

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 125

THURSDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 1979

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

Mr Adermann, Mr Baillieu, Mr Fisher, Mr Goodluck, Mr Lucock and Mr West—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr J. J. Brown, Mr James, Mr Morris, Mr Neil and Mr O'Keefe—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the 1980 level of education expenditure to Government schools be restored and increased in real terms.

Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Holding and Mr Wallis—from certain citizens praying that the fee policy on overseas students be revoked.

Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Holding and Mr Wallis—from certain citizens praying that federal funding to State schools be restored to 1974-75 levels, that the independence of the Schools Commission be maintained and that tied grants be made to Queensland to ensure achievement of national standards.

Mr Connolly, Mr L. K. Johnson and Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.

Mr Falconer, Mr Jacobi and Mr L. K. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.

Mr Braithwaite and Mr James—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to increase the marine radio licence fee be reconsidered.

Mr Baillieu—from certain citizens praying that the Red Army Choir be denied entry into Australia.

Mr Baillieu—from certain electors of Victoria praying that the *Commonwealth Employees (Employment Provisions) Act 1977* be repealed.

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

Mr Ellicott—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to dismiss the present members of the Broadcasting Tribunal and replace them with Janet Strickland and representatives of other broadcasting and television bodies.

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

Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying that the National Health Scheme patient contribution rate not be increased.

Mr Morris—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 Porter—from certain citizens praying that subsidies to pre-schools be increased to provide adequate pre-school services in South Australia.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that funds be provided to improve the standard of living of the Aboriginal people.

Petitions received.

- 3 MINISTERIAL CHANGES AND ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that Mr Sinclair had resigned as Minister for Primary Industry and as Leader of the House and that Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport) had been appointed Minister for Primary Industry and Mr Viner (Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs) had been appointed Leader of the House. Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) was acting as Minister for Foreign Affairs until the return of Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs) from overseas.
- 4 DEPUTY LEADERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PARTY OF AUSTRALIA: Mr Anthony (Leader of the National Country Party of Australia) informed the House that Mr Nixon (Minister for Primary Industry and Minister for Transport) had been appointed Acting Deputy Leader of the National Country Party of Australia.
- 5 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Right Honourable Member for New England making a statement to the House forthwith.
- Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.
- 6 MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND (MR SINCLAIR)—RESIGNATION FROM MINISTRY—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Sinclair made a statement concerning his resignation from the Ministry and the inquiry of an inspector appointed under the New South Wales Companies Act to inquire into certain companies with which he is associated.
- 7 STATEMENT BY MEMBER—LEAVE TO MAKE NOT GRANTED: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) asked leave to make a statement.
- Objection being raised, leave not granted.
- 8 PRIME MINISTER—MOTION OF CENSURE: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, moved—That this House censures the Prime Minister for—
- (1) The inexcusable way in which he had (a) consistently sought to prevent proper discussion of alleged improprieties by the Minister for Primary Industry, and (b) evaded his responsibility to suspend the Minister during the course of the Finnane inquiry, and
  - (2) The method in which he has consistently sought to intimidate proper discussion of these matters in the Parliament.

Debate ensued.

Mr Scholes asked leave to present a paper.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

Debate continued.

Mr B. O. Jones rising to address the House—

*Closure:* Mr Viner (Leader of the House) 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, 70

Mr Adermann	Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil
Mr Aldred	Mr Dean	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon
Mr Anthony	Mr Dobie	Mr Johnston	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baillieu	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Katter	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bourchier	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lynch	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Cairns	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Calder	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Viner
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Wilson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr Martyr	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Millar	
Mr Connolly	Mr Hyde	Mr Moore	

## NOES, 31

Mr Armitage	Mr Hayden	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Dr Blewett	Mr Holding	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr Humphreys	Mr Keating	Mr Wallis
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr Kerin	Mr West
Mr Dawkins	Mr Innes	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Dr Everingham	Mr Jacobi	Mr L. B. McLeay	Mr Young
Mr Fry	Mr James	Mr Martin	

\* Tellers

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, 31

Mr Armitage	Mr Hayden	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Dr Blewett	Mr Holding	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr Humphreys	Mr Keating	Mr Wallis
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr Kerin	Mr West
Mr Dawkins	Mr Innes	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Dr Everingham	Mr Jacobi	Mr L. B. McLeay	Mr Young
Mr Fry	Mr James	Mr Martin	

## NOES, 70

Mr Adermann	Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil
Mr Aldred	Mr Dean	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon
Mr Anthony	Mr Dobie	Mr Johnston	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baillieu	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Katter	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bourchier	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lynch	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Cairns	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Calder	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Viner
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Wilson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr Martyr	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Millar	
Mr Connolly	Mr Hyde	Mr Moore	

\*Tellers

And so it was negated.

