

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 63

TUESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 1976

- 1 The House met, at 3 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR F. M. KIRWAN): Mr Speaker informed the House of the death, on 28 October 1976, of Mr Frank McLeod Kirwan, a Member of this House for the Division of Forrest from 1969 to 1972.
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 Jacobi, Mr L. R. Johnson, Dr Klugman and Mr Morris—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Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs) and Mr Hamer—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
 - Mr Jones and Mr Morris—from certain citizens of the Hunter Valley Region, N.S.W., praying that funds be provided for the establishment and maintenance of a Hunter Symphony Orchestra.
 - Mr Morris and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the M.V. *Australian Trader* be restored to the Tasmanian service.
 - Mr Connolly—from certain electors praying that chiropractors' fees be covered by health insurance and be tax deductible.
 - Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that the Government call upon South Africa to eliminate racial discrimination and that it withdraw Australian Trade Commissioners from South Africa.
 - Mr Jacobi—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 Jacobi—from certain citizens praying that the mining of uranium in Australia be restricted to that needed for physical and bio-medical research and medical diagnosis.
 - Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the decision to curtail the home mortgage interest tax deduction scheme be reconsidered and the benefits be upgraded by indexation.
 - Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the freeze on the alienation of vacant Crown land in the Northern Territory be extended and the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976 be amended.
 - Dr Klugman—from certain citizens 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 J. L. McMahon—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 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 Short—from certain citizens praying that the means test on all aged pensions be abolished immediately.

Mr Wentworth—from certain citizens praying that the Government call upon the U.S.S.R. to fulfil its obligations in the field of human rights, and to recognize and respect the rights of Jews in the U.S.S.R.

Petitions received.

Mr Wentworth informed the House that he proposed to take action in connection with the petition which he had lodged, and moved—That the petition lodged by the honourable Member for Mackellar be printed.

Question—put and passed.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Chicken Meat Research Committee—Interim report for year 1975–76.

Australian Research Grants Committee—Report for triennium 1973–75.

Bureau of Customs—Review of activities for year 1975–76.

Fraser Island Environmental Inquiry—Final report of Commission of Inquiry, dated 21 October 1976.

Maritime Industry—Commission of Inquiry—Reports, dated June 1976—
Australian maritime legislation.

Future of the Australian maritime industry.

International Maritime Conventions.

Maritime standards and controls.

Pursuant to statute:

Taxation—Fifty-fifth Report of the Commissioner of Taxation, dated 1 October 1976.

Ordered to be printed.

Australian Citizenship Act—Return for year 1975–76.

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 1975–76.

Bankruptcy Act—Ninth Annual Report, for year 1975–76.

Housing Loans Insurance Act—Housing Loans Insurance Corporation—Twelfth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.

Meat Research Act—Australian Meat Research Committee—Tenth Annual Report, for year 1975–76.

Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—First Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.

6 RANGER URANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL INQUIRY—FIRST REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Newman (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Ranger Uranium Environmental Inquiry—First report of Commission of Inquiry, dated 28 October 1976.

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

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

- 7 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:
- 26 October 1976—Message No. 98—
 Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations 1976.
 Australian Film Commission Amendment 1976.
- 29 October 1976—Message—
 No. 99—
 National Health Amendment (No. 3) 1976.
 Health Insurance Amendment (No. 3) 1976.
 Australian Film and Television School Amendment 1976.
- No. 100—
 Social Services Amendment (No. 3) 1976.
 Repatriation Acts Amendment (No. 2) 1976.
 Australia Council Amendment 1976.
- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—CARE FOR THE AGED: Mr Speaker informed the House that both Dr Cass and Mr Martyr had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, he had given priority to the matter proposed by Dr Cass, namely, "The failure of the Government to provide adequate care for the aged".
- The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Dr Cass addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 9 ESTATE DUTY ASSESSMENT 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.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.
- 10 EXPORT FINANCE AND INSURANCE CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 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.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Howard (Acting Minister for Overseas Trade), the Bill was read a third time.
- 11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
 2 November 1976—Message No. 119—Homes Savings Grant Amendment 1976.
- 12 STATES GRANTS (FRUIT-GROWING RECONSTRUCTION) 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. 101, dated 14 October 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 Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory), the Bill was read a third time.

- 13 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 4 to 6, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 14 **ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND 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. 102, dated 8 September 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 Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory), the Bill was read a third time.
- 15 **ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (SPECIAL FUNDS CONTRIBUTIONS) 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.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory), the Bill was read a third time.
- 16 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 9 to 11, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 17 **NAURU (HIGH COURT APPEALS) 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.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.
- 18 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General) moved—That the House do now adjourn. Debate ensued.
- The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 2 November 1976, pursuant to statute:

- Christmas Island Act—Regulations—1976—No. 1 (Associations Incorporation Ordinance).
- Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 232.
- Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—A. J. Abbott.
- Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 233.
- Defence Act, Naval Defence Act and Air Force Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 230.
- Lands Acquisition Act—
 - Land acquired for television translator purposes, Young, N.S.W.
 - Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act.
- Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance—1976—No. 9—Court of Petty Sessions (Amendment).
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
 - Crown Lands Ordinance—Statement of reasons by Minister for revocation of land reserved at Darwin.
 - Ordinances—1976—
 - No. 46—Unit Titles.
 - No. 47—Real Property (Unit Titles).
 - No. 48—Freehold Titles.

Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—By-laws—Postal—1976—Amendment No. 5.

Public Service Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 231.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1976—

Nos. 393 and 394—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.

Nos. 478 to 480—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.

No. 481—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 482—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia and another.

No. 483—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 484—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 485—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.

No. 486—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.

No. 487—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and another.

No. 488—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.

No. 489—Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Enginemmen.

Nos. 490 and 491—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†

No. 492—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.

No. 493—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 494—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.

No. 495—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 496—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.

No. 497—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and Australasian Society of Engineers.

No. 498—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 499—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 500—Australian Broadcasting Commission Senior Officers' Association and another.

No. 501—Line Inspectors' Association, Commonwealth of Australia.

No. 502—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

No. 503—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.

No. 504—Vehicle Builders Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 505—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

No. 506—Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers and others.

No. 507—Australian Licensed Aircraft Engineers Association.

No. 508—Federal Firefighters' Union.

No. 509—Australian Journalists Association.

No. 510—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 511—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 512—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 513—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 514—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.

No. 515—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 516—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.

No. 517—Customs Officers' Association of Australia, Fourth Division.

No. 518—Commonwealth Works Supervisors Association.

No. 519—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

- No. 520—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.
 No. 521—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia.
 No. 522—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 523—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 Nos. 524 and 525—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 526—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 527—Federated Liquor and Allied Industries Employees Union of Australia.
 No. 528—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.
 No. 529—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 530—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.
 No. 531—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 532—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.
 No. 533—Telecommunication Technical Officer's Association, Postmaster-General's Department.
 No. 534—Australian Journalists Association.
 No. 535—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association and another.
 No. 536—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.
 No. 537—Industrial Arbitration Registrars' Association.
 No. 538—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.
 No. 539—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.
 No. 540—Commonwealth Police Officers' Association.
 Nos. 541 and 542—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 543—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and another.
 No. 544—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.
 No. 545—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.
 No. 546—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 547—Arbitration Inspectors' Association.
 No. 548—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 549—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.
 No. 550—Commonwealth Police Officers' Association.
 No. 551—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.
 No. 552—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.
 No. 553—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 554—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 555—Australian Journalists Association.
 No. 556—Professional Musicians Union of Australia.
 No. 557—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.
 No. 558—Merchant Service Guild of Australia.
 No. 559—Australian Journalists Association.
 No. 560—Actors' and Announcers' Equity Association of Australia.
 No. 561—Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees Association.
 No. 562—Postal Telecommunication Technicians Association (Australia).
 Nos. 563 to 565—Commonwealth Foremen's Association of Australia, Commonwealth Public Service.
 Nos. 566 and 567—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 568—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 No. 569—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.†
 No. 571—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 572—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.

- No. 573—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 574—Line Inspectors' Association, Commonwealth of Australia and others.†
 No. 575—Australian Journalists Association.
 Nos. 576 to 578—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 579—Australian Government Lawyers Association.
 No. 580—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.
 No. 581—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and another.
 Nos. 582 and 583—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 Nos. 584 and 585—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†
 No. 586—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.
 No. 587—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.
 No. 588—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 589—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.
 No. 590—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.†
 No. 591—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†
 No. 592—Australian Workers' Union.†
 No. 593—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†
 No. 594—Federated Ship Painters and Dockers Union of Australia.†
 No. 595—Federated Furnishing Trade Society of Australasia.†
 No. 596—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.†
 No. 597—Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.†
 No. 598—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†
 No. 599—Australian Workers' Union.†
 Nos. 600 and 601—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.†
 No. 602—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.
 No. 603—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia and another.
 No. 604—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.
 No. 605—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.
 No. 606—C.S.I.R.O. Laboratory Craftsmen Association.
 No. 607—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 608—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 Nos. 609 and 610—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 No. 611—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†
 No. 612—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia and Federated Ironworkers' Association of Australia.
 No. 613—Customs Officers' Association of Australia, Fourth Division and Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 615—Merchant Service Guild of Australia.
 No. 616—Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers.
 No. 617—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†
 († Not accompanied by statement)

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1976—No. 49—Consumer Affairs (Amendment).

States Grants (Schools) Act—Statements (2) of particulars of directions given by Minister under sub-section 33 (4) of the Act.

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—By-laws—Telecommunications (General)—Amendment No. 8.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony*, Mr Beazley, Mr Brown*, Mr C. R. Cameron*, Mr Garrick, Mr Hunt, Mr Nicholls and Mr O'Keefe.

* On leave

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