THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 18

THURSDAY, 28 APRIL 1977

- 1 The House met, at 10.30 a.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.:
 - Dr Jenkins and Dr Klugman—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 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.
 - Mr Brown—from certain citizens praying that the Government re-state and implement its policy on East Timor announced on 4 March 1976.
 - Dr Klugman—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 Lucock—from certain citizens praying that the mining, export and sale of fissionable material be postponed and certain other action be taken in connection with the nuclear issue and energy research.
 - Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes not be introduced.

Petitions received.

- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 Message from the Senate: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
 - 27 April 1977—Message No. 11—Australian Development Assistance Agency (Repeal) 1977.
- 5 Grievance Debate: Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

6 Australian National Railways Amendment Bill 1977: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Australian National Railways Act 1917.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Nixon moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 7 Postponement of notices: Ordered—That notices Nos. 2 and 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 8 Suspension of standing orders moved: Dr Jenkins moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent notice No. 14, general business, being considered forthwith.

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

Question—put and passed.

Mr Bowen rising to address the House-

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

Question-put and passed.

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

9 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3) 1976-77: 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 Hurford who moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not denying the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that (a) the slashing of government spending is part of an inept economic strategy which has led to a decline in the standard of living of all Australians, and (b) there is an urgent need for alternative policies of promoting a consumer led recovery by cuts in indirect taxes and appropriate stimulatory expenditure on job creation and manpower training programs, all done in a context of not increasing inflation by (i) phasing out the more extravagant business tax concessions, (ii) increasing the money supply but not beyond the rate of inflation plus growth, and (iii) instituting a more vigorous bond-selling program".

Debate continued.

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

10 ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL AMENDMENT BILL 1977: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Ellicott moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

11 ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS (JUDICIAL REVIEW) BILL 1977: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the Review on Questions of Law of certain Administrative Decisions.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Ellicott moved-That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

12 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3) 1976-77: 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 Hurford, viz.—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not denying the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that (a) the slashing of government spending is part of an inept economic strategy which has led to a decline in the standard of living of all Australians, and (b) there is an urgent need for alternative policies of promoting a consumer led recovery by cuts in indirect taxes and

appropriate stimulatory expenditure on job creation and manpower training programs, all done in a context of not increasing inflation by (i) phasing out the more extravagant business tax concessions, (ii) increasing the money supply but not beyond the rate of inflation plus growth, and (iii) instituting a more vigorous bond-selling program"—Debate resumed.

Ordered—That Mr Uren (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Mr A. P. Whitlam addressing the House-

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

Debate ensued.

The time allowed to Mr Hayden by the sessional order for his speech having expired—Mr Hayden was granted leave to continue his speech.

The House continuing to sit until 11.01 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 28 April 1977, pursuant to statute:

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, Nos. 48, 49.
Telecommunications Act—By-laws—Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts)—Amendment No. 10.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr Birney, Dr Edwards, Mr Fry, Mr Graham, Mr Groom, Mr Haslem, Mr Hyde, Mr Macphee, Mr Nicholls* and Mr Ruddock.

* On leave

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