

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 15

THURSDAY, 25 MARCH 1976

1 The House met, at 10.30 a.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 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 Garrick and Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government recognize the Democratic Republic of East Timor, assist in the delivery of humanitarian aid to East Timor, support the proposal of a neutral zone there, cease all military, economic and trade aid to Indonesia, uphold actions to remove the Indonesian presence from East Timor and hold a public inquiry into the deaths of Australian journalists in East Timor.

Mr Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Aldred—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the activities of diplomatic and consular posts of the Polish People's Republic be curtailed to ensure that they are not detrimental to Australians of Polish descent.

Mr Chipp—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government reverse the decision to cut 1975-76 overseas development assistance, reaffirm Australia's commitment of assistance of a minimum of 0.7% of G.N.P. and establish an independent statutory authority to administer such assistance.

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 Haslem—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.

Mr Willis—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the radio used to maintain links between the Democratic Republic of East Timor and the rest of the world and seized by the Australian Government be returned.

Mr Willis—from certain citizens of Australia praying that any proposal to build an Omega station on Australian soil be rejected.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPER: The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:

Australian Institute of Marine Science Act—Council of the Institute of Marine Science—Report and financial statement, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.

5 TRANSPORT BETWEEN TASMANIA AND THE MAINLAND—REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION—PAPERS AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Transport between Tasmania and the mainland—Report of Royal Commission, dated 5 March 1976.

Mr Nixon, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Transport between Tasmania and the mainland—Report of Royal Commission—Ministerial statement, 25 March 1976.

Summary of principal findings and recommendations.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

6 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

7 ACTS CITATION BILL 1976: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the Citation of Acts.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

8 TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to Trade Practices.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

9 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

10 STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS) BILL 1976: Mr Viner (Minister representing the Minister for Education), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide Financial Assistance to the States for and in relation to Schools, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

11 SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation), for Mr Hunt (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to Social Services.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 12 REPATRIATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to Repatriation and related Matters.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 13 NITROGENOUS FERTILIZERS SUBSIDY AMENDMENT BILL 1976: 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.

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

- 14 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Dr Jenkins, viz.*—That the following words be added to the Address: “, but note that—

- (a) the Speech makes no acknowledgment of the financial pre-eminence of the House of Representatives;
- (b) the Speech makes no reference to the need for action to ensure that there cannot be a recurrence of the Constitutional crisis which threatens the continuation of the Australian Parliamentary system, and
- (c) the proposals outlined in the Speech are so framed as to cause a major transfer of resources from middle and low income families to those on higher income levels”—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Lynch (Treasurer) speaking for a period not exceeding 30 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr MacKellar—Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 15 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—FIRST REPORT: Mr Hodges (Chairman) brought up the First Report from the Publications Committee (sitting in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

FIRST REPORT

The Publications Committee has the honour to report that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered Petitions and Papers presented to Parliament, recommends that the following be printed:

Airlines Agreement Act—Ansett Transport Industries Limited—Airlines activities—Financial statements for year ended 28 June 1975.

- Anglo-Australian Telescope Agreement Act—Annual Report of the Anglo-Australian Telescope Board, together with financial statements and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1974–75.
- Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Act—Australian Apple and Pear Corporation—First Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for the period 1 September 1974 to 30 June 1975.
- Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—Twelfth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Australian Citizenship Act—Return for year 1974–75.
- Australian Development Assistance Agency Act—Australian Development Assistance Agency—First Annual Report and financial statement, for year 1974–75.
- Australian Fire Board—Report for year 1974–75.
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies Act—Council of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Australian Institute of Marine Science Act—Third Annual Report of the Council of the Australian Institute of Marine Science, together with financial statement and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1974–75.
- Australian National Airlines Act—Australian National Airlines Commission—Thirtieth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report of visit to Thailand, Japan and the Philippines by delegation led by the Hon. G. G. D. Scholes, M.P., Speaker of the House of Representatives, 1–26 July 1975.
- Australian Shipping Commission Act—Australian Shipping Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Australian War Memorial Act—Board of Trustees of the Australian War Memorial—Twelfth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Broadcasting and Television Act—Australian Broadcasting Commission—Forty-third Annual Report and financial statement, for year 1974–75.
- Canned Fruits Export Marketing Act—Australian Canned Fruits Board—Forty-ninth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.
- Coal Industry Act—Joint Coal Board—Twenty-eighth Annual Report and financial accounts, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Commonwealth Bureau of Roads—Report on roads in Australia, 1975.
- Conciliation and Arbitration Act—
Australian Arbitration Inspectorate—Report on the operation of s. 125 of the Act, for year 1974–75.
President of the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission—Nineteenth Annual Report, for year ended 13 August 1975.
- Criminology Research Act—
Australian Institute of Criminology—Board of Management—Third Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
Criminology Research Council—Third Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Darwin Reconstruction Act—Darwin Reconstruction Commission—First Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 28 February to 30 June 1975.
- Department of Aboriginal Affairs—Report for year 1974–75.

