

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 75

TUESDAY, 11 MARCH 1986

- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER OF SWEDEN (MR OLOF PALME):** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) referred to the death of the Prime Minister of Sweden (Mr Olof Palme), and moved—That this House express its profound sadness at the death on 1 March 1986 of Mr Olof Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden, its condemnation of the brutal act which took his life, and its condolences to Mr Palme's family and to the Government and people of Sweden.
And Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) and other Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—
Question—passed.
- 3 **COMMONWEALTH DAY:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) referred to the commemoration of Commonwealth Day on 10 March 1986 and the significance of the Commonwealth. Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) also referred to the matter.
- 4 **PRIVILEGE—COMPLAINT OF BREACH:** Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) raised, as a matter of privilege, the content of an article in the *Sun Weekend* of 22 February 1986 which referred to reported actions of the Treasurer in respect of the Chairman of Committees, Mr McLeay.
Mr Sinclair produced a copy of the article.
Mr McLeay addressed himself to the matter raised.
Madam Speaker stated that she would consider the matter and advise the House in due course.
- 5 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Hayden (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Senator Evans (Minister for Resources and Energy) was acting as Minister for Foreign Affairs and would be represented in this House by Mr Bowen (Attorney-General).
- 6 **PARLIAMENTARY CATERING STAFF—STATEMENT BY MADAM SPEAKER:** Madam Speaker informed the House that a formal notification of an industrial dispute, involving the Parliamentary catering staff, had been lodged with the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission.
- 7 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

8 NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT: Madam Speaker (Joint Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Standing Committee on the New Parliament House:

Proposed work in the Parliamentary zone—Carpark lighting—Report dated March 1986.

Ordered to be printed.

9 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

Advance to the Minister for Finance—Statements for November and December 1985 and January 1986.

Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations Act—Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations—

9th Report, for year ending 31 August 1985.

Report 9—Resource development and inter-governmental relations.

Australian Capital Territory Schools Authority—Financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1984-85.

Australian Dried Fruits Corporation Act—Australian Dried Fruits Corporation—6th Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1984-85.

Australian Electoral Commission—Research report—1986—No. 1—Informal voting 1984—Senate.

Australian Forestry Council—Summary of resolutions and recommendations—22nd meeting, Adelaide, 29 August 1985.

Canberra Retail Markets Trust—Report for 1984-85.

Commonwealth Electoral Act—Australian Electoral Commission—Report for 1984-85.

Companies and Securities Law Review Committee—2nd Report, for 1984-85.

Fisheries Act—Copy of subsidiary agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning squid jigging by fishing vessels of the Republic of Korea, done at Canberra on 28 November 1985.

National Companies and Securities Commission Act—National Companies and Securities Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1984-85.

National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act—Director of Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1984-85.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development—3rd meeting of the Environment Committee at ministerial level, Paris, 18-20 June 1985—Report by the Australian delegation, together with a statement by Mr Cohen, Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment.

United Nations—General Assembly—39th Session, New York, 18 September to 18 December 1984—Report of Australian delegation.

Wheat Marketing Act—Australian Wheat Board—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year ending 30 September 1985.

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

Mr Blunt, Mr Cohen, Mr Dubois, Mr Fitzgibbon, Mr Lee, Mr A. A. Morris and Mr West—from certain citizens praying that the standard pension be raised to 25% of average weekly earnings and certain other action be taken to assist pensioners and low income earners.

Mr Maher, Mr A. A. Morris and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the export of koalas be discontinued, their habitats be revegetated and funding be made available for research into koala diseases.

Mr Blunt and Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.

- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher in the same terms as the last preceding petition.
- Mr Blunt and Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Divisions of Richmond and Fisher, respectively, praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to prevent Ayers Rock being handed over to an Aboriginal Land Council.
- Mr Bowen and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that all federal funding to children's services be restored.
- Mr P. S. Fisher and Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.
- Mr T. A. Fischer—from certain residents of the Division of Farrer in the same terms as the last preceding petition.
- Mr Kent and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying for official recognition of the African National Congress and the South West Africa Peoples Organisation and that certain other financial and humanitarian support be given to the South African and Namibian people.
- Mr McArthur and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.
- Mr Fife and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Mildren and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.
- Mr Moore and Dr Watson—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.
- Mr Shack and Dr Watson—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that all changes to benefits for veterans and conditions of service for military personnel announced in the May 1985 economic statement be withdrawn.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the superannuation claim of the trade union movement be rejected and superannuation be allowed to develop without trade union domination.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the capital gains tax proposal be abandoned.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the oil world parity pricing policy be adhered to and the full flow on of the drop in world oil prices be given to the Australian public and business sector.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that measures be taken to reduce the burden of imposed costs and regulation on Australian farmers.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the rights of private enterprise be protected and any inequitable additional taxes be rejected.
- Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the Tertiary Education Assistance allowance be raised to the level of the unemployment benefit.
- Mr Conquest—from certain citizens praying that the importation and sale of hard core pornography and grossly obscene publications be prevented and that certain other action be taken in relation to censorship.
- Mr R. F. Edwards—from certain citizens praying that action be taken with Soviet authorities to secure the early release of nursing sister Lidija Lasmane-Doronina.
- Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that no further action be taken in respect of territorial or local government in the Australian Capital Territory

- until the findings of the inquiry into ACT finances have been made public and a further referendum of electors has been held.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decision to close the Enterprise Migrant Hostel, Vic., be reversed.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the Government support the stand taken by the New Zealand Government on nuclear vessels and that the policy of developing zones of peace and nuclear free zones in the Indian and Pacific Oceans be implemented.
- Mr Lindsay—from certain citizens praying that the Racial Discrimination Act be amended to outlaw incitement to racial hatred and in certain other ways.
- Mr McArthur—from certain citizens praying that the Government uphold the Articles of the UN Convention on Women and request the Victorian Government to repeal the *Planning (Brothels) Act 1984*.
- Mr Maher—from certain citizens praying that wild horses be protected from industry and indiscriminate slaughter.
- Mr Mildren—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Constitution be reformed in order to recognise significant public expressions of concern.
- Mr Mildren—from certain citizens praying that the Otway Forests, Vic., be protected for the future and that no licence be granted to export woodchips from the Otways.
- Mr Porter—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill 1985 be rejected.
- Mr Robinson—from certain citizens praying that the regulation requiring a licence fee to operate a marine band radio be rescinded.
- Mr Robinson—from certain citizens praying that debate on the Australian Bill of Rights Bill 1985 be deferred for 12 months and that the Bill be circulated for 12 months for the widest possible debate, scrutiny and discussion.
- Mr Robinson—from certain residents of the north coast of New South Wales praying that the ABC radio studio in Grafton be retained and that the Grafton City Council's submission on the second regional radio network be heeded.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that there be no taxation on illness and no special taxation on those who seek to insure themselves against the cost of private health care.
- Mr Sharp—from certain citizens praying that the Illawarra region's only locally-based television station not be removed from VHF to UHF transmission.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the 1985 tax proposals outlined in the Government's White Paper be rejected.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the assets test be reconsidered.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that home loan interest rates be tax deductible.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland and certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the right to work be acknowledged and protected and that certain other action be taken to protect workers.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the introduction of a compulsory identification card be rejected.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that there be no increase in State aid to private schools and that the primary obligation to government schools be reaffirmed.
- Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that new initiatives be taken to encourage all member states of the United Nations to conclude a treaty banning all nuclear weapons tests and that certain other action be taken in relation to nuclear weapons tests.

Mr Tickner—from certain residents of Sutherland Shire, NSW, and certain residents of New South Wales praying that an additional nuclear reactor not be constructed at Lucas Heights.

Petitions received.

