

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 52

WEDNESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 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 **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that His Excellency Shaikh Khalifah Bin Sulman Alkhalifah, Prime Minister of Bahrain, and members of his party, were present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.
- 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Armitage, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Martin, Mr Morris and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the M.V. *Australian Trader* be restored to the Tasmanian service.
 - Dr J. F. Cairns, Mr Crean, Mr Falconer and Mr Garrick—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be maintained.
 - Mr Crean, Mr Falconer, Mr Garrick and Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be strengthened and extended and be financed from general revenue.
 - Dr Klugman, Mr A. P. Whitlam and Mr Young—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 Morris and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the 1976–77 Budget be re-drafted to provide for economic recovery within the guidelines laid down in the 1975–76 Budget.
 - Mr Thomson and Mr Wentworth—from certain citizens praying that the imperial system of weights and measures be restored.
 - Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction)—from certain electors praying that chiropractors' fees be covered by health insurance and be tax deductible.
 - Mr Abel—from certain citizens praying that the optional scheme of health coverage be supported.
 - Mr Armitage—from certain citizens praying that tertiary allowances be increased and provided to all full-time tertiary students together with free medical and dental facilities.
 - 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 Haslem—praying that parents in need be subsidised when using commercial day care centres.
 - Mr Innes—from certain citizens praying that Mr Ignazio Salemi be permitted to remain in Australia.
 - Mr Jacobi—from certain citizens praying that support for child care be continued and expanded.
 - Mr Jacobi—from certain citizens praying that nuclear weapons be neither produced, acquired or permitted in Australia or her territories and that moves for disarmament and detente be supported.

- Mr Kelly—from certain citizens praying that a commission of inquiry be initiated into the Aurukun Associates Agreement Act, no mining take place on the Aurukun Aboriginal Reserve until a full environmental impact study has been made and an export licence to the consortium concerned be refused until negotiations are held with the Aurukun people and an agreement has been reached.
- Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that the Government place immediate orders with the Australian shipbuilding industry.
- Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Assistance Plan be supported.
- Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the previous Government's undertaking on the taxation of moneys due to the Thalidomide Foundation Limited be honoured.
- 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 Thomson—from certain citizens praying that the petrol and air subsidies for country people be restored.

Petitions received.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Department of Health—Report of Director-General of Health for year 1975–76.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian National University Act—Council of the Australian National University—Report for 1975.

Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation Act—Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation—Sixth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.

Social Services Act—Department of Social Security—Report of the Director-General for year 1975–76.

6 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ALBURY-WODONGA DEVELOPMENT: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Uren (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's breach of its obligations to the States of New South Wales and Victoria with respect to Albury-Wodonga".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Uren addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

7 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED: Mr Young moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the honourable Member for St George moving forthwith the motion relating to the shipbuilding industry of which he has given notice for general business Thursday No. 8.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the question be now put.

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

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 24

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| Mr Armitage | Mr Garrick | Mr J. L. McMahon | Mr Young |
| Mr Beazley | Mr Hurford | Mr Morris | |
| Mr Bowen | Mr Jacobi | Mr Stewart | |
| Dr J. F. Cairns | Dr Jenkins | Mr Uren | |
| Dr Cass | Mr Jones | Mr Wallis | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr Connor | Mr Keating | Mr A. P. Whitlam | Mr L. K. Johnson |
| Mr Crean | Dr Klugman | Mr Willis | Mr L. R. Johnson |

NOES, 76

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

And so it was negatived.

8 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”—

Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry) was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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

9 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 21 (1976): Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 21 (1976).

Debate ensued.