- Department of the Capital Territory—Report for year 1974–75.
- Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act—Export Finance and Insurance Corporation—First Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 1 February to 30 June 1975.
- Fishing Industry Act—Nineteenth Annual Report, for year 1974–75.
- Health Insurance Commission Act—Health Insurance Commission—First Annual Report and financial statement, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period September 1974 to 30 June 1975.
- Homes Savings Grant Act—Secretary, Department of Housing and Construction—Eleventh Annual Report, for year 1974–75.
- Honey Industry Act—Australian Honey Board—Twelfth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Hospitals and Health Services Commission Act—Hospitals and Health Services Commission—Auditor-General's Report on financial statement for year 1974–75.
- Immigration (Education) Act—Migrant Education Program—Report for year 1974–75.
- Independent Schools (Loans Guarantee) Act—Statement of guarantees and payments for year 1974–75.
- Industries Assistance Commission—
Reports—
Aerospace industry, dated 21 October 1975.
Cellulose acetate flake, dated 29 January 1976.
Dairy industry, dated 23 October 1975.
Domestic refrigerators, washing machines and clothes dryers—Interim report, dated 12 December 1975.
Dyeline based paper (By-law), dated 18 June 1975.
Financing promotion of rural products (Export inspection of rural products)—Interim report, dated 12 December 1975.
Fruitgrowing—Interim report, dated 30 October 1975.
Hosiery, dated 11 December 1975.
Iron and steel industry—Short term assistance for hoop, strip, sheets and plates of certain alloy steels, dated 8 October 1975.
Precision ground steel ball bearings, dated 5 December 1975.
Rural reconstruction, dated 13 January 1976.
Sheets and plates of iron or steel—Import restrictions, dated 27 November 1975.
- Temporary Assistance Authority—Annual Report, for period 1 January 1974 to 23 October 1975.
- International Labour Conference—Fifty-ninth Session, 1974—Reports of the Australian Government, Employers' and Workers' Delegates.
- International Monetary Agreements Act—Report on operations of the Act, and in so far as they relate to Australia, of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, for year 1974–75.
- Law Reform Commission Act—Law Reform Commission—First Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 31 December 1974 to 30 June 1975.
- Legislative Drafting Institute Act—Legislative Drafting Institute—First Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 9 December 1974 to 30 June 1975.
- Maritime Industry—Commission of Inquiry—Report on adequacy of Australia's ports, dated February 1976.

- Metric Conversion Act—Metric Conversion Board—Fifth Annual Report, for year 1974–75, together with Report by the Minister on the operation of the Act.
- National Library Act—Council of the National Library of Australia—Fifteenth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Petroleum Search Subsidy Act—Sixteenth Annual Statement, for year 1974–75.
- Pipeline Authority Act—Pipeline Authority—Second Annual Report and financial statements, for year 1974–75.
- Postal and Telecommunications Commission (Transitional Provisions) Act—Postmaster-General's Department—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Post-Secondary Education in Tasmania—Report of Committee, dated February 1976.
- Poverty—Commission of Inquiry—First Main Report—Poverty in Australia—Volume 2, dated April 1975.
- Qantas Airways Limited—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year ended 31 March 1975.
- Referendums, 1974—Statistical Returns showing the voting within each Sub-division in relation to the submission to the electors of Proposed Laws for the alteration of the Constitution, entitled—
 “Constitution Alteration (Simultaneous Elections) 1974”,
 “Constitution Alteration (Mode of Altering the Constitution) 1974”,
 “Constitution Alteration (Democratic Elections) 1974” and
 “Constitution Alteration (Local Government Bodies) 1974”
 for the States of—
 New South Wales.
 Queensland.
 South Australia.
 Tasmania.
 Victoria.
 Western Australia.
- Science and Industry Endowment Act—Report by Auditor-General on accounts of Science and Industry Endowment Fund for year 1974–75.
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Consumer Affairs Ordinance—Consumer Affairs Council—Second Annual Report of the operation of the Council and of the Consumer Affairs Bureau, for year 1974–75.
- Services Trust Funds Act—
 Australian Military Forces Relief Trust—Twenty-eighth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.
 Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—Twenty-seventh Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.
 Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.
- Stevedoring Industry Act—Australian Stevedoring Industry Authority—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- Tobacco Industry Act—Twentieth Annual Report, for year 1974–75.
- Transport—Department of Transport—Second Annual Report, for year 1974–75, including the report by the Minister pursuant to the Air Navigation Act.
- Transport between Tasmania and the mainland—Report of Royal Commission, dated 5 March 1976.

Wine Overseas Marketing Act—Australian Wine Board—Forty-seventh Annual Report, for year 1974–75.

Wool Industry Act—

Australian Wool Board—Reports and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Reports for—
Year 1971–72.

Period 1 July to 31 December 1972.

Australian Wool Corporation—Reports and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Reports for—

Period 1 January to 30 June 1973.

Year 1973–74.

J. C. HODGES,
Chairman

25 March 1976

Mr Hodges, by leave, moved—That the report be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

- 16 NITROGENOUS FERTILIZERS SUBSIDY AMENDMENT BILL 1976: 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. 21, dated 4 March 1976, 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

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 17 PHOSPHATE FERTILIZERS BOUNTY AMENDMENT BILL 1976: 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 22, dated 4 March 1976, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 18 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 Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 March 1976, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired for telephone purposes—Sheringa, S.A.

Statement of lands, 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 Dr Cass, Mr Dobie, Mr Graham, Mr Groom* and Mr Wallis.

* On leave

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