

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

No. 5

WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 1977

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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 Bonnett, Mr Carige, Mr Corbett, Mr Cotter, Mr Giles, Mr Hodges, Mr Hurford, Mr Hyde, Mr Kelly, Mr Millar, Mr Porter, Mr Thomson and Mr Wallis—from certain citizens praying that the Government's long-term policy be to provide 50 per cent of funds for roads.

Mr Holten, Mr Lynch and Mr Simon—from certain citizens praying that the Government totally finance national highways and provide half the cost of all other public roads.

Dr Klugman, Mr MacKenzie and Mr I. L. Robinson—from certain citizens praying that increases in the Consumer Price Index be applied to pensions and that future pensions be not reduced as a result of any revision of the Index.

Mr Bradfield—from certain citizens praying that the recommendations of the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads for the funding of local roads in New South Wales be adopted.

Mr Carige—from certain citizens praying that the continuation and growth of symphony orchestras throughout Australia be ensured.

Mr Carige—from certain electors of the Division of Capricornia praying that the imperial system of weights and measures be restored.

Mr Carige—from certain electors of the Division of Capricornia praying that the Thangool, Qld, mail service be maintained.

Mr Haslem—from certain citizens praying that a Citizens Radio Service be allowed to function legally.

Mr Haslem—from certain citizens of the Australian Capital Territory praying that an abortion clinic be not permitted to function in the A.C.T.

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the income tax law be amended to allow for claims for sullage removal expenses.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes be not re-introduced.

Mr Viner—from certain citizens praying that the means test on all aged pensions be abolished.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

- 4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:
- Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Act—Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Commission—15th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Film and Television School Act—Council of the Film and Television School—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- 5 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—SALES TAX BILLS: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in relation to the proceedings on any Sales Tax Bills, so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent—
- (a) the presentation and the first readings of the Bills together;
  - (b) one motion being moved and one question being put in regard to, respectively, the second readings, the committee's report stage, and the third readings, of all the Bills together, and
  - (c) the consideration of all the Bills as a whole together in a committee of the whole.
- Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.
- 6 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—R.A.A.F. BASE, POINT COOK, 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: Development of Royal Australian Air Force Base, Point Cook, Vic.  
Mr McLeay presented plans in connection with the proposed work.  
Question—put and passed.
- 7 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 1 to 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 8 FOREIGN POLICY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 15 March 1977*), viz.:
- Foreign policy—Ministerial statement, 15 March 1977—  
Debate resumed.  
Ordered—That Mr Hayden be granted an extension of time.  
Debate continued.  
Question—put and passed.
- 9 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—10TH REPORT: Mr Hodges (Chairman) presented the 10th Report from the Publications Committee (sitting in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

#### 10TH 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.

Aged and Infirm Care—Report of the Committee on Care of the Aged and the Infirm, dated January 1977.

Airlines Agreements Act—Ansett Transport Industries Limited—Airline activities—Financial statements for year ended 26 June 1976.

