

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 15

TUESDAY, 9 APRIL 1974

1 The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable J. F. Cope) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

Dr Cass (Minister for the Environment and Conservation), Mr Coates, Mr Garrick, Dr Gun, Mr Lamb and Mr Mathews—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urge the Prime Minister to make known publicly to the Indonesian authorities when he visits Indonesia in April the concern of Australians about the plight of Indonesian political prisoners.

Mr Drury, Dr Gun and Mr McLeay—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with the existing national health scheme.

Mr Barnard (Minister for Defence) and Mr Beazley (Minister for Education)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House immediately revoke all Australian whaling licences and ban the importation of all whale produce.

Mr L. R. Johnson (Minister for Housing and Construction) and Mr Garrick—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government (1) grant a cash loading to pensioners, (2) increase within a reasonable period the weekly pension to 25 per cent of average weekly earnings, (3) freeze the tapered means test ceilings of income and assets and (4) give an assurance that the proposed national superannuation Bill will provide pensioners with a guaranteed minimum income of 30 per cent of quarterly adjusted average weekly earnings.

Mr Jarman—from certain electors of Victoria praying that War Service Homes rights be granted immediately to all wartime ex-servicewomen.

Mr Jarman—from certain electors of the Division of Deakin praying that the Government set aside sufficient funds for research into the production of industrial solar energy.

Mr Jarman—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urgently legislate for a universal, comprehensive national health insurance scheme financed from taxation.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government legislate to protect the whale from commercial exploitation.

Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the Australian Country Party)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government oppose the increase of pornography and the liberalisation of censorship laws that allows "hard-core" pornography into Australia.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Child care—Statement by Mr Beazley (Minister for Education) on progress under the Child Care Act.

Church of England lands, Glebe, N.S.W.—Report to Department of Urban and Regional Development by Jackson Teece Chesterman Willis, dated July 1973.
Pre-school and child care services—Interim program—Statement by Mr Beazley (Minister for Education).

The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:

Prices Justification Act—Notification, dated 5 April 1974, from Mr J. C. McNeill, Managing Director of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, to Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister), of price increases for certain iron and steel products proposed by the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited and Australian Iron and Steel Proprietary Limited.

- 5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HEALTH SCHEME—ACTIONS OF MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Chipp had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The actions of the Minister for Social Security in attempting to cover-up secret negotiations aimed at amending the Government’s proposed health scheme”. The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Chipp addressed the House.

Mr Hayden (Minister for Social Security), during his speech, asked leave to present a paper.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

- 6 PAPER: The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Liberal Party of Australia—Committee on Social Security, Health and Welfare—Policy recommendations relating to health care and health insurance.

- 7 AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Barnard (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to Australian defence, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Australian defence—Ministerial statement, 9 April 1974—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

- 8 COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES—REPORT RELATING TO A LETTER FRAUDULENTLY WRITTEN IN THE NAME OF THE HONOURABLE MEMBER FOR CASEY, PUBLISHED IN ‘THE SUN NEWS-PICTORIAL’ ON 6 DECEMBER 1973: The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the report of the Committee of Privileges relating to a letter fraudulently written in the name of the honourable Member for Casey, published in *The Sun News-Pictorial* on 6 December 1973—

Mr Bowen (Postmaster-General) moved—That the House agrees with the committee in its report.

Question—put and passed.

- 9 GOVERNOR-GENERAL BILL 1974: Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make provision in relation to the Salary of the Governor-General, and the Payment of Allowances to persons, and to the widows or widowers of persons, who have held the office of Governor-General.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate, by leave, ensued.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 12, dated 9 April 1974, 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 Whitlam, the Bill was read a third time.

- 10 CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1974: Dr Cairns (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff Proposals.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate, by leave, ensued.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Dr Cairns, the Bill was read a third time.

- 11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

9 April 1974—Message No. 15—Australian Capital Territory Representation (House of Representatives) 1974.

- 12 QUEENSLAND FLOOD RELIEF BILL 1974: 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.

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

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

And the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—was put accordingly, and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 13, dated 9 April 1974, 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 Dr Patterson (Minister for Northern Development), the Bill was read a third time.

- 13 NEW SOUTH WALES FLOOD RELIEF BILL 1974: 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 14, dated 9 April 1974, 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 Dr Patterson (Minister for Northern Development), the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1973-74: 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 L. K. Johnson addressing the House—

- 15 ADJOURNMENT: It being half-past ten o'clock p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until eleven o'clock p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at fifteen minutes past two o'clock p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 9 April 1974, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands, etc., acquired by agreement authorised under section 7 (1) of the Act.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations—1974—

No. 82—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 87—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†

No. 88—Amalgamated Postal Workers Union of Australia and Postal Overseers Union.†

Nos. 89 and 90—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.†

No. 91—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 92—Australian Postmasters' Association.†

No. 93—Association of Railway Professional Officers of Australia and Association of Professional Engineers, Australia.†

No. 94—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†

Nos. 95 and 96—Commonwealth Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†

No. 97—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.†

Nos. 98 and 99—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

No. 100—Australian Journalists Association.

No. 101—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.†

No. 102—Australian Journalists Association.†

Nos. 103 and 104—Commonwealth Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†

No. 105—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.

No. 106—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and others.†

No. 107—Commonwealth Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†

No. 108—Amalgamated Postal Workers Union of Australia.†

No. 109—Commonwealth Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†

No. 110—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.†

No. 111—Australian Journalists Association.†

No. 112—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.†

No. 113—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.†

No. 114—Actors' and Announcers' Equity Association of Australia.†

Nos. 115 and 116—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.†

No. 117—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.†

No. 118—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.†

No. 119—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

(† Determinations are accompanied by statement of the Arbitrator regarding inconsistency with the law)

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bury, Mr England, Mr Fox and Dr Jenkins.

N. J. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives