

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 62

TUESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 1977

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- 1 The House met, at 10 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 Hunt, Mr MacKenzie, Mr I. L. Robinson and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that that part of a deceased person's estate which passes to the surviving spouse be free from federal estate duty.
 - Dr Klugman and Mr Morris—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 Fraser—from certain members of the Lone Fathers Organisation of Australia praying for legislation to assist lone fathers who have the custody of dependent children.
 - Mr Fry—from certain electors of the Electoral Divisions of Canberra and Fraser praying that the undeveloped area bounded by Novar Street, Schlich Street, Hopetoun Circuit and the proposed Coronation Drive, Yarralumla, A.C.T., be proclaimed as a non-residential or non-building area set aside for open space recreational purposes.
 - Mr Fry—from certain citizens praying that Australian policy on East Timor be publicly and unequivocally re-stated and implemented as forcefully as possible.
 - Mr Graham—from certain citizens praying that attention be given to the inadequate provision of English classes for migrants.
 - Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to end commercial whaling.
 - Mr Innes—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Film Commission reconsider the 20 per cent reduction of its financial support for the Australian Film Institute in 1977-78.
 - 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 L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the Handicapped Children's Allowance not be subjected to a means test.
 - Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the freeze on the alienation of vacant Crown land in the Northern Territory be extended and the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976 be amended.
 - Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that increases in the Consumer Price Index be applied to pensions and that future pensions not be reduced as a result of any revision of the Index.
 - Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that education funding be restored to the level advocated in the 1975 Schools Commission report.
 - Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes not be introduced.
 - Mr I. L. Robinson—from certain volunteer firemen of the New South Wales Fire Brigade Service praying that income tax relief be provided on the earnings of N.S.W. volunteer firemen.

Mr I. L. Robinson—from certain citizens praying that the Broadcasting and Television Act be amended in relation to program standards.

Mr Simon—from certain citizens praying that the current triennium for accommodation applications under the Aged Persons Hostels Act be extended to enable an outstanding application from the Committee of the Mitchell House Board of Management to be included.

Mr Wentworth—from certain electors praying that action be taken to correct financial inequities between New South Wales and the Commonwealth.

Mr Wentworth—from certain electors praying that the Prime Minister be requested to make a statement in relation to the abolition of the means test.

Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying for the reversal of the decision withdrawing financial assistance from students of non-State tertiary institutions.

Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that unemployment beneficiaries be allowed to earn up to \$20 per week before unemployment benefits are reduced.

Petitions received.

Mr Wentworth informed the House that he proposed to take action in connection with the petition relating to the abolition of the means test, which he had lodged, and moved—That the petition lodged by the honourable Member for Mackellar relating to a statement by the Prime Minister on the abolition of the means test be printed.

Mr Wentworth informed the House that he intended to take action under standing order 86. Mr Speaker ruled that the use of the standing order was not a form of action available to the honourable Member in this case and the motion for printing was not further proceeded with.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Australian Heritage Commission Act—Australian Heritage Commission—1st Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 9 July 1976 to 30 June 1977.

Dried Fruits Research Act—Dried Fruits Research Committee—6th Annual Report, for year 1976-77.

Law Reform Commission Act—Law Reform Commission—3rd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1976-77.

Sugar Agreement Act—Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee—46th Annual Report, and statements of receipts and expenditure certified by the Auditor-General, for year 1976-77.

5 MR WILLIAM FREDERICK TOOMER—INQUIRY—REPORT—PAPER NOTED: Mr Street (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in Public Service Matters), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Mr William Frederick Toomer—Inquiry under the Public Service Act into certain matters relating to Mr Toomer—Report to the Public Service Board by Messrs J. Perriman and G. P. Temme, dated 28 October 1977.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

6 COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION—23RD COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE—REPORT OF DELEGATION FROM COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA BRANCH—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Scholes, by leave, presented the following paper:

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—23rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Canada, September 1977—Report of Delegation from Commonwealth of Australia Branch.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Scholes, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

