

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 97

TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 1975

1 The House met, at fifteen minutes past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable G. G. D. Scholes) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR J. T. LANG): Mr Speaker informed the House of the death, on 27 September 1975, of Mr John Thomas Lang, a Member of this House for the Division of Reid from 1946 to 1949.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

3 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Hayden (Treasurer), Mr Bryant (Minister for the Capital Territory), Mr Berinson (Minister for Environment), Mr Drummond, Mr Ellicott, Mr Hyde, Mr Katter, Mr Kerin, Mr Mathews and Mr Staley—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House either decrease or reject proposed increases in postal and telephone charges.

Mr Bungey, Mr Connolly, Mr Hyde, Mr McLeay and Mr Macphee—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House reject the Australian Government Insurance Office Bill.

Mr Connor (Minister for Minerals and Energy), Mr L. R. Johnson (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), Mr Anthony (Leader of the National Country Party of Australia) and Mr Sullivan—from certain citizens of Australia praying that (1) pensions be related to average weekly earnings and (2) no charge be made for the installation or rental of telephones for pensioners.

Mr Gorton, Mr Millar and Mr Oldmeadow—from certain citizens of Australia praying that (1) the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and (2) the Government take urgent steps to cause the traditional and familiar units to be restored in those areas where the greatest inconveniences and distress are occurring.

Mr Berinson and Mr Kerin—from certain residents of Australia praying that the House (1) support a moratorium on whaling, (2) support research into marine biology and alternatives to whale products, (3) close down whaling operations at Cheynes Beach, Western Australia, (4) ban the import of all whale products and (5) encourage the end of whaling throughout the world.

Mr Berinson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House ensure that the Government (1) prohibit the export of mineral sands from Fraser Island and (2) assist the Queensland Government and other bodies to conserve the natural environment of Fraser Island for the benefit of the people of Australia.

Mr Bonnett—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with existing television program standards or to permit easier entry into Australia, or production in Australia, of pornographic material.

Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the cadet corps be continued.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.

Mr Fry—from certain residents of Torrens Street, Braddon, Australian Capital Territory, praying that action be taken under the City Area Leases Ordinance in respect of unplanned changes in land use on certain residential leases in Torrens Street.

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 Nixon—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House grant \$200,000 to the Shire of South Gippsland, Victoria, for maintenance of services at the 1972 level and that it increase this grant annually in line with the inflation rate.

Mr Oldmeadow—from certain citizens and foreign students in Australia praying that the House agree to the changes proposed by the Australian Union of Students to the tertiary education scheme.

Petitions received.

4 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence, owing to illness, of Mr Connor (Minister for Minerals and Energy), Mr Bowen (Minister for Manufacturing Industry) would represent Mr Connor in the House.

5 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr C. R. Cameron (Minister for Science and Consumer Affairs), by leave, presented the following paper:

Cablegram from London, dated 27 September 1975, sent on behalf of Mr Enoch Powell to Mr Cameron concerning the pronunciation of the word "kilometre".

Questions without notice continued.

6 PAPERS: Mr Speaker presented, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Commonwealth Banking Corporation, Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia, Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia and Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia—Reports and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1974–75.

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

Australian Chicken Meat Research Committee—Interim report for year 1974–75.

Australian Egg Board—Interim statement for year 1974–75.

Australian Honey Board—Interim report for year 1974–75.

Australian National Railways Commission—Interim financial statements for year 1974–75.

Defence Service Homes—Interim report of Director on insurance operations for year 1974–75.

Petroleum—Royal Commission—Third Report—Circumstances of the transfer of allocated indigenous crude oil by Allied Petrochemicals Pty Limited to ACTU-Solo Enterprises Pty Limited, dated September 1975.

United Nations—Third Conference on the Law of the Sea, Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 17 March to 9 May 1975—Report of the Australian Delegation.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Taxation—

Fifty-fourth Report of the Commissioner of Taxation, dated 1 September 1975.
Taxation Statistics 1973–74 (Supplement to the Fifty-third Report of the Commissioner of Taxation).

Severally ordered to be printed.

Broadcasting and Television Act—Australian Broadcasting Control Board—Twenty-seventh Annual Report and financial statement, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.

Dairy Adjustment Act—Dairy Adjustment Programs—Amending Agreement between Australia and Tasmania, dated 27 August 1975.

