

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 10

TUESDAY, 14 MARCH 1978

-
- 1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that the Right Honourable B. E. Talboys, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Overseas Trade, of New Zealand, and members of his party, were present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.
- 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Burns, Mr Fife, Mr Howard, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Sainsbury, Mr Scholes and Mr Whitlam—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 Shipton—from certain citizens praying that communist organisations be banned and communists be prohibited from holding positions in industrial organisations, government departments and local government and from standing for Parliament.
- Petitions received.
- 4 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the respective absences abroad of Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Resources) and Mr Street (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations) would act as Minister for Trade and Resources, and Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) was acting as Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations.
- 5 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 6 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
- By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Files and rasps, dated 16 December 1977.
- Pursuant to statute:
Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies Act—Council of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1976-77.
Remuneration Tribunals Act—Academic Salaries Tribunal—Report, dated 2 November 1977—Vice-Chancellors.
- 7 **COMMONWEALTH DAY:** Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, moved—
- (1) That this House—
- (a) notes the agreement of governments of the member countries of the Commonwealth that the second Monday in March shall be observed throughout the Commonwealth as Commonwealth Day;

- (b) commends the value of the institution of the Commonwealth as a unique world forum for free and open discussion and exchange of ideas between member countries of diverse cultures, religions, languages and local history;
 - (c) regards with satisfaction the growing awareness in the Commonwealth of the value of regional consultation such as the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting as a stimulus to new and increased co-operation in areas of special interest to the region, and
 - (d) commends the observance of Commonwealth Day as an occasion for Australians to reflect on the value of membership of the Commonwealth and to re-affirm their commitment to the Commonwealth.
- (2) That the terms of this resolution be conveyed to the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 **ASSENT TO BILL:** Mr Speaker informed the House that on Thursday afternoon last, accompanied by the Attorney-General, he waited upon His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowen, and personally presented for the Royal Assent the Industries Assistance Commission Amendment Bill 1978, which was the first Bill ready for presentation following the swearing-in of His Excellency. His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, was pleased to assent to the Bill which is now Act No. 1 of 1978—Message No. 3.
- 9 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL:** A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:
9 March 1978—Message No. 4—Customs Tariff Amendment 1978.
- 10 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—JOINT COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Senators and Members to be members of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence:
Senators Sir Magnus Cormack, Scott, Sim and Young had been nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and Senators Bishop, Sibraa and Wheeldon had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate. Mr Dobie, Mr Katter, Mr Martyr, Mr Neil, Mr Shipton, Mr Short, Mr Simon and Mr Thomson had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Armitage, Dr Blewett, Mr Bryant, Mr Jacobi, Dr Klugman and Mr Scholes had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 11 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Senators and Members to be members of the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory:
Senators Archer and Knight had been nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and Senators Devitt and Ryan had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
Mr Burns, Mr Dean, Mr Haslem and Mr Lucock had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Fry and Mr Innes had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 12 **NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Senators and Members to be members of the Joint Standing Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House:
Senators Drake-Brockman, Missen and Young had been nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and Senators McIntosh, Melzer and O'Byrne had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
Mr Haslem, Mr Lloyd and Mr Simon had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Innes, Mr L. K. Johnson and Mr Keating had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.

- 13 ROAD SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Road Safety: Mr Bradfield, Mr Goodluck, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr Katter and Mr Porter had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Humphreys, Mr C. K. Jones and Mr Morris had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 14 ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation:
Mr Baillieu, Mr Cotter, Mr Fisher, Mr Hodges and Mr Simon had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Cohen, Mr Howe and Dr Jenkins had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 15 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Expenditure:
Mr Aldred, Mr Cairns, Dr Edwards, Mr Lloyd, Mr Lusher and Mr McLean had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Dawkins, Dr Klugman, Mr Morris and Mr Stewart had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 16 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs:
Mr Calder, Mr Falconer, Mr Johnston, Mr Ruddock and Mr Thomson had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Dawkins, Dr Everingham and Mr Holding had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 17 TOURISM—SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Select Committee on Tourism:
Mr Drummond, Mr Goodluck, Mr Jull, Mr I. L. Robinson and Mr Sainsbury had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Cohen, Mr C. K. Jones and Mr Stewart had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- 18 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ENERGY POLICY: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Keating had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's failure in energy policy and its indifference to alternate energy research and energy conservation".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Keating addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
- 19 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian National Railways Act 1917*, and for other purposes.
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.
- 20 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Willis, viz.—* That the following words be added to the Address: “, but note that the Government’s legislative program as outlined in the speech—

- (1) fails to deal adequately with record levels of unemployment;
- (2) fails to stimulate productive output;
- (3) leaves serious uncertainty about the progress of the Australian economy;
- (4) ignores the serious recession in the international economy;
- (5) fails to provide immediate and long-term guidelines for industry, and
- (6) neglects to provide firm guarantees for the protection of civil liberties by legislative enactment within the powers of the Australian Government”—

Debate resumed.

Mr Howe addressing the House—

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

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

Question—put and negatived.

Mr Howe continued his speech.

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

21 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 14 March 1978, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—M. G. Humphry.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1978—

No. 43—Amalgamated Metal Workers’ and Shipwrights Union and others.

No. 44—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 45—Administrative and Clerical Officers’ Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.

No. 46—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.

Nos. 47 and 48—Australian Journalists Association.

No. 49—Australian Broadcasting Commission Senior Officers’ Association and another.

No. 50—Professional Musicians Union of Australia.

No. 51—Australian Journalists Association.

No. 52—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.

No. 53—C.S.I.R.O. Laboratory Craftsmen Association.

No. 54—Actors’ and Announcers’ Equity Association of Australia.

No. 55—Clothing and Allied Trades Union of Australia.

No. 56—Amalgamated Metal Workers’ and Shipwrights Union and others.

No. 57—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

- No. 58—Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization Technical Association.
No. 59—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia and another.
No. 60—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.
No. 61—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.
No. 62—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
No. 63—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.
No. 64—Australian Capital Territory Medical Officers' Association.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Garland, Mr Martyr and Mr Street.

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