

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 14

WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 1977

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 Bradfield, Dr Klugman, Mr O'Keefe and Mr Wentworth—from certain citizens praying that increases in the Consumer Price Index be applied to pensions and that future pensions not be reduced as a result of any revision of the Index.

Mr Bradfield, Mr Keating and Mr MacKellar—from certain members of the Service Station Association of N.S.W. Ltd and others praying that in implementing the findings of the Royal Commission on Petroleum the needs of the motoring public and the retail petroleum industry be given every consideration.

Mr Fry and Mr Haslem—from certain citizens praying that government support for the handicapped be increased.

Mr Bradfield—from certain citizens praying that the recommendations of the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads for the funding of local roads in N.S.W. be adopted.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that private clinics be prevented from performing abortions in the A.C.T. and that abortions not be financed through Medibank.

Dr J. F. Cairns—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to end commercial whaling.

Mr Corbett—from certain citizens praying that the petrol price equalisation scheme be restored.

Mr Cotter—from certain citizens praying that the Government's long-term policy be to provide 50 per cent of funds for roads.

Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that an inquiry be made into the Australian Legal Aid Office.

Mr Groom—from certain citizens praying for the implementation of the recommendations of the Nimmo Report which relate to assistance for air passengers travelling to and from King Island.

Mr Haslem—from certain citizens praying that any legislation to extend the power to retire compulsorily Australian Government employees be rejected unless it has the approval of staff representatives.

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

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

Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that stricter control over television and radio programs be implemented.

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

Mr Wallis—from certain electors praying that education policies and funding priorities reflect public concern and be based on needs, as expressed by certain education authorities.

Mr Wentworth—from certain citizens praying that the imperial system of weights and measures be restored.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Papers: Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), in accordance with standing order 321, having called for documents quoted from by Mr Fraser (Prime Minister)—Mr Fraser laid upon the Table the following papers:

Conciliation and Arbitration Commission—National wage case application—Hearing of 19 April 1977—

Judgment by Sir John Moore, President of the Commission.

Transcript of submission by Mr R. J. Hawke, President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

Questions without notice continued.

4 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED: Mr Scholes moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Prime Minister making an immediate statement on the specific terms of the wages and prices freeze and bedate on that statement ensuing without interruption for 4 hours.

Closure of Member moved: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Motion withdrawn, by leave.

Mr Young addressing the House—

Closure of Member: Mr Sinclair moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put and passed.

Question—That the motion for the suspension of standing orders be agreed to—put.

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

AYES, 35

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

NOES, 81

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

And so it was negated.

- 5 SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the days and hours of sitting during the remaining period of the current sittings of the House.
Mr Scholes, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.
- 6 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER: Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved—
That leave of absence for 2 months be given to the honourable Member for Bonython (Mr Nicholls) on the ground of ill health.
Question—put and passed.
- 7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—STATE INCOME TAXES: Mr 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 Fraser Government’s proposals for State income taxes”.
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr E. G. Whitlam addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
- 8 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—MILITARY AREA, RANDWICK, N.S.W.:
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 the military area at Randwick, N.S.W.
Mr McLeay presented plans in connection with the proposed work.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
- 9 LAW COURTS BUILDING, ALICE SPRINGS, N.T.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the Committee has duly reported to Parliament: Construction of a new law courts building at Alice Springs, N.T.
Debate ensued.
Mr McLeay, having spoken in reply, closed the debate.
Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), by leave, addressed the House.
Question—put and passed.
- 10 COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF ROADS (REPEAL) 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.
Mr L. R. Johnson addressing the House—
Closure: Mr Bouchier moved—That the question be now put.
Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—being accordingly put—
The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 80

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

NOES, 32

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

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 4, dated 24 March 1977, 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 Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

- 11 PRICE AND WAGE INCREASES—3 MONTH PAUSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement in relation to the Heads of Government Agreement concerning a 3 month pause in price and wage increases.

Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, making a statement with reference to the matter—

Adjournment negatived: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Mr E. G. Whitlam continued his statement.

Suspension of standing orders moved: Mr E. G. Whitlam moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition moving that the House rejects the Prime Minister's statement because of its utter failure to provide guidelines for the practical operation of the proposed wage/price freeze.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 31

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

NOES, 76

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

And so it was negatived.

12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) 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 10.30 a.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 20 April 1977, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—G. B. Rowe.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr Dobie, Mr Groom, Mr Jarman, Mr Nicholls*, Mr Peacock and Mr Viner.

*On leave

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