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

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

SIXTH 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 since the last meeting of the Committee, and other papers previously presented, recommends that the following be printed:

- Aboriginal Land Fund Act—Aboriginal Land Fund Commission—First Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for the period 17 December 1974 to 30 June 1975.
- Australian National University Act—Council of the Australian National University Report for 1975.
- Australian Shippers' Council—Fourth Annual Report, for year 1975–76.
- 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 1975–76.
- Commonwealth Police Act—Commonwealth Police Force—Report for year 1974–75.
- Department of Education—Report for 1975.
- Housing Industry—Indicative Planning Council—Report for 1976–77 to 1978–79.
- Human Relationships — Royal Commission — Interim Report, dated 30 January 1976.
- Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—
 Batteries Part A: Storage batteries (Accumulators), dated 30 June 1976.
 Dairy industry marketing arrangements, dated 9 September 1976.
 Shipbuilding, dated 20 September 1976.
 Telecommunications equipment, dated 9 April 1976.
- International Labour Conference—Sixtieth Session, 1975—Reports of the Australian Government, Employers' and Workers' Delegates.
- Languages and linguistics in Australian universities—Report to Universities Commission by the Working Party on Languages and Linguistics, dated May 1975.
- National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—Fifty-third Annual Report, for year 1975–76.
- National Health Act—Fifth Annual Report on the operations of the registered Medical and Hospital Benefits Organizations, for year 1974–75.
- Poultry Industry Assistance Act—Eleventh Annual Report, for year 1975–76.
- Public Service Act—Public Service Board—Fifty-second Annual Report, for year 1975–76.
- Repatriation Act—Repatriation Commission—Report for year 1975–76.
- Social Services Act—Department of Social Security—Report of the Director-General for year 1975–76.
- 2CM freight wagon bogie—An appraisal—Report by the Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated March 1976.
- Trade Practices Act—Trade Practices Commission—Second Annual Report, for year 1975–76.
- Trade Practices Act Review Committee—Report, dated 20 August 1976.
- United Nations—General Assembly—Thirtieth Session, New York, 16 September to 17 December 1975—Report of Australian Delegation.

J. C. HODGES,
 Chairman

22 September 1976

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

Question—put and passed.

11 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.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

AYES, 76

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

NOES, 22

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| Mr Armitage | Mr Garrick | Dr Klugman | Mr Willis |
| Mr Bowen | Mr Hurford | Mr J. L. McMahon | Mr Young |
| Dr J. F. Cairns | Mr Jacobi | Mr Morris | |
| Dr Cass | Dr Jenkins | Mr Stewart | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr Connor | Mr Jones | Mr Wallis | Mr L. K. Johnson |
| Mr Crean | Mr Keating | Mr A. P. Whitlam | Mr L. R. Johnson |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Ordered—That the proposed expenditures for the purposes and services in the Schedule be considered in the following order, either separately or together, as shown:

Parliament.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and } together.
Department of Administrative Services }

Department of the Treasury, and } together.
 Advance to the Treasurer
 Department of Foreign Affairs.
 Department of Health; } together.
 Department of Repatriation, and }
 Department of Social Security }
 Department of Aboriginal Affairs.
 Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.
 Department of the Capital Territory, and } together.
 Department of the Northern Territory }
 Department of National Resources, and } together.
 Department of Overseas Trade }
 Department of Industry and Commerce, and } together.
 Department of Business and Consumer Affairs }
 Department of Primary Industry.
 Department of Transport.
 Department of Education.
 Department of Environment, Housing and Community } together.
 Development, and }
 Department of Construction }
 Department of Employment and Industrial Relations.
 Department of Science.
 Postal and Telecommunications Department.
 Attorney-General's Department.
 Department of Defence.

Proposed expenditure—Parliament, \$13,229,000—

Mr Bowen moved, as an amendment—That the proposed expenditure be reduced by \$10.

Debate continued.

Mr Jacobi rising to address the committee—

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

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Giles, in the Chair)—

AYES, 62

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Mr Abel | Mr Ellicott | Mr Kelly | Mr O'Keefe |
| Mr Adermann | Mr Falconer | Mr Killen | Mr Porter |
| Mr Baillieu | Mr Fife | Mr King | Mr E. L. Robinson |
| Mr Baume | Mr Garland | Mr Lloyd | Mr I. L. Robinson |
| Mr Birney | Mr Gillard | Mr Lusher | Mr Ruddock |
| Mr Bouchier | Mr Goodluck | Mr MacKenzie | Mr Sainsbury |
| Mr Bradfield | Mr Graham | Mr McLean | Mr Shipton |
| Mr Braithwaite | Mr Groom | Mr McLeay | Mr Short |
| Mr Burr | Mr Hamer | Mr W. McMahon | Mr Sullivan |
| Mr Cadman | Mr Hodges | Mr McVeigh | Mr Thomson |
| Mr K. M. Cairns | Mr Hodgman | Mr Macphee | Mr Viner |
| Mr Carige | Mr Holten | Mr Martyr | Mr Wentworth |
| Mr Chapman | Mr Howard | Mr Millar | |
| Mr Cotter | Mr Hyde | Mr Neil | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr Dobie | Mr Jull | Mr Newman | Mr D. M. Cameron |
| Dr Edwards | Mr Katter | Mr Nixon | Mr Fisher |

NOES, 20

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| Mr Armitage | Mr Garrick | Dr Klugman | |
| Mr Bowen | Mr Hurford | Mr J. L. McMahon | |
| Dr J. F. Cairns | Mr Jacobi | Mr Morris | |
| Dr Cass | Dr Jenkins | Mr Stewart | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr Connor | Mr Jones | Mr A. P. Whitlam | Mr L. K. Johnson |
| Mr Crean | Mr Keating | Mr Willis | Mr L. R. Johnson |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the amendment be agreed to—being accordingly put—
The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Giles, in the Chair)—

AYES, 20

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| Mr Armitage | Mr Garrick | Dr Klugman | |
| Mr Bowen | Mr Hurford | Mr J. L. McMahon | |
| Dr J. F. Cairns | Mr Jacobi | Mr Morris | |
| Dr Cass | Dr Jenkins | Mr Stewart | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr Connor | Mr Jones | Mr A. P. Whitlam | Mr L. K. Johnson |
| Mr Crean | Mr Keating | Mr Willis | Mr L. R. Johnson |

NOES, 62

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Mr Abel | Dr Edwards | Mr Killen | Mr O'Keefe |
| Mr Adermann | Mr Ellicott | Mr King | Mr Porter |
| Mr Baillieu | Mr Falconer | Mr Lloyd | Mr E. L. Robinson |
| Mr Baume | Mr Fife | Mr Lucock | Mr I. L. Robinson |
| Mr Birney | Mr Gillard | Mr Lusher | Mr Ruddock |
| Mr Bonnett | Mr Goodluck | Mr MacKenzie | Mr Sainsbury |
| Mr Bourchier | Mr Graham | Mr McLean | Mr Shipton |
| Mr Bradfield | Mr Groom | Mr McLeay | Mr Short |
| Mr Braithwaite | Mr Hamer | Mr W. McMahon | Mr Sullivan |
| Mr Burr | Mr Hodges | Mr McVeigh | Mr Thomson |
| Mr Cadman | Mr Hodgman | Mr Macphee | Mr Viner |
| Mr K. M. Cairns | Mr Howard | Mr Martyr | Mr Wentworth |
| Mr Carige | Mr Hyde | Mr Millar | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr Chapman | Mr Jull | Mr Neil | Mr D. M. Cameron |
| Mr Cotter | Mr Katter | Mr Newman | Mr Fisher |
| Mr Dobie | Mr Kelly | Mr Nixon | |

And so it was negatived.

Proposed expenditure agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$83,429,000—

Department of Administrative Services, \$239,997,000—
together debated.

It being 10.30 p.m.—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Giles reported accordingly.

12 ADJOURNMENT: The question was accordingly proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 22 September 1976, pursuant to statute:

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances—1976—

No. 41—Motor Omnibus Services (Amendment).

No. 42—Court of Petty Sessions (Amendment).

No. 43—Agents (Amendment).

No. 44—Architects (Amendment).

No. 45—Building (Amendment).

No. 46—Festival Australia Incorporation (Amendment).

No. 47—Surveyors (Amendment).

Regulations—1976—Nos. 14 and 15 (Motor Omnibus Services Ordinance).

States Grants (Schools) Act—Statement of particulars of direction given by Minister under sub-section 7 (3) of the Act.

