

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 90

TUESDAY, 4 MAY 1982

1 The House met, at 1.45 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Finance—Advance to Minister for Finance—Statement for March 1982.

National Energy Advisory Committee—Report for year 1980-81.

Official Establishments Trust—2nd Annual Report, for year 1980-81.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian Film Commission Act—Australian Film Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1980-81.

National Gallery Act—Council of the Australian National Gallery—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1980-81.

4 **AUSTRALIA'S DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS 1982 AND THE 1982-83 IMMIGRATION PROGRAM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Macphee (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to Australia's demographic trends and the 1982-83 immigration program, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Australia's demographic trends 1982—Review by Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

Australia's demographic trends 1982 and the 1982-83 immigration program—Ministerial statement, 4 May 1982.

Mr Fife (Minister for Education) 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.

5 **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS:** Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

28 April 1982—Message No. 148—

Customs Tariff (Coal Export Duty) Amendment 1982.

Canned Fruits Levy Amendment 1982.

Canned Fruits Marketing Legislation Repeal and Amendment 1982.

3 May 1982—Message No. 149—

Repatriation Amendment 1982.

Bounty Acts Amendment 1982.

Overseas Students Charge Amendment 1982.

Overseas Students Charge Collection Amendment 1982.

- 6 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Connolly (Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

198th Report—Government aircraft factories.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Connolly and Dr Theophanous, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

- 7 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOVERNMENT HEALTH 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 inflationary impact, the social cost and the bureaucratic ineptitude of the latest Government health scheme".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Dr Blewett addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

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

Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Macphee and Mr Thomson—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for an increase in tobacco excise be rejected.

Mr Falconer, Mr Nixon and Mr Wilson—from certain electors of the Electoral Divisions of Casey, Gippsland and Sturt, respectively, praying that the liquefied petroleum gas subsidy be extended for a further 3 years and that a specific appropriation be included in the 1982-83 Budget.

Mrs Child and Mr McMahon—from certain citizens praying that Australia call on the Canadian Government to end the harp seal hunt and halt the importation of products derived from the harp seal.

Mrs Darling and Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying that Family Radio Limited's application for a broadcasting licence be supported and more category "S" F.M. licences be made available in Brisbane.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain residents of north Queensland praying that sufficient expenditure be allocated to raise the standard of the national highway in north Queensland to Department of Transport standards.

Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that insulin syringes for diabetics be made available on the National Health Scheme and insulin prescriptions revert to 10 bottles.

Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that sanitary products for women be brought under the scrutiny of the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee and certain other actions be taken in regard to the possible threat posed to the health of women by toxic shock syndrome.

Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that the Commonwealth's constitutional and legislative powers be used to grant full land rights and self-management to the Aboriginal people of Queensland.

Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that their concern for Marie-France Claude and their wish that she be released from prison be passed on to the Haitian Government.

Mr Hurford—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Aboriginal Community College and the wider Aboriginal community be consulted before any decision is reached on the future of the College and that control over the College remain in the hands of the Aboriginal community.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the present children's services program be maintained and no recommendations of the Spender report be implemented without full consultation with community groups.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that funding of children's services be restored to at least 1975-76 levels, a standardised means test not be imposed on the users of child care services and the stated intention to use public funds to supplement private sector children's services not be implemented.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to allow child-care expenses as a deductible item from taxpayers' assessable income.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill 1981 be passed.

Mr Nixon—from certain citizens praying that no plant variety rights legislation be enacted and a public inquiry be called into the impact of existing overseas schemes.

Dr Theophanous—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to re-introduce a system of health care based on ability to pay and that access to health care be based on medical need.

Petitions received.

