

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 27

TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 1974

-
- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable J. F. Cope) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that delegates attending the Second Australasian Parliamentary Seminar arranged by the Australian and New Zealand Branches of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association were present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.
 - 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Hunt and Mr Kerin—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House take urgent steps to ensure that further mining and export from Australia of uranium, except for bio-medical purposes, be banned and that the Australian Atomic Energy Commission be transformed into an Australian Energy Commission.
 - Mr K. M. Cairns—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House not admit into the law of this land the principle that marriage is only temporary and the family no longer the fundamental unit of society.
 - Mr Gorton—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House take immediate steps to restore education benefits to parents, at least to the 1973-74 level, either by increasing taxation deductions or through taxation rebates.
 - Mr Hodges—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urge the Government to amend the Family Law Bill in certain respects and provide funds for family life education, programs preparing people for marriage, the decentralisation of approved guidance facilities and education in marriage courses for young married couples.
 - Mr Hodges—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House not proceed with the Human Rights Bill.
 - Mr Jacobi—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government (1) grant a cash loading to pensioners, (2) increase within a reasonable period the weekly pension to 25 per cent of average weekly earnings, (3) freeze the tapered means test ceilings of income and assets and (4) give an assurance that the proposed national superannuation Bill will provide pensioners with a guaranteed minimum income of 30 per cent of quarterly adjusted average weekly earnings.
 - Mr Lusher—from certain electors of the Division of Hume praying that greater consideration be given to those provisions of the Family Law Bill which could place in an unjust and unfair position a woman who performs in a praiseworthy manner her duties of wife, mother and home-maker.
 - Mr McLeay—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with the existing national health scheme.
 - Mr McLeay—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government cease the support of those organizations in southern Africa which are guilty of various acts of terrorism.

Mr Martin—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government increase child endowment in the September Budget.

Petitions received.

- 4 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Stewart (Minister for Tourism and Recreation) and the absence, because of an injury, of Mr Daly (Minister for Services and Property and Leader of the House), Mr Bowen (Special Minister of State) was acting as Minister for Services and Property, Leader of the House and Minister for Tourism and Recreation.
- 5 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 6 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
- Defence Report 1974.
 - Department of Urban and Regional Development—Second Annual Report, for year 1973–74.
 - Tariff Board—Report—Photographic and cinematographic apparatus, etc.
- The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:
- Commonwealth Police Act—Commonwealth Police Force—Report for year 1973–74.
 - Grants Commission Act—Grants Commission—Forty-first Report (1974) on special assistance for States.
 - Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Footwear, dated 10 October 1974.
 - Metric Conversion Act—Metric Conversion Board—Fourth Annual Report, for year 1973–74, together with Report by the Minister on the operation of the Act.
 - Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Legal Aid Ordinance—Legal Aid Committee of the Australian Capital Territory—Report and financial statement, together with the auditor's report, for period 1 March to 30 June 1972.
 - Services Trust Funds Act—Services Canteens Trust Fund—Twenty-sixth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1973.
- 7 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
- 17 October 1974—Message—
 - No. 71—Papua New Guinea Loan (International Bank) 1974.
 - No. 72—Papua New Guinea Loans Guarantee 1974.
- 8 MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:
- 18 October 1974—Message—
 - No. 53—
 - Commonwealth Banks 1974.
 - Australian Tourist Commission 1974.
 - No. 54—Australian Shipping Commission 1974.
 - No. 55—
 - States Grants 1974.
 - Adelaide to Crystal Brook Railway 1974.
 - Tarcoola to Alice Springs Railway 1974.
- 9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Lynch (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The urgent need for a comprehensive series of economic initiatives to restore stability to the Australian economy".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Lynch addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Mr Killen rising to address the House—

Mr Bowen (Acting Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL 1974: Dr J. F. Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) presented a Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs.
Bill read a first time.
Dr Cairns moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Adermann), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 11 CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (No. 2) 1974: Dr J. F. Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) presented a Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs.
Bill read a first time.
Dr Cairns moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Adermann), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL (No. 2) 1974: Dr J. F. Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of certain Collections of Duties of Customs in accordance with Customs Tariff Proposals, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Dr Cairns moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Dr Edwards), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 CUSTOMS BILL (No. 2) 1974: Dr J. F. Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise), for Mr Bowen (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Act 1901–1973*, as amended by the *Customs Act 1974*.
Bill read a first time.
Dr Cairns moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Adermann), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 14 EXCISE TARIFF BILL 1974: Dr J. F. Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) presented a Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Excise.
Bill read a first time.
Dr Cairns moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Adermann), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 15 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1974–75: The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Treasury, \$132,627,000—

Advance to the Treasurer, \$75,000,000—

together debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Attorney-General's Department, \$62,764,000—

Department of Customs and Excise, \$52,021,000—

together debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditure—Department of Transport, \$260,114,000—debated.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr Scholes reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said committee.

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

Bowen Basin region, Queensland—Industrial potential—Report for the Department of Northern Development by Nabalco Engineering Pty Ltd, dated August 1974.

Pilbara study—Report on potential industrial development by the Pilbara Study Group, dated July 1974.

17 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1974–75: The House, according to order, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditure—Department of Transport, \$260,114,000—further debated and agreed to.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr Scholes reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said committee.

18 ADJOURNMENT: It being half-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 tomorrow at twelve o'clock noon.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 22 October 1974, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—W. F. Muir.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land, etc., acquired for—

Defence purposes—St Johns Wood, Queensland.

Post office purposes—

Beachport, South Australia.

Wilpena, South Australia.

Television transmitter purposes—

Honeymoon, South Australia.

Moonlight, South Australia.

Statements (2) of lands, etc., acquired by agreement authorised under section 7 (1) of the Act.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Bouchier, Mrs Child, Mr Daly, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr Mathews and Mr Stewart.

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