

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 98

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 1982

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 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr Scott, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Macphee (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations)—

Mr Macphee laid upon the Table the following paper:

International Labour Organisation—Conventions Nos. 87 and 98—Suggested response to question.

Questions without notice continued.

Distinguished visitor: Mr Speaker informed the House that the Honourable B. J. Westh, Minister for Agriculture in the Danish Government, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitor a very warm welcome.

Questions without notice continued.

3 **RETIREMENT OF MR J. W. BIGG, PRINCIPAL ATTENDANT, DEPARTMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the retirement of Mr J. W. Bigg, Principal Attendant, Department of the House of Representatives, paid tribute to his valued service to the Parliament and wished him a healthy and happy retirement.

Mrs Kelly and Mr Baume associated themselves with the remarks of Mr Speaker.

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

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Development Assistance Bureau—Development Co-operation—Annual Review, for year 1980-81.

Australian Ionising Radiation Advisory Council—Report for 1981.

Department of Education—Report for 1981.

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

Functional classification of outlays—Departmental estimates 1982-83—Report by Department of Finance, dated August 1982.

Royal Australian Air Force—Schedules of special flights for period 1 January to 30 June 1982.

Pursuant to statute:

Fishing Industry Act—25th Annual Report, for year 1980-81.

- 5 PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—PROPOSED WORKS—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory), pursuant to statute, presented the following paper:
 Parliament Act—Proposals, together with a site plan and design sketches (4), for the construction of extensions to Commonwealth Avenue, Kings Avenue and Melbourne Avenue, Land Axis Bridges, intersection improvements and other works—
 and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the paper.
- 6 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:** Sir James Killen (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 7 September 1982, at 1.45 p.m., unless Mr Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.
 Question—put and passed.
- 7 SCHOOL FUNDING:** Mr Dawkins, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House calls on the Government to re-establish the needs principle in relation to the funding of schools in Australia to ensure that all Australian children have an equal opportunity to the highest standard of education.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr Fisher addressing the House—
 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 12.15 p.m.
 Debate continued.
 The time allotted for precedence to general business having expired, the debate was interrupted, Dr Jenkins 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 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Katter presented the following report from the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence:
 An aircraft carrier for the Australian Defence Force—Report, together with the transcript of evidence of the inquiry.
 Ordered—That the report be printed.
 Mr Katter, Mr Morrison, Mr Shipton and Mr Beazley, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
 Mr Holding asked leave to make a statement.
 Objection being raised, leave not granted.
- 9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAX BURDEN:** Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The maldistribution of the tax burden between wage and income earners and others".
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Bowen addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 10 PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 Mr Duffy, Dr Everingham, Mr Howe and Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that Jose Ramos Horta be granted a standard visitors visa to enter Australia.
 Mr Armitage and Mr J. J. Brown—from certain citizens praying that the minimum level at which income tax is first payable be raised to \$4,500, the levels at which the higher rates of tax apply be proportionately increased and certain other action be taken to assist taxpayers.

Mrs Child and Mr Dawkins—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.

Mr Baume—from certain citizens praying that funding to public hospitals, community health and ambulance services be restored to the 1981 level of funding and a genuine National Health Scheme be introduced.

Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that family allowances in the 1982 Budget be increased, provision be made for their automatic and regular indexation and a homemaker's allowance be introduced.

Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that Federal funding of the University of Queensland be increased to a level sufficient to allow restoration of library facilities.

Mr Dawkins—from certain citizens praying that the introduction of a student loans scheme be rejected.

Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant breeders' rights in Australia be rejected.

Mr Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Government aid projects to The Philippines be stopped.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that the decision to dispose of all census forms be reconsidered.

Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to extend the Port Wakefield Proof and Experimental Range, S.A., be rejected.

Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to apply a sales tax or an excise on wine be rejected.

Petitions received.

11 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS: Mr Bungey (Chairman) presented the following reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Initial report relating to the proposal for redevelopment of Brisbane International Airport—Remainder of works of phase 1 (6th report of 1982).

Report relating to the development of R.A.A.F. Base, Derby, W.A.—Stage 1 (9th report of 1982).

Severally ordered to be printed.

12 AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, TEHRAN—INVESTIGATION BY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE—PAPERS—PUBLICATION OF PAPERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Street (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Australian Embassy, Tehran—Investigation by Department of Finance into allegations of improper financial dealing—

Report, dated 15 July 1982.

Appendixes.

Mr Street, by leave, moved—That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act* 1908, authorises the publication of the report, together with appendixes, of an investigation into allegations of improper financial dealing at the Australian Embassy, Tehran, carried out by the Department of Finance.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Street, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report.

