

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 107

TUESDAY, 3 JUNE 1986

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- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
  - 2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice being asked—  
*Paper:* Mr Young (Special Minister of State) presented the following paper:  
 Cocaine problem: Joint report, dated May 1986, by the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Customs Service, together with summary.  
 Questions without notice continued.
  - 3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:  
 Australian Capital Territory Council Bill 1986—Amendments and new clauses to be moved in the Senate on behalf of the Government, together with an explanatory memorandum.  
 Australian Capital Territory Council (Consequential Provisions) Bill 1986—Amendments to be moved in the Senate on behalf of the Government, together with an explanatory memorandum.  
 Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Luggage, handbags and similar containers, dated 5 May 1986 (No. 385).  
 Meteorology Policy Committee—Report for 1985.  
 National Research Fellowships Advisory Committee—Report on fellowships awarded for 1986.  
*States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act 1983*—Statement of financial assistance granted to each State in 1984.
  - 4 **UNITED NATIONS—CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT—1985—REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:**  
 Mr Hayden (Minister for Foreign Affairs) presented the following papers:  
 United Nations—Conference on Disarmament—1985 Session—Geneva, 5 February to 30 August 1985—Report of Australian delegation, together with statement by Mr Hayden, Minister for Foreign Affairs.  
 Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.  
 Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
  - 5 **COMMONWEALTH PROGRAMS AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT FOR SCHOOLS—REPORT BY COMMONWEALTH SCHOOLS COMMISSION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Kerin (Minister representing the Minister for Education) presented the following paper:  
 Commonwealth programs and policy development for schools—Report by Commonwealth Schools Commission, dated May 1986.  
 Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.  
 Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**6 AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES—REVIEW—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Beazley (Minister for Defence) presented the following paper:

Australia's defence capabilities—Review—Report to the Minister for Defence by Mr Paul Dibb, dated March 1986.

Mr Beazley, by leave, made a ministerial statement on the review of Australia's defence capabilities and presented the following paper:

Australia's defence capabilities—Review—Ministerial statement, 3 June 1986.

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr Young, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) speaking for a period not exceeding 48 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued.

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

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

Mr Blunt, Mr Halverson, Mr Hicks and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that no cutbacks be made to the portfolio of Veterans' Affairs and certain action be taken to assist ex-servicemen and women.

Mr Halverson, Mr Reith and Dr Watson—from certain citizens; and Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.

Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Hall, Mr Hurford and Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that a parliamentary committee be appointed to consider proposals for a new national flag.

Mr Braithwaite, Mr Cadman and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.

Mr Cowan, Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Sharp—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 P. S. Fisher, Mr Hawker and Mr Ruddock—from certain residents of the Division of Mallee and certain residents of Victoria and New South Wales, respectively, praying that the proposed capital gains tax legislation be introduced without delay and that it be rejected.

Mr Blanchard and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that importation of cobalt 60 and other radioactive substances be banned and regulations permitting irradiation of food in Australia be disallowed.

Mr Blunt and Mr Burr—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.

Mr Cadman and Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that the Government launch a public appeal to help the Chernobyl victims and certain action be taken to restrict Soviet nuclear activity.

Mr Cadman and Mr Price—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.

Mr Coleman and Mr Hodgman—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.

Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

- Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mrs Kelly and Mr Langmore—from certain citizens praying that exhibition of the film "Hail Mary" be prevented.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain residents of Queensland in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Beale—from certain citizens praying that the legislation to tax fringe benefits not proceed.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain citizens praying that aid be given to the Karen refugees in Thailand.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that a bi-partisan commitment to world-wide nuclear disarmament be made.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the world oil 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 Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the total ban on entertainment expenses be abandoned and tax deductibility be allowed for legitimate and necessary expenses.
- 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 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 capital funding be provided for the Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that the level of overseas aid funding be increased.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain electors of the Division of Dawson praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill not be passed.
- Mr J. J. Brown—from certain citizens praying that a public inquiry be held into the immigration of the Malan family.
- Mr Burr—from certain residents of Tasmania praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill lie before the House to allow reasoned debate and that certain other action be taken in regard to the Bill.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that proclamation of the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be delayed until a referendum has been held.
- Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Bill not be enacted until a referendum has been held.
- Mr Coleman—from certain citizens praying that 1989 be proposed as the International Year for Repairing the Earth and certain other action be taken in support of world peace.
- 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.
- Mrs Darling—from certain electors of the Division of Lilley praying that consideration be given to providing parkland for the people of Nudgee, Qld, and surrounding area.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be opposed and certain other action be taken in relation to the Bill.
- Mr Hunt—from certain electors of the Division of Gwydir praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill and associated bills be rejected, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission be abolished and ratification of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights be withdrawn.

- Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that the Government join with other UN members to declare the Ukraine a nuclear free zone and certain other action be taken in relation to the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the problems which identification cards are intended to reduce be attacked by other methods.
- 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 Lee—from certain citizens praying that a Medicare office be established in Wyong, NSW, as soon as possible.
- Mrs Mayer—from certain citizens praying that the Rotary Youth Bank Waverley Employment Resource Centre Employment Training Scheme be fully funded.
- Mr Moore—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 Moore—from certain citizens praying that a national park be set aside for wild horses and action be taken to ensure that killing of feral animals is undertaken in a humane manner.
- Mr Moore—from certain citizens praying that wild horses be protected from industry and indiscriminate slaughter.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the closure of the Marsfield Post Office, NSW, be prevented.
- Mr Saunderson—from certain citizens praying that a referendum be held on the proposed introduction of the Australian Bill of Rights Bill.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that measures be taken to reduce the burden of imposed costs and regulation on Australian horticultural growers.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be restored to their former level.
- 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 the Division of Fisher praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to reverse the decision to hand Ayers Rock over to an Aboriginal Land Council.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland praying that the right to work be acknowledged and protected and that certain other action be taken to protect workers.
- Mr Smith—from certain citizens praying that the right of employees to select their own superannuation scheme be guaranteed and certain other action be taken in relation to superannuation.
- Dr Watson—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.

Petitions received.

**8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ECONOMIC AND TAXATION POLICIES:** The House was informed that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The urgent need for a change in Government economic and taxation policies to revive business investment".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 9 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Conquest presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:  
 251st Report—Finance Minute on 228th Report—Advance to the Minister for Finance (1982-83)—Response—  
 and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
- 10 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Martin presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:  
 Gone with the winds—Inquiry into meteorological services—Report, dated May 1986, together with a copy of the minutes of proceedings, the transcript of evidence and submissions authorised for publication.  
 Ordered—That the report be printed.  
 Mr Martin, Mr Beale, Mr Mountford and Mr Hawker, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 11 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr McLeay presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:  
 Footprints in the sand—Inquiry into civil coastal surveillance co-ordination—Report, dated May 1986, together with a copy of the minutes of proceedings, the transcript of evidence and submissions authorised for publication.  
 Ordered—That the report be printed.  
 Mr McLeay and Mr Mountford, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 12 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mrs Kelly presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:  
 Review of the Auditor-General's efficiency audit report into the installation and maintenance of airways facilities by the Department of Aviation—Report, dated May 1986, together with a copy of the minutes of proceedings and submissions authorised for publication.  
 Ordered—That the report be printed.  
 Mrs Kelly and Mr Tuckey, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 13 TRANSPORT SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mrs Darling (Chairman) presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Transport Safety:  
 Passenger coach safety—Report, dated 23 May 1986, together with a copy of the minutes of proceedings.  
 Ordered—That the report be printed.  
 Mrs Darling, Mr Goodluck, Mr Hollis, Mr Downer and Mr Gorman, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 14 AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES—REVIEW—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Young (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented this day*), viz.:  
 Australia's defence capabilities—Review—  
 Ministerial statement, 3 June 1986.  
 Report to the Minister for Defence by Mr Paul Dibb, dated March 1986—  
 Debate resumed.  
 Mr R. F. Edwards addressing the House—

15 **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.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 3 June 1986:  
Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for collection of information—1986—No. 6—Survey of stocks of unsold wool.  
Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 117.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Cohen, Mr Cowan, Mr Dawkins, Mr Duffy, Mr Duncan and Mr Humphreys.

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**A. R. BROWNING**

Clerk of the House of Representatives