

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 78

WEDNESDAY, 8 DECEMBER 1976

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- 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 Connolly, Mr Dobie, Mr Innes, Mr Jones and Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that the continuation and growth of symphony orchestras throughout Australia be ensured.
- Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Morris, Mr A. P. Whitlam and Mr Young—from certain citizens 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 Jones, Mr J. L. McMahon and Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that the House call on Sir John Kerr to resign as Governor-General.
- Mr Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory) and Mr Hayden—from certain citizens praying that the Government (1) cease the mining and export of uranium until safe disposal methods have been guaranteed, (2) increase expenditure on research into safe, clean and inexhaustible sources of energy and (3) aid underdeveloped countries in their efforts to secure a share of world energy resources.
- Mr Jones and Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the 1976-77 Budget be redrafted to provide for economic recovery within the guidelines laid down in the 1975-76 Budget.
- Mr Killen (Minister for Defence)—from certain citizens praying that the existing Post Office at Sunnybank, Qld, continue to operate.
- Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs)—from certain citizens praying that the States Grants (Schools) legislation recommended by the Schools Commission be passed and the Commission's functions, independence and parent and teacher representation be maintained.
- Mr Carige—from certain electors of the Division of Capricornia praying that the imperial system of weights and measures be restored.
- Mr Jarman—from certain citizens praying that the mining and export of uranium be delayed until a public education program on the implications of nuclear power has been undertaken.
- Mr Jones—from certain employees of the shipping industry in Newcastle, N.S.W., praying that the Government reconsider its decision on the Newcastle Dockyard.
- Mr Jones—from certain citizens of the Hunter Valley Region, N.S.W., praying that funds be provided for the establishment and maintenance of a Hunter Symphony Orchestra.

Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that the petrol price equalisation scheme be restored immediately.

Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Assistance Plan be continued as recommended in the report tabled in Parliament on 4 March 1976.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Natural disaster insurance scheme for Australia—Discussion paper, dated December 1976.

Pursuant to statute:

Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Fourth Report, for year 1975–76.

Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board—Third supplement to Twenty-fifth Report, for period 1 July to 30 September 1972.

Immigration (Education) Act—Migrant Education Program—Report for year 1975–76.

Industrial Research and Development Grants Act and Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act—Australian Industrial Research and Development Incentives Board—Report for year 1975–76.

Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the discussion paper on a natural disaster insurance scheme for Australia.

Mr Hurford and Mr Jacobi, by leave, also made statements with reference to the matter.

5 UNITED NATIONS—CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT)—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Habitat: United Nations conference on human settlements, Vancouver, 31 May to 11 June 1976—

Report of Australian delegation.

Report of conference.

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

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

6 TOURISM—SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Select Committee on Tourism:

Mr Bonnett, Mr Jull, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Sainsbury and Mr Short had been nominated by the Prime Minister and Mr Cohen, Mr Stewart and Mr Young had been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.

7 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Fry (Deputy Chairman) brought up the following report from the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory:

Canberra city wastes—A long-term strategy for collection and disposal, dated December 1976.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Fry and Mr Haslem, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

8 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—STANDARDS OF LIVING: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The fall in the standards of living under the Fraser Government".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr E. G. Whitlam rising to address the House—

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put and passed.

- 9 STATES GRANTS (RURAL ADJUSTMENT) 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Keating, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “while not opposing the provisions of the Bill the House is concerned that the proposed agreement is restricted to land-based primary industries”*—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Keating moved the following amendment: Schedule, page 13, at the end of the Schedule add the following new part:

“PART 8—NATIONAL RURAL ADJUSTMENT BOARD

(1) *Establishment*

That a National Rural Adjustment Board be established.

(2) *Composition of Board*

(a) An executive Chairman.

(b) Two part-time members drawn from rural industry.

(c) Two members, drawn from the States rural reconstruction authorities and selected, on a rotational basis for a term of no more than two years.

(3) *Method of operation*

(a) Consult with State reconstruction authorities and other Federal and State departments on the annual fund requirements of the Rural Adjustment Scheme.

(b) Arrange consultation between the State reconstruction authorities and the Australian Government concerning emergency short-term credit requirements when farm incomes are substantially reduced by a sudden market collapse or other severe situation.

(c) Discuss with and liaise between State reconstruction authorities and agencies concerned with monitoring market prospects, such as the various commodity boards and Bureau of Agricultural Economics, to ensure that viability assessments are based on the most up-to-date information available.

(d) Monitor the progress of reconstruction clients, including those assessed not to have sound prospects of long-term commercial viability.

(e) Evaluate the Rural Adjustment Scheme in terms of explicit policy objectives and guidelines.

(f) Research into the relative effects of various assistance measures in anticipation of responding to continuing adjustment pressures.

(g) Conduct feasibility studies and evaluate areas of specific problems in adjustment and re-development proposals suggested by interested parties or other Government agencies.

(h) Liaise at the national level with management of banks and other sources of farm credit.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Drummond, in the Chair)—

AYES, 32

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Garrick	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	
Dr Cass	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Mr Cohen	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. R. Johnson

NOES, 80

Mr Adermann	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Fife	Mr King	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Fisher	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baume	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bonnett	Mr Giles	Mr Lynch	Mr Shipton
Mr Bouchier	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr Bradfield	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Graham	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Brown	Mr Groom	Mr McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Bungey	Mr Hamer	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Sullivan
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodges	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Calder	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Wentworth
Mr Carige	Mr Holten	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Chapman	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr Yates
Mr Chipp	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	
Mr Connolly	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	
Mr Cotter	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr O'Keefe	
Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock	<i>Tellers:</i>
Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr Porter	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Dr Richardson	Mr Corbett

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drummond reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10 FOREIGN PROCEEDINGS (PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN EVIDENCE) 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.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Proposed new clause—

Mr Bowen moved—That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill: Repeal of
Principal
Act.

“2A. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following sub-section:—

‘(2) This Act shall cease to be in operation on the expiration of 30 June 1977, and shall thereupon be deemed to have been repealed by an Act other than this Act.’ ”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the new clause proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.
The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Jarman, in the Chair)—

AYES, 32

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Garrick	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hayden	Mr Martin	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	
Dr Cass	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Mr Cohen	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. R. Johnson

NOES, 80

Mr Abel	Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Dr Richardson
Mr Adermann	Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Fife	Mr King	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baume	Mr Fisher	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sipton
Mr Birney	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr Short
Mr Bonnett	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Simon
Mr Bradfield	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Staley
Mr Brown	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Street
Mr Bungey	Mr Groom	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Sullivan
Mr Burr	Mr Hamer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Hodges	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr Carige	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Holten	Mr Moore	
Mr Chipp	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	
Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	
Mr Cotter	Mr Hyde	Mr O'Keefe	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Peacock	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Porter	Mr Corbett

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Jarman reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

11 ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY—PROPOSED JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), by leave, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Select Committee be appointed to examine and report on—
 - (a) the operation of provisions of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* relating to the identification of traditional owners of Aboriginal land and the means of establishing the views of such owners to the satisfaction of the relevant Land Council;
 - (b) the adequacy of provisions of the laws of the Northern Territory relating to entry to Aboriginal land, the protection of sites of significance, wildlife conservation and entry to seas adjoining Aboriginal land, and
 - (c) any other matters referred by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.
- (2) That the committee consist of the 5 members of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs nominated by the Prime Minister, the 3 members of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, and 3 Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and 3 Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.

- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister or by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (5) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee, the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (7) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament.
- (8) That 7 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, and a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (9) That in matters of procedure the Chairman or Deputy Chairman presiding at the meeting have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, have a casting vote, and that, in other matters, the Chairman or Deputy Chairman have a deliberative vote only.
- (10) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (11) That the committee or a sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (12) That the committee report by 31 May 1977 and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (13) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (14) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Mr L. R. Johnson moved the following amendment: Omit paragraph (1) (b), substitute the following paragraphs:

- “(b) the operation of laws of the Northern Territory which affect Aboriginal land, in particular, laws relating to:
- (i) entry to Aboriginal land;
 - (ii) protection of sacred sites;
 - (iii) wildlife conservation;
 - (iv) entry to seas adjoining Aboriginal land;
 - (v) roads upon Aboriginal land, and
 - (vi) right of entry upon pastoral property.
- “(ba) the effect of mining operations, including exploration and prospecting operations, on Aboriginal land or land which is claimed by Aborigines, and”.

Debate continued.

Several Members rising to address the House—

Closure: Mr D. M. Cameron moved—That the question be now put.

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

And the question—That the paragraph proposed to be omitted stand part of the motion—was put accordingly, and passed.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 12 DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES 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 Newman (Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 13 CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL (No. 2) 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 for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 14 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 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—
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 for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 15 TARIFF STRUCTURE REVIEW—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 7 December 1976*), viz.:
Tariff structure review—Ministerial statement, 7 December 1976—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed.
- 16 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—NINTH REPORT: Mr Hodges (Chairman) brought up the Ninth Report from the Publications Committee (sitting in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

NINTH 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.

Aircraft accident near Cairns Airport, Qld, on 23 October 1975, involving Hawker Siddeley Heron DH114 2E/A1 Aircraft VH-CLS—Accident investigation report by Air Safety Investigation Branch, Department of Transport, dated August 1976.

Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Act—Australian Apple and Pear Corporation—Second Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.

Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—Thirteenth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.