7 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—UNEMPLOYMENT—GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY: Mr Speaker informed the House that both Mr Willis and Mr Connolly had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, he had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Willis, namely, "The Fraser Government's refusal to accept responsibility for unemployment".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis rising to address the House—

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

Question—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr Snedden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 65

Mr Adermann	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Aldred	Mr Ellicott	Mr King	Mr Peacock
Mr Baume	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Porter
Mr Birney	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Shipton
Mr Brown	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Simon
Mr Bungey	Mr Haslem	Sir William McMahon	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Hodges	Mr McVeigh	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Holten	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Moore	
Mr Connolly	Mr Jarman	Mr Neil	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Newman	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Nixon	Mr Corbett

NOES, 26

Mr Armitage	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr West
Mr Beazley	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Bowen	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mr Bryant	Dr Jenkins	Mr Morris	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Scholes	<i>Tellers:</i>
Dr Cass	Mr Jones	Mr Stewart	Mr James
Mr Crean	Mr Keating	Mr Uren	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

8 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED: Mr Morris moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the honourable Member for Shortland moving that general business notice No. 11 be proceeded with forthwith.

Closure of Member: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Scholes addressing the House—

Closure of Member: Mr Sinclair moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put and passed.

Question—That the motion for the suspension of the standing orders be agreed to—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 23

Mr Armitage	Mr Fry	Mr Keating	Mr Stewart
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Dr Klugman	Mr Uren
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr West
Mr C. R. Cameron	Dr Jenkins	Mr Martin	<i>Tellers:</i>
Dr Cass	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Morris	Mr James
Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr Scholes	Mr L. R. Johnson

NOES, 67

Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman
Mr Aldred	Mr Drummond	Mr Jarman	Mr Nixon
Mr Anthony	Dr Edwards	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baillieu	Mr Ellicott	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock
Mr Baume	Mr Falconer	Mr King	Mr Porter
Mr Birney	Mr Fife	Mr Lloyd	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bourchier	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Shipton
Mr Brown	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Simon
Mr Bungey	Mr Hamer	Sir William McMahon	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodges	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Holten	Mr Millar	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chapman	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil	Mr Corbett

And so it was negatived.

- 9 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES: Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 10 TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1977: 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, and agreed to, after debate.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

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- The House resumed; Mr I. L. Robinson reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.
- 11 CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL 1977: 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 Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 12 AUSTRALIAN SHIPPING COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1977: 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 Macphee (Minister for Productivity), the Bill was read a third time.
- 13 TRANSPORT PLANNING AND RESEARCH (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1977: 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.

14 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Copper ores and concentrates—
Interim report, dated 30 September 1977.

Pursuant to statute:

Taxation—Taxation statistics 1975–76 (Supplement to the 55th Report of the
Commissioner of Taxation).

Ordered to be printed.

15 AIRLINE EQUIPMENT (LOAN GUARANTEE) BILL 1977: 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 Special Trade Negotiations), the Bill was read a third time.

16 ENVIRONMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1977: 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 for Environment, Housing and Community Development), the Bill was read a third time.

17 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 7 to 10, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

18 DEFENCE FORCE (RETIREMENT AND DEATH BENEFITS AMENDMENTS) BILL (No. 2) 1977:

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. 88, dated 2 November 1977, 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.

Mr McLeay (Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

19 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

20 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 7.10 p.m., adjourned until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 8 November 1977, pursuant to statute:

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1977—

No. 679—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.

No. 680—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 681—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.

No. 682—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.

No. 683—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.

No. 684—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 685—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.

No. 686—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 687—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.

No. 688—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia.

Nos. 689 and 690—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

No. 691—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia and another.

No. 692—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 693—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.

No. 694—Association of Officers of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.

No. 695—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.

No. 696—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 697—Actors' and Announcers' Equity Association of Australia.

No. 698—Federated Liquor and Allied Industries Employees Union of Australia.

No. 699—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.

No. 700—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia and another.

No. 701—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.

No. 702—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.

No. 703—Australian Government Lawyers Association.

No. 704—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.

Nos. 706 to 709—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.