9 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 1 to 19, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

10 DEFENCE—STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS AND PROGRAM CHANGES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr N. A. Brown (Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 29 April 1982*) viz.:

Defence.—Strategic developments and program changes—Ministerial statement, 29 April 1982—

And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Scholes, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House—

- (1) condemns the Government for its persistent failure to implement its own announced defence programs and for its failure to define clearly defence policies and force structure and equipment programs to meet Australian defence requirements;
- (2) directs the Government to immediately prepare and present a definitive statement on defence policy, Australia's strategic position and forward planning for the structure and equipment of the Australian Defence Force, and
- (3) notes that the most recent definitive policy statement on defence of November 1976 is no longer relevant to the Government's actual defence programs nor the current strategic situation”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Debate continued on the question—That the House take note of the paper.

Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words—“this House expresses its want of confidence in the Government because of—

- (1) its failure to enunciate a clear defence strategy for Australia;
- (2) its persistent failure to maintain its announced defence programs, and
- (3) the confusion and distortions in defence planning which have seriously weakened Australia's security”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.
The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Millar, in the Chair)—

AYES, 57

Mr Adermann	Mr Coleman	Mr Hunt	Mr Rocher
Mr Baume	Mr Cowan	Mr Hyde	Mr Ruddock
Mr Birney	Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bouchier	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Shack
Mr Bradfield	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sinclair
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lusher	Mr Spender
Mr Bungey	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Tambling
Mr Burr	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hall	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr Newman	Mr White
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hicks	Mr Nixon	Mr Wilson
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr O'Keefe	
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodgman	Mr Peacock	
Mr Chapman	Mr Howard	Mr Porter	

NOES, 49

Mr Armitage	Mrs Darling	Mr Johnson*	Mr Morrison
Mr Beazley	Mr Dawkins	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Mountford
Dr Blewett	Mr Duffy	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Dr Everingham	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scott
Mr J. J. Brown.	Mr Free	Mr Kent	Dr Theophanous
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Fry	Mr Kerin	Mr Uren
Mr Campbell	Mr Hawke	Dr Klugman	Mr Wallis
Dr Cass	Mr Hayden	Mr McLeay	Mr West
Mr Charles	Mr Holding	Mr McMahon	Mr Willis
Mrs Child	Mr Howe	Mr Maher	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Mildren	
Mr Cross	Mr Innes	Mr Milton	
Mr Cunningham	Dr Jenkins	Mr Morris	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the House take note of the paper—put and passed.

- 11 **RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS LICENCE FEES BILL 1982:** Mr Sinclair (Minister for Communications) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of fees in respect of licences under the *Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Sinclair moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 12 **RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1982:** Mr Sinclair (Minister for Communications) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905* and the *Overseas Telecommunications Act 1946* and to provide for certain matters consequential upon the enactment of the *Radiocommunications Licence Fees Act 1982*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Sinclair moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 13 **STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL (NO. 1) 1982:** 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 Macphee (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 **ALBURY-WODONGA DEVELOPMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** 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 Cunningham addressing the House—
-

Adjournment negatived: It being 10 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.
Mr Hunt (Minister for Transport) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—
Question—put and negatived.

Mr Cunningham continued his speech.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Hunt, the Bill was read a third time.

- 15 **CUSTOMS TARIFF (ANTI-DUMPING) AMENDMENT (COUNTERVAILING DUTIES) BILL 1982:** 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 N. A. Brown (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That order of the day No. 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 17 **CRIMES 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.
The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.
-

In the committee

Clauses 1 to 5, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.
Clause 6—
On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General), the following amendment was made, after debate: Page 4, lines 18 and 19, omit paragraph (1) (d).
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clause 7 omitted.
Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr Robinson reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr Viner, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 18 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Viner (Minister for Industrial Relations) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
And then the House, at 11.14 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 1.45 p.m.
-
-

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 4 May 1982, pursuant to statute:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals for collection of information—1982—

No. 4—New topics to be included in the monthly population survey, July 1982.

No. 5—Supplementary survey of 'services to mining' industry, 1981–82.

No. 6—Survey of 'property and business services' and 'services to insurance' industries, 1981–82.

Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of Social Security—H. J. Davey.

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—1982/2—Holders of public office on the Human Rights Commission and other bodies.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting).

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