

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 6

THURSDAY, 2 MARCH 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 PARLIAMENT HOUSE SECURITY—STATEMENT BY MR SPEAKER: Mr Speaker made a statement informing the House of procedures being adopted to improve the security of Parliament House.
Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) and Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made statements with reference to the matter.
- 3 PETITION: The Clerk announced that Mr Hodges had lodged a petition for presentation from certain citizens praying for the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry into Public Libraries.
Petition received.
- 4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—
Suspension of standing orders moved: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition from moving—That the House—
(a) condemns the Prime Minister for failing to provide convincing justification for his personal intervention in the tendering processes associated with a replacement computer for the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Trade, and
(b) calls on the Prime Minister to table forthwith all relevant papers, documents and files so that a fair and proper assessment can be made by the House of the propriety of actions associated with this matter.
Closure of Member: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.
Question—put.
The House divided (the Speaker, Sir Billy Snedden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 78

Mr Adermann	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Aldred	Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr Peacock
Mr Anthony	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr Porter
Mr Bailliéu	Mr Falconer	Mr Llôyd	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fraser	Mr Lynch	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bradfield	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Bungey	Mr Graham	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Burns	Mr Groom	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodges	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Calder	Mr Howard	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hunt	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hyde	Mr Möbre	
Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dean	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Dobie	Mr Johnston	Mr Nixon	Mr Corbett

NOES, 35

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Dr Blewett	Mr Hayden	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Dr Klugman	Mr Whitlam
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr Scholes	Mr L. K. Johnson
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) addressing the House—

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

Question—put.

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

AYES, 75

Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon
Mr Aldred	Mr Drummond	Mr Johnston	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Anthony	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Baillieu	Mr Ellicott	Mr Katter	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Fife	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Bungey	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Burns	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Groom	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Cairns	Mr Hodges	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Calder	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cotter	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	Mr Corbett

NOES, 35

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Dr Blewett	Mr Hayden	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Dr Klugman	Mr Whitlam
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr Scholes	Mr L. K. Johnson
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr Young addressing the House—

Closure: Mr Sinclair moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 76

Mr Adermann	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Falconer	Mr Lucock	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baume	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Birney	Mr Fisher	Mr Lynch	Mr Shack
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr Bradfield	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bungey	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Burns	Mr Groom	Sir William McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodges	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Hunt	Mr Millar	
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hyde	Mr Moore	
Mr Carlton	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil	
Mr Cotter	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dean	Mr Johnston	Mr Nixon	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Corbett

NOES, 35

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Dr Blewett	Mr Hayden	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Dr Klugman	Mr Whitlam
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr Scholes	Mr L. K. Johnson
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion for the suspension of standing orders be agreed to—
being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 35

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Dr Blewett	Mr Hayden	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Dr Klugman	Mr Whitlam
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr Scholes	Mr L. K. Johnson
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	Mr L. R. Johnson

NOES, 76

Mr Adermann	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Falconer	Mr Lucock	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baume	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Birney	Mr Fisher	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shack
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Bradfield	Mr Giles	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bungey	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Burns	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodges	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	
Mr Carlton	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	
Mr Cotter	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dean	Mr Johnston	Mr O'Keefe	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock	Mr Corbett

And so it was negated.

Questions without notice concluded.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Cost recovery in Australian transport 1974-75—Report by Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated September 1977.

United Nations—3rd Conference on the Law of the Sea, 6th Session, New York, 23 May to 15 July 1977—Report of Australian Delegation.

Pursuant to statute:

Meat Research Act—Australian Meat Research Committee—11th Annual Report, for year 1976-77.

Services Trust Funds Act—

Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—30th Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1976.

Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—29th Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1976.

Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1976.

6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Prime Minister making a statement to the House forthwith.

Several Members rising to address the House—

Closure: Mr Sinclair moved—That the question be now put.

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

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—was put accordingly, and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

7 SIR JOHN KERR—UNESCO APPOINTMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) made a ministerial statement informing the House of the decision of Sir John Kerr not to take up the position of Australia's Ambassador to UNESCO.

Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

8 DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES: The following warrant nominating Deputy Chairmen of Committees, pursuant to standing order 18, was laid upon the Table by Mr Speaker:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 18, I do hereby nominate—

John Lindsay Armitage, Esquire,

Henry Alfred Jenkins, Esquire,

Vincent Joseph Martin, Esquire, and

Ian Louis Robinson, Esquire,

to act as Deputy Chairmen of Committees when requested so to do by the Chairman of Committees.

Given under my hand on 2 March 1978.

B. M. SNEDDEN
SPEAKER

9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—THE ECONOMY: 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 recessed state of the Australian economy".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Mr Hurford rising to address the House—

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 70

Mr Adermann	Mr Dean	Mr Johnston	Mr Nixon
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock
Mr Anthony	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Dr Edwards	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lucock	Mr Ruddock
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shack
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Bungey	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burns	Mr Groom	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Burr	Mr Hodges	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Cairns	Mr Howard	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Hunt	Mr Millar	
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hyde	Mr Moore	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Carlton	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Cotter	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman	Mr Corbett

NOES, 28

Mr Armitage	Mr Holding	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Dr Blewett	Mr Humphreys	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr James	Mr Scholes	
Mr Cohen	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	
Mr Dawkins	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Dr Everingham	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. K. Johnson
Mr FitzPatrick	Dr Klugman	Mr West	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

10 TOURISM—SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Lynch (Minister for Industry and Commerce), pursuant to notice, moved—

(1) That a Select Committee be appointed:

- (a) to examine the significance and potential of tourism in the Australian economy and whether it has special features in comparison with other industries, with particular reference to its effects on—
 - (i) employment,
 - (ii) balance of payments aspects,
 - (iii) the community's knowledge of Australia and the Australian heritage,
 - (iv) community health and welfare, and
 - (v) regional development and decentralisation;
- (b) to identify the short and long term issues facing the industry in Australia;
- (c) to examine the importance of the various modes of transport in the development of tourism to and within Australia;
- (d) to examine the roles and responsibilities of the Commonwealth, State and local governments and the industry in relation to the development and promotion of tourism;
- (e) to assess the adequacy and the availability of statistical and other information relating to tourism, and
- (f) to report on its investigations into these matters and to recommend action that might be taken by the Commonwealth Government or by the Commonwealth Government in co-operation with State and local governments and the tourist industry to alleviate any problems identified by the committee during the course of its investigations.

(2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.

- (3) That the committee consist of 8 members, 5 to be nominated by the Prime Minister and 3 to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (6) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (8) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (10) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (11) That the committee have power to move from place to place.
- (12) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment.
- (13) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (14) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (15) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (16) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to the committee's report.
- (17) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the minutes of evidence and records of the House of Representatives Select Committees on Tourism appointed in the 30th Parliament.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 ROAD SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to inquire into and report on:
 - (a) the main causes of the present high level of the road toll in Australia;
 - (b) the most effective means of achieving greater road safety in Australia;
 - (c) the particular aspects of the problem to which those concerned with road safety could most advantageously direct their efforts, and
 - (d) the economic cost to the community of road accidents in Australia in terms of—
 - (i) material damage,
 - (ii) loss of man-hours and earning capacity, and
 - (iii) cost of treatment of accident victims.

- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
- (3) That the committee consist of 8 members, 5 to be nominated by the Prime Minister and 3 to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (5) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (6) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (7) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (9) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (10) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (11) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (12) That the committee have power to move from place to place.
- (13) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence before it and any document presented to it.
- (15) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Select Committee on Road Safety appointed during the 28th Parliament and the Standing Committees on Road Safety appointed during the 29th and 30th Parliaments.
- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

12 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to consider and report on:
 - (a) foreign affairs and defence generally, and
 - (b) such matters as may be referred to the committee—
 - (i) by the Minister for Foreign Affairs,
 - (ii) by the Minister for Defence, or
 - (iii) by resolution of either House of the Parliament.