Paper: Mr Street, during his speech, presented the following paper:

Australian Embassy, Tehran—Investigation by Department of Finance into allegations of improper financial dealing—Letter from Mr Newman (Minister for Administrative Services) to Mr Street, dated 26 August 1982.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 13 EXPORT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Resources), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Export Market Development Grants Act 1974*, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Anthony moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 14 STATES (TAX SHARING AND HEALTH GRANTS) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1982:** Sir James Killen (Vice-President of the Executive Council), for Mr Howard (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States (Tax Sharing and Health Grants) Act 1981*.
Bill read a first time.
Sir James Killen moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 15 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND BILL 1982:** Mr Street (Minister for Foreign Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to authorize a further contribution by Australia to the Asian Development Bank for the purposes of the Asian Development Fund.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Street moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 16 STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 1982:** Mr N. A. Brown (Minister Assisting the Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make various amendments of the statute law of the Commonwealth.
Bill read a first time.
Mr N. A. Brown moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 17 CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL 1982:** Mr Hodgman (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act relating to duties of Customs.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Hodgman moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 CUSTOMS TARIFF (ANTI-DUMPING) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** Mr Hodgman (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act 1975* consequent upon the enactment of the *Customs Tariff Act 1982* and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Hodgman moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 19 CUSTOMS TARIFF (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1982:** Mr Hodgman (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act to make certain amendments consequent upon the enactment of the *Customs Tariff Act 1982* and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Hodgman moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr J. J. Brown), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

20 **CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 20 (1982):** Mr Hodgman (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 20 (1982).

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

21 **PAPERS:** Mr Hodgman (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Fluorescent and filament lamps, dated 25 February 1982 (No. 298).

Miscellaneous manufacturing—

Group B: Dolls, toys and models, dated 10 December 1981 (No. 290).

Group C: Articles of adornment, including clothing and toilet accessories, etc., dated 2 December 1981 (No. 288).

22 **REMUNERATION AND ALLOWANCES 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.

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

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 175, dated 20 August 1982, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

—————
In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Scholes, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Clause 14—

Page 6, line 7, omit “section is”, substitute “sections are”.

Page 7, at the end of the clause add the following proposed section:

Determinations relating to certain Australian Capital Territory public office holders

“7B. (1) In this section—

“Chairman of Committees” means the Chairman of Committees of the House of Assembly;

“House of Assembly” means the House of Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory;

“Minister” means the Minister for the time being administering the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*;

“Speaker” means the Speaker of the House of Assembly; and

“the Territory” means the Australian Capital Territory.

“(2) Where the Tribunal makes a determination under sub-section 7 (3) relating to remuneration or allowances payable to a person who holds an office in or in connection with the House of Assembly that can be held only by a member of the House of Assembly, the Tribunal shall furnish a copy of the determination to the Minister.

“(3) The Minister shall furnish a copy of a determination furnished to him under sub-section (2) to the Speaker or, if there is no Speaker or the Speaker is absent from the Territory, the Chairman of Committees.

“(4) The Speaker or the Chairman of Committees, as the case may be, shall cause a copy of a determination furnished to him under sub-section (3) to be laid before the House of Assembly within the period of 2 months after the determination is received by him.

'(5) If the House of Assembly, within the period of 2 months after a copy of a determination has been laid before the House of Assembly, passes a resolution disapproving of the determination, then—

- (a) if the determination has not come into operation—the determination shall not come into operation; or
- (b) if the determination has come into operation—the determination shall not have any force or effect in respect of the day on which the resolution was passed or any period after that day.

'(6) If, before the expiration of the period of 2 months after a copy of a determination has been laid before the House of Assembly—

- (a) the House of Assembly holds its last meeting before a general election; and
- (b) at the expiration of that meeting the House of Assembly has not passed a resolution disapproving of the determination,

the copy of the determination shall, for the purposes of sub-section (5), be deemed to have been laid before the House of Assembly at the first meeting of the House of Assembly held after the general election.'".

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drummond reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir James Killen (Leader of the House), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 23 **AIR NAVIGATION (CHARGES) 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.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

- 24 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

26 August 1982—Message No. 290—Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 4) 1982.

- 25 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1982-83—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.

Ordered—That Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) be granted an extension of time.

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

- 26 **TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY—REPORT—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Fife (Acting Minister for Industry and Commerce), pursuant to statute, presented the following paper:

Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Certain flat steel products, pipes and tubes of iron or steel, dated 9 July 1982 (No. 55)—

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

Mr Hurford, Mr Hyde, Mr West, Mr Bouchier, Mr Wallis and Mr C. K. Jones, by leave, also made statements in connection with the report.

Dr Edwards asked leave to make a statement.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

- 27 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1982-83—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.

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

- 28 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr McVeigh (Minister for Home Affairs and Environment) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Paper: Mr Morris, by leave, during his speech, presented the following paper:

Copy of letter from J. D. Anthony (Leader of the Australian Country Party), dated 19 April 1974, requesting financial contributions to the Australian Country Party Fighting Fund.

The House continuing to sit until 10.30 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday, 7 September 1982, at 1.45 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Bradfield, Mr Dobie, Mr Falconer, Mr Giles, Mr Howard, Sir Phillip Lynch, Mr McMahon, Mr Tambling and Dr Theophanous.

D. M. BLAKE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives