

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 3

THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 1978

1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Bowen, Mr L. R. Johnson and Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying for the establishment of a fund whereby loans can be made to means tested pensioners for the necessary maintenance of their homes.

Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying that the Citizens Band Radio service regulations be changed to permit an extended operating range.

Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that representatives of the Rhodesian Parliament be invited to Australia.

Mr Simon—from certain citizens praying that the final decision on the mining of uranium be made through a voluntary referendum after a 12 month program of public education and debate.

Mr Wallis—from certain citizens of Whyalla, S.A., praying for the establishment of a replacement railway rolling stock industry at Whyalla together with such other projects as are recommended by the Premier's working party.

Mr Young—from certain citizens praying for the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry into Public Libraries.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

East-West rail passenger services, the "Indian Pacific" and "Trans-Australian"—Report by Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated September 1977.

Industries Assistance Commission—

Interim report—Bench or pedestal drilling machines belt driven pulley operated (non-power fed), dated 30 September 1977.

Temporary Assistance Authority—Reports—

Fork lift trucks, etc.—Not battery operated, dated 14 November 1977.

Non-adjustable spanners, dated 28 October 1977.

Spectacle frames, dated 2 November 1977.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian National University Act—Council of the Australian National University—Report for 1976.

Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Reports—

Fixed resistors, dated 24 October 1977.

Luggage, dated 21 November 1977.

States Grants (Schools) Acts—Statements of financial assistance granted to each State, for—

Period 1 January 1976 to 30 November 1977.
Year 1976–77.

5 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported acquainting the House of the appointment of Senators to the following committees:

22 February 1978—Message—

No. 1—Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—
Senators Sir Magnus Cormack and Douglas McClelland.

No. 2—Joint Committee of Public Accounts—Senators Colston, Lajovic and
Messner.

No. 3—Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works—Senators
Kilgariff, Melzer and Young.

6 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—62ND (MARITIME) SESSION—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Street (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

International Labour Conference—62nd (Maritime) Session, 1976—Reports of the
Australian Government, Employers' and Workers' Delegates—
and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the paper.

7 PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Act 1948*, Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations) be discharged as a trustee serving on the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust and that Mr Bouchier and Mr C. R. Cameron be appointed trustees to serve on that Trust.

Question—put and passed.

8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HEALTH CARE COSTS: Mr Speaker informed the House that Dr Klugman had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's failure to deal with the rising costs of health care".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Dr Klugman addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

9 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—SALES TAX BILLS: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), for 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.

Question—put and passed.

10 TERRITORY AUTHORITIES (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1978: Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act relating to moneys appropriated for the purposes of certain authorities of the Territories, the borrowing of moneys by such authorities and the liability of such authorities to taxation.

Bill read a first time.

Mr E. L. Robinson moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 11 CONTROL OF NAVAL WATERS AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr McLeay (Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Control of Naval Waters Act 1918*, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr McLeay moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Scholes), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1978: Mr Newman (Minister for National Development), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant financial assistance to the States in connexion with the development and management of national water resources.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Newman moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Keating), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Industries Assistance Commission Act 1973*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Fife 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.
- 14 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1966*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Fife 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.
- 15 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH: 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 His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:
We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr Sainsbury), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 16 SECURITY AND COUNTER-TERRORISM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's action to guard against acts of terrorism in Australia, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Security and counter-terrorism—Ministerial statement, 23 February 1978.
Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate ensued.
Ordered—That Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) be granted an extension of time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Bourchier), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 17 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH: 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 His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

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Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr Macphee—Minister for Productivity), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 18 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Macphee (Minister for Productivity) 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 Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 23 February 1978, pursuant to statute:

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

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—By-laws—Telecommunications (General)—Amendment No. 11.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Fry and Mr Garland.

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