson in DM Minerals is ex-

Although the report suggested that mining could take place in a minor beach area, Dillingham Corporation managing director (Mr. D. B. Hill) said last night from Sydney that this area was not worthwhile. The Mayor (Alderman

J. Anderson) sent a telesouthern States thought gram to the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) soon after the decision was announced He asked the Govern-

ment's intentions regarding compensation to the of city and provision of other employment for men affected

the telegram asked the should be related to the Prime Minister for the overall situation.

The Brisbane Chamber of Commerce president (Mr. T. R. Burrell) said yesterday chamber renresentatives told the National Resources acting Minister (Mr. Nixon) and the Environment Minister (Mr. Newman) outside State Parliament yesterday that export Ifcenees for mining at Fraser Island should not

Mr. Burrell said the chamber, in detailed submissions to the Ministers. had said that the views environmentalists should be considered, but that the economic importance of mining proj-ects at Fraser Island

be withdrawn.

Concern on

millions lost in exports

SOUTHPORT .- The security of tenure of all mining leases was thrown into douby the Federal Government's decision to halt sandmining on Freser Island, Mr. O. D. Paterson said yesterday.

Mr. Paterson is Rutile and Zircon Development Association president.

He said that since 1970. excluding the Fraser Island reserves, minerals with export income at current prices of more been lost to the nation

through decisions not to the mining of deposits containing rutile and zir-

> Including the Fraser Island reserves, the value The loss of employ-ment and the benefits accruing from the expenditure by the companies on goods and services were cause for concern throughout Australia, Mr. Paterson said.

industry's operations would also be affected with possible further job This government action could affect the relationships between the mining industry and its overseas customers, he

Other industries that derived revenue from the

As the companies concerned had complied with all due processes of law, Mr. Paterson said it could be argued that the Government's action threw into jeopardy any legal enterprise which could be challenged by those who believed its operations were not compatible with the environ-

ment Murphyores Holdings Ltd. managing director (Mr. W. Murphy), whose THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1976

ANY decision to end mining on Fraser Island would mean the loss of more than 300 jobs; Mr. Alison (Lib.; Maryborough) told State Parliament yesterday.

He described any such move as one of insanity and political naivety.

ing the debate on mat-

(This was before the Federal Government's decision to uphold rec-ommendations of the Praser Island Environmental Inquiry was known.)

Mr. Alison said there were 916 unemployed people in Maryborough.

He said that if the
Federal Government were going to "self the island down the drain to four projects as part of negotiate to save jobs.

The financial, benefit of mining on Fraser Island to the Maryborough area had been calculated at \$6,240,000 annually.

Benefit

Over the 20 years that mining was expected to continue on the island. this represented a benefit to the community of \$124,800,000.

Mr. Alison said he would insist on at least ments were prese

preservationists" he compensation for would demand com- area.

These were a college of advanced education for which a site had been se-lected; the Maryborougi irrigation scheme project estimated to cost \$13 mi softwood forest north of

Mr. Alison said mining lesses with covered of

per cent of the island could be cut to 5 per cent if the Federal Govern-

Fraser stands by mining ban

CANBERRA. - The Federal Government alone could not solve the reemployment problem of Fraser Island sand-mining workers, the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) said last night,

erative approach to the problem by the Queensland Government, employers and unions.

Mr. Fraser also defended the Government's dedision last week to ban sand mining on the island from the end of

He called for a co-op-

next month Mr. Fraser said the decision was evidence of the Government's concern for Australia's environment, now and in the

"In reaching its decision the Government has been most concerned about the implications for people directly affected by the decision,

Mr. Fraser said the Government wanted to help people affected to find suitable alternative

employment. But, he said, there was no single solution to this

re-employment problem. The State Liberal Member for Mary-borough (Mr. Alison) said vesterday the Federal Government's decision to close sand mining on Fraser Island within six weeks for environmental reasons was the type of government by

remote control which produced the Eureka Stockade last century.

"If this is the type of decision we can expect from the central Government in Canberra, then we see there is something crook with the environment in Canberra and perhaps we should close down the Government in that city," he said.

"Appease"

The State Mines Minister (Mr. Camm) accused the Federal Government of using the sand mining industry on Fraser Island as a pawn to appease the conservationists.

