

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 31

THURSDAY, 25 MAY 1978

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- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Howe and Mr Peacock—from certain citizens praying that item 6469 be removed from the standard medical benefits table.
- Mr L. K. Johnson and Mr Morris—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 Giles—from certain citizens praying that grape growers be compensated to leave this year's surplus grapes on the vine and that certain other action be taken to assist grape growers.
- Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying for the provision of funds for the construction and maintenance of an aged persons complex in the Electoral Division of Hughes.
- Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes not be introduced.
- Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that communist organisations be banned and communists be prohibited from holding office in industrial organisations, government departments and Parliament.
- Mr Simon—from certain citizens of Warburton, Vic., praying for the installation of a Community Television Antenna System in Warburton.
- Petitions received.
- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—
- Paper:* Mr Scholes, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Killen (Minister for Defence)—
- Mr Killen laid upon the Table the following paper:
- Harold E. Holt Naval Communication Station—Satellite terminal—Copy of statement by Mr Killen.
- Questions without notice continued.
- Paper:* Mr Armitage, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Killen—
- Mr Killen laid upon the Table the following paper:
- Harold E. Holt Naval Communication Station—Satellite terminal—Letter from Mr Philip H. Alston, Jr, Ambassador of the United States of America, to Mr Killen, dated 16 May 1978.
- Questions without notice continued.
- 4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:
- By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
- Aboriginals—Greater involvement in the economy of the Pilbara and Kimberley regions—Report for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs by N. M. Butcher, dated August 1977.

National highways linking Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra—2nd Report, Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, 1978.

Pursuant to statute:

Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—5th Report, for year 1976–77.

Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board—4th supplement to 25th Report, for period 1 July to 30 September 1972.

River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1976–77.

- 5 PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE REPORTS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's decision that, within 6 months of the tabling of a Parliamentary committee report, the responsible Minister will make a statement in the Parliament outlining the action the Government proposes to take in relation to the report and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Parliamentary committee reports—Ministerial statement, 25 May 1978.

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

Debate ensued.

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

- 6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—PROPOSED DEPARTMENT: Mr Willis, pursuant to notice, moved—That, in the opinion of this House, a Department of Economic Development should be established as a matter of urgency to prepare and administer a medium and long-term national economic strategy which is essential to the resolution of the economic and social crises now facing this nation.

Debate ensued.

It being 2 hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 109.

Ordered—That the time for the discussion of notices be extended until 12.45 p.m.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

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

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Mr Armitage	Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr Uren
Dr Blewett	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Dr Klugman	Mr West
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Humphreys	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Dr Cass	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cohen	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	Mr L. K. Johnson
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr Stewart	Mr L. R. Johnson

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Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Peacock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Drummond	Mr Johnston	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Falconer	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr Killen	Mr Sainsbury
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fisher	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shack
Mr Bungey	Mr Garland	Mr Lucock	Mr Simon
Mr Burns	Mr Giles	Mr Lusher	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKellar	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Street
Mr Cairns	Mr Graham	Mr McLean	Mr Thomson
Mr Calder	Mr Groom	Mr McLeay	Mr Viner
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Haslem	Sir William McMahon	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodgman	Mr McVeigh	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	Mr Corbett
Mr Cotter	Mr Hyde	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Hodges

And so it was negatived.

- 7 **BROADBAND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES—PUBLIC OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL:** Mr Innes, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House is of the opinion that there is a need for maintenance of public ownership and control of all broadband communication facilities, including satellite and cable systems, to ensure equitable use in the best interests of the Australian People.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for precedence to general business having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr B. O. Jones was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 8 **AUSTRALIA-PAPUA NEW GUINEA MARITIME BOUNDARIES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO TORRES STRAIT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the principal basic elements to be included in the treaty to be concluded on maritime boundaries and other matters relating to Torres Strait between Australia and Papua New Guinea and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Australia-Papua New Guinea maritime boundaries and other matters relating to Torres Strait—

Maps (2) showing principal basic elements to be incorporated in the treaty.

Ministerial statement, 25 May 1978.

Outline of principal basic elements agreed upon on 5 May 1978 to be included in the treaty.

Mr Groom (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

Debate ensued.

