

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 34

THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER 1983

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- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
  - 2 **DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR P. W. C. STOKES):** Mr Speaker informed the House of the death, on 18 October 1983, of Mr Philip William Clifford Stokes, O.B.E., E.D., a Member of this House for the Division of Maribyrnong from 1955 to 1969.  
As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.
  - 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
    - Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Cowan, Mrs Kelly, Mr Keogh, Mr MacKellar, Mr Millar, Mr Saunderson and Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that chiropractic services be included in Medicare when it is introduced.
    - Mr Chynoweth and Mr MacKellar—from certain citizens praying that the Government refrain from ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
    - Mr Brumby—from certain citizens praying that the Government ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
    - Mr Gorman—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that legislation be enacted to ban the advertising of alcohol from commercial television and radio.
    - Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the recommendations of the Committee of Review into the Impact of Radford College, A.C.T., not be implemented and certain other action be taken in respect of education funding.
    - Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that a moratorium on uranium mining and treatment be declared, that certain other action be taken in relation to the mining, processing and export of Australia's uranium and that the Roxby Uranium Mine development be discontinued.
    - Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that all foreign bases be removed from Australia.
    - Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that Australia raise in the United Nations a request that the Polish Government honour its obligations under the Helsinki Agreement.
 Petitions received.
  - 4 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 94

Mr Speaker,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to social security and related matters*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has

agreed to the Bill with the Amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

D. McCLELLAND  
President

The Senate,  
Canberra, 19 October 1983

Ordered—That the amendment be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, forthwith.

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*In the committee*

**SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE**

Page 17, clause 30, sub-clauses (2) and (3), lines 30 to 43, leave out the sub-clauses.

On the motion of Dr Blewett (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security) the amendment was agreed to, after debate.

Resolution to be reported.

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The House resumed; Mr Johnson reported accordingly.

On the motion of Dr Blewett, the House adopted the report.

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

19 October 1983—Message—

No. 95—Repatriation Legislation Amendment 1983.

No. 96—Meat Inspection 1983.

6 **AUSTRALIAN SHIPPING COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Shipping Commission Act 1956*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr P. F. Morris moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

7 **STRATPLAN COMPUTER CENTRE, MELBOURNE—APPROVAL OF WORK:** Mr Hurford (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the Committee has duly reported to Parliament: Stratplan Computer Centre, Melbourne, Vic.

Question—put and passed.

8 **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** 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.

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*In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Bowen (Minister representing the Attorney-General), by leave, the following amendments were made together:

*Amendments—*

*Clause 27—*

Page 14, lines 15 and 16, omit “, not being a decision made under sections 33 and 33A of this Act”, substitute “(not being a decision made by a Minister)”.

Page 14, at the end of proposed section 52F add the following sub-section:

“(3) Notwithstanding anything in this Part, the reference in sub-section (1) to a decision made by a Minister shall not be taken to include a reference to a decision made by a person in the exercise of a power delegated by a Minister.”.

Clause 30, page 15, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

**Applications to Administrative Appeals Tribunal**

“30. Section 55 of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by omitting from paragraph (3) (b) ‘he made that application’ and substituting ‘that application was received by or on behalf of the agency concerned’; and

(b) by omitting from paragraph (4) (c) ‘57 (4)’ and substituting ‘52B (3)’.

*New clause—*

Page 15, after clause 31 insert the following new clause:

**Repeal of section 57**

“31A. Section 57 of the Principal Act is repealed.”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr Johnson reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Bowen, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9 **ARCHIVES BILL 1983:** 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 Bowen (Minister representing the Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

10 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** 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 Bowen (Minister representing the Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

11 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS**

**NOTICE:** Mr Bowen (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent notice No. 5, general business, given for Thursday, 20 October, being called on forthwith.

Question—put and passed.

12 **COMMONWEALTH FUNDS PROVIDED TO QUEENSLAND:** Mr Wells, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House is of the opinion that there is a serious threat to Commonwealth funds provided by this Parliament to the Queensland Government, arising from the refusal of the Queensland Government to establish a Public Accounts Committee.

Debate ensued.

Mr Humphreys addressing the House—

It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

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

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

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Harvesting and processing of fish, crustacea and molluscs, dated 29 July 1983 (No. 328).

Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Reports—Certain air-conditioning machines, dated 3 June 1983 (No. 62).

Report for year 1982-83, accompanied by a statement by the Minister pursuant to sub-section 30K (3).

15 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND CORRUPTION:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Peacock (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The increasing community alarm and concern at evidence of major and growing criminal activity and corruption and the Government's procrastination in addressing these issues".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Peacock addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

16 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mrs Kelly presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

205th Report—Finance Minute on Report 197—Coal Export Duty—  
and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

17 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Cowan presented the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to Garden Island, N.S.W., modernisation stage 2—Surface preparation and preservation facility and oily bilge waste treatment plant (2nd report of 1983), together with minutes of evidence.

