

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 71

THURSDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 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 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following honourable Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Anthony (Leader of the Australian Country Party), Mr Adermann, Mr Bonnett, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Cooke, Mr Corbett, Mr Drury, Mr Katter, Mr Kelly, Mr Killen, Mr McLeay, Mr McVeigh, Mr E. L. Robinson, Mr Ruddock and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with the existing national health scheme.

Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the Australian Country Party), Mr Martin, Mr Morris, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Ruddock and Mr Turner—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House see that television is used to build into the nation integrity, teamwork and a sense of purpose by serving, and to bring faith in God to the heart of the family and national life.

Mr Kerin—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House immediately revoke all Australian whaling licences and ban the importation of all whale produce.

Mr King—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urge the Government to include "God Save The Queen" in any referendum or poll to decide a national anthem.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Fire Board—Report for year 1972-73.

Department of Urban and Regional Development—First Annual Report, for period 19 December 1972 to 30 June 1973.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Services Trust Funds Act—

Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—Twenty-sixth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1972-73.

Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—Twenty-fifth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1972-73.

Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1972-73.

Mr Chipp, by leave, presented the following papers:

Health insurance scheme proposed for Australia—

Letter from Mr Hayden (Minister for Social Security) to a constituent.

Speech by Mr Chipp to the Dental Association of Australia on 21 September 1973.

- 5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER: Mr Lynch (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) moved—
That leave of absence for one month be given to the honourable Member for Curtin
(Mr Garland) on the ground of public business overseas.
Question—put and passed.
- 6 COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES—REPORT: Mr Enderby (Chairman) brought up the following
report from the Committee of Privileges:
Report relating to a letter allegedly written by the Secretary, Department of
Aboriginal Affairs, together with minutes of proceedings of the committee.
Ordered to be printed.
- 7 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS: Mr Fulton (Chairman) brought up the following
reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
Report relating to the proposed construction of Dripstone high school, Darwin
(Eighth report of 1973).
Report relating to the proposed construction of stage 6 extension of the Stokes
Hill power station, Darwin (Ninth report of 1973).
Severally ordered to be printed.
- 8 GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICE: Upon notice No. 1, general business, being called on, Mr
Hunt informed the House that he had fixed general business Thursday No. 12 as the
day on which he would move the motion.
- 9 “BLYTHE STAR”—LOCATION OF SURVIVORS—PROPOSED SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Wentworth
moved, pursuant to notice—
- (1) That a select committee of this House be appointed to inquire into:
 - (a) the reasons why the raft with the survivors of the *Blythe Star* was not
located more promptly, and
 - (b) possible measures to facilitate the prompt location of boats or rafts in
difficulties at sea.
 - (2) That the committee consist of the mover and seconder together with three
Members to be nominated by the Prime Minister, and to be notified in writing
to the Speaker.
 - (3) 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.
 - (4) That the committee report to this House not later than 30 November 1973.
- Debate ensued.
Motion withdrawn, by leave.
- 10 MINISTER FOR LABOUR—CONDUCT: Mr Wentworth moved, pursuant to notice—That
this House requires an explanation and apology from the Minister for Labour for
his conduct in misleading it on 16 October as recorded in *Hansard* at pages 2134–2135,
in that he falsely reported the advice tendered by an officer of his Department.
Debate ensued.
Ordered—That Mr C. R. Cameron (Minister for Labour) be granted an extension of
time.
Debate continued.
Question—put and negatived.
- 11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—SCHOOLS COMMISSION BILL 1973: The following message
from the Senate was reported:
- MR SPEAKER, Message No. 162
- The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to make
provision for and in relation to the Establishment of a Schools Commission*”, and
acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments

indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Canberra, 21 November 1973

MAGNUS CORMACK,
President

Ordered—That the amendments be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

- 12 STATES GRANTS (ADVANCED EDUCATION) BILL (No. 4) 1973: Mr L. F. Bowen (Acting Minister for Education), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act (No. 3) 1972* as amended by the *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act 1973* and the *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act (No. 3) 1973*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Bowen moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Sinclair—Deputy Leader of the Australian Country Party), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 13 WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 98, dated 10 October 1973, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 to 7, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Proposed new clause—

Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the Australian Country Party) moved—That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill:

“7A. Section 13 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting sub-section (3) and substituting the following sub-sections: Powers of Board.

