

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 20

WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 1981

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 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (THE HONOURABLE SIR ALEXANDER DOWNER): Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) referred to the death of the Honourable Sir Alexander Downer, and moved—That this House expresses its deep regret at the death, on 30 March 1981, of the Honourable Sir Alexander Russell Downer, K.B.E., a Member of this House for the Division of Angas from 1949 to 1964 and a Minister of the Crown from 1958 to 1963, and Australian High Commissioner in London from 1964 to 1972, and that this House places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious public service and tenders its profound sympathy to his widow and family in their bereavement.

And Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr Anthony (Leader of the National Country Party of Australia) and other Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

3 PRINCE OF WALES—FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that he had received advice from His Excellency the Governor-General of Her Majesty The Queen's formal consent to the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer.

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

Mr Free and Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that funding of children's services be restored to at least the real value of funding allocated in the 1975-76 Budget and future allocations be spent in full for the purposes designated.

Mr McLean and Mr Shack—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that steps be taken to formulate an airline policy providing for greater competition so that prices and service are determined by free market forces.

Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to deny unemployment benefits to unemployed persons under 18 years of age be unconditionally withdrawn and that certain other action be taken in regard to unemployment benefits and employment policies.

Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying for the implementation of certain recommendations of the Report of the Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare, entitled *Drug Problems in Australia—An intoxicated Society?*

Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that family allowances be increased immediately and indexed, but not be taxed.

- Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.
- Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying that no measures be taken to implement those recommendations of the Royal Commission on Human Relationships that will further undermine and weaken marriage, child-care or the family.
- Mr Free—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Macquarie praying that Telecom Australia be directed to provide an adequate service to subscribers and users in the 047 telephone zone.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that legislation be introduced to require labelling of perfumes, cosmetics and toilet preparations to indicate any use of animal ingredients during manufacture.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that Service Pensions be extended to all merchant seamen who served in theatres of war.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that requests for export permits covering mineral sand products from Moreton Island, Qld, be refused.
- Mr Hurford—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to close the Norwood North Post Office, S.A., be abandoned.
- Mrs Kelly—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Canberra praying that plans to sub-divide and lease, for residential purposes, block 23, section 3, Chapman, A.C.T., be withdrawn and the block be retained as parkland.
- Mr Lloyd—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to prevent the importation of canned ham into Australia or that any importation be restricted to 1980 levels.
- Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that there be no extension of Kingsford-Smith Airport, Sydney, N.S.W.
- Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to sell Trans Australia Airlines be rejected.
- Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that militant unions not be permitted to hold the country to ransom and that a forceful and resolute stand be taken against union militancy.
- Mr White—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Petitions received.

5 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

6 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Official Establishments Trust—Report for year 1979–80.

Pursuant to statute:

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act—Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Annual Report, for year 1979–80.

Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Certain works trucks and stackers, dated 23 February 1981 (No. 53).

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

31 March 1981—Message—

No. 55—Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) 1981.

No. 56—Protection of the Sea (Discharge of Oil from Ships) 1981.

No. 57—Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) 1981.

No. 58—Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) 1981 (*without requests*).

No. 59—Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) 1981.

No. 60—Navigation (Protection of the Sea) Amendment 1981.

No. 61—Commonwealth Employees (Redeployment and Retirement) Amendment 1981.

8 DOMESTIC AIR TRANSPORT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:

Mr Hunt (Minister for Transport), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of Government decisions on domestic air transport matters including the initial response to the Independent Inquiry into Domestic Air Fares, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Domestic air transport—Ministerial statement, 1 April 1981.

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

Debate ensued.

Mr Shack was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—CORPORATE BEHAVIOUR—GOVERNMENT

REGULATION: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Hurford had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The damage to public and individual interests by bad corporate behaviour permitted by the Government's inadequate laws and administration in relation to the Prices Justification Tribunal, Trade Practices Commission and National Companies and Securities Commission".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hurford addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

10 DOMESTIC AIR TRANSPORT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER 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 paper (*presented this day*), viz.:

Domestic air transport—Ministerial statement, 1 April 1981—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

11 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR PAYMENT OF INCREASES IN SALARIES AND WAGES FOR YEAR 1980-81—APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3) 1980-81: Message No. 25, dated 1 April 1981, 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 1981, 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 1981, 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 Howard (Treasurer) 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) 1980-81*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1981.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Howard 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 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE 1980-81—APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 4) 1980-81: Message No. 26, dated 1 April 1981, 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 1981, and recommending an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Mr Howard (Treasurer) 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) 1980–81*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1981.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Howard 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 **INCOME TAX (INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1981**: 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 Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory), the Bill was read a third time.

14 **COMMONWEALTH BANKS AMENDMENT BILL 1981**: 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.

Mr McVeigh (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

15 **ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES CONSERVATION BILL 1981**: 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 Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) addressing the House—

16 **ADJOURNMENT**: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—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 1981, pursuant to statute:

Bounty (Agricultural Tractors) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 58.

Bounty (Drilling Bits) Act—Return for period 1 October 1979 to 30 September 1980.

Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 49.

Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 50.

National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 52.

Public Service Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 51.

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—Bylaws—

Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts)—Amendment No. 8.

Telecommunications (Community Calls)—Amendment No. 6.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Keating and Mr Thomson.

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