

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 37

THURSDAY, 3 JUNE 1976

1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

Mr Armitage, Dr Cass, Mr Jacobi, Dr Klugman, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Martin, Mr Morris, Mr Nicholls, Mr Stewart and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens of Australia praying that milk substitutes for children up to 6 years of age be restored to the schedule of pharmaceutical benefits.

Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Garrick, Dr Jenkins, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr L. R. Johnson, Mr J. L. McMahon and Mr Scholes—from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be maintained, advertising on the A.B.C. be rejected, public funding of the Commission be developed and any general inquiries into broadcasting be conducted publicly.

Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), Mr Connolly and Mr Lucock—from certain citizens of Australia praying that a Commission of Inquiry be initiated into the Aurukun Associates Agreement Act, no mining take place on the Aurukun Aboriginal Reserve until a full environmental impact study has been made and an export licence to the consortium concerned be refused until negotiations are held with the Aurukun people and an agreement has been reached.

Mr Birney, Mr Martin and Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that social security payments be adjusted instantly and automatically with increases in the Consumer Price Index and certain other benefits be adjusted.

Mr Bonnett, Mr Brown and Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government reverse the decision to cut 1975-76 overseas development assistance, reaffirm Australia's commitment of assistance of a minimum of 0.7% of G.N.P. and establish an independent statutory authority to administer such assistance.

Mr Chapman and Mr Groom—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Heritage Commission be appointed urgently and grants be given to community organisations concerned with conservation.

Mr Falconer—from certain members of community organisations in terms similar to the last preceding petition.

Mr J. L. McMahon and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens of Australia praying that grants to under-privileged schools in the Sydney inner city area be retained.

Mr Killen (Minister for Defence)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that all Australian whaling licences be immediately revoked and the importation of all whale produce be banned.

Mr Brown—from certain students and staff at Christ College, Vic. praying that the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme allowance be raised from \$30 to \$48 per week.

Mr Bungey—from certain residents of Quairading, W.A. praying that night telephone facilities be provided to subscribers in the Shire of Quairading.

- Dr J. F. Cairns—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House protest to the Government of India regarding the treatment of Mr P. R. Sarkar, Leader of Ananda Marga, a world-wide spiritual organisation.
- Mr Carige—from certain electors of the Division of Capricornia praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
- Dr Cass—from certain citizens of Australia praying that no measures be taken to interfere with the Schools Commission.
- Mr Chapman—from certain citizens of South Australia praying that the House instruct the Standing Committee on the Environment to examine the boundaries of the proposed Kakadu National Park, N.T., with a view to including the catchments of the East and South Alligator Rivers within the Park.
- Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that all current woodchip export licences be cancelled, more funds be provided for research into the recycling of used packaged material and future applications for woodchip leases be preceded by an environmental inquiry.
- Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.
- Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes be not re-introduced.
- Mr Porter—from certain residents of Kangaroo Island, S.A., praying that a subsidy be provided for hostel-type units for the aged of Kangaroo Island.
- Mr I. L. Robinson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that films which portray either excessive violence, moral perversion, drug use or sado-masochism as normal or desirable behaviour be not classified for screening in Australia.
- Mr Scholes—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government reverse the decision to cut 1975-76 overseas development assistance and send some of our more productive cows to the Indian sub-continent.
- Mr Shipton—from certain students and staff of the University of Melbourne and the Melbourne State College praying that the Minister for Post and Telecommunications offer a licence for an educational F.M. radio station to serve their community.
- Mr Thomson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that further mining and export of uranium, except for bio-medical purposes, be banned and the Australian Atomic Energy Commission be transformed into an Australian Energy Commission.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

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

Department of Foreign Affairs—Report for 1975.

Katherine Rural College—Report of Planning Committee, dated April 1976.

National Superannuation Scheme for Australia—Final Report of National Superannuation Committee of Inquiry—Part 1, dated April 1976—

Part 1.

Statement by Senator Guilfoyle (Minister for Social Security).

5 THE ARTS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of measures the Government is taking in the area of the arts.

6 PAPER: Mr Bryant, by leave, presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report of visit to Europe by delegation led by the Hon. G. M. Bryant, E.D., M.P., Minister for the Capital Territory, 9-28 June 1975.

- 7 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES: Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 to 8, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 8 GRIEVANCE DEBATE: Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—
Question proposed—That grievances be noted.
Debate ensued.
It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106.
Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.
- 9 MARRIAGE AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Marriage Act* 1961–1973 and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Ellicott moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 10 JUDICIARY AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Judiciary Act* 1903–1973.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Ellicott moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 11 ABORIGINAL COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS BILL 1976: Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the Constitution of Aboriginal Councils and the Incorporation of Associations of Aboriginals and for matters connected therewith.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Viner moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Young), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—W.R.A.A.C. ACCOMMODATION, PUCKAPUNYAL, VIC.: Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act* 1969–1974, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report: Construction of sleeping accommodation for 80 Women's Royal Australian Army Corps personnel at Puckapunyal, Vic.
Mr McLeay presented a plan in connection with the proposed work.
Question—put and passed.
- 13 CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1976: 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 Kelly addressing the House—

Distinguished visitors: Mr Speaker informed the House that a party of Members from the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha of India, led by Shri Om Mehta, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.

