

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 9

THURSDAY, 15 MARCH 1973

- 1 The House met, at ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable J. F. Cope) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 3 **PAPER:** Mr Sinclair, by leave, presented the following paper:
Letter, dated 4 December 1972, from the Hon. I. McC. Sinclair, M.P., Minister for Primary Industry, to Mr A. J. Grassby, M.P., concerning the situation of canning fruit growers in New South Wales.
 - 4 **ABORIGINES—BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY—REPORT OF ADVISORY GROUP—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Beazley (Minister for Education), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Aborigines—Bilingual education in schools in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory—Report and recommendations of Advisory Group, dated March 1973.
Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate adjourned (Mr Wentworth), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 5 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—GENERAL REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Fulton (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
Public Works Committee Act—Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works—Thirty-fifth General Report.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr Fulton, Mr Kelly, Mr Corbett and Mr L. R. Johnson (Minister representing the Minister for Works), by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
 - 6 **SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 27 March at two o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
 - 7 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—EXTENDED TIME FOR GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), being continued until fifteen minutes past three o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
 - 8 **AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY COUNCIL:** Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Australian National University Act 1946–1971*, this House elects Dr Klugman to be a member of the Council of the Australian National University to and including 18 August 1973.
Question—put and passed.
 - 9 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—
Question proposed—That grievances be noted.
Debate ensued.
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Suspension of sitting: At twenty-eight minutes past eleven o'clock a.m., Mr Speaker left the Chair to enable honourable Members to attend the unveiling by His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, of a memorial commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Royal Australian Air Force.

Resumption of sitting: At fifteen minutes past two o'clock p.m., Mr Speaker resumed the Chair.

Debate continued.

It being fifteen minutes past three o'clock p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

- 10 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS No. 6 (1973): Dr Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 6 (1973).

Debate adjourned (Mr Chipp), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 11 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to consider and report on:
 - (a) foreign affairs and defence generally; and
 - (b) such matters as may be referred to the committee—
 - (i) by the Minister for Foreign Affairs;
 - (ii) by the Minister for Defence; or
 - (iii) by resolution of either House of the Parliament.
- (2) That the committee consist of eight Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Prime Minister, four Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, two Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Australian Country Party in the House of Representatives, four Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, two Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, one Senator nominated by the Leader of the Australian Country Party in the Senate and one Senator nominated by the Leader of the Australian Democratic Labor Party in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (5) That the Prime Minister nominate one of the government members of the committee as Chairman.
- (6) That the Chairman of the committee may, from time to time, appoint another member of the committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the committee, and that the member so appointed act as Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of four or more of its members and to refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider.
- (8) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for and examine persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to meet and transact business in public or private session and notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament.
- (9) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (10) That seven members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee and three members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.

- (11) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman, or the Deputy Chairman when acting as Chairman, have a casting vote.
- (12) That the committee have power to consider and make use of the minutes of evidence and records of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, appointed in the previous Parliament, relating to any matter on which that committee had not completed its consideration.
- (13) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered with the approval of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee.
- (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (15) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate adjourned (Mr N. H. Bowen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

12 PRICES—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Crean (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to inquire into and, as appropriate, report upon—
 - (a) complaints arising from prices charged by private industry;
 - (b) movements in prices of goods and services in particular fields or sections of private industry, 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.
- (2) That the committee consist of four Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Prime Minister, two Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, one Member of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Australian Country Party in the House of Representatives, two Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and one Senator nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (5) That the Prime Minister nominate one of the government members of the committee as Chairman.
- (6) That the Chairman of the committee may, from time to time, appoint another member of the committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the committee, and that the member so appointed act as Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members and to refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (8) That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to sit during any recess or adjournment of the Parliament.
- (9) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (10) That five members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, and two members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (11) That in matters of procedure the Chairman or Deputy Chairman presiding at the meeting have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, have a casting vote, and that, in other matters, the Chairman or Deputy Chairman have a deliberative vote only.

- (12) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (13) That the committee recognise the need for co-operation between the Commonwealth and consumer protection bodies in the States.
- (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (15) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate adjourned (Mr N. H. Bowen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 13 EXCISE TARIFF BILL 1973: The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the Bill in committee, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Scholes reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr Daly (Minister for Services and Property), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 COMMONWEALTH BANKS BILL 1973: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Daly (Minister for Services and Property), the Bill was read a third time.

Suspension of sitting: At four minutes to five o'clock p.m., Mr Speaker left the Chair.
Resumption of sitting: At eight o'clock p.m., Mr Speaker resumed the Chair.

- 15 PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY: Mr Speaker reported that, accompanied by honourable Members, he had waited that day upon His Excellency the Governor-General at Government House, and had presented to him the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech on the Opening of the First Session of the Twenty-eighth Parliament, agreed to by the House on 8 March, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply:

MR SPEAKER,

Thank you for your Address in Reply which you have just presented to me. It will be my pleasure and my duty to convey to Her Most Gracious Majesty The Queen at once the Message of Loyalty from the House of Representatives of Australia, to which the Address gives expression.

- 16 COMMONWEALTH-STATE HOUSING AGREEMENT—DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH NEGOTIATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr L. R. Johnson (Minister for Housing), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to documents associated with negotiations with the Victorian Minister for Housing on a proposed Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement.

Mr Bonnett, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

17 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ADVANCEMENT) BILL 1973: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr FitzPatrick), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

18 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

15 March 1973—Message—

No. 5 —Repatriation 1973.

No. 6 —Repatriation (Special Overseas Service) 1973.

No. 7 —Repatriation (Far East Strategic Reserve) 1973.

No. 8 —Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances 1973.

No. 9 —Interim Forces Benefits 1973.

No. 10—Commonwealth Electoral 1973.

No. 11—Australian Capital Territory Representation 1973.

No. 12—Northern Territory (Administration) 1973.

19 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Bryant (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until eleven o'clock p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday, 27 March, at two o'clock p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 15 March 1973, pursuant to statute:

Canberra College of Advanced Education Act—Statutes—

No. 17—Election of Student Members of Council Amendment No. 1.

No. 18—Courses and Awards Amendment No. 2.

Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1973, No. 41.

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment Certificates—K. J. Heaton, V. J. Sedgwick.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1973, Nos. 42, 43.

Metal Working Machine Tools Bounty Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1973, No. 40.

Papua New Guinea Act—Ordinance—1973—No. 11—Asian Development Bank (Additional Subscription) 1972.

Tobacco Charge Act (No. 1)—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1973, No. 44.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hewson, Mr Reynolds and Mr I. L. Robinson.

N. J. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives

The first part of the paper discusses the general theory of the firm, focusing on the role of the entrepreneur and the importance of capital structure.

The second part of the paper discusses the empirical evidence on the relationship between capital structure and firm performance.

The third part of the paper discusses the implications of the theory and the empirical evidence for policy.

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