‘(3) The Minister may disallow a sale or disposal or agreement for the sale or disposal of wheat, wheaten flour, semolina, corn sacks, jute or jute products which in his opinion provides for a price or conditions which would provide for less than a reasonable market return.

‘(3A) The Minister shall table in both Houses of the Parliament within fifteen sitting days of a disallowance of a sale or disposal or agreement for the sale or disposal of wheat, wheaten flour, semolina, corn sacks, jute or jute products a statement of the reasons of which his disallowance was based.’”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the new clause proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Scholes, in the Chair)—

AYES, 48

Mr Adermann	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Kelly	Mr Staley
Mr Anthony	Mr Fisher	Mr Killen	Mr Street
Mr Bonnett	Dr Forbes	Mr Lloyd	Mr Turner
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fraser	Mr Lucock	Mr Viner
Mr Calder	Mr Giles	Mr Lynch	Mr Wentworth
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Mr MacKellar	Mr Whittorn
Mr Cooke	Mr Hallett	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wilson
Mr Corbett	Mr Hamer	Mr Maisey	
Sir J. Cramer	Mr Hewson	Mr O’Keefe	
Mr Drummond	Mr Holten	Mr E. L. Robinson	
Mr Drury	Mr Hunt	Mr I. L. Robinson	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Edwards	Mr Jarman	Mr Ruddock	Mr England
Mr Erwin	Mr Katter	Mr Sinclair	Mr Fox

NOES, 60

Mr Armitage	Mr Daly	Mr L. K. Johnson	Dr Patterson
Mr Ashley-Brown	Mr Davies	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Reynolds
Mr Bennett	Mr Doyle	Mr Jones	Mr Riordan
Mr Berinson	Mr Duthie	Mr Keating	Mr Sherry
Mr Birrell	Mr Enderby	Mr Keogh	Mr Stewart
Mr L. F. Bowen	Dr Everingham	Mr Kerin	Mr Thorburn
Mr Bryant	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Lamb	Mr Uren
Dr Cairns	Mr Fulton	Mr Luchetti	Mr Wallis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Garrick	Mr McKenzie	Mr Whan
Dr Cass	Dr Gun	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mr Coates	Mr Hayden	Mr Mathews	
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Mr Collard	Mr Innes	Mr Morrison	
Mr Connor	Mr Jacobi	Mr Mulder	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Crean	Mr James	Mr Oldmeadow	Mr Hansen
Mr Cross	Dr Jenkins	Mr Olley	Mr Nicholls

And so it was negatived.

Clauses 8 to 13, by leave, taken together, and agreed to, after debate.

Schedule—

On the motion, by leave, of Dr Patterson (Minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry), the following amendments were made together:

Page 4—

omit—

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|-----------------------|---|
| "Section 18 (5) | (a) Omit 'bushels', substitute 'tonnes'. |
| | (b) Omit 'bushel' (first occurring), substitute 'tonne'. |
| | (c) Omit 'Five dollars per bushel', substitute 'One hundred and eighty-three dollars seventy-two cents per tonne'. |
| Section 20 (1) | (a) Omit 'bushels', substitute 'tonnes'. |
| | (b) Omit 'bushel' (first occurring), substitute 'tonne'. |
| | (c) Omit 'Five dollars per bushel', substitute 'One hundred and eighty-three dollars seventy-two cents per tonne'." |

substitute—

"Section 18

Add the following sub-section:—

'(5A) Where, during the season that commenced on 1 October 1973 or a subsequent season, a person contravenes sub-section (5), the penalty provided in that sub-section does not apply, but that person is guilty of an offence punishable, on conviction, by a fine not exceeding—

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|-----|--|
| (a) | an amount equal to three times the amount calculated, in respect of the quantity of the wheat in respect of which the offence is committed, at the rate of the guaranteed price of wheat of that season; or |
| (b) | if there is no such guaranteed price—an amount calculated in respect of that quantity of wheat at the rate of Twenty dollars for each 100 kilograms or part of 100 kilograms of that quantity of wheat, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or both.' |