Debate continued.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

- 14 NORTHERN TERRITORY (ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL 1976: 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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory), the Bill was read a third time.

- 15 INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES BILL 1976: 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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Howard (Minister representing the Minister for Industry and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1976: 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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 17 PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE SYSTEM — JOINT COMMITTEE — TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC EVIDENCE—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Dr Jenkins by leave, presented a proof copy of the transcript of public evidence taken before the Joint Committees on the Parliamentary Committee System in the 29th and 30th Parliaments—and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the evidence.

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

3 June 1976—Message No. 73—Social Services Amendment (No. 2) 1976.

- 19 QUEENSLAND GRANT (PROSERPINE FLOOD MITIGATION) BILL 1976: Mr Anthony (Minister for National Resources), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to Queensland for the purpose of Flood Mitigation Works in relation to the Proserpine River.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 20 EXPORT FINANCE AND INSURANCE CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1976: 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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory), the Bill was read a third time.

21 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—FOURTH REPORT: Mr Hodges (Chairman) brought up the Fourth Report from the Publications Committee (sitting in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

FOURTH REPORT

The Publications Committee has the honour to report that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered Petitions and Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, and other papers previously presented, recommends that the following be printed:

Alleged Payments to Maritime Unions—Royal Commission—Final Report, dated April 1976.

Aboriginal Loans Funds—Joint Report—

Aboriginal Enterprises (Assistance) Act—Commonwealth Capital Fund for Aboriginal Enterprises—Seventh Annual Report, for period 1 July to 27 November 1974.

Aboriginal Loans Commission Act—Aboriginal Loans Commission—First Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 28 November 1974 to 30 June 1975.

Australian Council for the Arts—Second Annual Report, for 1974.

Australian Advisory Committee on Research and Development in Education—Annual Report 1973–74.

Annual Report 1974–75.

Australian Parliamentary Delegation—Report of visit to Europe by delegation led by the Hon. G. M. Bryant, E.D., M.P., Minister for the Capital Territory, 9–28 June 1975.

Committee of Inquiry into Poverty: Third Main Report of the Committee, entitled "Social/Medical Aspects of Poverty in Australia".

Compensation (Australian Government Employees) Act—Commissioner for Employees' Compensation—Report for year 1974–75.

Dairy Produce Act—Australian Dairy Corporation—Fiftieth Annual Report on operations of Australian Dairy Produce Board, for year 1974–75.

Darwin—Provision of general cargo facilities at the Port of Darwin—Report by Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated October 1975.

Department of Environment—Report for year 1974–75.

Department of Foreign Affairs—Annual Report 1975.

Education Research Act—Report on the National Committee on Social Science Teaching Research and Development Grants 1973–74 and 1974–75 administered under the Act.

Egg Export Control Act—Australian Egg Board—Twenty-eighth Annual Report, for year 1974–75.

Grants Commission—Special report on financial assistance for local government, dated 26 May 1976.

Hospitals and Health Services Commission—Review of the Community Health Program—

Report, dated March 1976.

Summary report, dated March 1976.

Industries Assistance Commission—

Reports—

Copper ore and concentrates, dated 14 November 1975.

Other electronic equipment, dated 1 April 1976.

Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Files and rasps, dated 31 March 1976.

Land tenures—Final Report of Commission of Inquiry, dated February 1976.

- Manufacturing industry—Policies for development—Report by the Committee to Advise on Policies for Manufacturing Industry—Volumes III and IV, dated April 1976—Commissioned studies.
- Meat Export Charge Collection Act—Report by Minister on operation of Act for period 26 November 1973 to 30 June 1975.
- National Superannuation Scheme—Final Report (Part One) of the National Superannuation Committee of Inquiry, entitled "A National Superannuation Scheme for Australia", dated April 1976.
- Overseas Telecommunications Act—Overseas Telecommunications Commission (Australia)—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year ended 31 March 1975.
- Petroleum—Royal Commission—Fourth Report—Marketing and pricing of petroleum products in Australia, dated 15 April 1976.
- Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Act—Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.
- States Grants (Schools) Act—Grants for capital expenditure in respect of government and non-government schools—Statement of payments for year 1974–75.
- States Grants (Technical and Further Education) Act—Statement relating to the operation of the Act 1974–75.
- Student Assistance Act—Report by Minister on operation of Act for period 15 October to 31 December 1974.
- Territory of Norfolk Island—Annual Report 1974–75.
- Wheat Research Act—Eighteenth Annual Report, for 1975.
- Wool Industry Act—Australian Wool Corporation—Report and financial statements, together with Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.

J. C. HODGES,
Chairman

3 June 1976

Mr Hodges, by leave, moved—That the report be agreed to.
Question—put and passed.

22 HOMES SAVINGS GRANT AMENDMENT BILL 1976: 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.

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

23 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11.00 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 3 June 1976, pursuant to statute:

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

Telecommunications Act — Australian Telecommunications Commission —
By-laws—

Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts)—Amendment
No. 1.

Telecommunications (General)—Amendment No. 6.

Telecommunications (Staff)—Amendment No. 7.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr
Beazley, Dr Edwards, Mr Graham, Mr Holten*, Mr Innes, Mr Jarman, Mr MacKellar,
Mr W. McMahon, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Ruddock and Mr Simon.

* On leave

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