- (2) That the committee consist of 8 Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Prime Minister, 6 Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, 4 Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, and 3 Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister or by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (6) That the Chairman of the committee may, from time to time, appoint another member of the committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the committee, and that the member so appointed act as Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 4 or more of its members and to refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider.
- (8) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for and examine persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to meet and transact business in public or private session and notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament.
- (9) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (10) That 7 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee and 3 members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (11) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman, or the Deputy Chairman when acting as Chairman, have a casting vote.
- (12) That the committee have power to consider and make use of the minutes of evidence and records of Joint Committees on Foreign Affairs and Defence, appointed in previous Parliaments, relating to any matter on which those committees had not completed consideration.
- (13) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered, with the approval of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee.
- (14) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (15) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (16) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

13 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to:
 - (a) consider any papers on public expenditure presented to the House and such of the estimates as it sees fit to examine;

- (b) consider how, if at all, policies implied in the figures of expenditure and in the estimates may be carried out more economically;
 - (c) examine the relationship between the costs and benefits of implementing government programs, and
 - (d) inquire into and report on any question in connection with public expenditure which is referred to it by the House.
- (2) That the committee consist of 6 members to be nominated by the Prime Minister, 5 members to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, and the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts or his nominee who is a Member of the House of Representatives.
 - (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
 - (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
 - (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
 - (6) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
 - (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (8) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
 - (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
 - (10) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
 - (11) That the committee have power to move from place to place.
 - (12) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment.
 - (13) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
 - (14) That 5 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee.
 - (15) That the committee be provided with the necessary staff, facilities and resources.
 - (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
 - (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
 - (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Standing Committee on Expenditure appointed during the 30th Parliament.
 - (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

14 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to inquire into, take evidence and report on:
 - (a) the present circumstances of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people and the effect of policies and programs on them, and
 - (b) such other matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people as are referred to it by—
 - (i) resolution of the House, or
 - (ii) the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.
- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
- (3) That the committee consist of 8 members, 5 to be nominated by the Prime Minister and 3 to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (5) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (6) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (7) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (9) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (10) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (11) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (12) That the committee have power to move from place to place.
- (13) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (15) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Standing Committees on Aboriginal Affairs appointed during the 28th, 29th and 30th Parliaments.

- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

15 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Ellicott (Minister for the Capital Territory), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to:
 - (a) examine and report on all proposals for modification or variations of the plan of lay-out of the City of Canberra and its environs published in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on 19 November 1925, as previously modified or varied, which are referred to the committee by the Minister for the Capital Territory, and
 - (b) examine and report on such other matters relating to the Australian Capital Territory as may be referred to the committee—
 - (i) by the Minister for the Capital Territory, or
 - (ii) by resolution of either House of the Parliament.
- (2) That the committee consist of 10 members, 4 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Prime Minister, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, 2 Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and 2 Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister or by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (6) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee, the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (8) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (10) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (11) That the committee have power to move from place to place.
- (12) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment.
- (13) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.

- (14) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (15) That the committee in its inquiries take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (16) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (17) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committees on the Australian Capital Territory appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (19) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

16 NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:
Mr Ellicott (Minister for the Capital Territory), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee be appointed to act for and represent the Parliament, as the client for the new and permanent Parliament House, in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House and all matters incidental thereto.
- (2) That the committee reconsider and, as necessary, amend the recommendations of the former Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House contained in its report dated March 1970, which when revised shall be used as the basis of the construction of the new and permanent Parliament House, unless both Houses resolve to vary any recommendation or have any recommendation re-considered by the committee.
- (3) That the committee also consider and report on matters coming within the terms of section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974* as may be referred to it—
 - (a) by the Minister responsible for administering the *National Capital Development Commission Act 1957*, or
 - (b) by resolution of either House of the Parliament.
- (4) That the committee consist of:
 - (a) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (b) The Minister responsible for administering the *National Capital Development Commission Act 1957*;
 - (c) 6 Members of the House of Representatives, 3 of whom shall be nominated by the Prime Minister and 3 by the Leader of the Opposition, and
 - (d) 6 Senators, 3 of whom shall be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and 3 by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (5) That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives be Joint Chairmen of the committee.
- (6) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (7) That the members of the committee hold office as a Joint Standing Committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee, and to refer to such a sub-committee any matter that the committee is empowered to inquire into.