Industrial Research and Development Grants Act—Australian Industrial Research and Development Grants Board—Eighth Annual Report, for year 1974–75.

National Health Act—Fourth Annual Report on the operations of the registered Medical and Hospital Benefits Organizations, for year 1973–74.

Public Service Act—Public Service Board—Fifty-first Annual Report, for year 1974–75.

Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act—Agreement relating to financial assistance to Western Australia for year 1974–75 for urban expansion and redevelopment (Moore River studies).

- 7 **NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Senators and Members to be members of the Joint Standing Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House:

Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr Keating and Mr Keogh had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Garland, Mr Drury and Mr I. L. Robinson had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.

Senators Button, McIntosh and Melzer had been nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and Senators Carrick, Webster and Withers had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in that House.

- 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:

28 August 1975—Message No. 198—

Foreign Takeovers 1975.

National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits Charges) 1975.

12 September 1975—Message No. 199—Stevedoring Industry Charge 1975.

- 9 **PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Riordan (Chairman) brought up the report from the Joint Committee on Pecuniary Interests of Members of the Parliament relating to the declaration of interests of Members of Parliament and others, together with minutes of meetings and transcript of evidence of the committee.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Riordan, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

- 10 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOUSING:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr McLeay had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The impact of Government policies on employment in the building industry, home ownership and rental accommodation".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr McLeay addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 11 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS No. 26 (1975): Mr Enderby (Minister representing the Minister for Police and Customs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 26 (1975). Debate adjourned (Mr E. L. Robinson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 ABORIGINAL COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS BILL 1975: Mr L. R. Johnson (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the Constitution of Aboriginal Councils and the Incorporation of Associations of Aboriginals and for matters connected therewith.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Johnson moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr E. L. Robinson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1975–76: 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 expenditure—Department of Overseas Trade, \$58,871,000—debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$85,536,000—

Department of the Special Minister of State, \$92,903,000—

together debated.

Mr Kelly rising to address the committee—

Closure: Mr Nicholls moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the proposed expenditures be agreed to—was put accordingly, and passed.

Proposed expenditures—

Attorney-General's Department, \$58,790,000—

Department of Police and Customs, \$98,785,000—

together debated.

Mr Calder addressing the committee—

It being half-past ten o'clock p.m.—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Dr Jenkins reported accordingly.

- 14 ADJOURNMENT: The question was accordingly 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 ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 30 September 1975, pursuant to statute:

Agricultural Tractors Bounty Act—Return for year 1974–75.

Air Force Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 177.

Australian Citizenship Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 181.

Book Bounty Act—Return for year 1974–75.

Canberra College of Advanced Education Act—Statute—No. 29—Facilities.

Cellulose Acetate Flake Bounty Act—Return for 1974.

Control of Naval Waters Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 178.

- Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 183.
Defence (Visiting Forces) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 182.
Family Law Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 188.
Lands Acquisition Act—
 Land, etc., acquired for—
 Defence purposes—Cecil Plains, Queensland.
 Development of Canberra and its environs—Australian Capital Territory.
 Telecommunication purposes—
 Drummoyne, New South Wales.
 Redfern, New South Wales.
 Samford, Queensland.
 Statements (5) of lands, etc., acquired by agreement authorised under section 7 (1) of the Act.
Metal Working Machine Tools Bounty Act—Return for year 1974–75.
Nitrogenous Fertilizers Subsidy Act—Return for year 1974–75.
Norfolk Island Act—Ordinances—1975—
 No. 3—Crown Lands.
 No. 4—Post and Telegraph.
Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1975—No. 26—Crown Lands.
Northern Territory Supreme Court Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 164.
Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1975, No. 179.
Phosphate Fertilizers Bounty Act—Return for year 1974–75.
Refrigeration Compressors Bounty Act—Return for period 4 February 1974 to 3 February 1975.
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
 National Memorials Ordinance—Determination naming Divisions of the Australian Capital Territory, dated 21 July 1975.
 Ordinances—1975—
 No. 26—Rabbit Destruction.
 No. 27—Surveyors.
 No. 28—Trustee.
 Regulations—1975—
 No. 17 (Public Health Ordinance).
 No. 18 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Connor, Mr England, Mr Fairbairn, Mr Giles, Mr Graham, Mr Hurford, Mr Luchetti and Mr Ruddock.

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