He said: "The Federal Government has traded the sand mining operations on Fraser Island for the possible acceptance of uranium mining in this country." Mr. John Sinclair, who

led the conservationists* argument against sandmining said last night conservationists would do nothing to threaten supplies of Fraser Island timber to Maryborough sawmille

Mr. Sinclair said the Fraser Island Defenders Organisation and the Australian Conservation Foundation gave Maryborough sawmills written assurances in May 1975 that they would do nothing to threaten their supply of timber from

the island A five-man delegation was appointed at a Tin Can Bay public meeting yesterday who will go to Canberra, possibly on

sand mining on Fraser Leading the delegation will be the Widgee Shire Chairman (Cr. Kevin De Vere). The meeting expressed

Island

December 2, to ask the

Federal Government to

delay its decision to end

its anger at the Federal Government for "Interfering with State mat-

Gold prose 'in longhand'



Tourism 'a threat to Fraser Island

TOURISM was Fraser Island's biggest hope, but it also represented a potential threat to the island's environment, Mr. John Sinclair said yesterday.

Mr. Sinclair, the Fraser Island Defence Organisation president, said the State Government should appoint rangers. on the island and support development of tourist facilities.

needed for schemes pro- week. posed to Federal Government representatives to its mining loss, he said. Mr. Sinclair spoke ment authorities. from Maryborough on

his return from Can-

berra. He hopes to have

talks with the Premier

(Mr. Bjelke-Petersen)

backing also would be to Maryborough this

He said a number of compensate the area for ects were being considered by Federal Govern-

> There was a need for walking trails, shelters and huts.

tourist-orientated proj-

Rangers were needed to control indiscriminate

State Government during the Premier's visit camping which brought littering and damage to the environment.

Mr. Sinclair said it was estimated 100,000 people visited Fraser Island each year. Compensation propos-

als he had outlined forthe Maryborough area included the Mary River irrigation scheme, the construction of a new

bridge across the Mary River on Highway One and relocation of the Maryborough Show com-

On the irrigation scheme, Mr. Sinclair said: "Advanced design work has been done. It's possible work could begin on the project in six

months." Mr. Sinclair said he had not received any insults when he went about business in Maryborough

vesterday.

He knew of two businesses (a service station and a store) which had signs advising him not to shop there.

He said at least one had been withdrawn after several people threatened to withdraw their patronage,-

Mr. Bielke-Petersen said last night that he had no desire to talk " with Mr. Sinclair.

to the people Mr. Sinclair has put out of a job," he The Forestry Minister

(Mr. Tomkins) said yesterday he believed there was little prospect of a ban on logging operations on Fraser Island, He said timber interests in Maryborough had

expressed "grave fears" for the continuation of their industry, following the Federal Government's sandmining ban on the island. The report said the

commissioners were impressed both by the Forestry Department's responsible attitude towards the island's logging operations and the harmonious working relationship between it and the Maryborough sawmilling companies

processing the timber. The 'annual timber extraction was limited to "When I go to Mary- 22,500 cubic metres,

GOOD BEEK horough it will be to talk





AVAILABLE FROM YOUR & LEADING STORES 3 4

Tent 'embassy' planned

MARYBOROUGH. - Two Maryborough business men will leave for Canberra today to set up an information tent - "Fraser Island Embassy" - outside Parliament House. lobby had had it all its own way in the media, and Maryborough was

being damaged by ad-

"If one believed the

story told by one con-

servationist out to gain

sympathy, Maryborough

verse publicity.

They will protest at the Federal Government

decision to end Feaser Island sand mining. . Mr. George Bezant and Mr. Ned Turner will try to interview Parliamentarians, and at-

tempts are being made to have the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) receive them as a deputation. Mr. Bezant said last night it was imperative

"This area has suffered greatly from the roasting that Maryborough's story it has received through be told in factual fashone conservationist, be-So far the conservation cause it does not go along

with his radical line. "Maryborough is a qui-

et, conservative city, an ordinary community of people trying to live ordinary lives, and it has just received a terrific boot in the backside for

no real reason. is a city of villians and hillbillies," Mr. Bezant