Australian Capital Territory Police—Report for year 1975–76.

Australian Shipping Commission Act—Australian Shipping Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.

Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Third Report (1976) on financial assistance for local government.

- Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—Report of Australian Delegation to 22nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Mauritius, September 1976.
- Criminology Research Act—
 Australian Institute of Criminology—Board of Management—Fourth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
 Criminology Research Council—Fourth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Darwin disaster—Report by Major-General Stretton, Director-General, Natural Disasters Organisation, dated 14 April 1975.
- Darwin Disaster Welfare Council—Final Report, dated March 1976.
- Defence Act—Royal Military College of Australia—Report for period 1 February 1975 to 31 January 1976.
- Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Fourth Report, for year 1975–76.
- Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board—Third supplement to Twenty-fifth Report, for period 1 July to 20 September 1972.
- Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs—Review of activities to 30 June 1976.
- Department of Industry and Commerce—Report for year 1975–76.
- Department of Science—Report for year 1975–76.
- Estimates Committee—Additional Written Answers.
- Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act—Export Finance and Insurance Corporation—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Immigration (Education) Act—Migrant Education Program—Report for 1975–76.
- Industrial Research and Development Grants Act and Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act—Australian Industrial Research and Development Incentives Board—Report for year 1975–76.
- Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Animal foods, etc., dated 2 August 1976.
- Legislative Drafting Institute Act—Legislative Drafting Institute—Second Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975–76.
- Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act—
 New South Wales—Local Government Grants Commission—Report for year 1976–77.
 South Australian Interim State Grants Commission—Report for year 1976–77.
 Victorian State Grants Committee—Report for year 1976–77.
- Medical Research Endowment Act—National Health and Medical Research Council—Report for 1974.
- Metric Conversion Act—Metric Conversion Board—Sixth Annual Report, for year 1975–76, together with Report by the Minister on the operation of the Act.
- National Advisory Council for the Handicapped—Report for year 1975–76.
- Natural Disaster Insurance Scheme for Australia—Discussion paper, dated December 1976.
- Patent, Trade Marks and Designs Office—Report for year 1975–76.
- Petroleum—Royal Commission—Sixth Report—Use of liquefied gas in Australia.
- Petroleum Search Subsidy Act—Seventeenth Annual Statement, for year 1975–76.

Priorities Review Staff—Report, dated August 1976, on the First Report of the National Population Inquiry (the Borrie Report).
 States Grants (Dwellings for Pensioners) Act—Second Annual Statement by Minister, for year 1975–76.
 States Grants (Schools) Act—Statement of financial assistance granted to each State in 1975.
 Tasmanian State Grants Commission—First Report, for year 1976–77.
 Teaching migrant languages in Australian schools—Committee on teaching migrant languages in Australian schools—Report.
 Trade Practices Act—Trade Practices Commission—Report on Consumer Education, dated 28 October 1976.
 Transport—Department of Transport—Third Annual Report, for year 1975–76, including the report by the Minister pursuant to the Air Navigation Act.
 United Nations—Human Settlements Conference (HABITAT), Vancouver, 31 May to 11 June 1976—Report of Australian delegation.

J. C. HODGES,
 Chairman

8 December 1976

Mr Hodges, by leave, moved—That the report be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

17 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 7, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.

18 COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES (REDEPLOYMENT AND RETIREMENT) BILL 1976: Mr Street (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Public Service Matters), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make provision with respect to the Redeployment and Retirement of Commonwealth Employees, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

19 TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT BILL 1977: Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to Trade Practices.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Howard 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.

20 AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE—PAPER—PAPER NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 4 November 1976*), viz.:

Australian defence—Paper, dated November 1976—

And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Hayden, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the White Paper of the Minister for Defence presented to the House this day entitled ‘Australian defence’ be referred to the Standing Committee on Expenditure so that the fiscal implications of the proposed program, especially in relation to its effects on other programs and its requirements for additional revenue collections, can be investigated and reported upon and that such report be available to this House not later than the last sitting day of this House in March 1977”—

Debate resumed.

Mr Martyr addressing the House—

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

Mr Sinclair requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—
Question—put and negatived.

Mr Martyr continued his speech.
Amendment negatived.
Motion agreed to.

21 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 8 December 1976:
By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Treaties—Text of—

- (1) World Health Organisation—Constitution—Amendments to Articles 24 and 25 adopted on 17 May 1976 by the 29th World Health Assembly.
- (2) Asian-Oceanic Postal Convention, done at Melbourne, 27 November 1975.
- (3) Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, signed by Australia on 22 April 1968.

Pursuant to statute:

Acts Interpretation Act—Order under section 19BA of the Act, dated 7 December 1976.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony*, Mr Cadman, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Nicholls and Mr Nixon.

* On leave

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