No. 710—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Braithwaite, Mr Carige, Mr Chipp, Mr Cohen, Mr Cotter, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Garrick, Mr Giles, Mr Goodluck, Mr Groom, Mr Innes, Mr Jacobi, Mr Katter, Mr Kelly, Mr MacKenzie, Dr Richardson, Mr Sainsbury, Mr Short, Mr Sullivan, Mr Thomson and Mr Wallis.

J. A. PETTIFER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives

APPENDIX 1

Messages from the Senate

Messages from the Senate returning the following Bills without amendment were received after the adjournment of the House on 8 November 1977:

9 November 1977—

- No. 124—Broadcasting and Television Amendment 1977.
- No. 125—States Grants (Schools Assistance) 1977.
- No. 126—States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) 1977.
- No. 127—Apple and Pear Stabilization Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
- No. 128—Apple and Pear Stabilization Export Duty Amendment (No. 2) 1977 (*without requests*).
- No. 129—Apple and Pear Stabilization Export Duty Collection Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
- No. 130—Customs Tariff Validation (No. 3) 1977 (*without requests*).
- No. 131—Customs Amendment 1977.
- No. 132—Brigalow Lands Agreement Amendment 1977.
- No. 133—Beef Industry (Incentive Payments) 1977.
- No. 134—Australian Rural Bank 1977.
- No. 135—Trade Practices Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
- No. 136—Australian Shipping Commission Amendment 1977.
- No. 137—Transport Planning and Research (Financial Assistance) 1977.
- No. 138—Airline Equipment (Loan Guarantee) 1977.
- No. 139—Environment (Financial Assistance) 1977.
- No. 140—Defence Force (Retirement and Death Benefits Amendments) (No. 2) 1977.
- No. 141—Appropriation (No. 1) 1977-78 (*without requests*).
- No. 142—Appropriation (No. 2) 1977-78.

APPENDIX 2

Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General

ASSENT TO BILLS

The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General intimating that His Excellency in the name of Her Majesty had assented to the following Bills, were received after the adjournment of the House on 8 November 1977:

10 November 1977—

- No. 89—Governor-General Amendment 1977.
Stevedoring Industry Acts (Termination) 1977.
Stevedoring Industry Charge (Termination) 1977.
Stevedoring Industry Levy 1977.
Stevedoring Industry Levy Collection 1977.
Stevedoring Industry Finance Committee 1977.
Conciliation and Arbitration Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Port Statistics 1977.
Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 3) 1977.
Income Tax (Rates) Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Income Tax (Individuals) 1977.
Income Tax (Companies and Superannuation Funds) 1977.
Income Tax (Film Royalties) 1977.
Health Insurance Levy 1977.
Public Service (Permanent Head—Dual Appointment) 1977.
Income Tax (International Agreements) Amendment 1977.
Coal Research Assistance 1977.
Excise Tariff Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
States Grants (Coal Mining Industry Long Service Leave) Amendment 1977.
Queensland Grant (Special Assistance) 1977.
- No. 90—Appropriation (No. 1) 1977-78.
Appropriation (No. 2) 1977-78.
Tasmania Grant (The Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company Limited) 1977.
Homeless Persons Assistance Amendment 1977.
Commonwealth Grants Commission Amendment 1977.
Customs Tariff Validation (No. 3) 1977.
Apple and Pear Stabilization Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Apple and Pear Stabilization Export Duty Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Apple and Pear Stabilization Export Duty Collection Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Brigalow Lands Agreement Amendment 1977.
Airline Equipment (Loan Guarantee) 1977.
Environment (Financial Assistance) 1977.
Trade Practices Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
Transport Planning and Research (Financial Assistance) 1977.
Australian Shipping Commission Amendment 1977.
Customs Amendment 1977.

Beef Industry (Incentive Payments) 1977.
Australian Rural Bank 1977.
States Grants (Schools Assistance) 1977.
States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) 1977.
Social Services Amendment 1977.
Broadcasting and Television Amendment 1977.
Defence Force (Retirement and Death Benefits Amendments) (No. 2) 1977.