

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 106

THURSDAY, 31 MAY 1979

1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Mr Millar) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

Mr Burns, Dr Jenkins, Mr Martin and Mr Sainsbury—from certain citizens praying that pension payments be restored to twice-yearly adjustments and that pensions and unemployment benefits be raised to 30% of average weekly earnings.

Mr Aldred, Mr Anthony and Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Commissioner for Superannuation—Interim report for year 1977–78, including an interim report of the Superannuation Fund Investment Trust for year 1977–78.

Treaty—Text of Agreement on Trade and Economic Relations and Technical Co-operation between Australia and the State of Bahrain, signed on 15 May 1979.

Pursuant to statute:

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

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

National Gallery Act—Council of the Australian National Gallery—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1977–78.

Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act—Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) (Superannuation) Regulations—Commissioner for Superannuation—Report for year 1974–75.

5 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

31 May 1979, a.m.—Message—

No. 236—Appropriation (No. 3) 1978–79 (*without requests*).

No. 237—Appropriation (No. 4) 1978–79.

- 6 DAYS AND HOURS OF MEETING:** Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—  
 That, unless otherwise ordered, the House shall meet next week at the times specified:
- |                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |            |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------|
| Monday, 4 June    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2.15 p.m.  |
| Tuesday, 5 June   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2.15 p.m.  |
| Wednesday, 6 June | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10.30 a.m. |
| Thursday, 7 June  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10.30 a.m. |
- Question—put and passed.
- 7 GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—  
 Question proposed—That grievances be noted.  
 Debate ensued.  
 It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106.  
 Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.
- 8 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:**  
 Mr Shipton (Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence:  
 The Torres Strait Treaty—Report and appendixes, dated 3 April 1979.  
 Ordered to be printed.  
 Mr Shipton and Mr Bryant, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 9 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Bungey (Chairman) presented the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:  
 Report relating to the proposed construction of a Defence Force Academy in the Australian Capital Territory (2nd report of 1979), together with minutes of evidence of the committee.  
 Ordered—That the report be printed.  
 Mr Bungey, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WELFARE PAYMENTS:** Mr Acting Speaker informed the House that both Mr MacKenzie and Mr Hodges had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, he had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr MacKenzie, namely, “The necessity to restrain welfare abuse and wastage so that those in greatest need receive a more equitable share of the welfare dollar”.  
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
 Mr MacKenzie addressed the House.  
 Discussion ensued.  
 Discussion concluded.
- 11 COAL INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** Mr Street (Minister for Industrial Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Coal Industry Act 1946*.  
 Bill read a first time.  
 Mr Street moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.  
 Debate adjourned (Mr Willis), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 NATIONAL LABOUR CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** Mr Street (Minister for Industrial Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Labour Consultative Council Act 1977*.  
 Bill read a first time.  
 Mr Street moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.  
 Debate adjourned (Mr Willis), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 BOUNTY (INJECTION-MOULDING EQUIPMENT) BILL 1979:** Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of bounty on the production of certain injection-moulding equipment.  
 Bill read a first time.

Mr Fife moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 14 PATROL BOAT BASE, CAIRNS, QLD—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act* 1969, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Construction of patrol boat base, Cairns, Qld.

Question—put and passed.

- 15 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—NEW TERMINAL COMPLEX, COOLANGATTA AERODROME, QLD: Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act* 1969, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report: Construction of a new terminal complex at Coolangatta Aerodrome, Qld.

Mr Groom presented plans in connection with the proposed work.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 16 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations), the Bill was read a third time.

- 17 EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Dawkins who moved, as an amendment—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 Fraser Government’s crude oil pricing policy has imposed a severe burden on the Australian public by way of rapidly increasing petrol prices and through its adverse effects on Australia’s inflation and unemployment rates, and should be reviewed”.

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 Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

- 18 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 4 to 8, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 19 LIVE-STOCK SLAUGHTER LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Adermann (Minister Assisting the Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 20 LIVE-STOCK SLAUGHTER LEVY COLLECTION AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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.

*Message from the Governor-General:* Message No. 156, dated 30 May 1979, 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 Adermann (Minister Assisting the Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 21 LIVE-STOCK EXPORT CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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 Adermann (Minister Assisting the Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 22 AUSTRALIAN MEAT AND LIVE-STOCK CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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. 157, dated 30 May 1979, 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 Adermann (Minister Assisting the Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 23 MEAT RESEARCH AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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. 158, dated 30 May 1979, 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 Adermann (Minister Assisting the Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 24 LIVE-STOCK SLAUGHTER (EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGE) BILL 1979:** 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.

