

1985

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 50

MONDAY, 14 OCTOBER 1985

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- 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 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Bowen (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absences abroad of Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) and Senator Grimes (Minister for Community Services), he was acting as Prime Minister and Dr Blewett (Minister for Health) was acting as Minister for Community Services.
 - 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 4 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
 - Advance to the Minister for Finance—Statement for August 1985.
 - Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—52nd Report, for 1984-85.
 - Department of the Treasury—7th Report, for 1984-85.
 - Insurance Act—Insurance Commissioner—Report for 1984-85.
 - Qantas Airways Limited—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year ended 31 March 1985.
 - 5 **MOUNT ALLAN LAND CLAIM—REPORT BY ABORIGINAL LAND COMMISSIONER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) presented the following paper:
 - Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and the Administrator of the Northern Territory relating to Mount Allan Land Claim, dated 4 March 1985.
 Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 6 **GURINDJI LAND CLAIM TO DAGURAGU STATION—REPORT BY ABORIGINAL LAND COMMISSIONER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) presented the following paper:
 - Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and the Administrator of the Northern Territory relating to Gurindji Land Claim to Daguragu Station.
 Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

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

Mr Beale, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr T. A. Fischer, Mr Halverson, Mr Reith, Mr Shack, Mr Slipper, Mr Smith, Mr Tuckey, Dr Watson and Mr White—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to increase the burden of capital gains and wealth taxes be rejected.

Mr Beale, Mr Duffy, Mr Halverson, Mr Hawker, Mr McArthur, Mr Peacock, Mr Shipton and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

Mr Drummond, Mr Fife and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Burr, Mr Downer and Mr Goodluck—from certain citizens praying that the problems which identification cards are intended to reduce be attacked by other methods.

Mr Cadman, Mr Fife and Mr McArthur—from certain citizens praying that the rights of private enterprise be protected and any inequitable additional taxes be rejected.

Mr Downer and Mr Wilson—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the principle that pensioner patients pay no more than their pension for nursing home care be restored and that certain other action be taken in relation to nursing home benefits.

Mr Fife and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the price of petrol be reduced by 3 cents per litre and that certain other action be taken in relation to petrol pricing.

Mr Fife and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that there be no taxation on illness and no special taxation on those who seek to insure themselves against the cost of private health care.

Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that all changes to benefits for veterans and conditions of service for military personnel announced in the May Economic Statement be withdrawn.

Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that those laws which automatically increase the price of petrol, following an increase in the CPI, be repealed.

Mr Blunt—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 Blunt—from certain citizens praying that the tax proposals outlined in the Government's White Paper be rejected.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that depreciation be allowed on all buildings used to produce rental income.

Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that legislation be enacted to allow full compensation to all Australians where the Government requires the use of private property.

Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that sufficient funds be allocated to the Australia Council to ensure ongoing funding of State arts councils.

Mr Downer—from certain citizens praying that the concessional price of fuel in rural areas be restored.

Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

Mr Grace—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that no airport be built at Badgery's Creek, NSW, and surrounding districts.

Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the assets test on pensions be repealed.

Mr Kent—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 Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decision to close the Enterprise Migrant Hostel, Vic., be reversed.

Mr Martin—from certain residents of the Division of Macarthur praying that Living Sound Radio be allocated a new FM frequency and that it reduce its power output.

Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that all federal funding to children's services be restored.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that 1989 be proposed as the International Year for Repairing the Earth and certain other action be taken in support of world peace.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Sharp—from certain citizens praying that the previous legislation relating to the entitlements of war veterans and their dependants be restored.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the Government reconsider the assets test.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the right to work be acknowledged and protected and that certain other action be taken to protect workers.

Dr Watson—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.

Petitions received.

- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOVERNMENT'S HIGH INTEREST RATE POLICY:** The House was informed that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The continuing escalation of costs to home owners, small business and rural industries arising from the Government's high interest rate policy".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 9 LOANS 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 Administrator: Message No. 72, dated 18 September 1985, from His Excellency the Administrator 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 representing the Minister for Finance), the Bill was read a third time.

10 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1985-86:** The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, \$718,056,000—

Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce, \$300,512,000—
together further debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditure—Attorney-General's Department, \$217,792,000—debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Defence, \$6,212,321,000—

Department of Foreign Affairs, \$1,129,023,000—
together debated.

It being 10.15 p.m.—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Blanchard reported accordingly.

11 **ADJOURNMENT:** The question was accordingly proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 14 October 1985:

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7(1).

Quarantine Act—Determination fixing fees pursuant to section 86E, dated 1 October 1985.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Aldred*, Mr Braithwaite, Mr J. J. Brown, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Cobb, Mr Dobie, Mr Gear, Mr Hawke, Mr Hayden, Mr Humphreys*, Mr Lindsay*, Mr McVeigh, Mr Rocher* and Mr Scott.

*On leave

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives