

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 13

WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH 1985

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- 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 **TRUST RECOUPMENT TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1985—SENATE'S AMENDMENT:** The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider the amendment made by the Senate.

In the committee

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE

Page 6, paragraph 5 (1) (c), line 39, leave out "1 July 1980", insert "12 May 1982".
On the motion of Mr Keating (Treasurer), the amendment was agreed to, after debate.
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Mountford reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr Keating, the House adopted the report.

- 3 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS 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 Ruddock 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 the Government's appointment of a review of the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs was a wasteful extravagance and a purely politically motivated exercise involving the unnecessary expenditure of public funds".
Debate continued.
Mr Millar addressing the House—
It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 5 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—21st Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1983-84.
Department of the Special Minister of State—Report for year 1983-84.
Management and Investment Companies Act—Management and Investment Companies Licensing Board—Report for year 1983-84.

6 CSIRO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT—SUMMARY OF REPORT OF JOINT WORKING PARTY—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented the following papers:

CSIRO financial management—CSIRO-Department of Finance—Report of joint working party—Summary statement together with statement by Senator Walsh, Minister for Finance, dated 25 March 1985.

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

7 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL AND BUREAU—REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER: Mr Scholes (Minister for Territories) presented the following paper:

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Consumer Affairs Ordinance—Consumer Affairs Council—11th Annual Report of the operations of the Council and of the Consumer Affairs Bureau, for year 1983-84.

Mr Young (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1908*, authorises the publication of the Report of the Australian Capital Territory Consumer Affairs Council and the Australian Capital Territory Consumer Affairs Bureau, for year 1983-84.

Question—put and passed.

8 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON TAXATION EXPENDITURES—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Keating (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the report of the Standing Committee on Expenditure on taxation expenditures.

Mr Howard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

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

Mr Braithwaite and Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.

Mr Cross and Mr Jull—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 Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken against the importation and distribution of pornographic and obscene materials, and entitlements of de facto spouses of parliamentarians and homosexual partners of ABC employees.

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 Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

Mr Free—from certain citizens praying that any attempt to re-introduce tertiary fees be rejected.

Mr Hodges—from certain citizens praying for the cessation of any moves to alter the Australian flag, to change Australia to a republic, to remove allegiance to the Queen in the oath of Australian citizenship or to remove the Crown from Australian passports.

Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.

Mr Langmore—from certain citizens praying that no further action be taken in respect of territorial or local government in the Australian Capital Territory until

the findings of the inquiry into ACT finances have been made public and a further referendum of electors has been held.

Dr Theophanous—from certain citizens praying that chiropractic services be included in Medicare when it is introduced.

Petitions received.

- 10 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAX REFORM:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Peacock (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Prime Minister to confront Labor’s factional interests over the vital question of tax reform”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Peacock addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 11 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 3 to 6, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 12 **TAXATION (UNPAID COMPANY TAX) ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** Mr Keating (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Taxation (Unpaid Company Tax) Assessment Act 1982*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 13 **DIVIDEND RECOUPMENT TAX BILL 1985:** Mr Keating (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to impose a tax in respect of certain unpaid income tax.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 14 **SNOWY MOUNTAINS ENGINEERING CORPORATION BILL 1985:** Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to reconstitute the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 15 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—TELEPHONE EXCHANGE BUILDING, KENT STREET, SYDNEY:** Mr West (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 consideration and report: Construction of new telephone exchange building for Telecom Australia, Kent Street, Sydney.

Mr West presented plans in connection with the proposed work.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 16 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—COMMONWEALTH OFFICES, SYDNEY (KINGSFORD-SMITH) AIRPORT:** Mr West (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 consideration

and report: Construction of new Commonwealth offices, Sydney (Kingsford-Smith Airport).

Mr West presented plans in connection with the proposed work.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

17 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1984-85—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1984-85: Message No. 5, dated 26 March 1985, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1985, and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1984-85*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1985, and for other purposes.

Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1984-85*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1985, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

18 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1984-85—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1984-85: Message No. 6, dated 26 March 1985, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of certain proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1985, and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sum appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1984-85*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1985, and for other purposes.

Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sum appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1984-85*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1985, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

19 NATIONAL WELFARE FUND REPEAL BILL 1985: Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal the *National Welfare Fund Act 1943*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 20 **SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE BILL 1985:** Mr Howe (Minister representing the Minister for Community Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to financial assistance to the States and to the Northern Territory in connection with the provision of supported accommodation services and related support services.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 21 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1982*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 22 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—BANKRUPTCY AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** Message No. 19, dated 27 March 1985, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Bankruptcy Act 1966’*”

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 23 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Ruddock, viz.*—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 the Government’s appointment of a review of the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs was a wasteful extravagance and a purely politically motivated exercise involving the unnecessary expenditure of public funds”—

Debate resumed.

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 Hurford (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 24 **AUSTRALIAN MEAT AND LIVE-STOCK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Hunt (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia), viz.*—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 heavily increased export inspection charges are adversely affecting competitiveness on vital export markets”—

Debate resumed.

Mrs Sullivan addressing the House—

- 25 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 7.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 27 March 1985:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals for collection of information—1985—

No. 2—Household energy survey, 1985-86.

No. 3—New topics to be included in the population survey, May 1985.

Census and Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for disclosure of list of names and addresses—1985—No. 2—Agricultural establishments for Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Proclamation by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing the date on which sections of the following Act shall come into operation—*Customs and Excise Amendment Act 1982*—Sub-sections 69 (1), (2) and (3) and sub-section 70 (4)—1 April 1985.

Public Service Act—Determinations—1985—Nos. 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21.

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

A. R. BROWNING

Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives