

1993-94

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 76

MONDAY, 6 JUNE 1994

1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Stephen Martin) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 ELECTORAL MATTERS—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Connolly presented the following report:

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee—Women, elections and Parliament—Report, May 1994.

Mr Connolly and Mr Melham made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Connolly moved—That the House take note of the report.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

3 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Brown presented the following report:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco, 9 November-3 December 1993—Report.

Mr Brown, Mr Moore, Mr Melham and Mr B. C. Scott made statements in connection with the report.

4 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Lindsay presented the following report:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the 14th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organisation (AIPO) Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, incorporating bilateral visits to the Republic of the Philippines and to Brunei Darussalam, 11 September-1 October 1993—Report, May 1994.

Mr Lindsay and Mr Hawker made statements in connection with the report.

5 ANZAC DAY

Mr Holding, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) notes that the Anzacs who landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 were instrumental in forging a new identity for Australia and further notes that although the landing was a lifetime ago the deeds of those Anzacs still speak a message of selfless service and sacrifice that will last forever;
- (2) recognises that Anzac Day is a day to remember those who left their homes with a strong desire to return but did not, as well as those who did return but carried with them for the remainder of their lives the scars of their experiences;
- (3) recognises that Anzac Day is a day to contemplate the spirit that moves men and women to serve, to suffer discomforts, dangers and fears and to risk their lives in defence of their country and in the pursuit of peace, justice and freedom;
- (4) salutes on Anzac Day the spirit of the Anzacs and in paying tribute to them calls on Australians to dedicate themselves to striving for their country as the Anzacs did and to upholding the finest qualities of courage, commitment, endurance and mateship; and
- (5) is of the view that the Australian Government should declare Anzac Day as Australia's National Day of Commemoration and that it be held on 25 April in each year and on no other day.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr O'Keefe (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent Notice No. 2, private Members' business, given by Mr Cleeland and accorded priority for this sitting, being moved in his absence by Mr Jenkins.

Question—put and passed.

7 NEW DELHI STATEMENT ON TIBETAN FREEDOM

Mr Jenkins, for Mr Cleeland, pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) this Parliament acknowledges and accepts as a resolution of this House the statement known as the New Delhi Statement on Tibetan Freedom; and
- (2) a copy of this resolution be forwarded to His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government in exile, presiding officers of the two Houses of the Indian Parliament, all Parliaments whose members are participating in the New Delhi Statement on Tibetan Freedom and the Chairman of the Chinese National People's Congress.

Paper: Mr Jenkins, by leave, presented the following paper:

Tibetan freedom—New Delhi statement by World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet, 20 March 1994.

Debate ensued.

It being 2.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 104A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

8 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

9 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howe (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Keating (Prime Minister), he would answer questions on behalf of Mr Keating.

Mr Howe also informed the House that, during the respective absences of Mr Crean (Minister for Employment, Education and Training) and Mr Brereton (Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Transport), Mr Free (Minister for Schools, Vocational Education and Training) would answer questions on behalf of Mr Crean and Mr Johns (Assistant Minister for Industrial Relations) would answer questions relating to industrial relations and Mr Lee (Minister for Communications and the Arts and Minister for Tourism) would answer questions relating to transport on behalf of Mr Brereton.

10 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID FAIRBAIRN)

Mr Howe (Acting Prime Minister) referred to the death of the Honourable Sir David Fairbairn, KBE, DFC, and moved—That the House expresses its deep regret at the death on 1 June 1994, of the Honourable Sir David Eric Fairbairn, a Member of the House of Representatives from 1949 to 1975, Minister for Air from 1962 to 1964, Minister for National Development from 1964 to 1969, Minister for Education and Science 1971 and Minister for Defence from 1971 to 1972 and places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious public service and tenders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

And Mr Downer (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr Fischer (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.

11 D-DAY LANDINGS—50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Speaker referred to the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings on the Normandy coast of France—

As a mark of respect to the great gallantry and courage displayed by the young men who took part 50 years ago in the landings and in particular to the 2600 Australian servicemen involved, all Members present stood, in silence.

12 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

13 PETITIONS

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

Mr Braithwaite, Mr Brown, Mr Forrest, Mr Griffin, Mr Horne, Mr Jones, Mr Lloyd, Mr McArthur, Mr McGauran, Mr Reid and Mr Truss, from 21, 133, 81, 37, 40, 175, 40, 24, 80, 60 and 71 petitioners, respectively, praying that Anzac Day be declared Australia's National Day of Commemoration and that it be held on 25 April each year and on no other day.

Mr Cobb, Mr Filing, Mrs Gallus, Dr Lawrence, Mrs Moylan, Mr Rocher, Mr Simmons, Mr Tuckey and Ms Worth, from 301, 190, 17, 47 955, 6075, 461, 20, 15 and 2304 petitioners, respectively, praying that funding for breast cancer research be increased tenfold in the Budget and initiatives to encourage donations for research be considered.

Ms Crawford and Mr Humphreys, from 72 and 27 petitioners, respectively, praying that women remain eligible for the age pension from the age of 60.

Mr J. N. Andrew, from 8 petitioners, praying that no action be taken to change the national flag unless approved by the people of Australia in a national poll.

Mr Beale, from 80 petitioners, praying for certain changes to the Family Law Act and the Child Support Scheme.

Mr Beale, from 16 petitioners, praying that no change be made to the national flag without a full referendum.

Mr Braithwaite, from 3042 residents of the Mackay/Pioneer area, Qld, praying that funds be provided to enable SBS Television to telecast in the Mackay/Pioneer region.

Mr Braithwaite, from 40 petitioners, praying that the national flag not be changed, replaced or diminished without being voted upon and approved in a national referendum.

Mr Dobie, from 16 petitioners, praying that legislative action be taken to implement the Earth Repair Charter.

Mr Fischer, from 79 petitioners, praying that legislation be implemented to enable alternative forms of medical treatment to be recognised under Medicare.

Mr Kerr, from 37 electors of the Division of Denison, praying that legislation governing, and the administration of, the Child Support Agency be reviewed.

Mr Sharp, from 101 petitioners, praying that the existing Australian flag be retained and Australians be given the opportunity to express that wish through a referendum.

Mr Truss, from 58 electors of the Division of Wide Bay, praying that transmission of the Special Broadcasting Service into the Wide Bay region, Qld, be provided as soon as possible.

Petitions received.

14 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

It being 5.15 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

15 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER

The Second Deputy Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 38 of 1993-94—Efficiency audit—Department of Primary Industries and Energy: Rural Research and Development Program.

Dr Theophanous (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister), by leave, moved—That:

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit report No. 38 of 1993-94; and
- (2) the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

16 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, dated 2 June 1994, were reported:

- (a) returning the Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill 1994 without amendment—Message No. 278.
- (b) acquainting the House that Senator Knowles had been appointed a member of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings in place of Senator Vanstone, discharged—Message No. 280.

17 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) (TWO WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES WITH JEEP, PLATFORM, PICK-UP OR UTILITY BODY TYPE) AMENDMENT BILL 1994

Message No. 279, dated 2 June 1994, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act 1992' to exempt two wheel drive vehicles with jeep, platform, pick-up or utility body type, used in agricultural industry*".

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

18 INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—STANDING COMMITTEE—ADVISORY REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Reid presented the following report and related papers:

Industry, Science and Technology—Standing Committee—Trade Practices Amendment (Origin Labelling) Bill 1994—

Advisory report, June 1994.

Evidence received by the committee.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Reid, Mr Lieberman, Mr Charles and Mr Cleary, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

19 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1994—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Senate, viz.:

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE

No. 1—Clause 10, page 3, lines 22 to 26, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

Functions of Committee

"10. Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting paragraphs (c), (ca), (d) and (e) and substituting the following paragraph:

'(c) to make recommendations to the Minister as to when a levy should cease to apply.'".

No. 2—Clause 20, page 5, lines 22 to 31, omit the clause—

On the motion of Dr Theophanous (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

20 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1994-95

The order of the day having been read for the further consideration in detail of the Bill—

Consideration in detail

Schedule—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$1 072 950 000—

Department of Finance, \$203 824 000—

Department of the Treasury, \$1 503 344 000—

Advance to the Minister for Finance, \$215 000 000—

Provision for Running Costs Borrowings, \$20 000 000—

together debated.

Limitation of debate: At 6 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditures had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditures be agreed to—put and passed.

Proposed expenditure—Department of Administrative Services, \$599 564 000—debated.

Limitation of debate: At 6.30 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditure had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditure be agreed to—put and passed.

Proposed expenditure—Attorney-General's Department, \$824 106 000—debated.

Limitation of debate: At 7 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditure had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditure be agreed to—put and passed.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Transport, \$248 289 000—

Department of Communications and the Arts, \$1 093 520 000—

together debated.

Limitation of debate: At 7.30 p.m., the Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditures had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditures be agreed to—put and passed.

Proposed expenditure—Department of Employment, Education and Training, \$3 048 555 000—

21 ADJOURNMENT

It being past 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 12.30 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 6 June 1994:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act—Declaration under section 9 relating to Kumarangk (Hindmarsh Island), 12 May 1994.

Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 148.

Christmas Island Act—

Ordinance 1994 No. 1.

Regulations 1994 No. 1.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—

Ordinance 1994 No. 2.

Regulations 1994 No. 1.

Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration of Providers and Financial Regulation) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 146.

Family Law Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 152.

Income Tax Assessment Act—

Declaration under section 159UB, 19 May 1994.

Determination under section 159UF, 19 May 1994.

Notice under section 159UD, 19 May 1994.

Industrial Relations Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 145.

Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 151.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 147.

Telecommunications Act 1991—Direction under section 238C—1994 No. 1.

Therapeutic Goods Act—

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 150.

Therapeutic Goods Order No. 48.

Therapeutic Goods (Charges) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1994 No. 149.

Training Guarantee (Administration) Act—Guidelines 1993 No. ELT 1.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beale, Mr Brereton, Mr Cleeland, Mr Crean, Mr Gear, Dr Hewson, Mr Keating, Mrs Kelly, Mr Lavarch, Mr Lee, Ms McHugh, Mrs Sullivan and Mr Willis.

L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives