

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 66

TUESDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 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 Beazley, Mr L. R. Johnson and Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the freeze on European claims to unalienated Crown lands of the Northern Territory be extended and the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976 be amended.

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 Keating, Mr J. L. McMahon and Mr Stewart—from certain citizens praying that the 1976-77 Budget be redrafted to provide for economic recovery within the guidelines laid down in the 1975-76 Budget.

Mr Beazley and Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the means test on all aged pensions be abolished immediately.

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 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 Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that Government support for Australian symphony orchestras and, in particular, the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, be maintained.

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 P. F. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that there be no sex discrimination in family law and the rights of children be upheld.

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 Sainsbury—from certain citizens praying that support for child care be continued and expanded.

Mr Short—from certain employees of the shoe manufacturing industry in Ballarat, Vic., praying that a viable shoe manufacturing industry be retained in Australia.

Petitions received.

- 3 MINISTERIAL AND DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that Mr Macphee had been appointed Minister for Productivity following the creation of a Department of Productivity. Mr Macphee would also be Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Women's Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations.
Mr Fraser also informed the House that Senator Durack (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) would represent the Minister for Productivity in the Senate.
- 4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 5 PAPERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The following papers were presented:
By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Australian broadcasting—Report on the structure of the Australian broadcasting system and associated matters by Mr F. J. Green, dated 10 September 1976.
National Aboriginal Consultative Committee—Role—Report of Committee of Inquiry, dated 4 November 1976.
Pursuant to statute:
Taxation—Taxation statistics 1974–75 (Supplement to the Fifty-fourth Report of the Commissioner of Taxation).
Ordered to be printed.
Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report of the Committee of Inquiry into the role of the National Aboriginal Consultative Committee.
Mr L. R. Johnson, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the report.
Mr Bryant asked leave to make a statement in connection with the report.
Objection being raised, leave not granted.
- 6 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:
8 November 1976—Message No. 106—Homes Savings Grant Amendment 1976.
- 7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT: Mr Speaker informed the House that both Mr Hurford 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 Mr Hurford, namely, "The Fraser Government's incompetent economic management".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Hurford addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
- 8 DEFENCE AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Act 1903*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Killen 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.
- 9 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—MODERNISATION OF H.M.A. NAVAL DOCKYARD (STAGE 2), WILLIAMSTOWN, VIC.: Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report: Modernisation of facilities, stage 2, H.M.A. Naval Dockyard, Williamstown, Vic.
Mr McLeay presented plans in connection with the proposed work.
Question—put and passed.

- 10 STATES GRANTS (BEEF INDUSTRY) 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. 107, dated 21 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 Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.
- 11 TASMANIAN STATE GRANTS COMMISSION—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—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:
Tasmanian State Grants Commission—First report, for year 1976–77—
and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report.
Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 AIRPORTS (SURFACE TRAFFIC) 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. 108, dated 21 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 MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 13 STATES GRANTS (NATURE CONSERVATION) 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 Newman (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development), the Bill was read a third time.
- 14 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 4, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.
- 15 FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA 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 having been resumed by Mr Bowen—
- 16 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

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

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—W. L. Matson.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired for television translator purposes, Young, N.S.W. (Corrigenda notice).

Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act.

Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance—1976—No. 10—Probate and Administration.

Public Service Act—Appointment—Australian Film Commission—J. A. MacIntosh.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances—1976—

No. 50—Companies (Amendment) (No. 2).

No. 51—Business Names (Amendment).

No. 52—Motor Traffic (No. 5).

No. 53—Administration and Probate (Amendment).

No. 54—Motor Traffic (Amendment).

Regulations—1976—

No. 19 (Business Names Ordinance).

No. 20 (Meat Ordinance).

No. 21 (Nurses Registration Ordinance).

No. 22 (Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance).

Nos. 23 to 30 (Public Health Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony*, Mr Armitage, Mr Brown*, Mr C. R. Cameron*, Mr Dobie, Mr Innes, Dr Jenkins, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr Kelly, Mr Nicholls* and Mr O'Keefe.

* On leave

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