9 PRIVILEGE: Mr Neil raised as a matter of privilege a report in the *Melbourne Age* of 27 September 1979 which he claimed reflected on the Chair.

Mr Speaker stated that, in his opinion, a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege did not exist.

10 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd—Report, for year 1978–79.

Grants to voluntary conservation organisations—Statement by Senator Webster (Minister for Science and the Environment).

Repatriation benefits—Increases and extension of eligibility—Pamphlet prepared by the Repatriation Commission, dated 22 August 1979.

Trade and Commerce—Senate Standing Committee—Report on the Australian Trade Commissioner Service—Government response.

Pursuant to statute:

Anglo-Australian Telescope Agreement Act—Anglo-Australian Telescope Board—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1978–79.

National Fitness Act—Report for year 1977–78.

Pig Industry Research Act—Australian Pig Industry Research Committee—8th Annual Report, for year 1978–79.

Poultry Industry Assistance Act—14th Annual Report, for year 1978–79.

Repatriation Act—Repatriation Commission—Report for year 1978–79.

Wine Overseas Marketing Act—Australian Wine Board—51st Annual Report, for year 1978–79.

- 11 **TURANA TARGET AIRCRAFT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the termination of the Turana target aircraft project.

Mr Scholes, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

- 12 **EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC EXPENDITURE—INTERIM GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that, because of the nature and importance of the issues raised in the report of the Standing Committee on Expenditure on Parliament and public expenditure, the Government's detailed response to the report would not be completed for a few weeks.

Mr Cairns, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

- 13 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

26 September 1979—Message No. 304—Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Amendment 1979.

- 14 **SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 9 October next, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker shall fix an alternative day or hour of meeting, to be notified by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House.

Question—put and passed.

- 15 **POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT—INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE—PAPER AND STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Goodluck, by leave, presented the following paper:

Population and Development—International Conference of Parliamentarians—Colombo, Sri Lanka, August–September 1979—Statement, accompanied by draft declaration of conference—

and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the conference.

- 16 **ORDER OF THE DAY NO. 1—GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** It being past 12.45 p.m., order of the day No. 1 (Grievance debate—pursuant to standing order 106) was not called on.

- 17 **PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—DEFENCE ACCIDENTS:** Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that both Mr Scholes and Mr Connolly 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, Mr Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Scholes, namely, "The frequency and the extremely high cost of defence accidents".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Scholes rising to address the House—

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

Question—put and passed.

- 18 **CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 29 (1979):** Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 29 (1979).

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

- 19 PAPER: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Paper products, dated 16 May 1979.

- 20 NEW TERMINAL COMPLEX, COOLANGATTA AERODROME, 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 a new terminal complex at Coolangatta Aerodrome, Qld.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 21 DARWIN PATROL BOAT BASE, LARRAKEYAH, N.T.—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 the Darwin patrol boat base at Larrakeyah, N.T.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 22 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1979–80—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Willis, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the second reading, this House condemns the Fraser Government for presenting a budget which—

- (1) reduces the real living standards of Australian families;
- (2) will increase unemployment to the highest level in the nation's history;
- (3) facilitates and stimulates the recent fresh outbreak of inflation;
- (4) ensures that economic growth will be well below the nation's productive capacity;
- (5) fails to introduce an effective job creation program, particularly for the young;
- (6) savagely reduces the allocation of funds for job training and re-training program;
- (7) will be responsible for the highest level of tax and total revenue collections in the nation's history;
- (8) forces State and local governments either to reduce their services or increase their charges, and
- (9) intensifies the lack of credibility of the Prime Minister and his government and adds to their long list of broken promises”—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr Yates), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 23 EVATT MEMORIAL FOUNDATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's decision regarding the request for financial assistance to the Evatt Memorial Foundation.

Mr Willis, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

24 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1979-80—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Willis, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the second reading, this House condemns the Fraser Government for presenting a budget which—

- (1) reduces the real living standards of Australian families;
- (2) will increase unemployment to the highest level in the nation’s history;
- (3) facilitates and stimulates the recent fresh outbreak of inflation;
- (4) ensures that economic growth will be well below the nation’s productive capacity;
- (5) fails to introduce an effective job creation program, particularly for the young;
- (6) savagely reduces the allocation of funds for job training and re-training program;
- (7) will be responsible for the highest level of tax and total revenue collections in the nation’s history;
- (8) forces State and local governments either to reduce their services or increase their charges, and
- (9) intensifies the lack of credibility of the Prime Minister and his government and adds to their long list of broken promises”—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr Neil), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

25 GALBALLY INFORMATION KIT—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Galbally information kit, dated 31 August 1979—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the paper.

