

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 47

THURSDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 1976

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- 1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Mr Lucock) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 PETITIONS: The Acting Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Armitage, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Martin, Mr Morris, Mr Stewart and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the M.V. *Australian Trader* be restored to the Tasmanian service.
 - Mr Fry, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Morris and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be maintained, advertising on the A.B.C. be rejected, public funding of the Commission be developed and any general inquiries into broadcasting be conducted publicly.
 - Mr Aldred, Mr Scholes and Mr Simon—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
 - Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry) and Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport)—from certain electors praying that chiropractors' fees be covered by health insurance and be tax deductible.
 - Mr Aldred and Mr Haslem—from certain citizens praying that discrimination against people of Croatian origin in Australia be remedied.
 - Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs)—from certain citizens praying that social security payments be adjusted instantly and automatically with increases in the Consumer Price Index and certain other benefits be adjusted.
 - Mr Abel—from certain citizens praying that a licence be granted to 2RDJ FM Community Radio to operate a public access radio station to service the mid-western suburbs of Sydney.
 - Mr Beazley—from certain citizens praying that the House call on Sir John Kerr to resign as Governor-General.
 - Mr Chapman—from certain citizens praying that subsidies for nursing home patients be increased.
 - Mr Connolly—from certain citizens 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 citizens praying that Mr Ignazio Salemi be permitted to remain in Australia.
 - Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be maintained.
 - Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the principles of Medibank be strengthened and extended from general revenue.
 - Mr Jones—from certain citizens praying that milk substitutes for children up to 6 years of age be restored to the schedule of pharmaceutical benefits.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Newcastle, N.S.W., praying that the Government place immediate orders with the Newcastle State Dockyard and implement the plan to build a graving dock in Newcastle.

Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that the indexed value of education spending be maintained and the recommendations of several reports on education be implemented.

Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that the Government not interfere with existing arrangements for the funding of sessional pre-schools.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

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

Accommodation for aged or disabled persons—Three year program—Statement by Senator Guilfoyle (Minister for Social Security), dated 8 September 1976.

Australian Egg Board—Interim statement for year 1975-76.

Australian Honey Board—Interim report for year 1975-76.

Languages and linguistics in Australian universities—

Report to Universities Commission by the Working Party on Languages and Linguistics, dated May 1975.

Statement by Senator Carrick (Minister for Education).

Scientific and Technological Co-operation Agreement between Australia and the Federal Republic of Germany, signed at Canberra on 24 August 1976.

5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PRIME MINISTER'S ELECTION MANDATE:

Mr Acting Speaker informed the House that Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Prime Minister's failure to honour his election mandate".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr E. G. Whitlam addressed the House.

Paper: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by leave, during his speech, presented the following paper:

Liberal-N.C.P. Government—Promises and achievements—Pamphlet published by the Liberal Party of Australia.

Mr L. R. Johnson rising to address the House—

Mr Howard moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Acting Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

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Mr Abel	Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Dr Richardson
Mr Adermann	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Fife	Mr King	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Fraser	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baume	Mr Giles	Mr Lynch	Mr Shipton
Mr Birney	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr Bonnett	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr Bouchier	Mr Graham	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bradfield	Mr Groom	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hamer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Bungey	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Sullivan
Mr Burr	Mr Hodges	Mr Martyr	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Holten	Mr Moore	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	Mr Wilson
Mr Carige	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon	
Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Drummond	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Peacock	Mr D. M. Cameron
Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr Porter	Mr Fisher

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Mr Armitage	Mr Garrick	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr E. G. Whitlam
Mr Bowen	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mr Bryant	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	Mr Young
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Dr Cass	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Crean	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
Mr Fry	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- 6 ESTATE DUTY ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Lynch (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Estate Duty Assessment Act 1914*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Lynch moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Hurford), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 7 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES: Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 8 AIR FORCE AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the establishment of an Air Training Corps.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Killen moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Dr Cass), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 9 CUSTOMS TARIFF (COAL EXPORT DUTY) AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff (Coal Export Duty) Act 1975*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Howard moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Dr Cass), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 10 AIR NAVIGATION (CHARGES) AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Air Navigation (Charges) Act 1952*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Nixon moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 11 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the appointment of a committee of inquiry into education and training, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:
Education and training—Committee of inquiry—
Ministerial statement, 9 September 1976.
Terms of reference.
Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the papers.
Debate ensued.
Debate adjourned (Mr Bouchier), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 APPROPRIATION (URBAN PUBLIC TRANSPORT) BILL 1976: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate Moneys out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purpose of Urban Public Transport.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Nixon moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 13 FAMILY LAW AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1976: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Family Law Act 1975*.

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.

- 14 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1976—77—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House condemns the Budget because—

- (a) it pursues a policy of unemployment as a weapon to reduce real wages and salaries;
- (b) it abdicates federal government responsibilities and forces the State governments and local governments either to reduce their services or institute additional charges, or both;
- (c) it introduces an additional tax in the form of the Medibank levy, thus further reducing consumer spending;
- (d) it reduces the availability of services to the whole community but particularly to those most vulnerable to hardship, notably Aborigines, the unemployed and migrants, and
- (e) it fails to institute selective stimulatory expenditure to reduce unemployment and restore consumer confidence”—

Debate resumed.

Mr King addressing the House—

- 15 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Debate extended: It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 11.06 p.m., Mr Acting Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 9 September 1976, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—

Road construction purposes—Hundred of Cavenagh, N.T.

Telecommunications purposes—

Billinudgel, N.S.W.

Pooncarie, N.S.W.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Brown, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Cohen, Mr Connolly, Mr Corbett, Mr Cotter, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Katter, Dr Klugman, Mr McLeay, Mr Nicholls and Mr Snedden.

J. A. PETTIFER,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives