

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 52

TUESDAY, 12 MARCH 1991

- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Leo McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:  
 Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Act—Statement, pursuant to subsection 7(3), setting out the particulars and reasons for the purchase of the companies Fox-Anamet Pty Ltd and Pluteus (230) Pty Ltd.  
 Environment and Conservation—Standing Committee—Report—Namadgi National Park—Government response.
- 4 **BUILDING A COMPETITIVE AUSTRALIA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to economic policy and announced measures to improve the productive capacity of the economy to make it more internationally competitive, and presented the following paper:  
 Building a competitive Australia—Statements by Mr Hawke, Prime Minister, Mr Keating, Treasurer and Senator Button, Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce, dated 12 March 1991.  
 Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.  
 Debate adjourned (Dr Hewson—Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 5 **BUILDING A COMPETITIVE AUSTRALIA—TAXATION MEASURES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Keating (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement on taxation reform measures which would reduce tax burdens on Australian industry.
- 6 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—RURAL AND REGIONAL AUSTRALIA:** The House was informed that Mr Anderson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The economic depression throughout much of rural and regional Australia which has been exacerbated by the uncertainty caused by the Federal Government's approach to primary industries, particularly the wheat industry".  
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
 Mr Anderson addressed the House.  
 Discussion ensued.  
 Discussion concluded.

- 7 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE:** Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:  
 11 March 1991—Message—  
 No. 178—Arts, Sport, Environment, Tourism and Territories Legislation Amendment 1991.  
 No. 179—Immigration (Education) Amendment 1991.
- 8 PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE:** Mr Snowdon (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Communications), by leave, moved—That Dr H. R. Edwards be a member of the Committee of Privileges.  
 Question—put and passed.
- 9 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Hollis (Chairman) presented the following report:  
 Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Report relating to the redevelopment of Borneo Barracks, Cabarlah, Qld (1st report of 1991).  
 Ordered to be printed.  
 Mr Hollis and Mr Taylor, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 10 LOAN BILL 1991:** 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 by Mr Rocher who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that the Government should be condemned for its economic mismanagement and fiscal irresponsibility, which has resulted in a severe and protracted recession and led to:  
 (1) a substantial decline in Commonwealth revenues for the year ending 30 June 1991;  
 (2) a major increase in Commonwealth expenditure for the year ending 30 June 1991;  
 (3) a reduction in the Budget forecast of an \$8.1 billion surplus to a possible deficit for 1990-91;  
 (4) an increase in the public sector’s call on national savings of up to 3% of Gross Domestic Product in 1990-91, compared with the Budget forecast of a zero requirement; and  
 (5) an expected deficit starting point for the 1991-92 Budget based on existing forward estimates”.
- Debate continued.  
 Amendment negatived.  
 Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.  
*Message from the Governor-General:* Message No. 106, dated 21 February 1991, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of moneys for the purposes of the Bill.  
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.  
 Mr Crean (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.
- 11 SALES TAX LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1991:** Mr Crean (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to sales tax.  
 Bill read a first time.  
 Mr Crean moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper:* Mr Crean presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Hawker), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

## 12 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (ELECTORAL) AMENDMENT BILL 1991:

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.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mrs Sullivan, in the Chair)—

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Mr Baldwin	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Punch
Mr Beazley	Mr Elliott	Mr Jenkins	Mr Sawford
Mr Beddall	Ms Fatin	Mr Johns	Mr Scholes
Mr Bevis	Mr Ferguson	Mrs Kelly	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bilney	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kerin	Mr J. L. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Free	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gayler	Mr Langmore	Mr Simmons
Mr Campbell	Mr Gear*	Mr Lavarch	Mr Snow
Dr Catley	Mr Gibson	Mr Lee	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Gorman	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Courtice	Mr Grace*	Mr Martin	Dr Theophanous
Ms Crawford	Mr Griffiths	Mr Melham	Mr Tickner
Mr Crean	Mr Hand	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Walker
Mrs Crosio	Mr Holding	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr West
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hollis	Mr Newell	Mr Willis
Mr Dubois	Mr Howe	Mr O'Keefe	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Duffy	Mr Hulls	Mr O'Neil	Mr Wright
Mr Duncan	Mr Humphreys	Mr Price	

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Mr Aldred	Mr Connolly	Mr Hicks*	Mr Rocher
Mr Anderson	Mr Costello	Mr Jull	Mr Ronaldson
Mr Andrew*	Mr Cowan	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock
Mr Atkinson	Mr Dobie	Mr McGauran	Mr B. C. Scott
Mrs Bailey	Mr Downer	Mr Mack	Mr Shack
Mr Beale	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sharp
Mr Bradford	Mr Fife	Mr McLachlan	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Filing	Mr Miles	Mr Smith
Mr Broadbent	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Moore	Mr Somlyay
Mr Burr	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Cadman	Mr Ford	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Cameron	Mrs Gallus	Mr Peacock	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Goodluck	Mr Prosser	Mr Webster
Mr Chaney	Mr Hall	Mr Reid	Mr Wilson
Mr Charles	Mr Halverson	Mr Reith	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Cobb	Mr Hawker	Mr Riggall	Dr Wooldridge

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

*Adjournment negated:* It being past 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Simmons (Minister for the Arts, Tourism and Territories) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Simmons, the Bill was read a third time.

## 13 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Simmons (Minister for the Arts, Tourism and Territories) moved—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 12 March 1991:

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 26.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 32.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for the collection of information—1991—No. 3—New topics to be included as supplements to the labour force survey: March and April 1991.

Australian Citizenship Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 28.

Bounty and Capitalisation Grants (Textile Yarns) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 29.

Currency Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 31.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, Nos. 23, 24, 30.

Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 25.

Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 27.

States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act—Determination of amounts and approval of payments under sections 16A and 17, dated 7 March 1991.

*Superannuation Act 1976*—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 22.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1991, No. 33.

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**ATTENDANCE:** All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Dr Blewett, Mr Lindsay, Mr Lloyd and Mr McArthur.

**A. R. BROWNING**  
Clerk of the House of Representatives