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

- 9 **CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION—PARTICIPATION BY COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT:** Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That the House of Representatives agrees that the Commonwealth Parliament participate with the Parliaments of the States in the continuing work of the Constitutional Convention established to review the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution and accordingly resolves:

(a) That, for the purposes of the Convention—

(i) a delegation from the Commonwealth Parliament consisting of 16 members of the Parliament take part in the deliberations of the Convention, of whom 6 shall be members of the Senate and 10 shall be members of the House of Representatives;

(ii) the 10 members of the House of Representatives comprise 3 members of the Liberal Party of Australia, 2 members of the National Country Party of Australia and 5 members of the Australian Labor Party:

(b) That—

(i) the Prime Minister and 4 other members of the House of Representatives, 2 being members of the Liberal Party of Australia and 2 being members of the National Country Party of Australia, nominated by him; and

(ii) the Leader of the Opposition and 4 other members of that House, being members of the Australian Labor Party, nominated by him, be members of the Delegation:

(c) That the Prime Minister be the Leader of the Delegation, and the Leader of the Opposition be the Deputy Leader:

(d) That a member of the Delegation cease to be such a member if—

(i) he ceases to be a member of the Commonwealth Parliament;

- (ii) the House of the Parliament of which he is a member terminates his appointment; or
 - (iii) he resigns as a member of the Delegation by writing addressed to the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as the case requires:
- (e) That where, because of illness or any other cause, a member of the Delegation is not available to attend a meeting, or part of a meeting, of the Convention, the Leader or senior available member of the Party in the House from which the member was drawn may nominate an alternate member (being a member of the House of which the first-mentioned member is a member) and the member so nominated shall be a member of the Delegation for that meeting, or that part of that meeting:
 - (f) That, in the event of a member of the Delegation ceasing to be such a member, the Leader of the Party in the House from which the member was drawn may nominate another member (being a member of the House of which the first-mentioned member is or was a member) to replace the first-mentioned member:
 - (g) That the Leader of the Delegation from time to time make a report for presentation to each House of the Parliament on matters arising out of the Convention, and that the Deputy Leader of the Delegation may make an accompanying report.
- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of the resolution agreed to by the House of Representatives.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 TRADE UNION TRAINING AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Street (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Trade Union Training Authority Act 1975*.
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.
- 11 LOAN AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations), for Mr Howard (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Loan Act 1977*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland 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.
- 12 INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AGREEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations), for Mr Howard (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the International Monetary Fund and to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland 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.
- 13 SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 1978: Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act 1935*, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland 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.

- 14 **OMBUDSMAN AMENDMENT BILL 1978:** Mr Garland (Minister for Special Trade Representations), for Mr Viner (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Ombudsman Act 1976* for purposes related to the self-government of the Northern Territory, and for purposes incidental thereto. Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland 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.
- 15 **CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1978:** Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the validation of certain collections of duties of Customs. Bill read a first time.
Mr Fife 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.
- 16 **DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES AMENDMENT BILL 1978:** Mr Garland (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Service Homes Act 1918*. Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Uren), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 17 **FISHERIES 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not opposing the Bill, the House calls upon the Government to ensure that the guidelines determined by the Australian Fisheries Council in January 1977, to control foreign participation and give first priority to the local industry, are strictly observed"—*
Debate resumed.
Amendment amended by Mr Bowen, by leave, by omitting "1977" from the words proposed to be substituted and substituting "1978".
Debate continued.
Amendment negatived.
Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—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.
- 18 **CONTINENTAL SHELF (LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES) 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—
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.
- 19 **WHALING 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 by Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) who moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not opposing the Bill, the House calls upon the Government

to alter the Frost Royal Commission terms of reference, requiring the Commission to submit positive proposals to guarantee increased marine resources employment in the Albany region, prior to declaring a moratorium on whaling”.

Amendment negatived.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

20 AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL 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.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Dr Klugman, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Clause 5, page 2, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

“5. The functions of the Council are to investigate, and to furnish ^{Functions} information and advice to the Commonwealth Government in respect of, matters relating to science and technology, including the following matters:

- (a) the advancement of scientific knowledge;
- (b) the implications for the community, for the environment, for industry and for Government policy of developments in science and technology;
- (c) utilising science and technology in the development of national objectives;
- (d) priorities for scientific and technological research and development, and on policies to give best effect to these priorities;
- (e) the organisation of and institutional arrangements for the conduct of scientific and technological activities;
- (f) manpower policies for science and technology;
- (g) the fostering of scientific and technological innovation in industry; and
- (h) utilising science and technology in the achievement of national objectives.”.