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*Personal explanation:* Mr Burns made a personal explanation concerning an accusation made against him in the Senate and requested Mr Acting Speaker to take certain action.

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

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

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*In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), by leave, the following amendments were made together, after debate:

Clause 6—

Page 2, line 13, omit “The”, substitute “Subject to this section, the”.

Page 2, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clauses:

- “(3) The rate of charge on the slaughter of live-stock shall not exceed—
  - (a) in the case of cattle—
    - (i) where the dressed weight of each carcase exceeds 90 kilograms—\$2.40 per head;
    - (ii) where the dressed weight of each carcase exceeds 40 kilograms but does not exceed 90 kilograms—80 cents per head; and
    - (iii) where the dressed weight of each carcase does not exceed 40 kilograms—24 cents per head;
  - (b) in the case of sheep or goats—24 cents per head;
  - (c) in the case of pigs—80 cents per head; and
  - (d) in the case of live-stock not falling within paragraph (a), (b) or (c)—\$2.40 per head.
- “(4) For the purposes of this section—
  - (a) a reference to dressed weight, in relation to a carcase, shall be read as a reference to the weight of the carcase immediately after it has been dressed; and
  - (b) in ascertaining the weight of a carcase immediately after it has been dressed, no adjustment of that weight shall be made on account of shrinkage.”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

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The House resumed; Mr Martin reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Sinclair, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**25 LIVE-STOCK SLAUGHTER (EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGE) COLLECTION BILL 1979:** 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 Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

**26 GRAIN (EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGE) BILL 1979:** 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.  
The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

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*In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), by leave, the following amendments were made together:

Clause 6—

Page 2, line 5, omit “The”, substitute “Subject to this section, the”.

Page 2, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clause:

“(3) The rate of charge in respect of grain shall not exceed 40 cents per tonne.”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

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The House resumed; Mr Giles reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Sinclair, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**27 GRAIN (EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGE) COLLECTION BILL 1979:** 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 Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

**28 WOOL INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 1979:** 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 Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

**29 EXCISE AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 1979:** 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 Bill, the House notes that this measure is a reversal of Government policy, and is of the opinion that the change of policy made in the Bill comes too late, is not based on clear economic principles, constitutes a major change in the ground-rules for the exploration industry and is consequently damaging”.

Debate continued.

Mr West addressing the House—

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

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

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*Statement by Mr Acting Speaker:* Mr Acting Speaker referred to a personal explanation made by Mr Burns earlier this day and stated that a copy of Mr Burns’ remarks would be sent to the President of the Senate.

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Mr West continued his speech.

Amendment negatived.

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

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

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#### *In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs), by leave, the following amendments were made together:

*New clause—*

After clause 2, insert the following new clause:

“2A. Section 77L of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after Determinations by Minister for National Development  
sub-section (2) the following sub-section:

‘(2A) The Minister for National Development may, from time to time, determine, for the purposes of sub-section (2) of section 77M, an amount per kilolitre (in

that sub-section referred to as the “declared amount”) that, in lieu of the amount of \$18.90 per kilolitre specified in that sub-section, is to apply to stabilized crude petroleum oil specified in the determination.”.

*Amendment—*

Clause 3, lines 9 and 10, omit “or such other amount per kilolitre as is prescribed from time to time for the purposes of this sub-section”, substitute “‘or, if a declared amount is applicable to that oil, the declared amount per kilolitre’”. Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

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The House resumed; Mr Giles reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Ellicott, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

30 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Viner (Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs) moved—  
That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Acting Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 2.15 p.m.

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PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 31 May 1979, pursuant to statute:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for collection of information—1979—No. 4—New topics to be included in the population survey: September to December 1979.

Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 76.

Passports Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 80.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, Nos. 77, 78.

Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 79.

Schools Commission Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 82.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1979—

No. 10—Liquor (Amendment).

No. 11—Schools Authority (Amendment).

Superannuation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 75.

Trade Practices Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 81.

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bowen, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr C. R. Cameron, Dr Cass, Mr Corbett, Mr Fry, Mr Holding, Mr B. O. Jones\*, Mr Keating, Mr Lusher, Sir William McMahon, Mr Nixon, Mr Scholes, Mr Short and Sir Billy Snedden.

\* On leave

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