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

18 **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—3RD REPORT:** Dr Theophanous (Chairman) presented the 3rd Report from the Publications Committee (sitting in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

#### 3RD REPORT

The Publications Committee has the honour to report that it has met in conference with the Senate Publications Committee.

The Joint Committee, having considered petitions and papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, and papers previously presented, recommends that the following be printed:

Australian Industry Development Corporation Act—Australian Industry Development Corporation—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1982-83.

Australian Institute of Marine Science Act—Council of Australian Institute of Marine Science—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1982-83.

Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—Operation of National Research Granting Schemes, dated 1 September 1983.

- Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report—Special assistance for the Northern Territory—4th (1983).
- Commonwealth Schools Commission—Report—Study of living away from home facilities for isolated children, dated 30 November 1982.
- Commonwealth Schools Commission Act—Report for 1984—Response to Government guidelines, dated 15 September 1983.
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme—Review—Report to the Minister for Finance by E. S. Knight and Co., dated 2 March 1983.
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme—Report on long-term costs by the Australian Government Actuary.
- Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission Act—Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission—Report for 1982-84 triennium—Volume 4—Recommendations for 1984.
- Department of Housing and Construction—Report for year 1982-83, including reports for year 1982-83 by the Secretary, pursuant to the Homes Savings Grant Act and the Home Deposit Assistance Act.
- Federated Ship Painters and Dockers' Union—5th Interim Report of Royal Commission—Volume 1, dated 25 July 1983.
- Film Censorship Board—Report on activities, for 1982.
- Human Rights Commission Act—Human Rights Commission—Report No. 5, dated 20 June 1983—Review of *Crimes Act 1914* and other crimes legislation of the Commonwealth.
- Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—  
 Harvesting and processing of fish, crustacea and molluscs, dated 29 July 1983 (No. 328).  
 Stranded wire, cables, cordage, ropes, etc., of iron or steel wire (developing country preferences), dated 22 April 1983 (No. 317).  
 Tableware and certain other goods, of pottery (developing country preferences), dated 25 March 1983 (No. 316).  
 The Wheat Industry, dated 29 September 1983 (No. 329).
- Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Annual Report for year 1982-83.
- Museum of Australia Act—Museum of Australia—2nd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1981-82.
- Population forecasts for Australia for 1983-86 with projections for selected years to 2021—Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs—Report, dated August 1983.
- Primary Industry Bank Act—Primary Industry Bank of Australia Limited—5th Annual Report, for year 1982-83.
- Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation Act—Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation—13th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1982-83.
- Special Prosecutors Act—Special Prosecutor R. F. Redlich—Report for period 21 October 1982 to 30 June 1983.
- Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—8th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1982-83.

ANDREW THEOPHANOUS  
 Chairman

20 October 1983

Dr Theophanous, by leave, moved—That the report be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

- 19 **CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 15 (1983)**: Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 15 (1983).

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

- 20 **COMMONWEALTH FUNDS PROVIDED TO QUEENSLAND**: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Wells—That this House is of the opinion that there is a serious threat to Commonwealth funds provided by this Parliament to the Queensland Government, arising from the refusal of the Queensland Government to establish a Public Accounts Committee—  
Debate resumed.

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*Telephone equipment interference in Minister's office—Statement by Mr Speaker*: Mr Speaker made a statement concerning interference with the telephone equipment serving the office of the Minister for Finance.

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Debate continued.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 21 **CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (SIMULTANEOUS ELECTIONS) BILL 1983**: 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 Snow), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 22 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY**: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 6 to 9, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 23 **SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT**: Mr Bowen (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 1 November 1983, unless Mr Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

- 24 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR 1 NOVEMBER 1983**: Mr Bowen (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, for the sitting of the House on Tuesday, 1 November 1983, so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent orders of the day, government business, being called on before questions without notice, which shall be called on at 3 p.m.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 25 **PUBLIC SERVICE AND STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AMENDMENT BILL 1983**: Mr Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Industrial Matters), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Public Service Act 1922* and certain other Acts.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 26 **COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES (REDEPLOYMENT AND RETIREMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 1983**: Mr Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Industrial Matters), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend section 24 of the *Commonwealth Employees (Redeployment and Retirement) Act 1979*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 27 **COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS) REPEAL BILL 1983:** Mr Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Industrial Matters), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal the *Commonwealth Employees (Employment Provisions) Act 1977*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 28 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, as amended by sessional order, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

- 29 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Beazley (Minister for Aviation) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The debate continuing until 10.30 p.m., Mr Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday, 1 November 1983, at 2 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 20 October 1983:

Navigation Act—Navigation (Orders) Regulations—1983—

No. 13—Marine Orders, Part 4.

No. 14—Marine Orders, Part 5.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some during the sitting) except Mr J. J. Brown, Mr R. J. Brown, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mrs Child, Mr Connolly, Mrs Darling, Mr Fife\*, Mr Fry, Mr Groom, Mr Katter, Mr Kent, Mr McLeay, Mr Morrison, Mr Rocher, Mr Street, Mr Wilson and Mr Young.

\*On leave

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