

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 38

THURSDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 1977

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 C. R. Cameron, Mr Haslem and Sir William McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the Broadcasting and Television Act be amended in relation to program standards.

Dr Cass, Mr L. R. Johnson and Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that there be no self-regulation in the broadcasting and television media and that the Chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal be dismissed.

Mr Cohen, Mr Keating and Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that private nursing homes be subsidised to allow pensioner patients to retain \$6 per week for personal use and that certain other action be taken in connection with pensioner benefits.

Mr Innes and Mr L. K. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Mr Ignazio Salemi be permitted to remain in Australia.

Mr Fisher—from certain citizens praying that television reception in Birchip, Vic., be improved.

Mr Hunt—from certain citizens praying for an independent moratorium on the mining of uranium.

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that public debate on a replacement constitution be encouraged, a directly elected constitutional convention be convened and a referendum be conducted on its resolutions.

Mr Keating—from certain citizens praying that a 5 year moratorium be agreed to and public discussion be promoted on the mining and export of uranium and a national energy policy be developed.

Mr E. L. Robinson—from certain citizens praying that the means test on aged pensions be abolished.

Mr Sainsbury—from certain citizens praying for the disallowance of any ordinance to authorise the establishment of a gambling casino in Canberra.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Christmas Island—Report for 1976.

Commonwealth Fire Board—Report for year 1976-77.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian Institute of Marine Science Act—Council of the Institute of Marine Science—Report and financial statement, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1975-76.

National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—54th Annual Report, for year 1976-77.

Pig Industry Research Act—Australian Pig Industry Research Committee—
 3rd Annual Report, for year 1973–74.
 4th Annual Report, for year 1974–75.
 5th Annual Report, for year 1975–76.
 Public Service Act—Public Service Board—53rd Annual Report, for year 1976–77.

- 5 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
 7 September 1977—Message—
 No. 72—Air Navigation Amendment 1977.
 No. 73—Wool Industry Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
- 6 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.
Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for Grievance debate: Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Post and Telecommunications), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), being continued until 1 p.m.
 Question—put and passed.
 Debate continued.
 It being 1 p.m., the debate was interrupted.
 Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.
- 7 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—R.A.A.F. BASE, GLENBROOK, N.S.W.:
 Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report: Development of Glenbrook R.A.A.F. Base H.Q. Operational Command.
 Mr McLeay presented plans in connection with the proposed work.
 Question—put and passed.
- 8 R.A.A.F. BASE, EDINBURGH, S.A.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr McLeay (Minister for 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: Construction of R.A.A.F. Base, Edinburgh, S.A.
 Question—put and passed.
- 9 MILITARY AREA, RANDWICK, N.S.W.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr McLeay (Minister for 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 the military area at Randwick, N.S.W.
 Question—put and passed.
- 10 LOAN BILL 1977: Mr Lynch (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to authorize the borrowing and expending of moneys for defence purposes.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Lynch moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Hayden), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 11 NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL 1977: Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the provision by the Commonwealth of certain medical services.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 12 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1977-78—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 13 CUNNINGHAM ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT: Mr Speaker informed the House that he had this day issued a writ for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Cunningham, in the State of New South Wales, in the place of the Honourable Reginald Francis Xavier Connor, deceased. The dates in connection with the election were fixed as follows:

Date of nomination Friday, 23 September 1977.

Date of polling Saturday, 15 October 1977.

Date of return of writ On or before Friday, 25 November 1977.

- 14 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1977-78—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 A. P. Whitlam addressing the House—

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.59 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Bonnett, Mr Braithwaite, Mr Brown, Mr Drummond, Mr Fife, Mr Fry, Mr Garrick, Mr Holten, Dr Jenkins, Mr Kelly, Mr Lusher, Mr Nicholls, Mr Scholes, Mr Thomson and Mr Wallis.

J. A. PETTIFER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives