

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 62

TUESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 1978

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- 1 The House met, at 3.03 p.m. 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 Bouchier, Mr Bowen, Mr J. J. Brown, Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Connolly, Mr Dobie, Mr Fife, Mr Graham, Mr Hurford, Mr Kerin, Mr MacKellar and Sir William McMahon—from certain citizens praying for the award of a medal to members of the World War II *Jaywick* and *Rimau* commando expeditions.
- Mr Dobie, Mr Garland, Mr Shack and Mr Stewart—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.
- Mr Fife, Mr Hunt, Mr Jarman and Mr L. K. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the Medical Benefits Schedule be amended to preclude payment of benefits for abortions.
- Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Dobie and Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying that no measures be taken to implement those recommendations of the Royal Commission on Human Relationships that will further undermine and weaken marriage, child-care or the family.
- Mr Aldred and Mr Macphee—from certain citizens praying that Radio 3CR Melbourne be required to adhere to the broadcasting standards laid down for all other radio stations and that legislation be enacted against incitement to racial hatred and violence.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that pensions be increased twice yearly in line with rises in the consumer price index.
- Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying for the rejection of any legislation introducing annual adjustments of pensions rates.
- Mr Hodgman—from certain members and ex-members of the citizens forces of Australia praying for the resumption of the award of several distinctive reserve forces decorations and medals for long service and good conduct.
- Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain members of the Sydney University Post Graduate Representative Association and others praying that Commonwealth post-graduate research awards be adjusted annually in line with the consumer price index and not be taxed.
- Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the decision to index pensions annually be reviewed and that all pensions be adjusted quarterly.
- Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that an additional reactor not be constructed at the Australian Atomic Energy Establishment at Lucas Heights, N.S.W.
- Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that the decision not to proceed with the Vocational Employment Training Scheme at Green Valley, N.S.W., be reversed and that funds be provided for further vocational employment training schemes in high unemployment areas.
- Mr Neil—from certain citizens praying that the imperial system of weights and measures be restored.

Mr Uren—from certain citizens praying that item 6469 on the Medical Benefits Schedule be maintained.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Domestic air transport policy review—Report to the Minister for Transport—

Part 1—Trunk route services and the two airline policy, dated March 1978.

Part 2—Regional and local/commuter air services, dated September 1978.

Tertiary Education Commission—

Report on study leave in universities and colleges of advanced education—dated August 1978.

Report.

Statement by Senator Carrick (Minister for Education).

Triennium 1979–81—Recommendations for recurrent grants for universities and colleges of advanced education for 1980 and 1981—Statement by Senator Carrick (Minister for Education).

Pursuant to statute:

Broadcasting and Television Act—Australian Broadcasting Commission—46th Annual Report and financial statement, for year 1977–78.

States Grants (Dwellings for Pensioners) Act—4th Annual Statement by Minister, for year 1977–78.

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1977–78.

Tertiary Education Commission Act—Tertiary Education Commission—Triennium 1979–81—Recommendations for recurrent grants for universities and colleges of advanced education for 1980 and 1981.

5 **LEBANON—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the situation in Lebanon and of Australia's support for peace initiatives there, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Lebanon—Ministerial statement, 24 October 1978.

Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

6 **EXPORT POLICY FOR BULK RAW MATERIALS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Resources), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of changes in the Government's policy on the export of bulk raw materials, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Export policy for bulk raw materials—Ministerial statement, 24 October 1978.

Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

7 **DEFENCE REVIEW—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's defence program, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Defence review—Ministerial statement, 24 October 1978.

Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction) moved—That the House take note of the paper. *Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech*: Mr McLeay, by leave, moved—

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Scholes speaking for a period not exceeding 31 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued.

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

- 8 EXPORT EXPANSION GRANTS BILL 1978—LEGISLATION COMMITTEE: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Resources) (Member in charge of the Bill) had been discharged from the legislation committee considering the Export Expansion Grants Bill 1978 and that Mr Garland (Minister Assisting the Minister for Trade and Resources) had been nominated in his place.
- 9 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
 24 October 1978—Message—
 No. 139—Trade Marks Amendment 1978.
 No. 140—Patents Amendment 1978.
- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—NEW SOUTH WALES FUEL STRIKE: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Connolly, Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Shack and Mr Willis had each proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, Mr Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Connolly, namely, “The impact of the New South Wales fuel strike on economic recovery”.
- The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Connolly addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 11 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1978–79: The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditure—Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, \$282,716,000—further debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditure—Department of Science, \$204,267,000—debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditure—Postal and Telecommunications Department, \$178,180,000—debated.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr Martin reported accordingly.

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

- 12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Staley (Minister for Post and Telecommunications) 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 tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 24 October 1978, pursuant to statute:

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinance—1978—No. 32—Referendum (Self-government).

Regulations—1978—No. 17 (Health Commission Ordinance).

Variation of plan of lay-out of City of Canberra and its environs, dated 16 October 1978.

States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendment of the schedules to the subsidy schemes in relation to the States of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia, dated 15 October 1978.

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—By-laws—Telecommunications (General)—Amendment No. 17.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bryant*, Mr Cotter, Mr Dawkins, Mr Innes, Mr Jacobi*, Mr Lucock*, Mr Lynch, Mr O'Keefe, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Ruddock, Mr Shipton* and Mr Sinclair.

* On leave

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