

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 13

TUESDAY, 4 APRIL 1978

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- 1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DISTINGUISHED VISITOR:** Mr Speaker informed the House that the Honourable Kingsford Dibela, M.P., Speaker of the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea, was within the precincts. With the concurrence of Members, the distinguished visitor was provided with a seat on the floor of the House.
- 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Falconer, Mr Lucock and Mr Shack—from certain members and ex-members of the citizens forces of Australia praying for the resumption of the award of several distinctive reserve forces decorations and medals for long service and good conduct.
  - Mr Morris, Mr I. L. Robinson and Mr Scholes—from certain citizens praying for the establishment of a fund whereby loans can be made to means tested pensioners for the necessary maintenance of their homes.
  - Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that a temporary student visa be granted to Mr Sriram of India.
- Petitions received.
- 4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 5 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
- By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
    - Whales and whaling—Inquiry—Terms of reference.
  - Pursuant to statute:
    - Australian War Memorial Act—Board of Trustees of the Australian War Memorial—14th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1976-77.
    - Conciliation and Arbitration Act—President of the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission—21st Annual Report, for year ended 13 August 1977.
    - Egg Export Control Act—Australian Egg Board—30th Annual Report, for year 1976-77.
    - Hospitals and Health Services Commission Act—Hospitals and Health Services Commission—4th Annual Report and financial statement, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1976-77.
    - Independent Schools (Loans Guarantee) Act—Statement of guarantees and payments for year 1976-77.
    - Wine Overseas Marketing Act—Australian Wine Board—49th Annual Report, for year 1976-77.

- 6 AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL—PAPERS AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—  
MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by command of His  
Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:  
Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—Energy research and  
development in Australia, dated October 1977.  
Interim Australian Science and Technology Council—Report for period 29 April  
1976 to 29 March 1977—  
and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the papers.  
Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.  
Debate ensued.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Hodges), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the  
day for the next sitting.
- 7 MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: Messages from His Ex-  
cellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His  
Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:  
20 March 1978—Message—  
No. 7—Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Amendment 1978.  
No. 8—Northern Territory Supreme Court Amendment 1978.  
28 March 1978—Message No. 9—  
National Water Resources (Financial Assistance) 1978.  
Territory Authorities (Financial Provisions) 1978.  
1 April 1978—Message No. 10—  
Bounty (Polyester-Cotton Yarn) 1978.  
Control of Naval Waters Amendment 1978.  
Australian National Railways Amendment 1978.
- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY:  
Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Scholes had proposed that a definite matter  
of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The urgent  
need for the Government to make a clear statement on the future protection of  
Australia's territorial integrity".  
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
Mr Scholes addressed the House.  
Discussion ensued.  
Discussion concluded.
- 9 PAPER: The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:  
Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—  
Report—Screws for wood, dated 22 February 1978.
- 10 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NOS. 11 AND 12 (1978): Mr Fife (Minister for Business and  
Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 11 and 12 (1978).  
Debate adjourned (Mr Willis), and the resumption of the debate made an order of  
the day for the next sitting.
- 11 SUPERANNUATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL 1978: 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. 11, dated 9 March 1978, 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 E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance), the Bill was read a third  
time.

- 12 HEALTH CARE FINANCING—PAPER—PAPER NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 15 March 1978*), viz.:
- Health care financing—Discussion paper by Hospitals and Health Services Commission, dated February 1978—
- Debate resumed.
- Question—put and passed.
- 13 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
- 4 April 1978—Message No. 18—Bounty (Drilling Machines) 1978.
- 14 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 3, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.
- 15 SOFTWOOD FORESTRY AGREEMENTS BILL 1978: 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 by Mr Scholes who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that the Government should continue to provide funds to the States for new plantings in the same proportion as in previous agreements, of about 50 per cent, in order to ensure that reasonable continuity of planting rates is maintained”.
- Debate continued.
- Debate adjourned (Dr Jenkins), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 16 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Adermann (Minister for the Northern Territory) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
- Debate ensued.
- The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

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PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 4 April 1978, pursuant to statute:

- Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 32.
- Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1978, Nos. 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45.
- Dairy Industry Stabilization Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 48.
- Federal Court of Australia Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 36.
- Judiciary Act—Rules—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 46.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
- Aerodrome extensions purposes—
- Alice Springs, N.T.
- Mount Isa, Qld (2).
- Telecommunications purposes—Glenfield, N.S.W.
- National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 47.
- Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 35.
- Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance—1978—No. 1—Absentee Landowners Levy (Amendment).
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1978—
- No. 1—Licensing.
- No. 2—Local Government.
- No. 3—Local Government (No. 2).

Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—By-laws—Postal—1978—  
Amendment No. 1.

Public Service Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 33.

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—1978/2—  
Holders of offices in the First Division of the Australian Public Service.

Science and Industry Research Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 34.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1978—

No. 9—Poisons and Dangerous Drugs (Amendment).

No. 10—Cemeteries (Amendment).

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Dr  
Edwards, Mr Gillard, Mr Hurford, Mr L. K. Johnson and Mr C. K. Jones.

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