- Australian Capital Territory Fire Brigade—Second Annual Report by the Fire Commissioner, for year 1975–76.
- Australian Film Commission Act and Australian Film Development Corporation Act—Australian Film Development Corporation—Fifth and Final Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 1 July 1974 to 7 July 1975.
- Australian Fire Board—Report for year 1975–76.
- Australia's population—Summary by the Australian Population and Immigration Council of the First Report of the National Population Inquiry.
- Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—Summary report of proceedings of the 3rd Australian Parliamentary Seminar, September 1976.
- Compensation (Australian Government Employees) Act—Commissioner for Employees' Compensation—Annual Report for year 1975–76.
- Health Insurance Commission Act—Health Insurance Commission—Second Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Honey Industry Act—Australian Honey Board—Thirteenth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Hospitals and Health Services Commission Act—Hospitals and Health Services Commission—Third Annual Report and financial statement, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Indicators of community well-being—Report to Department of Social Security by Dr T. Vinson and Mr R. Homel—Report, dated September 1976.
- Industries Assistance Commission—  
 Reports—  
 Agricultural tractors, dated 19 February 1976.  
 Brassieres, dated 30 November 1976.  
 Calcium carbide, dated 15 December 1976.  
 Certain man-made fibres, yarns and fabrics—Interim report, dated 30 November 1976.  
 Commercial motor vehicles, parts and accessories: Short term assistance—Interim report, dated 30 November 1976.  
 Copper foil; and primary shapes produced by rolling, drawing, extruding of non-ferrous metal, dated 5 November 1975.  
 Electric motors, generators and rotary converters, dated 7 October 1976.  
 Fabrics for use as bed sheeting, pillow casing or bolster casing—Interim report, dated 27 August 1976.  
 Files and rasps—Interim report, dated 20 October 1976.  
 Multilateral trade negotiations—General rates of duty—First report, dated 30 January 1976 (Abridged version).  
 Review inquiry No. 12—Clothing: Tariff quotas as from 1 March 1977—Interim report, dated 1 December 1976.  
 Soaps and detergents, etc., dated 30 September 1976.  
 Watt hour meters—(Developing country preferences), dated 4 January 1977.
- Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Bench or Pedestal Drilling Machines not power fed, dated 24 December 1976.
- Textiles Authority—Report—Sheets, curtains, etc., dated 18 June 1976.
- Interpreters and Translators—Report of Interdepartmental Working Party, dated February 1977.
- 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 1975–76.

- Meat Industry Act—Australian Meat Board—Forty-first Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- National Library Act—Council of the National Library of Australia—Sixteenth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Pipeline Authority Act—Pipeline Authority—Third Annual Report and financial statements, for year 1975–76.
- Presiding Officers and Clerks of the Parliaments of Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea and Western Samoa—Report of Seventh Conference, Rarotonga, 28 June to 1 July 1976.
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Law Reform Commission Ordinance—Law Reform Commission of the Australian Capital Territory—Report—Law relating to conveyancing.
- Services Trust Funds Act—
- Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—Twenty-ninth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1975.
- Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—Twenty-eighth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1975.
- Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1975.
- Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Act—Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority—Twenty-seventh Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Stevedoring Industry Act—Australian Stevedoring Industry Authority—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Sugar Agreement Act—Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee—45th Annual Report, and statement of receipts and expenditure certified by the Auditor-General, for year 1975–76.
- United Nations—Third Conference on the Law of the Sea, Fifth Session, New York, 2 August to 17 September 1976—Report of Australian Delegation.
- Universities Commission Act—Universities Commission—Report for triennium 1977–79.
- Welfare and Health Co-ordination Task Force—First Report of the Task Force on Co-ordination in Welfare and Health, entitled "Proposals for Change in the Administration and Delivery of Programs and Services", dated December 1976.
- Youth Affairs—Report of Study Group, dated February 1977.

J. C. HODGES  
Chairman

16 March 1977

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

Question—put and passed.

- 10 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN: 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 Her Majesty The Queen be agreed to:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN:

We, Your Majesty's loyal subjects, the Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to thank Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

The presence in Australia of Your Majesty and of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh has once again brought the greatest pleasure to Your Australian people. We, their representatives in this House, are grateful for the opportunity to re-affirm our allegiance to you as our Queen—

Debate resumed.

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

- 11 **APPLE AND PEAR STABILIZATION AMENDMENT BILL 1977:** 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 by Mr Keating who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House is of the opinion that the Bill should be withdrawn and re-drafted with a view to bringing forward a Bill which (a) increases the rate of stabilization payments to \$3 per box of apples and \$1.20 per box of pears and/or (b) provides supplementary assistance measures to facilitate adjustments in the fruit growing industry and to provide assistance directly to individual fruit growers until such times as a coherent planned policy, by which the Australian fruit growing industry can prosper, is determined”.

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

- 12 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN:** 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 Her Majesty The Queen be agreed to:

**MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN:**

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Debate resumed.

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

- 13 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Newman (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development) moved—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.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Connor, Mr Falconer, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Nicholls and Mr Short.

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