- 11 **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:
- 4 March 1986—Message—
 No. 118—Federal Airports Corporation 1986.
 No. 119—Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission Amendment 1986.
- 12 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ECONOMIC POLICY:** The House was informed that Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The urgent need for a major change in the direction of economic policy to avoid further damage being done to the Australian economy". The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Howard addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 13 **COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** 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 Willis (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.
- 14 **APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT UNDERWRITING AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** 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.
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- Privilege—Statement by Madam Speaker:* Madam Speaker referred to the matter raised earlier this day by Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) (see entry No. 4) and stated that since the events reported had been explicitly denied by the person allegedly intimidated, the matter did not constitute a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege.
 Mr Sinclair addressed himself to the matter.
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- Debate continued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 120, dated 14 February 1986, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Hurford (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 15 **AUSTRALIAN APPLE AND PEAR CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** 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 Hurford (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 **TRADE UNION TRAINING AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** 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 R. F. Edwards addressing the House—

- 17 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Madam Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 March 1986:

Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 26.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Corporation Act—Orders—1986—

L4/86—Livestock for Slaughter or Breeding Purposes to the People's Republic of China.

M27/86—Revocation of Meat Order "M" Series.

Automatic Data Processing Equipment Bounty Act—Return for 1984-85.

Banks (Shareholdings) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, Nos. 21, 23, 24.

Bounty (Agricultural Tractors) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Bed Sheeting) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Berry Fruits) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Books) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Commercial Motor Vehicles) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Computers) Act—Return for period 6 July 1984 to 30 June 1985.

Bounty (Electric Motors) Act—Return for period 17 July 1984 to 30 June 1985.

Bounty (High Alloy Steel Products) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Injection-moulding Equipment) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Metal-working Machine Tools) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Paper) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Penicillin) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Printed Fabrics) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Ships) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Steel Mill Products) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Textile Yarns) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Tractor Cabs) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Bounty (Two Stroke Engines) Act—Return for 1984-85.

Commonwealth Employees (Redeployment and Retirement) Act—Regulation—
Statutory Rules 1986, No. 28.

Defence Act—Determinations—1986—

No. 5—Salary of Permanent Force Members, Temporary Accommodation Allowance and other allowances.

No. 6—Antarctic Allowance.

No. 7—Outfit Allowance for Special Appointments.

No. 8—Education Assistance Overseas.

No. 9—Overseas Living Out Allowance and other allowances.

No. 10—Temporary Rental Allowance.

- Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—Orders—1986—
 No. 2—Prescribed Goods (General) as Amended (Amendment).
 No. 3—Export Meat as Amended (Amendment).
- Fisheries Act—
 Notices, Nos. 158, 159, 160, 162, 163.
 Plan of Management—No. 3—Northern Prawn Fishery.
- Fisheries Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 18.
- Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, Nos. 19, 20.
- Judiciary Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 22.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Statements (2) of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1).
- National Crime Authority Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 29.
- Nitrogenous Fertilizers Subsidy Act—Return for 1984-85.
- Passports Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 25.
- Phosphate Fertilizers Subsidy Act—Return for 1984-85.
- Proclamation by Her Majesty The Queen of Australia, fixing 3 March 1986 at 5.00 a.m. Greenwich Mean Time as the day on which, and the time at which, the *Australia Act 1986* shall come into operation.
- Proclamations by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing the dates on which the following Acts and sections of Acts shall come into operation—
Excise Tariff Amendment Act (No. 2) 1985—Sections 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9—3 March 1986.
Health Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1985—Sub-sections 26 (1) and (3), sections 29, 31 to 36 (inclusive), 39, 40, 41, 44 to 54 (inclusive), 56 and 71—22 February 1986.
Petroleum Revenue Act 1985—3 March 1986.
Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983—Amendments made by the *Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (No. 1) 1985* (other than the amendments of sub-section 34 (3) and Schedule 1)—1 March 1986.
- Public Service Act—Determination—1986—No. 8.
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1986—No. 1—Standard Time and Summer Time (Amendment).
- Ship Construction Bounty Act—Return for 1984-85.
- States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1984*—
 Guidelines determined for the purposes of sub-sections 9 (3) and 9 (4).
 Statements of particulars of directions given under—
 Sub-section 29 (1), dated 21 February 1986.
 Sub-section 41 (1), dated—
 5 December 1985 (2).
 11 December 1985 (2).
 16 December 1985.
 18 December 1985.
 Sub-sections 37 (1) and 41 (1), dated—
 13 December 1985 (2).
 16 December 1985.
 18 December 1985.
- Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 27.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Gorman, Mr Hayden, Mr Millar, Mr O'Neil and Mr Peacock.

A. R. BROWNING
 Clerk of the House of Representatives