

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 56

FRIDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 1975

1 The House met, at half-past nine o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable G. G. D. Scholes) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 FAMILY LAW BILL 1974: 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Stewart (Minister for Tourism and Recreation), viz.—* That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that the Bill should give expression to the following principles—

- (a) that the family is the basic and stable unit of the Australian society;
- (b) that marriage should be buttressed;
- (c) that marriage should be permanent and secure;
- (d) that full and proper recognition be given to the status and rights of a woman as wife and mother;
- (e) that there should be full and proper protection of the wife and children in the event of the dissolution of a marriage;
- (f) that there is need for children to be reared and cared for by a present parent, and
- (g) that marriage should be dissolved only when a Court is satisfied on objective grounds that the marriage has irretrievably broken down or that the parties have lived separately and apart for not less than two years”—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Dr Cass—Minister for the Environment and Conservation), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR—ASSENT TO BILL: A message from His Excellency the Administrator was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:
28 February 1975—Message No. 122—Darwin Reconstruction 1975.

4 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Enderby (Attorney-General) moved—That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-six minutes to five o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at fifteen minutes past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Dr J. F. Cairns, Mr K. M. Cairns, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Chipp, Mr Collard, Mr Connor, Mr Cope, Mr Davies, Mr Ellicott, Dr Everingham, Dr Forbes, Mr Jones, Mr Lloyd, Mr McVeigh, Mr Mathews, Mr Morris, Mr Morrison, Mr Nicholls and Mr O'Keefe.

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