

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 68

TUESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 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 PRIVILEGE: Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) referred to the declaration relating to Crown privilege made by the High Court in the case of *Sankey v. Whitlam and others* (9 November 1978) and the possible application of the principle as declared by the Court to the production of Ministerial documents in the House when required by any Member, Mr Speaker being the judge of confidentiality.

Mr Speaker stated that he would examine the matter and report to the House.

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

Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Dobie, Mr Lucock, Sir William McMahon, Mr Martyr, Mr Scholes, Mr Shack, Mr Stewart and Mr Viner—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.

Mr Aldred, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Hunt and Mr Lynch—from certain citizens praying that the Medical Benefits Schedule be amended to preclude payment of benefits for abortions.

Mr Baume—from certain residents of the Electoral Division of Macarthur praying that support be given to the general business motion of the honourable Member for Hume concerning medical benefits for abortion.

Mr Lusher—from certain residents of the Electoral Division of Werriwa in the same terms as the last preceding petition.

Mr Lucock and Sir William McMahon—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 Bradfield—from certain citizens praying that the former post office building in Kogarah, N.S.W., be given to the people of Kogarah as a women's rest centre and community aid centre.

Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Indi praying that land not necessary for development by the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation be released from compulsory acquisition.

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

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Kingsford-Smith Airport, Sydney, not be extended and that no related decisions be taken without consultation with affected communities.

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that indirect tax measures, such as a Retail Turnover Tax or a Value Added Tax, not be introduced.

Mr C. K. Jones—from certain citizens praying that proposed changes to Medibank not be implemented and that there be consultation with the trade unions and the community.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying for the replacement of the 1978-79 Budget by a budget which increases the level of economic activity, lowers unemployment, assists the disadvantaged and revives business and consumer confidence.

Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying for continued and increased Federal subsidies to maintain all existing South Australian country rail services.

Mr Sinclair—from certain citizens praying for a halt in the automation of rural telephone exchanges pending a Parliamentary inquiry.

Mr Uren—from certain citizens praying for the appointment of an independent inquiry into the Australian Broadcasting Commission to investigate the qualifications of commissioners and certain other matters.

Petitions received.

4 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations and Acting Minister for Veterans' Affairs), Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Resources) was acting as Minister for Special Trade Representations and Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction) was acting as Minister for Veterans' Affairs and was representing the Minister for Science in this House.

5 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—MOTION OF CENSURE OF PRIME MINISTER: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) having given a notice of motion—

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition moving forthwith the motion of censure of the Prime Minister of which he has given notice for the next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

6 PRIME MINISTER—MOTION OF CENSURE: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That this House censures the Prime Minister because—

(1) in matters concerning the Minister for Primary Industry, the Prime Minister has failed to adhere to principles and practice he has stated and followed in the past requiring Ministers to stand down when they are subject to investigation in regard to matters that raise questions about the propriety of their conduct and

(2) this failure has led to allegations and disclosures which tend to reflect discredit onto the Parliament as a whole, and not merely on the Government, the Prime Minister and the Minister for Primary Industry.

Mr Hayden asked leave to present certain papers.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

Mr Young moved—That Mr Hayden be granted an extension of time.

Question—put and negatived.

*Paper:* Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), during a personal explanation, presented the following paper:

Telex to Mr I. Sinclair from Mr B. Mahony, dated 13 November 1978.

Debate ensued on the motion of censure.

Mr Keating rising to address the House—

*Closure:* Mr Howard (Treasurer) 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, 77

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

NOES, 34

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

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 34

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

NOES, 77

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

And so it was negatived.

7 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

8 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—15th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1977–78.

Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—3rd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1977–78.

9 SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ANNUAL REPORTS—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Viner (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Science and the Environment on annual reports, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Science and the Environment—Senate Standing Committee—Report on annual reports—Government response—Ministerial statement, 14 November 1978.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

10 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: 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 Bills:

11 November 1978—Message No. 93—

Dried Vine Fruits Stabilization Amendment 1978.

Dried Vine Fruits Levy Amendment 1978.

Defence Service Homes Amendment 1978.

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—FUEL INDUSTRY STRIKE: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Falconer, Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) and Mr E. C. Cameron 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 Falconer, namely, "The serious threat to the Australian community from the strike in the fuel industry".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Falconer addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 AUDIT 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.

*Message from the Governor-General:* Message No. 94, dated 12 September 1978, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance), for Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, moved—That this Bill be referred to a legislation committee for report by 23 November 1978.

Question—put and passed.

13 PRIMARY INDUSTRY BANK AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 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 J. J. Brown, viz.—* That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following

words: "whilst not opposing the Bill, the House is of the opinion that the Bill takes no account of the Prime Minister's 1977 election promise to provide through the Primary Industry Bank long term credit at concessional interest rates"—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

*Message from the Governor-General:* Message No. 95, dated 26 October 1978, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Macphee (Minister for Productivity), the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 AIRLINE EQUIPMENT (LOAN GUARANTEE) BILL (No. 2) 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 Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

- 15 AUDIT AMENDMENT BILL 1978—LEGISLATION COMMITTEE: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the legislation committee to consider the Audit Amendment Bill 1978:

*Government Members:*

Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance) (Member in charge of the Bill), Mr Baume, Mr Cairns, Mr Connolly, Mr Dobie, Mr Falconer, Mr Fisher, Mr Katter, Mr McVeigh, Mr Simon and Mr Wilson.