- (9) That the committee or a sub-committee so appointed have power to send for persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament.
- (10) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (11) That 7 members of the committee, one of whom is the President or the Speaker, constitute a quorum of the committee and a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (12) That in matters of procedure, each of the Chairmen, whether or not occupying the Chair, have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman occupying the Chair have a casting vote.
- (13) That in matters other than those of procedure, each of the Chairmen, whether or not occupying the Chair, have a deliberative vote only.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Standing Committees on the New and Permanent Parliament House appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (15) That the committee and sub-committees be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee or a sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it or any information obtained in the course of its inquiries or any document presented to it.
- (17) That the committee be authorised to provide, on behalf of the Parliament, all necessary information concerning the functional requirements for the new and permanent Parliament House and matters incidental thereto direct to the National Capital Development Commission as the Authority responsible to Parliament to undertake or arrange for the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (19) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

17 ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Groom (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to inquire into and report on:
 - (a) environmental aspects of legislative and administrative measures which ought to be taken in order to ensure the wise and effective management of the Australian environment and of Australia's natural resources, and
 - (b) such other matters relating to the environment and conservation and the management of Australia's natural resources as are referred to it by—
 - (i) the Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development,
or
 - (ii) resolution of the House.
- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
- (3) That the committee consist of 8 members, 5 to be nominated by the Prime Minister and 3 to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.

- (5) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (6) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (7) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (9) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (10) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (11) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (12) That the committee have power to move from place to place.
- (13) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (15) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Standing Committees on Environment and Conservation appointed during the 28th, 29th and 30th Parliaments.
- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

18 **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE:** Ordered—That notice No. 9, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.

19 **BOUNTY (POLYESTER-COTTON YARN) BILL 1978:** Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of a bounty on the production of certain polyester-cotton yarn.

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.

- 20 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 2 (1978): Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 2 (1978).
Debate adjourned (Mr Hurford), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 21 PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by leave, moved—That the Committee of Privileges, when considering the matter referred to it on 28 February 1978, have power to send for persons, papers and records.
Question—put and passed.
- 22 CONTROL OF NAVAL WATERS AMENDMENT BILL 1978: 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.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr McLeay (Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence), the Bill was read a third time.
- 23 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1978: 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 opposing the second reading of the Bill, the House deplores the actions of the Government:
(a) in not having a medium or long term economic strategy, including a viable manufacturing policy upon which to base general and consistent guidelines necessary for, among other things, the proper functioning of the Industries Assistance Commission, and
(b) in threatening the basic independence of the Industries Assistance Commission, by its emphasis upon narrow and variable guidelines, and by its consistent failure to appreciate the advisory role intended for the Industries Assistance Commission”.
Debate continued.
Debate adjourned (Mr Hyde), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 24 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 25 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 Hodgman), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 26 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY SUPREME COURT AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Message No. 4, dated 2 March 1978, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Act 1933’*”.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 27 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—NORTHERN TERRITORY SUPREME COURT AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Message No. 5, dated 2 March 1978, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Northern Territory Supreme Court Act 1961’*”.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 28 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1978: 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 opposing the second reading of the Bill, the House deplores the actions of the Government:*

(a) in not having a medium or long term economic strategy, including a viable manufacturing policy upon which to base general and consistent guidelines necessary for, among other things, the proper functioning of the Industries Assistance Commission, and

(b) in threatening the basic independence of the Industries Assistance Commission, by its emphasis upon narrow and variable guidelines, and by its consistent failure to appreciate the advisory role intended for the Industries Assistance Commission”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 29 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1978: 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—

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 30 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Fife (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 Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 2 March 1978, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for telecommunication purposes—

Doncaster East, Vic.

Northcote, Vic.

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—By-laws—

Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts)—Amendment No. 20.

Telecommunications (General)—Amendment No. 12.

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

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