

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 11

WEDNESDAY, 17 MARCH 1976

1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

Mr Braithwaite, Mr Carige and Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Cadet forces be re-instated.

Mr Thomson—a similar petition from certain electors of the Division of Leichhardt.

Mr Carige and Mr Thomson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Connolly—from certain members of the New South Wales Environment Centre Management Committee praying that the Australian Heritage Commission be appointed urgently and grants be given to community organisations concerned with conservation.

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 the Australian Capital Territory praying that the introduction of self-government for the A.C.T. be not proceeded with until the residents of the Territory are consulted by means of a referendum.

Dr Klugman—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the introduction of television and radio licence fees, the imposition of a tax levy for Medibank and the introduction of higher charges for drugs dispensed under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be prevented.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes be not re-introduced.

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 1974–75.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Precision ground steel ball bearings, dated 5 December 1975.

Sheets and plates of iron or steel—Import restrictions, dated 27 November 1975.

Post-Secondary Education in Tasmania—Report of Committee, dated February 1976—

Report.

Statement by Senator Carrick (Minister for Education).

- 5 INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION—LONDON CONFERENCE, 1975—REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Graham, by leave, presented the following paper:

Inter-Parliamentary Union—Sixty-second Conference, London, 4-12 September 1975—Report of the Australian Delegation.

Ordered to be printed.

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

- 6 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GROWTH CENTRES: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Scholes had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's failure to announce a policy on growth centres".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Scholes addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 7 PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE SYSTEM—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) relating to the proposed Joint Committee on the Parliamentary Committee System (*moved 16 March, see pages 59-60*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 8 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs) relating to the proposed Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence (*moved 16 March, see pages 60-1*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 9 ROAD SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport) relating to the proposed Standing Committee on Road Safety (*moved 16 March, see pages 61-2*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 10 ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr MacKellar (Minister representing the Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development) relating to the proposed Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation (*moved 16 March, see pages 62-3*)—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hodges), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 11 DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT WITH THE NETHERLANDS—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPERS NOTED: Mr Lynch (Treasurer), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Agreement between Australia and the Netherlands for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Canberra on 17 March 1976.

Mr Lynch, by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the Agreement, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Double Taxation Agreement with the Netherlands—Ministerial statement, 17 March 1976.

Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 12 ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr MacKellar (Minister representing the Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development) relating to the proposed Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation (*moved 16 March, see pages 62-3*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 13 SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES—SELECT COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Viner (Minister representing the Minister for Education) relating to the proposed Select Committee on Specific Learning Difficulties (*moved 16 March, see pages 63-4*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 14 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) relating to the proposed Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs (*moved 16 March, see pages 65-6*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 15 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory) relating to the proposed Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory (*moved 16 March, see pages 66-7*)—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 16 NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory) relating to the proposed Joint Standing Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House (*moved 16 March, see pages 67-8*)—

Debate resumed.

Mr L. K. Johnson addressing the House—

Adjournment negatived: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

17 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—
That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11.00 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House
until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 17 March 1976, pursuant
to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of land, etc., acquired by agreement authorised
under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except
Mr Braithwaite and Mr Peacock.

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