

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 160

TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 1980

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 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Bryant, Mr Calder and Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.

Mr Lynch and Mr Nixon—from certain citizens praying for the abolition of the export parity pricing policy for LPG consumed in Australia and that certain other action be taken in relation to the pricing of LPG.

Mr Bryant—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council and its recommendations be supported.

Mr Bryant—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.

Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to reduce the excise duty on Australian rum.

Mr Chapman—from certain citizens praying that an amendment to the Human Rights Commission Bill 1979 to secure human rights before and after birth be upheld.

Mr Cohen—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be maintained and Federal Government support for its activities be increased.

Mr Fry—from certain citizens praying that calls for a boycott of the 1980 Olympic Games cease and that assistance be given to the Australian Olympic team to compete in the games.

Mr Garland—from certain citizens praying that taxation laws be amended to increase incentives to persons providing for their own retirement benefits.

Mr Haslem—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to extend the operation of the 27 Megahertz Citizen's Band Radio Service beyond 1 July 1982 and that the number of channels available on that band be increased.

Mr Lusher—from certain citizens praying that a proposed reorganization of postal services for Cootamundra, N.S.W., be prevented.

Mr O'Keefe—from certain citizens praying that pensions and benefits be increased and adjusted quarterly and that greater taxation relief be given to pensioners and others on low incomes.

Mr Porter—from certain electors praying that the Citizen's Band Radio Service known as the High Frequency Band be allowed to continue after 1 July 1982.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Distinguished visitor: Mr Speaker informed the House that Dr Hans Apel, Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitor a warm welcome.

Questions without notice continued.

4 PRIVILEGE: Mr Fry raised as a matter of privilege an allegation by a constituent that he had been discriminated against and intimidated in his employment in the Australian Public Service as a result of evidence given by him before a sub committee of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. Mr Fry produced documents relating to the alleged discrimination and intimidation.

Mr Speaker stated that he would examine the matter and announce whether a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege existed.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

ASEAN visit by Senator Scott (Minister for Special Trade Representations)—Statement.

Pursuant to statute:

Environment (Financial Assistance) Act—Agreement relating to financial assistance to Tasmania for projects related to the environment, dated 22 February 1980.

6 DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY—REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—GOVERNMENT ANALYSIS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Defence Force Academy—Report of Public Works Committee—Government analysis, dated March 1980.

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

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

7 DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY—THE CASE FOR—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Defence Force Academy—The case for, dated April 1980.

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

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

8 NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WELFARE—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Hunt (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

National Consultative Council on Social Welfare—

First Report, for period December 1976 to 30 June 1979.

Statement by Senator Dame Margaret Guilfoyle (Minister for Social Security).

Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

9 NATIONAL TRACHOMA AND EYE HEALTH PROGRAM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Health), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

National Trachoma and Eye Health Program—Report by the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists, dated November 1979.

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

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

10 RHODESIAN ELECTIONS 1980—REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL OBSERVER GROUP AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Rhodesian elections 1980—Report of Australian National Observer Group, dated 11 March 1980.

Mr Peacock, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Rhodesian elections 1980—Report of Australian National Observer Group—Ministerial statement, 1 April 1980.

Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers. Debate ensued.

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

11 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:

29 March 1980—Message No. 245—Atomic Energy Amendment 1980.

12 ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING: Mr Newman (Minister for Productivity) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

Question—put and passed.

13 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME:

Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Dr Blewett had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The disintegration of the fourth national health insurance scheme since 1976 as reflected in the falling proportion covered, the growing cost burden on the average family, and the financial problems of the funds”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Dr Blewett addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

14 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR PAYMENT OF INCREASES IN SALARIES AND WAGES FOR YEAR 1979-80—APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3) 1979-80: Message No. 246, dated 1 April 1980, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1980, and recommending an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly; and
- (b) recommending to the House of Representatives an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1980, for the payment of such increases in salaries and wages and payments in the nature of salary, for which provision is made in the attached particulars of proposed expenditure as have become payable or become payable, or have commenced or commence to be paid, during that year in accordance with any law, or in accordance with an award, order or determination made under a law.

Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sum appropriated by the *Appropriation Act* (No. 1) 1979-80, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1980.

Bill read a first time.

Mr E. L. Robinson 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 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE 1979-80—APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 4) 1979-80: Message No. 247, dated 1 April 1980, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of certain proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1980, and recommending an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sum appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1979-80*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1980.

Bill read a first time.

Mr E. L. Robinson 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 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 7 (1980): Mr Garland (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 7 (1980).

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

17 QANTAS AIRWAYS LIMITED (LOAN GUARANTEE) BILL 1980: 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 Kerin rising to address the House—

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

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 73

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

NOES, 27

Dr Blewett	Mr Fry	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Humphreys	Mr Kerin	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr Hurford	Dr Klugman	Mr Wallis
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr L. B. McLeay	Mr Willis
Dr Everingham	Mr James	Mr J. L. McMahon*	Mr Young
Mr FitzPatrick	Dr Jenkins	Mr Martin	

*Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—was put accordingly, and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

18 AIRLINE EQUIPMENT (LOAN GUARANTEE) BILL 1980: 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 Hunt (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

19 DEFENCE SPENDING PROGRAM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Fife (Minister for Education)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 29 March 1979*), viz.:

Defence spending program—Ministerial statement, 29 March 1979—

Debate resumed.

Privilege—Statement by Mr Speaker: Mr Speaker referred to the matter raised earlier this day by Mr Fry as a matter of privilege and stated that, from the information contained in the material produced, he was unable to conclude that a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege existed.

Debate continued.

Mr Uren addressing the House—

Adjournment negatived: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Mr Uren continued his speech.

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

20 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GRIEVANCE DEBATE: Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction), by leave, moved—

(1) That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the first order of the day, government business, on Wednesday, 2 April, being “Grievance” debate.

(2) That all other provisions of standing order 106 be read as if Wednesday, 2 April, were an alternate sitting Thursday to which that standing order would normally apply.

Question—put and passed.

21 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction) 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 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 1 April 1980, pursuant to statute:

Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 62.
Air Navigation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 67.

Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 63.

Bounty (Agricultural Tractors) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 70.
Canned Fruits Marketing Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 65.

Christmas Island Act—Ordinances—1980—
No. 2—Post and Telegraph (Amendment).
No. 3—Census and Statistics (Amendment).
Dairy Industry Stabilization Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 66.
Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 64.
National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 69.
Patents Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 68.
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Ordinances—1980—
No. 8—Administration and Probate (Amendment).
No. 9—Sheriff (Amendment).
No. 10—Court of Petty Sessions (Amendment) (No. 2).
Regulations—1980—
No. 4—(Motor Traffic Ordinance).
No. 5—(Court of Petty Sessions Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr Burr, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Dawkins, Dr Edwards, Mr Graham, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr C. K. Jones, Mr Lynch, Mr Macphee and Mr West.

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