

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 9

THURSDAY, 21 MARCH 1985

1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **MEMBERS' INTERESTS COMMITTEE—SPECIAL REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Dr Klugman (Chairman) presented the following report from the Committee of Members' Interests:

Committee of Members' Interests—Special report, dated 20 March 1985, together with a copy of the minutes of proceedings—

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

3 **DECLARATION AND REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That—

(1) in the case of Members of the House of Representatives of the 34th Parliament who made and subscribed an oath or affirmation on 21 February 1985, a further period of 28 days from the day of issue of the forms of annual return by the Registrar of Members' Interests be granted within which they will be required to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m., and

(2) in all other respects, the resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m. relating to the registration and declaration of interests continue in force.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "the resolution passed by the House of Representatives with respect to a Register of Members' Interests and forms for completion by the Members of the House in the 34th Parliament be deferred until the Declaration of Registrable Interests is established on a common basis between the Senate and the House of Representatives".

Debate continued.

Amendment withdrawn, by leave.

Debate on original question continued.

Mr Hall moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "the operation of the resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m. relating to the registration and declaration of Members' interests be deferred until the commencement of the 35th Parliament".

Debate continued.

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

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mrs Child, in the Chair)—

AYES, 75

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duffy	Mr Keating	Mr Mountford
Mr Beazley	Mr Duncan	Mrs Kelly	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beddall	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Kent	Mr O'Neil
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Keogh	Mr Price
Mr Blanchard	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kerin	Mr Punch
Dr Blewett	Mr Free	Dr Klugman	Mr Saunderson
Mr Bowen	Mr Gear	Mr Lamb	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Langmore	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Grace	Mr Lee	Mr Simmons
Mr Brumby	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Hand	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Charles	Mr Hayden	Mr McLeay	Dr Theophanous
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Holding	Mr Maher	Mr Tickner
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Howe	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Cleeland	Mr Humphreys*	Mrs Mayer	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr Mildren	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Mr Jacobi	Mr Milton	Mr Wright
Mr Cunningham*	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Young
Mr Dubois	Mr Jones	Mr P. F. Morris	

NOES, 57

Mr Adermann	Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Ruddock
Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Shack
Mr Andrew	Mr Dobie	Mr Katter	Mr Sharp
Mr Beale	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Blunt	Mr Drummond	Mr McArthur	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr MacKellar	Mr Smith
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Everingham	Mr McVeigh	Mr Spender
Mr Burr	Mr Fife	Mr Macphee	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Miles	Mr Tuckey
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Dr Watson
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Mr Webster
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Porter	Mr White
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reith	
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodges	Mr Robinson	
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Rocher	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 4 **HONEY LEVY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** 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 McVeigh who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that other factors such as export inspection charges are causing problems for primary industries including the honey industry”.

Debate continued.

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.

On the motion of Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

- 5 **BOUNTY (COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES) AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** 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.

Mr Milton was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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

- 6 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Bowen (Deputy Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), he was acting as Prime Minister.

- 7 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

- 8 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED:** Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs moving forthwith a substantive motion setting out the allegations made about the honourable Member for the Northern Territory during questions without notice.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the motion for the suspension of standing orders be agreed to—being accordingly put—

The House divided (the Speaker, Dr Jenkins, in the Chair)—

AYES, 61

Mr Adermann	Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Ruddock
Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Shack
Mr Andrew	Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Sharp
Mr Beale	Mr Drummond	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Blunt	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Everingham	Mr MacKellar	Mr Slipper
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fife	Mr McVeigh	Mr Smith
Mr Burr	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Macphee	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Mr Tuckey
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Dr Watson
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Webster
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Porter	Mr White
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodges	Mr Reith	
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Robinson	
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Rocher	

NOES, 75

Mr Baldwin	Mr Dubois	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Mountford
Mr Beazley	Mr Duffy	Mr Jones	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beddall	Mr Duncan	Mr Keating	Mr O'Neil
Mr Bilney	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Kelly	Mr Price
Mr Blanchard	Ms Fatin	Mr Kent	Mr Punch
Dr Blewett	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Keogh	Mr Saunderson
Mr Bowen	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gear	Mr Lee	Mr Simmons
Mr Brumby	Mr Gorman	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Charles	Mr Griffiths	Mr McLeay	Dr Theophanous
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Hand	Mr Maher	Mr Tickner
Mrs Child	Mr Hayden	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Holding	Mrs Mayer	Mr West
Mr Cleeland	Mr Howe	Mr Mildren	Mr Willis
Mr Cohen	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Milton	Mr Wright
Mr Cross	Mr Hurford	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Young
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Jacobi	Mr P. F. Morris	