*Opposition Members:*

Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Fry, Mr Hurford, Mr Martin and Mr Willis.

- 16 SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH 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 representing the Minister for Science), the Bill was read a third time.

- 17 C.S.I.R.O.—REORGANISATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—PAPERS NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented on 11 May 1978*), viz.:

C.S.I.R.O.—Reorganisation—

Copy of letter from Professor G. M. Badger, Chairman, Australian Science and Technology Council, to the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, dated 28 September 1977, and attachment.

Ministerial statement, 11 May 1978.

Statement by Senator Webster (Minister for Science)—

Question—put and passed.

- 18 SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 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 Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

19 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debated ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.59 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

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

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for development of Melbourne Airport—Tullamarine, Vic. (2).

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

No. 615—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 616—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 617—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.

No. 618—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

Nos 619 and 620—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

No. 621—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.†

No. 622—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.†

No. 623—Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia†

No. 624—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 625—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia and others.

No. 626—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and others.

No. 627—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

No. 628—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 629—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and another.

No. 630—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 631—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 632—Line Inspectors' Association, Commonwealth of Australia.

No. 633—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

No. 634—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.

No. 635—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.

No. 636—Vehicle Builders Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 637—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

No. 638—Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers and others.

No. 639—Australian Licensed Aircraft Engineers Association.

No. 640—Federal Firefighters' Union.

No. 641—Customs Officers' Association of Australia, Fourth Division.

No. 642—Commonwealth Works Supervisors Association.

No. 643—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

No. 644—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.

No. 645—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia.

No. 646—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

No. 647—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.

No. 648—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 649—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and another.

No. 650—Professional Officers' Association, Australian Public Service and another.

No. 651—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.

- No. 652—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.  
No. 653—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.  
No. 654—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 655—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.  
No. 656—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.  
No. 657—Australian Journalists Association.  
No. 658—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.  
Nos. 659 and 660—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 661—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.  
No. 662—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and another.  
No. 663—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.  
No. 664—Australian Government Lawyers Association.  
No. 665—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.  
No. 666—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and another.  
Nos. 667 to 670—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 671—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.  
No. 672—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.†  
No. 673—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.  
No. 674—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association and others.  
No. 675—Commonwealth Medical Officers Association.  
No. 676—Repatriation Department Medical Officers Association.  
No. 677—Professional Para-Medical Officers Association (Commonwealth Public Service).  
No. 678—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 679—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.  
No. 680—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.  
No. 681—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.  
No. 682—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.  
No. 683—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.  
No. 684—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.  
No. 685—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 686—Commonwealth Medical Officers Association.  
No. 687—Repatriation Department Medical Officers Association.  
No. 688—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 689—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.  
No. 690—Telecommunication Technical Officers Association.  
No. 691—Australian Journalists Association.  
No. 692—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.  
No. 693—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association and another.  
No. 694—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.  
No. 695—Industrial Arbitration Registrars' Association.  
No. 696—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.  
No. 697—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.  
No. 698—Commonwealth Police Officers' Association.  
Nos. 699 and 700—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
No. 701—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and another.  
No. 702—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.  
No. 703—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.

- No. 704—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
 No. 705—Arbitration Inspectors' Association.  
 No. 706—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
 No. 707—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.  
 No. 708—Commonwealth Police Officers' Association.  
 No. 709—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.  
 No. 710—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.  
 No. 711—Australian Workers' Union.  
 No. 712—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
 Nos. 713 and 714—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.  
 No. 715—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.  
 No. 716—Customs Officers' Association of Australia, Fourth Division.  
 No. 717—Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.†  
 No. 718—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.  
 No. 719—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.†  
 No. 720—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.  
 No. 721—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.  
 Nos. 722 and 723—Meat Inspectors Association, Commonwealth Public Service.  
 No. 724—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
 No. 725—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.  
 No. 726—Commonwealth Foremen's Association of Australia, Commonwealth Public Service and another.  
 Nos. 727 and 728—Commonwealth Foremen's Association of Australia, Commonwealth Public Service.  
 No. 729—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).  
 No. 730—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
 No. 731—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.  
 No. 732—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.  
 No. 733—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.  
 No. 734—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.  
 Nos. 735 and 736—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and others.  
 No. 737—Australian Journalists Association.  
 Nos. 738 and 740—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
 Nos. 741 and 742—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).  
 No. 743—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.  
 No. 744—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.  
 († Not accompanied by statement.)

---

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Bryant\*, Mr Garland, Mr Graham, Mr Jacobi\*, Mr Lucock\*, Mr Shipton\* and Mr Thomson.

\* On leave

---

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