

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 141

THURSDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 1986

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- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DAYS AND HOURS OF MEETING:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, the House shall meet for the despatch of business on the following days and at the times specified:  
 Tuesday, 25 November, at 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, 26 November, at 10 a.m.  
 Thursday, 27 November, at 10 a.m.  
 Friday, 28 November, at 10 a.m.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Question—put and passed.
- 3 **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE:** Ordered—That notice No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 4 **ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL 1986:**  
 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. 204, dated 22 October 1986, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.  
 The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

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*In the committee*

Clause 1—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

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 The House resumed; Mr McLeay reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 5 **PIG INDUSTRY BILL 1986:** 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.  
 It being approximately 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 106A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 6 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, as amended by sessional order, the order of the day having been read—  
 Question proposed—That grievances be noted.  
 Debate ensued.  
 It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106, as amended by sessional order.  
 Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.
- 7 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 8 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:  
 Australia-China Council—Report for 1984-85.  
 Australian Capital Territory Bush Fire Council—Report for 1985-86.  
 Companies and Securities Law Review Committee—Report for 1985-86.  
 Family Law Act—Family Law (Institute of Family Studies) Regulations—Institute of Family Studies—Report for 1985-86.  
 Rural Industries Research Act—Grain Legumes Research Council—Report for period 1 February to 30 June 1986.  
 States and Northern Territory Grants (Rural Adjustment) Act—Rural Adjustment Scheme—Report for 1985-86.  
 Taxation statistics 1984-85—Volume 1.
- 9 **AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Young (Special Minister of State) presented the following paper:  
 Commonwealth Electoral Act—Australian Electoral Commission—Report for 1985-86.  
 Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry) 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.
- 10 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Beale, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr McGauran, Mr Nehl, Mr Rocher, Mr Ruddock, Mr Shipton and Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.
  - Mr Hollis, Mr Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that importation of cobalt 60 and other radioactive substances be banned and regulations permitting irradiation of food in Australia be disallowed.
  - Mr Jull—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
  - Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Halverson and Mr McGauran—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.
  - Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr McGauran and Mr Miles—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
  - Mr Hawker, Mr Lloyd, Mr Nehl and Mr Rocher—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
  - Mr Cowan and Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.
  - Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Hodges—from certain citizens praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.
  - Mr Halverson and Mr Lloyd—from certain citizens praying that incentive and opportunity be restored to the Australian economy and certain restrictions on small business be abandoned.
  - Mr Hawker and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

- Mr Hollis and Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that Australia use its influence to establish a nuclear test moratorium and comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.
- Mr Aldred—from certain citizens praying that the decision to phase down the Glen Waverley Rehabilitation Centre, Vic., be reversed.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain residents of the Division of Maranoa praying that the ABC's proposals to cease broadcasting certain country programs be reconsidered and that it not disregard its rural listeners.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that legislative changes be made to improve the quality of television.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax be cancelled.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the Extradition (Foreign States) Act be amended to protect the rights of accused persons.
- Mr Drummond—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that the 20% sales tax on wine be cancelled.
- Mr Halverson—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.
- Mr Rocher—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Halverson—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be withdrawn.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be opposed and certain other action be taken in relation to the Bill.
- Mr Hawker—from certain residents of the Division of Wannon praying that tertiary education remain free to all students.
- Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that the standard pension be raised to 25% of average weekly earnings and certain other action be taken to assist pensioners and low income earners.
- Mr Jacobi—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Payneham Rehabilitation Centre be fully utilised.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decisions to cut the English as a second language and multicultural education programs, amalgamate the SBS with the ABC and abolish the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs be reversed.
- 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 Lee—from certain citizens praying that the Summerland Point Post Office, NSW, be reopened.
- Mr Miles—from certain residents of Tasmania praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed and that proposals for additional capital gains tax be rejected.
- Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that the US Government be urged to join the Soviet Union's nuclear test ban.
- Mr Milton—from certain staff of the ABC and the SBS praying that certain action be taken in relation to the Staff Elected Director of the ABC following the ABC's amalgamation with the SBS.

Mr A. A. Morris—from certain citizens praying that the CPI flow-on to pensioners be restored and certain action be taken to alleviate poverty traps.  
 Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that the superannuation claim of the trade union movement be rejected and superannuation be allowed to develop without trade union domination.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill and associated bills be rejected, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission be abolished and ratification of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights be withdrawn.

Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the right of employees to select their own superannuation scheme be guaranteed and certain other action be taken in relation to superannuation.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that funding be restored to the English as a second language and multicultural education programs.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the Income Tax Assessment Amendment (Capital Gains) Act be repealed.

Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that measures be taken to reduce the burden of imposed costs and regulation on Australian horticultural growers.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to reverse the decision to hand Ayers Rock over to an Aboriginal Land Council.

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 pharmaceutical benefits be restored to their former level.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that home loan interest rates be tax deductible.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.

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.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that public funding for projects which are undesirable or of dubious worth be halted.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland praying that the fringe benefits tax be abandoned.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Shire of Caboolture, Qld, praying that the capital gains tax proposal be abandoned.

Petitions received.

11 **PAPER:** The following paper was presented:

Public Service Act—Department of Transport—Report for 1985-86.

12 **NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA COUNCIL:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *National Library Act 1960*, this House elects Mr Cross to be a member of the Council of the National Library of Australia and to continue as a member for a period of 3 years from and including 4 December 1986.

Question—put and passed.

13 **NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY—JOINT COMMITTEE:** The House was informed that Senator Macklin had been appointed a member of the Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority in place of Senator Haines.

- 14 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INTEREST RATE POLICIES:**  
 The House was informed that Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The need for more incentives in the Australian economy to relieve the burden for all Australians imposed by the Prime Minister's high interest rate policies".  
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
 Mr Howard addressed the House.  
 Discussion ensued.  
 Discussion concluded.
- 15 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS INTERCEPTION—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Martin (Chairman) presented the report of the Joint Select Committee on Telecommunications Interception, dated 20 November 1986, incorporating a dissenting report, together with the minutes of proceedings and evidence received by the Committee.  
 Ordered—That the report be printed.  
 Mr Martin, Mr Ruddock, Mr Lee, Mr McGauran and Dr Klugman, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 16 **HMAS ALBATROSS, NOWRA, NSW—DEVELOPMENT—STAGE 1—APPROVAL OF WORK:** Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Development of HMAS *Albatross*, Nowra, NSW, stage 1.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Question—put and passed.
- 17 **PIG INDUSTRY BILL 1986:** 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. 205, dated 22 October 1986, 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 Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 18 **PIG INDUSTRY (TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1986:** 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 Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 19 **PIG SLAUGHTER LEVY AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1986:** 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 Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 20 **PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS BILL 1986:** 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 Hawker 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.
- 21 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Beddall presented the following report from the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence:  
Australia and the Philippines—The situation in the Philippines and its implications for Australia—Report, dated September 1986, incorporating a dissenting report, together with the minutes of proceedings and evidence received by the Committee.  
Mr Beddall, Mr Peacock and Dr Theophanous, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 22 **EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Simmons presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:  
Poles apart—Telecom's zonal and charging policies in rural and remote areas—Report, dated 13 November 1986, together with the minutes of proceedings and evidence received by the Committee.  
Ordered—That the report be printed.  
Mr Simmons, Mr Mountford, Mr Hawker and Mr McLeay, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 23 **PAPER:** The following paper was presented:  
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Variation of plan of lay-out of City of Canberra and its environs, dated 20 November 1986.
- 24 **EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Hawker presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:  
Call us again—Review of the Auditor-General's efficiency audit report on the control over manpower and property by the Overseas Telecommunications Commission (Australia)—Report, dated 13 November 1986, together with the minutes of proceedings and evidence received by the Committee.  
Ordered—That the report be printed.  
Mr Hawker, Mr Simmons and Mr R. J. Brown, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 25 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mrs Kelly presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:  
260th Report—Finance Minute on 236th Report—Medical fraud and overservicing—Pathology—  
and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
- 26 **PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS BILL 1986:** 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.
- 27 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Madam Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday next at 2 p.m.

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 20 November 1986:

- Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 328.
  - Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 331.
  - Export Control Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 327.
  - Health Insurance Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 326.
  - Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 325.
  - National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 330.
  - Naval Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 332.
  - Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, Nos. 334, 335, 336.
  - Nursing Homes Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 329.
  - Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1986—  
No. 73—Parole (Amendment).
  - No. 74—Magistrates Court (Amendment) (No. 3).
  - No. 75—Co-operative Societies (Amendment) (No. 4).
  - Superannuation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 333.
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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bilney, Mr Cadman, Mrs Darling, Mr Dawkins, Mr Dobie, Mr Duncan, Mr P. S. Fisher, Mr Jacobi\*, Mr Keating, Mr Langmore, Mr Macphee, Mr Price, Mrs Sullivan and Mr Willis.

\* On leave

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**A. R. BROWNING**  
Clerk of the House of Representatives