

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

No. 133

WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 1979

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

Mr Aldred, Mr Bouchier, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Falconer, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr Johnston, Mr Killen, Mr Lynch, Mr Shipton, Mr Short, Mr Simon, Mr Staley, Mr Street and Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.

Mr Bradfield, Mr Cohen, Mr Howard, Mr Keating, Mr Lucock, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Morris, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Ruddock and Mr Sainsbury—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 C. R. Cameron, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr Keating and Mr Lynch—from certain citizens praying that the Government provide certain information concerning the fishing agreement with the Japanese Government and not re-issue licences to Japanese fishermen in 1980.

Mr Bradfield, Mr Innes and Mr Short—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Armitage and Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that Government proposals to sell publicly owned enterprises be rejected.

Mr Cohen—from certain electors of New South Wales praying that the *Commonwealth Employees (Employment Provisions) Act 1977* be repealed.

Dr Edwards—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.

Mr Innes—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to prohibit any further exploitation of local fishing resources by foreign enterprises and that assistance be given to develop the local fishing industry.

Mr Innes—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to have telephone subscribers in the 047 zone included in the Sydney telephone district.

Mr Lusher—from certain citizens praying that efforts be made to ensure a general and complete disarmament under effective international control, that the Pacific and Indian Oceans be declared as nuclear-free zones and that all nuclear bases be disbanded.

Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that there be no extension of Kingsford-Smith Airport, Sydney.

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 Neil—from certain citizens praying that positive policies be adopted to reduce unemployment and that certain social security benefits be granted.

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

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Health directive to charge Community Health Centre patients be rescinded.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the Working Environment Division of the Department of Productivity remain sited in a major industrial city.

Mr Street—from certain citizens praying for the abolition of the export parity pricing policy for LPG consumed in Australia and that certain other action be taken in relation to the pricing of LPG.

Mr West—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Cunningham praying that no legislative restrictions be placed on the Commissioner for Community Relations.

Petitions received.

- 3 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction), Mr J. E. McLeay (Minister for Administrative Services) was acting as Minister for Housing and Construction.

- 4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

- 5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Department of Health—Report of Director-General of Health, for year 1978–79.
Pursuant to statute:

National Health Act—8th Annual Report on the operations of the registered medical and hospital benefits organizations, for year 1977–78.

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

23 October 1979—Message—

No. 322—Migration Amendment 1979.

No. 323—Migration Amendment (No. 2) 1979.

- 7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INFLATION RATE: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Willis had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The increasing rate of inflation resulting from Government policies”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 8 STATES GRANTS (CAPITAL ASSISTANCE) 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 Willis 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 Bill, by decimating Commonwealth grants for State capital works—

- (1) causes deterioration in the supply and quality of essential services, increasing inefficiency and reduced productive capacity;
- (2) severely retards recovery of the depressed building and construction industry;
- (3) increases unemployment, and
- (4) shows ‘new Federalism’ to be a deceptive means of reducing Commonwealth payments to the States so as to force them to introduce a second income tax”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.
The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Jarman, in the Chair)—

AYES, 71

Mr Adermann	Mr Dean	Mr Jull	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Aldred	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Peacock
Mr Baillieu	Dr Edwards	Mr Lucock	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lusher	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier	Mr Falconer	Mr Lynch	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fisher	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Sainsbury
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Garland	Mr McLean	Mr Shack
Mr Bungey	Mr Giles	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Shipton
Mr Burns	Mr Gillard	Sir William McMahan	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Graham	Mr McVeigh	Mr Simon
Mr Cadman	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Staley
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr Martyr	Mr Street
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Thomson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	Mr Viner
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	Mr Wilson
Mr Corbett*	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman	Mr Yates
Mr Cotter	Mr Johnston	Mr Nixon	

NOES, 34

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

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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. 191, dated 23 August 1979, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue and 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.

9 OVERSEAS STUDENTS 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 by Dr Cass who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “consideration of the Bill be deferred until the Government presents a comprehensive proposal for a program of educational aid for students from developing countries according to defined criteria including priority attention to academic ability, the needs of the developing nations and the needs of particular students”.

Debate continued.

Dr Blewett addressing the House—

Closure: Mr Hodges moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Jarman, in the Chair)—

AYES, 73

Mr Adermann	Mr Dean	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lucock	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Falconer	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr Lynch	Mr Sainsbury
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fisher	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shack
Mr Bungey	Mr Garland	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Shipton
Mr Burns	Mr Giles	Mr McLean	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Gillard	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Simon
Mr Cadman	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Cairns	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Calder	Mr Hodges*	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	
Mr Corbett*	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman	
Mr Cotter	Mr Johnston	Mr O'Keefe	

NOES, 34

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

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—was put accordingly, and passed.

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.

On the motion of Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 10 OVERSEAS STUDENTS 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 MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 11 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 4 and 5, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 12 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"—

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.
The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Millar, in the Chair)—

AYES, 59

Mr Adermann	Mr Corbett*	Mr Hyde	Mr Moore
Mr Aldred	Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dean	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman
Mr Baume	Mr Drummond	Mr Johnston	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Bouchier	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Ellicott	Mr Katter	Mr Porter
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bungey	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Burr	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Cadman	Mr Giles	Mr McLean	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Calder	Mr Gillard	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Shack
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Simon
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Martyr	

NOES, 18

Dr Blewett	Mr Cohen	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Wallis
Mr Bowen	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr West
Mr Bryant	Mr Fry	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Jacobi*	Mr Morris	
Dr Cass	Mr James	Mr Uren	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Estimates Committee A—Consideration of report:

Ordered—That, in relation to the report of Estimates Committee A, the House consider in one motion, each of the proposed expenditures, and the expressions of opinion.

Question proposed—

- (1) That the following proposed expenditures be agreed to:
 - Parliament, \$17,602,000
 - Department of Administrative Services, \$333,435,000
 - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$52,343,000
 - Department of Aboriginal Affairs, \$103,538,000
 - Department of Social Security, \$327,230,000
 - Department of Health, \$1,492,266,000
 - Department of Veterans' Affairs, \$386,615,000
 - Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, \$71,919,000
 - Department of the Capital Territory, \$80,137,000
 - Department of Home Affairs, \$83,298,000
 - Department of Defence, \$2,659,415,000
 - Department of Foreign Affairs, \$572,957,000, and
 - Attorney-General's Department, \$91,688,000, and

- (2) That the expressions of opinion agreed to by Estimates Committee A in relation to the Parliament be noted, namely:

“That the committee is of the opinion that there is an unnecessary duplication of administrative and budgetary functions within the multiplicity of departments that form the total administration of the Parliament. The committee therefore considers that the estimates for the Parliament should be presented under 3 headings, viz.: Senate, House of Representatives, and the 3 other departments, without particular items of proposed expenditure being specified.”, and

“That, in order to relieve accommodation congestion, the committee is of the opinion that the Parliament should have the first call on any accommodation which has become or becomes available in the near vicinity of the present Parliament House.”.

Debate ensued.

Mr Howe addressing the House—

13 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 tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 24 October 1979, pursuant to statute:

Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 222.

Apple and Pear Stabilization Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 221.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for collection of information—1979—No. 6—New topics to be included in the population survey: November 1979.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Regulations—1979—No. 1 (Local Government Ordinance).

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—J. M. Hopkins.

Prices Justification Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 217.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, Nos. 219, 220.

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 218.

Student Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 216.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Birney, Mr Dobie, Mr Goodluck, Mr Groom, Mr Hurford, Dr Jenkins* and Mr Lloyd*.

*On leave

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