

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 119

THURSDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 1979

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- 1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment.
 - 2 **ABSENCE OF MR SPEAKER:** The Clerk having informed the House that Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) was absent, the Chairman of Committees (Mr Millar) took the Chair as Acting Speaker, and read Prayers.
 - 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Baume, Mr J. J. Brown, Dr Klugman, Sir William McMahon, Mr Morris, Mr Ruddock and Mr West—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the 1980 level of education expenditure to Government schools be restored and increased in real terms.
 - Mr Jarman and Sir William McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
 - Mr Morris and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that pension payments be restored to twice-yearly adjustments and that pensions and unemployment benefits be raised to 30% of average weekly earnings.
 - Mr Baume—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to increase the marine radio licence fee be reconsidered.
 - Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to increase the marine radio licence fee be reconsidered and that the regulation allowing the use of CB radio in marine situations be rescinded.
 - Mr J. J. Brown—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to dismiss the present members of the Broadcasting Tribunal and replace them with Janet Strickland and representatives of other broadcasting and television bodies.
 - Dr Edwards—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 Falconer—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 Jarman—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.
 - Mr P. F. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.
 - Sir William McMahon—from certain electors of New South Wales praying that the *Commonwealth Employees (Employment Provisions) Act 1977* be repealed.
 - Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying that subsidies to pre-schools be increased to provide adequate pre-school services in South Australia.
 - Mr Thomson—from certain citizens praying that federal funding to State schools be restored to 1974-75 levels, that the independence of the Schools Commission be maintained and that tied grants be made to Queensland to ensure achievement of national standards.

Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that the decision by Australia Post not to issue a commemorative stamp to mark the 50th anniversary of Apex Clubs be reconsidered.

Petitions received.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Papers: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Australian Capital Territory—Ordinances—

Companies 1962–1974.

Companies (Amendment) 1976.

Companies (Amendment) (No. 2) 1976.

Ordinances Revision (Administrative Arrangements) 1976.

Companies (Amendment) 1977.

Ordinances Revision 1978.

Questions without notice continued.

5 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Prime Minister incorporating 2 documents in *Hansard* and making an appropriate statement thereon to the House.

Mr Scholes rising to address the House—

Closure: Mr Sinclair moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 73

Mr Adermann	Mr Chapman	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Mr Cotter	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Dean	Mr Jull	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dobie	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lucock	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Lusher	Mr Shack
Mr Bourchier	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher*	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fraser	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Garland	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bungey	Mr Giles	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Burns	Mr Gillard	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Graham	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr Cairns	Mr Groom	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Hodges*	Mr Neil	Mr Yates
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Howard	Mr Newman	
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon	
Mr Carlton	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe	

NOES, 29

Mr Armitage	Dr Everingham	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Dr Blewett	Mr Fry	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr Bryant	Mr Howe	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Dr Cass	Mr Humphreys	Dr Klugman	
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr L. B. McLeay	
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr Martin	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—
The House divided (the Acting Speaker, Mr Millar, in the Chair)—

AYES, 74

Mr Adermann	Mr Chapman	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Aldred	Mr Cotter	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Anthony	Mr Dean	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Lucock	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Shack
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher*	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Garland	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Bungey	Mr Giles	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burns	Mr Gillard	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Cadman	Mr Graham	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Cairns	Mr Groom	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr Calder	Mr Hodges*	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	Mr Yates
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	
Mr Carlton	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon	

NOES, 30

Mr Armitage	Dr Everingham	Mr James	Mr Martin
Dr Blewett	Mr Fry	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr Bryant	Mr Howe	Mr Keating	Mr West
Dr Cass	Mr Humphreys	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Dr Klugman	
Mr Dawkins	Mr Innes	Mr L. B. McLeay	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative by an absolute majority.

6 PRIVILEGE: Mr Morris raised a matter of privilege stating that he had been threatened in the House by another honourable Member.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) addressed himself to the matter of privilege.

Mr Acting Speaker stated that he would consider the matter and report to the House.

7 ETHNIC TELEVISION REVIEW PANEL—APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY—STATEMENT BY MINISTER: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) rising to address the House—

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

Question—put.

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

AYES, 30

Mr Armitage	Dr Everingham	Mr James	Mr Martin
Dr Blewett	Mr Fry	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr Bryant	Mr Howe	Mr Keating	Mr West
Dr Cass	Mr Humphreys	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Dr Klugman	
Mr Dawkins	Mr Innes	Mr L. B. McLeay	

NOES, 74

Mr Adermann	Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon
Mr Aldred	Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Anthony	Mr Dean	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dobie	Mr Johnston	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Katter	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Shack
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lusher	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Garland	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr Bungey	Mr Giles	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burns	Mr Gillard	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Sir William McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Cadman	Mr Graham	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Cairns	Mr Groom	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Calder	Mr Haslem	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr Moore	Mr Yates
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	
Mr Carlton	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	

* Tellers

And so it was negated.

Mr Fraser made a statement concerning the appointment of Mr Petro Georgiou to the position of Secretary to the Ethnic Television Review Panel, and submitted 2 papers for incorporation in *Hansard*.

Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) asked leave to make a statement. Objection being raised, leave not granted.