Clause 6, page 3, after sub-clause (3) add the following sub-clauses:

“(4) Where the Minister exercises his discretion in favour of causing the report to be laid before the Parliament with deletions he shall disclose to Parliament the grounds upon which such deletions were made.

“(5) Where the Minister exercises his discretion in favour of causing the report not to be laid before the Parliament he shall within 15 sitting days after receiving the report disclose to Parliament that he has received the report and the grounds upon which he has exercised such discretion.”.

Clause 8, page 3, omit sub-clause (1), substitute the following sub-clause:

“(1) The Council shall perform its functions and exercise its powers as it sees fit and shall act upon any directions given to it by the Minister in writing.”.

Clause 10, page 4, omit sub-clause (1), substitute the following sub-clause:

“(1) The Council shall consist of a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman and not less than 7, nor more than 15, ordinary members of whom at least 2 shall be persons professionally qualified as social scientists, 3 shall be scientists currently involved in research and 2 shall be members of the Australian Parliament appointed respectively by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.”.

Clause 11—

Page 4, lines 26 and 27, omit “, but is eligible for re-appointment”.

Page 4, omit sub-clause (2).

Page 4, omit sub-clause (3).

Page 4, omit sub-clause (4).

Page 4, omit sub-clause (5).

Page 5, omit sub-clause (6).

Page 5, omit sub-clause (8).

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Millar reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister), the House adopted the report.

Mr Viner, by leave, moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

- 21 AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL—PAPERS—PAPERS 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 papers (*presented on 4 April 1978*), viz.:

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—

Question—put and passed.

- 22 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION—DELEGATION OF COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Speaker had received advice from the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition that the following members of the House of Representatives would be members of the Commonwealth Parliament's delegation to the Constitutional Convention:

Liberal Party of Australia:

The Right Honourable J. M. Fraser, C.H. (Prime Minister) (*Leader of the Delegation*)

The Honourable R. J. Ellicott, Q.C.

Mr I. B. C. Wilson.

National Country Party of Australia:

The Right Honourable J. D. Anthony

The Right Honourable I. McC. Sinclair.

Australian Labor Party:

The Honourable W. G. Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) (*Deputy Leader of the Delegation*)

Dr N. Blewett

The Honourable L. F. Bowen

Mr B. O. Jones

Mr G. G. D. Scholes.

- 23 PUBLIC SERVICE ARBITRATION 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.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Dr Jenkins, in the Chair)—

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Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anthony	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baillieu	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shack
Mr Baume	Mr Falconer	Mr Lucock	Mr Shipton
Mr Bourchier	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Simon
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Garland	Mr McLean	Mr Staley
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Giles	Mr McLeay	Mr Street
Mr Burns	Mr Gillard	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr Millar	Mr Viner
Mr Calder	Mr Graham	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodgman	Mr Neil	Mr Yates
Mr Carlton	Mr Howard	Mr Newman	
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr Hyde	Mr Peacock	Mr Corbett
Mr Cotter	Mr Johnston	Mr Porter	Mr Hodges

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Mr Armitage	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Dr Blewett	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr Bowen	Mr Humphreys	Mr Morris	
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Hurford	Mr Scholes	
Mr Bryant	Mr Jacobi	Mr Stewart	
Mr Cohen	Mr James	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Dawkins	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. R. Johnson
Mr FitzPatrick	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr West	Mr J. L. McMahon

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Street (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), the Bill was read a third time.

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

Debate ensued.

Debate extended: It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Staley (Minister for Post and Telecommunications) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 11.07 p.m., Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 May 1978, pursuant to statute:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for collection of information—1978—No. 2—New topic to be included in the population survey: September 1978.

Long Service Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1978, No. 73.

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

No. 12—(Gun Licence Amendment).

No. 13—(Money Lenders Amendment).

Regulations—1978—No. 9 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Birney, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Dean, Mr Howe, Mr Jarman, Mr Keating, Mr Macphee, Mr Martyr, Mr E. L. Robinson and Mr Whitlam.

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