Dr Cass, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

26 LOAN 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. 180, dated 22 August 1979, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of moneys for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr MacKellar (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

27 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1979-80—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Willis, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the second reading, this House condemns the Fraser Government for presenting a budget which—

- (1) reduces the real living standards of Australian families;
- (2) will increase unemployment to the highest level in the nation’s history;
- (3) facilitates and stimulates the recent fresh outbreak of inflation;
- (4) ensures that economic growth will be well below the nation’s productive capacity;
- (5) fails to introduce an effective job creation program, particularly for the young;
- (6) savagely reduces the allocation of funds for job training and re-training program;
- (7) will be responsible for the highest level of tax and total revenue collections in the nation’s history;

- (8) forces State and local governments either to reduce their services or increase their charges, and
- (9) intensifies the lack of credibility of the Prime Minister and his government and adds to their long list of broken promises”—

Debate resumed.

28 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—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, 9 October next, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker shall fix an alternative day or hour of meeting, to be notified by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House.

#### APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1979–80—

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A—MEMBERSHIP: Members of Estimates Committee A to consider the proposed expenditure for—

Department of Social Security—

Mr Hunt (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security).

*Government Members:*

Mr Burns, Mr Connolly, Mr Goodluck, Mr Hodges, Mr Johnston, Mr MacKenzie, Mr McLean, Mr Moore, Mr O'Keefe and Mr Wilson.

*Opposition Members:*

Dr Blewett, Dr Cass, Mr Howe, Dr Klugman and Mr L. B. McLeay.

Department of Health—

Mr Hunt (Minister for Health).

*Government Members:*

Mr Burns, Mr Calder, Mr Falconer, Mr Graham, Mr Hodges, Mr Johnston, Mr McLean, Mr McVeigh, Mr Martyr and Mr Wilson.

*Opposition Members:*

Dr Blewett, Dr Cass, Dr Everingham, Mr Howe and Dr Klugman.

Department of Veterans' Affairs—

Mr Adermann (Minister for Veterans' Affairs).

*Government Members:*

Mr Burns, Mr Calder, Mr Falconer, Mr Graham, Mr Hodges, Mr Johnston, Mr McLean, Mr McVeigh, Mr Martyr and Mr Wilson.

*Opposition Members:*

Dr Blewett, Dr Cass, Dr Everingham, Mr Howe and Dr Klugman.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B—MEMBERSHIP: Members of Estimates Committee B to consider the proposed expenditure for—

Department of Industrial Relations—

Mr Street (Minister for Industrial Relations).

*Government Members:*

Mr Chapman, Mr Dobie, Mr Falconer, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr McVeigh, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Ruddock, Mr Sainsbury, Mr Shipton and Mr Short.

*Opposition Members:*

Mr Holding, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr B. O. Jones, Mr West and Mr Young.

Department of Employment and Youth Affairs—

Mr Viner (Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs).

*Government Members:*

Mr Chapman, Mr Dobie, Mr Falconer, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr McVeigh, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Ruddock, Mr Sainsbury, Mr Shipton and Mr Short.

*Opposition Members:*

Mr Holding, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr B. O. Jones, Mr West and Mr Young.

## Department of Industry and Commerce—

Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) acting for Mr Lynch (Minister for Industry and Commerce).

*Government Members:*

Mr Baillieu, Mr Burr, Mr Cadman, Mr Chapman, Mr Fisher, Mr Hyde, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr Lusher, Mr Short and Mr Yates.

*Opposition Members:*

Mr Cohen, Mr Dawkins, Mr Holding, Mr Hurford and Mr B. O. Jones.

## Department of Business and Consumer Affairs—

Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs).

*Government Members:*

Mr Baillieu, Mr Burr, Mr Cadman, Mr Chapman, Mr Fisher, Mr Hyde, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr Lusher, Mr Short and Mr Yates.

*Opposition Members:*

Mr Cohen, Mr Dawkins, Mr Holding, Mr Hurford and Mr B. O. Jones.

---

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bowen, Mr Bryant, Mr Bungey, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Carlton, Mr Corbett, Dr Edwards, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Garland, Mr Hodgman\*, Mr Howard, Dr Jenkins\*, Mr C. K. Jones\*, Mr Lloyd\*, Mr Lucock, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Peacock, Mr Shack and Mr Thomson.

---

\*On leave

---

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