8 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Defence Service Homes Corporation—Interim report for 1978–79.

Environmental economics—National Environmental Economics Conference—

Papers presented at the Conference, Canberra, 29–30 May 1978.

Statement by Senator Webster (Minister for Science and the Environment).

Repatriation Commission—Interim report for year 1978–79.

9 URANIUM ADVISORY COUNCIL—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Resources), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Uranium Advisory Council—1st Report, for period 24 November 1978 to 30 June 1979—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the paper.

Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

10 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FAMILY LAW ACT—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE: The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 299

Mr Speaker,

The Senate, having considered Message No. 325 of the House of Representatives relating to the Joint Select Committee on the Family Law Act, has agreed to the following Resolution in connection therewith, viz.:

That the Senate concurs in the Resolution of the House of Representatives contained in Message No. 325 of the House of Representatives.

C. L. LAUCKE
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 12 September 1979

- 11 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—
 Question proposed—That grievances be noted.
Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for Grievance debate: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), 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 ensued on the question—That grievances be noted.
Suspension of standing orders—Further extended time for Grievance debate: Mr Fife, 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 further continued until 2.25 p.m.
 Question—put and passed.
 Debate continued.
 It being 2.25 p.m., the debate was interrupted.
 Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.
- 12 **JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Gillard (Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Committee on Publications:
 Annual reports of Commonwealth Departments and Statutory Authorities, dated August 1979, together with the transcript of evidence and copies of extracts from the minutes of proceedings of the committee.
 Ordered—That the report be printed.
 Mr Gillard and Mr Scholes, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 13 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—COMMONWEALTH AIRPORTS—CAR RENTAL CONCESSIONS:** Mr Acting Speaker informed the House that Mr Cohen, Mr Neil and Mr Yates had each 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 Cohen, namely, “The handling of the car rental concessions at Commonwealth airports by the Minister for Transport”.
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Cohen addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
Paper: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
 Car rental concessions—Question and answer—Copy of extract from *Hansard*, dated 29 August 1979.
 Discussion concluded.
- 14 **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE:** Ordered—That notice No. 1, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.
- 15 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS BILL 1979:** Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish an Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr MacKellar moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Cohen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 16 **BOUNTY (POLYESTER-COTTON YARN) AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Bounty (Polyester-Cotton Yarn) Act 1978*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Fife moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr L. K. Johnson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 17 LIQUEFIED GAS (ROAD VEHICLE USE) TAX (REPEAL) BILL 1979: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to repeal the *Liquefied Gas (Road Vehicle Use) Tax Act 1974* and the *Liquefied Gas (Road Vehicle Use) Tax Collection Act 1974*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Fife moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr L. K. Johnson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS No. 28 (1979): Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 28 (1979).
 Debate adjourned (Mr Cohen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 19 PAPERS: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:
 Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—
 Ceramic floor and wall tiles, etc., dated 23 April 1979.
 Spanners and wrenches, dated 15 June 1979.
- 20 CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS—SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PRIORITY OF CROWN DEBTS—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs on priority of Crown debts.
 Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.
- 21 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1979–80—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 Willis moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the second reading, this House condemns the Fraser Government for presenting a budget which—
 (1) reduces the real living standards of Australian families;
 (2) will increase unemployment to the highest level in the nation's history;
 (3) facilitates and stimulates the recent fresh outbreak of inflation;
 (4) ensures that economic growth will be well below the nation's productive capacity;
 (5) fails to introduce an effective job creation program, particularly for the young;
 (6) savagely reduces the allocation of funds for job training and re-training program;
 (7) will be responsible for the highest level of tax and total revenue collections in the nation's history;
 (8) forces State and local governments either to reduce their services or increase their charges, and
 (9) intensifies the lack of credibility of the Prime Minister and his government and adds to their long list of broken promises”.
- Debate continued.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Graham), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 22 PRIVILEGE—STATEMENT BY MR ACTING SPEAKER: Mr Acting Speaker referred to the matter raised earlier this day by Mr Morris as a matter of privilege concerning the alleged threat to Mr Morris in the House by another honourable Member and stated that, as Mr Morris had indicated that he did not wish to pursue the matter and Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) had explained that he had misunderstood the intention of Mr Morris in approaching the Chair at the time, it would be idle of the House to pursue the matter of privilege.
 Mr L. R. Johnson, Mr Sinclair and Mr Morris addressed the House on the matter.

- 23 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND WAGES POLICIES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Street (Minister for Industrial Relations), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of specific Government policies in the area of industrial relations and wages, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Industrial relations and wages policies—Ministerial statement, 13 September 1979.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Young speaking for a period not exceeding 26 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued.

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

- 24 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

13 September 1979—Message—

No. 300—Tasmanian Native Forestry Agreement 1979.

No. 301—Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Amendment (No. 2) 1979.

- 25 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

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

Mr Ellicott required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 11.03 p.m., Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Connolly, Mr Corbett, Mr Drummond, Dr Edwards, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Hodgman*, Mr Jacobi, Dr Jenkins*, Mr C. K. Jones*, Mr Lloyd*, Mr J. L. McMahon, Sir Billy Snedden and Mr Wallis.

* On leave

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