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

- 9 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
- Australian Film and Television School Act—Council of the Australian Film and Television School—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1983-84.
 - Australian Water Resources Council—Minutes of 26th meeting, Launceston, 11 May 1984.
 - Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Report for year 1983-84.
 - Fishing Industry Research Act—Fishing Industry Research Committee—15th Annual Report, for year 1983-84.
 - Industries Assistance Commission—Report—The honey industry, dated 4 May 1984 (No. 347).
- 10 **PLANNING AND FUNDING POLICIES FOR NEW NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS—REPORT BY COMMONWEALTH SCHOOLS COMMISSION—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Education) presented the following papers:
- Planning and funding policies for new non-government schools—Report of panel of Commonwealth Schools Commissioners, dated 14 February 1985, together with statement by Senator Ryan, Minister for Education.
- Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Macphee), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 11 **CAPITAL TERRITORY HEALTH COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Dr Blewett (Minister for Health) presented the following paper:
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Health Commission Ordinance—Capital Territory Health Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1983-84.
- Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Porter), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 **NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON FUTURE USE OF PROVISIONAL PARLIAMENT HOUSE—DELAY IN GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Scholes (Minister for Territories), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the report of the Joint Standing Committee on the New Parliament House on the future use of the provisional Parliament House and the delay in the Government's proposed response to the report.
- 13 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Beddall, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Dawkins and Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that post-secondary tuition fees not be re-introduced and certain other action be taken in regard to post-secondary education.
 - Mr Blanchard, Mr Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that the Government support the stand taken by the New Zealand Government on nuclear vessels and that the policy of developing zones of peace and nuclear free zones in the Indian and Pacific Oceans be implemented.
 - Mr Beale, Mr E. C. Cameron and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.
 - Mr Braithwaite and Mr Cadman—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
 - Mr Cadman and Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the laws which banned the entry and sale of hard-core and violent pornography be re-enacted.

- Mr Blanchard—from certain citizens praying that the recommendations of the House of Representatives Expenditure Committee concerning Telecom's zonal charging policies be implemented.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that the customs regulation prohibiting the importation of obscene, indecent or blasphemous materials be restored.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the Government reconsider the assets test.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that chiropractic services be included in Medicare when it is introduced.
- Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.
- Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken against the importation and distribution of pornographic and obscene materials.
- Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the term of the Costigan Commission be extended, all necessary resources be provided to enable it to conclude its investigations and Parliament not be dissolved until its report has been fully debated by both Houses.
- Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain residents of the Division of Indi praying that the Tertiary Education Assistance allowance be raised to the level of the unemployment benefit.
- Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain residents of the Division of Indi praying that young Australians who have undertaken employment while at school be eligible for Tertiary Education Assistance allowances.
- Mr Cowan—from certain citizens praying that the ordinance superseding the ACT Objectionable Publications Ordinance be disallowed and certain other action be taken in relation to censorship matters.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that measures be taken to reduce the burden of imposed costs and regulation on Australian farmers.
- Mr Howard—from certain citizens praying that a new flag representing Australia's status and identity be adopted and that its unfurling be timed to coincide with the bicentennial celebrations.
- Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that funding be made available for a child care centre in Carramar, NSW.
- Mr Lindsay—from certain citizens praying that on-going funding be available for the Free Standing Day Care Centre, Townsville, and that the existing staff of the Townsville Day Care Centre be retained when the present community employment grant expires.
- Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.
- Mr Webster—from certain citizens praying for Commonwealth and State co-operation and financial commitment in making certain aircraft available for fighting bushfires in New South Wales.

Petitions received.

- 14 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ASSETS TEST:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Braithwaite had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's lack of compassion towards elderly Australians with the implementation of the iniquitous assets test from today".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Braithwaite addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 15 **BOUNTY (COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES) AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** 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. 3, dated 26 February 1985, 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 Jones (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) moved, as an amendment—That the following words be added to the Address:

“, but the House is of the opinion that the Government's program outlined in the Speech fails to address critical problems facing Australia in that—

- (1) it fails to reassure the Australian people that the country's defence arrangements within the Western Alliance will be preserved and strengthened following—
 - (a) the Prime Minister's capitulation to internal party pressures on the issue of Australia providing logistical assistance to the US for its testing of the MX missile, and
 - (b) increasing uncertainty as to the future of the ANZUS Treaty fuelled by members of the Labor Government, including a Cabinet Minister;
- (2) it contains no coherent economic strategy at a time when recovery is threatened by—
 - (a) record government taxation and spending;
 - (b) continuing pressure within the Government for new taxes on assets;
 - (c) growing demands for higher wages and other extra cost burdens on industry;
 - (d) the level of public debt repayments, and
 - (e) loss of value of the currency reflecting world concern about Australia's competitiveness and government instability, and
- (3) it endorses a rigid, centralised wage determining structure which imposes the same cost burdens on commerce and industry regardless of ability to pay”—

Debate continued.

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

- 17 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Scholes (Minister for Territories) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Debate extended: It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 11.06 p.m., Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 21 March 1985:
Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of Employment and Industrial Relations—Blucher, W. E. E.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mrs Darling, Mr Dawkins, Mr Hawke, Mr Hollis, Mr McGauran, Mr Moore and Mr Wilson.

D. M. BLAKE
Clerk of the House of Representatives