

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 42

TUESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 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 Acting Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Dobie, Mr Graham, Mr McLeay and Mr Sinclair—from certain citizens praying that the Broadcasting and Television Act be amended in relation to program standards.

Mr MacKenzie, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr I. L. Robinson and Mr Sinclair—from certain citizens praying that private nursing homes be subsidised to allow pensioner patients to retain \$6 per week for personal use and that certain other action be taken in connection with pensioner benefits.

Mr MacKenzie and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the part of a deceased person's estate which passes to the surviving spouse be free from federal estate duty.

Mr Brown—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to end commercial whaling.

Mr Fife—from certain members of the Albury-Wodonga Association of Technical Professions praying that the Albury-Wodonga Growth Centre project receive viable funding.

Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying for the negotiation of an excursion air fare for all points in Europe at the level currently charged to Great Britain and certain major European cities.

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

Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying that payments of abortion claims under the Medical Benefits Schedule cease except for those abortions carried out in hospitals as a certified medical procedure to prevent the death of the mother and certain other action be taken in connection with pregnancy help services.

Mr Uren—from certain citizens praying for the reversal of the decision withdrawing financial assistance from students of non-State tertiary institutions.

Petitions received.

3 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Lynch (Treasurer), Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Post and Telecommunications) was acting as Treasurer.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

*Distinguished visitors:* Mr Speaker informed the House that the Swedish Parliament's Justice Committee, led by Mrs Astrid Kristensson, Chairman of the Committee, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.

Questions without notice continued.

- 5 PAPERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Speaker, pursuant to statute, presented:  
Commonwealth Banks Act—Commonwealth Banking Corporation, Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia, Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia and Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia—Reports and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1976–77.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Industrial Research and Development Grants Act and Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act—Australian Industrial Research and Development Incentives Board—Report for year 1976–77.

Overseas Telecommunications Act—Overseas Telecommunications Commission (Australia)—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's report, for year ended 31 March 1977.

Wheat Research Act—19th Annual Report, for 1976.

Mr Macphee (Minister for Productivity), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the report of the Australian Industrial Research and Development Incentives Board.

Mr Young, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 6 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That leave of absence for 1 month be given to the honourable Members for Indi (Mr Holten) and Wakefield (Mr Kelly) on the grounds of Parliamentary business overseas.

Question—put and passed.

- 7 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER: Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That leave of absence for 1 month be given to the honourable Member for Batman (Mr Garrick) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF CEILINGS: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Willis had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The disruption to the effective provision of public services resulting from the Fraser Government's continual reduction of staff ceilings for government employment".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 9 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1977–78—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Willis who moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "the House condemns the Budget because it will:

- (a) intensify and prolong the recession,
- (b) increase unemployment,
- (c) have little impact on inflation,
- (d) make regressive changes in the tax system, and
- (e) reduce living standards".

Debate continued.

Mr Lucock addressing the House—

Closure: Mr L. R. Johnson moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 71

Mr Abel	Mr Cotter	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr Katter	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Falconer	Mr King	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baume	Mr Fisher	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Birney	Mr Garland	Mr Lucock	Mr Short
Mr Bonnett	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Simon
Mr Bouchier	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bradfield	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Brown	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Sullivan
Mr Bungey	Mr Hamer	Mr Martyr	Mr Thomson
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr Millar	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodges	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Hodgman	Mr Neil	Mr Yates
Mr Carige	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chapman	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Connolly	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Peacock	Mr Corbett

NOES, 24

Mr Armitage	Mr Hurford	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bowen	Mr Innes	Mr Martin	
Mr Bryant	Mr Jacobi	Mr Morris	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Stewart	
Mr Cohen	Mr Jones	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Crean	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam	Mr James
Mr FitzPatrick	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

*In the committee*

Schedule 2—

Ordered—That the proposed expenditures for the purposes and services in the Schedule be considered in the following order, either separately or together, as shown:

Parliament.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and } together.

Department of Administrative Services

Department of the Treasury, } together.

Department of Finance, and }

Advance to the Treasurer

Department of Foreign Affairs.

Department of Health, }

Department of Social Security, and } together.

Department of Veterans' Affairs }

Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

Department of the Capital Territory, and } together.

Department of the Northern Territory }

Department of National Resources, } together.

Department of Overseas Trade, and }

Department of the Special Trade Negotiator }

Department of Industry and Commerce, } together.

Department of Business and Consumer Affairs, and }

Department of Productivity }

Department of Primary Industry.  
 Department of Transport.  
 Department of Education.  
 Department of Environment, Housing and Community }  
 Development, and } together.  
 Department of Construction }  
 Department of Employment and Industrial Relations.  
 Department of Science.  
 Postal and Telecommunications Department.  
 Attorney-General's Department.  
 Department of Defence.

Proposed expenditure—Parliament, \$14,922,000—  
 Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said committee.

10 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) 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 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 20 September 1977, pursuant to statute:

Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 152.

Commonwealth Teaching Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 163.

Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 162.

Defence Act, Naval Defence Act and Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, Nos. 159, 160.

Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, Nos. 158, 161.

Dried Fruits Levy Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 154.

Export Market Development Grants Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 153.

Long Service Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 155.

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—1977/12—Holders of public offices on the Legal Aid Commission (A.C.T.) and another body.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Regulations—1977—No. 21 (Sale of Motor Vehicles Ordinance).

Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, Nos. 156, 157.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Dr Cass, Mr Drummond, Mr Fife, Mr Fry, Mr Garrick\*, Mr Hayden, Mr Holten\*, Dr Jenkins, Mr Kelly\*, Mr Lusher, Mr Lynch, Mr McLean, Mr Nicholls, Dr Richardson, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Scholes and Mr Wallis.

\* On leave

D. M. BLAKE,  
 Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives