

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

No. 17

TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 1983

- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **PRIVILEGE:** Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia) raised a matter of privilege based on an article published in the *Daily Telegraph* of 6 September 1983 under the heading "Speaker probes spy in M.P. drama" and referred to a letter from Senator Evans (Attorney-General) to Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), dated 29 August 1983.
 Mr Speaker stated that he would make a considered statement on the matter later this day.
- 3 **KOREAN AIRLINER—DESTRUCTION BY SOVIET FIGHTER AIRCRAFT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the shooting down of a Korean airliner by a Soviet fighter aircraft and proposed Government action in response to the tragedy.
- 4 **KOREAN AIRLINER—DESTRUCTION BY SOVIET FIGHTER AIRCRAFT:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), by leave, moved—That this House—
- (1) expresses Australia's shock and indignation at the totally unjustified destruction of a Korean Airlines Boeing 747 by Soviet fighter aircraft;
 - (2) extends its deepest sympathy to the families of the Australian and other victims;
 - (3) calls upon the U.S.S.R. to give a full, truthful, prompt and appropriately regretful account of this tragic episode;
 - (4) urges the international community to take measures to prevent the recurrence of such a tragedy, and
 - (5) supports the response of the Australian Government as outlined in the Prime Minister's statement.
- Mr Peacock (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment—That all words after "tragedy" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words:
- "(5) while supporting the response of the Australian Government to date, as outlined in the Prime Minister's statement, requests the Government to formulate further measures that could be taken in the event of the Soviet Union failing to respond to the request in paragraph (3) and to press immediately for just compensation for the families affected by this disaster, and
 - (6) condemns the Soviet Union for its barbaric act."
- Debate continued.
 Amendment negatived.
 Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

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

- Mr Andrew, Mr Anthony, Mr Baldwin, Mr Blanchard, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Cohen, Mr Connolly, Mr Dawkins, Mr Drummond, Mr Fisher, Mr Hall, Mr Humphreys, Mr Hurford, Mrs Kelly, Mr Lusher, Mr Millar, Mr Moore and Mr Uren—from certain citizens praying that chiropractic services be included in Medicare when it is introduced.
- Mr Anthony, Mr Hall, Mr Wilson and Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that the House not ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- Mr Beazley, Mr Blanchard, Mr R. F. Edwards and Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that the ban on the export of kangaroo products be re-applied.
- Mr Cohen, Mr Connolly, Mr Dobie and Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens praying that a select committee be established to investigate the creation of a Ministry of Peace and Nuclear Disarmament.
- Mr Blanchard, Mr R. F. Edwards and Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that certain infertility treatments be included on the Commonwealth Rebate List.
- Mr Macphee, Mr O'Neil and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that the Government ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron and Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that the Government refrain from ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- Mr Rocher and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that there be no requirement for tax to be deducted from payments to owner-drivers of trucks.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain citizens praying that the Government express concern at the deterioration of human rights in The Philippines, intercede on behalf of Karl Gasper and reconsider any form of assistance to The Philippines' military forces.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain electors of the electoral Division of Moore praying that proposals for the establishment of a new Community Youth Support Scheme project in the electoral subdivision of Girrawheen be given favourable and prompt attention.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain electors of the electoral Division of Moore praying that the upgrading of the Quinns Rocks telephone system be brought forward and the microwave link joining Wanneroo to Quinns Rocks be completed in 1983-84.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the findings of the Major Airport Needs of Sydney Committee be endorsed and proposals for an airport at Scheyville, N.S.W., be rejected.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that the introduction of the Prescribed Payments Scheme be reconsidered.
- Mr R. F. Edwards—from certain citizens praying that laws be passed to outlaw discrimination in employment and in the provision of unemployment benefits, based upon race, ethnic origin, marital status and sex.
- Mr R. F. Edwards—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that legislation be enacted to ban the advertising of alcohol from commercial television and radio.
- Mr O'Keefe—from certain residents of New South Wales in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Gayler—from certain citizens praying that the implications of Income Tax Assessment Amendment Bill (No. 3) 1983 be reviewed and the operative date deferred.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that holders of health care cards, and pensioner health benefit cards be provided with free dental care through private dentists and dental care be included in the formulation of Medicare.

Mr Hurford—from certain citizens praying that money available to the State of Victoria for public housing be increased.

Mr Keating—from certain citizens praying that the decision to impose tax at the rate of at least 30 per cent on lump sum superannuation benefits be repealed and that there be no further changes adverse to the means and well-being of those to retire or in retirement.

Mr Keating—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that Parents and Citizens Associations and other such bodies be granted exemption from the Bank Accounts Debits Tax Administration Act.

Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that the Omega base in Victoria be closed.

Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that approval be given for construction of an overpass at the railway crossing on Highway 1, near Port Augusta, S.A.

Mr O'Neil—from certain workers of Monier Sleepers praying that the closure of Monier Sleepers' plant in Port Augusta, S.A., be prevented.

Mr Punch—from certain members of St Andrews Uniting Church, Brighton-le-Sands, N.S.W., praying that legislation be passed granting title of all Aboriginal reserves to the Aboriginal groups currently related to them.

Mr Scott—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Parliament require General Motors-Holden to continue its operations at the Woodville Plant, S.A.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that legislation introducing a means test for pensioners over 70 years of age be withdrawn.

Mr West—from certain citizens praying that pressure be placed on the Turkish Government to meet the demands of political prisoners and certain other action be taken in relation to political oppression of Turkish people.

Petitions received.

6 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

7 **AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER:** Mr Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Report of the Auditor-General upon audits, examinations and inspections under the Audit and other Acts, dated 5 September 1983.