Section 20

After sub-section (1), insert the following sub-section:—

'(1A) Where, during the season that commenced on 1 October 1973 or a subsequent season, a person contravenes sub-section (1), the penalty provided in that sub-section does not apply, but that person is guilty of an offence punishable, on conviction, by a fine not exceeding—

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|-----|--|
| (a) | an amount equal to three times the amount calculated, in respect of the quantity of the wheat, or of the wheat equivalent of the wheat products, in respect of which the offence is committed, at the rate of the guaranteed price of wheat of that season; or |
| (b) | if there is no such guaranteed price—an amount calculated in respect of that quantity of wheat or wheat equivalent at the rate of Twenty dollars for each 100 kilograms or part of 100 kilograms of that quantity of wheat or wheat equivalent, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or both.' |

Section 20 (2)..	..	Omit 'the last preceding sub-section', substitute 'sub-section (1)'."
Page 4— omit—		
"Section 27 (8)..	..	Omit 'the first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight', substitute '1 December 1968'.
Section 27A	Omit 'bushel' (wherever occurring), substitute 'tonne'."
substitute—		
"Section 27 (8) (a)	..	Omit 'the first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight', substitute '1 December 1968'.
Section 27 (8) (b)	..	Omit 'the next succeeding section', substitute 'section 28'.
Section 27A	Omit 'bushel' (wherever occurring), substitute 'tonne'.
Section 27A (5)	..	Omit 'the last preceding section', substitute 'section 27 or sub-section (5) of section 27AA'.
Section 28 (1)..	..	Omit 'the last preceding section', substitute 'section 27 and sub-sections (5) and (6) of section 27AA'."

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr Scholes reported accordingly.

On the motion of Dr Patterson, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 WHEAT EXPORT CHARGE 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—Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Dr Patterson (Minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 15 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NOS. 18 AND 19 (1973): Dr Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 18 and 19 (1973).

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

- 16 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Tariff Board—Reports—

Engines, motors, pumps and valves, etc.

Fire hose.

Severally ordered to be printed.

- 17 ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT AND STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Dr Jenkins (Chairman) brought up a Report from the Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation on turtle farming in the Torres Strait Islands.

Ordered to be printed.

Dr Jenkins, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate adjourned (Mr Lynch—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), 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:

22 November 1973—Message—

No. 163—States Grants (Capital Assistance) 1973.

No. 164—States Grants 1973.

No. 165—Social Welfare Commission 1973.

No. 166—States Grants (Housing Assistance) (No. 2) 1973.

No. 167—Wheat Tax 1973 (*without requests*).

No. 168—Mental Health and Related Services Assistance 1973.

19 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HIGH COMMISSIONER (UNITED KINGDOM) ACT REPEAL BILL 1973: Message No. 169, dated 22 November 1973, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to repeal the ‘High Commissioner (United Kingdom) Act 1909–1966’, and for purposes connected therewith*”.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That the second reading be made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

Question—put and passed.

20 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CUSTOMS BILL 1973: Message No. 170, dated 22 November 1973, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend section 131A of the ‘Customs Act 1901–1971’*”.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

21 INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (No. 4) 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 Crean (Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

22 INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (No. 5) 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—

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Crean (Treasurer) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Lynch (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) speaking without limitation of time.

Question—put and passed.

Debate resumed by Mr Lynch who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that the provisions of the Bill are a contravention of the Government’s electoral undertakings not to increase taxes and that the Bill specifically:

(a) imposes unwarranted taxes on pensioners;

(b) eliminates incentives for manufacturing industry inconsistent with the economic requirement to increase productivity and ease the pressure on domestic resources;

(c) removes or drastically reduces important rural productivity incentives;

(d) jeopardises the savings and future security of Australians holding life assurance policies;

(e) places inflexible rules on the sale of property which take no account of reasons unconnected with profit motives such as illness and additional family responsibilities;

(f) impedes the development of small businesses by increasing the rates of private company tax, and

(g) places added cost burdens on Australia’s wine and brandy producers especially the smaller producers of wine grapes”.

Debate continued

Mr Hallett addressing the House—

23 ADJOURNMENT: It being fifteen minutes past ten o'clock p.m.—The question was proposed—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 Monday next at two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Garland*, Mr Gorton, Dr Klugman*, Mr McLeay, Mr Nixon and Mr Peacock.

* On leave

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