Mr Bowen (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—

(1) That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1908*, authorises the publication of the Report of the Auditor-General upon audits, examinations and inspections under the Audit and other Acts—September 1983.

(2) That the paper be printed.

Question—put and passed.

8 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:

Department of Foreign Affairs—Report for 1982.

Finance—Advance to Minister for Finance—Statements for May, June and July, 1983.

9 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AGED CITIZENS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The continuing attacks by the Government on the aged citizens of the Australian community, causing them alarm, distress and hardship".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

10 **PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST:** Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the

Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1948, Mr Moore be appointed a trustee to serve on the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust.

Question—put and passed.

- 11 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO INDONESIA—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER—PAPER NOTED: Mr Morrison, by leave, presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report of delegation led by the Hon. W. L. Morrison, M.P., to Indonesia, July-August 1983—

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

Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), by leave, moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 12 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE: Ordered—That notice No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 13 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1983: Dr Blewett (Minister for Health), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Health Insurance Act 1973*, the *Health Insurance Commission Act 1973* and the *National Health Act 1953*, and certain other Acts and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Willis (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Minister for Health, when moving the second reading of the Bill, speaking without limitation of time.

Question—put and passed.

Dr Blewett moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 14 MEDICARE LEVY BILL 1983: Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to impose a Medicare levy upon certain incomes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Howard—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 15 INCOME TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (MEDICARE LEVY) BILL 1983: Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Howard—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 16 STATES (TAX SHARING AND HEALTH GRANTS) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1983: Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), for Mr Keating (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States (Tax Sharing and Health Grants) Act 1981*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Howard—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 17 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 18 **INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1983:** 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 Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.
- 19 **LOAN BILL (NO. 2) 1983:** 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. 42, dated 24 August 1983, 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 Hurford (Minister for Housing and Construction), the Bill was read a third time.
- 20 **PRIVILEGE—STATEMENT BY MR SPEAKER:** Mr Speaker referred to the matter raised earlier this day by Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia) (*see* entry No. 2), informed the House of the circumstances of an honourable Member having sought his advice concerning evidence reportedly given to the Royal Commission on Australia's Security and Intelligence Agencies with respect to alleged A.S.I.O. surveillance of a Member, indicated that no complaint had been raised in the House in respect of the matter and that he was not pursuing investigations into it.
 Mr Speaker also informed the House that he had no responsibility in respect of matters reportedly contained in the Attorney-General's letter and assured the House that, whilst he will defend the privileges of the Parliament, he can not, nor will not, attempt to interfere in the normal processes of the law in respect of any Member of the House.
- 21 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being past 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 Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 6 September 1983:
 Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 149.
 Australian Capital Territory Representation (House of Representatives) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 154.
 Commonwealth Electoral Act and Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 153.
 Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 157.
 Defence Amendment Act—Interim Determinations—Statutory Rules 1983, Nos. 143, 144.
 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 148.
 Health Insurance Commission Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 152.
 International Organizations (Privileges and Immunities) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, Nos. 145, 151.
 Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1).
 Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 156.

- Northern Territory Representation Act and Commonwealth Electoral Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 155.
- Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of Housing and Construction—M. P. Griffin.
- Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1983—
- Nos. 260 and 261—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.
 - Nos. 262 to 264—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.†
 - Nos. 265 to 268—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.
 - No. 269—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.†
 - Nos. 270 to 278—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.
 - No. 279—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.†
 - Nos. 280 to 286—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.
 - No. 287—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.†
 - No. 288—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service and others.
 - No. 289—Commonwealth Foremen's Association of Australia (Australian Public Service).
 - No. 290—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.
 - No. 291—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 - Nos. 292 and 293—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia.
 - No. 294—Association of Draughting, Supervisory and Technical Employees.†
 - No. 295—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.†
 - No. 296—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.
 - No. 297—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†
 - Nos. 298 and 299—Professional Para-Medical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.†
 - No. 300—Federated Liquor and Allied Industries Employees Union of Australia.
 - Nos. 301 to 303—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†
 - No. 304—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 - No. 305—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Australian Government Employment and others.
 - No. 306—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 - No. 307—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.
 - No. 308—Professional Musicians' Union of Australia.
 - No. 309—Australian Journalists Association.
 - No. 310—Australian Broadcasting Commission Senior Officers' Association and another.
 - No. 311—Australian Journalists Association.
 - No. 312—Actors' and Announcers Equity Association of Australia.
 - No. 313—Australian Journalists Association.
 - No. 314—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.
 - No. 315—Australian Journalists Association.
- († Not accompanied by statement.)
- Radiocommunications Licence Fees Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 146.
- Salaries and Wages Pause Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 150.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Determinations, dated 23 August 1983, listing fees for the purposes of—

- Building Ordinance.
- Dog Control Ordinance.
- Hawkers Ordinance.
- Motor Traffic Ordinance.
- Weights and Measures Ordinance.

Ordinances—1983—

- No. 20—Building (Amendment).
- No. 21—Motor Traffic (Amendment) (No. 3).
- No. 22—Hawkers (Amendment).
- No. 23—Dog Control (Amendment).
- No. 24—Weights and Measures (Amendment).
- No. 25—Money Lenders (Amendment) (No. 2).

Regulations—1983—

- No. 6 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).
- No. 7 (Building Ordinance).
- No. 8 (Weights and Measures Ordinance).
- No. 9 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).

Variations (2) of plan of lay-out of City of Canberra and its environs, dated 6 September 1983.

Wireless Telegraphy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 147.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Cowan, Mr Fife, Mr Lusher, Mr Maher, Mr Porter, Mr Robinson and Mr Street.

D. M. BLAKE
Clerk of the House of Representatives