

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 131

MONDAY, 28 AUGUST 2000



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

**2 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr A. P. Thomson (Chair) presented the following papers:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—34th report: Two treaties tabled on 6 June 2000—

Report, 15 August 2000.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr A. P. Thomson, Mr Adams, Mr Hardgrave and Mrs D. M. Kelly made statements in connection with the report.

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

Mr A. P. Thomson moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr A. P. Thomson was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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.

**3 ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Hawker (Chair) presented the following papers:

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Numbers on the run: Review of the ANAO Report No. 37 1998-99 on the management of tax file numbers—

Report, August 2000.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Hawker, Ms Burke and Ms Gambaro made statements in connection with the report.

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

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

Mr Hawker was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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.

#### **4 AUSTRALIAN TOURIST COMMISSION**

Mr Baird, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) commends the Australian Tourist Commission (ATC) in its recognition of the benefit of the Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games for Australian tourism and for the \$12 million four year program it has put in place to maximise the tourist potential of Australia; and
- (2) notes the ATC's plans to:
  - (a) generate additional publicity for Australia by hosting additional media;
  - (b) work with major Olympic sponsors on joint promotional programs;
  - (c) assist with National Olympic Committees' official tour operators; and
  - (d) work with international broadcasters who have rights to the Games.

Debate ensued.

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

#### **5 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

#### **6 RETURN TO WRIT—ISAACS DIVISION**

The Speaker announced that he had received a return to the writ which he had issued on 30 June 2000 for the election of a Member to serve for the electoral division of Isaacs, in the State of Victoria, in place of Gregory Stuart Wilton. By the endorsement on the writ, it was certified that Ann Corcoran had been elected.

#### **7 OATH OF ALLEGIANCE BY MEMBER**

Ann Corcoran made and subscribed the oath of allegiance required by law.

#### **8 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Trade), Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs) would be Acting Minister for Trade up to and including 29 August 2000

and Mr Moore (Minister for Defence) would be Acting Minister for Trade for the remainder of the week.

Mr Howard also informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs) on Wednesday and Thursday this week, Mr Moore (Minister for Defence) would be Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## 9 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

*Member ordered to withdraw*

At 3.23 p.m. the Member for the Northern Territory (Mr Snowdon) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

## 10 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

## 11 POST POLIO SYNDROME

Mr Adams, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) recognises Post Polio Syndrome, as thousands of Australians are now experiencing the late effects of contracting polio some 30 to 40 years after the initial infection;
- (2) notes that it is estimated that a minimum of 20 000 to 40 000 people had paralytic polio in Australia between the 1930s and the 1960s and it has only been recently that this syndrome has been diagnosed;
- (3) gives support to the Post Polio Network set up around Australia;
- (4) helps the establishment of assessment clinics for those that suffer from this disorder;
- (5) helps educate medical professionals to recognise this syndrome and encourage further research; and
- (6) legislates to recognise the need for post polio sufferers to retire early because of chronic ill health due to past polio infection.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

## 12 NEEDLE SUPPLY AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Mr Billson, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) recognises the:
  - (a) positive contribution needle supply and exchange programs have made to curbing the spread of infectious diseases through injecting drug use; and
  - (b) cost to the community of needle stick injury;

- (2) encourages State and Territory Governments to:
- (a) extend the principle of reducing harm by needle supply and exchange programs to include reducing the risk to the broader community of needle stick injury from syringes discarded improperly; and
  - (b) embrace retractable syringe technology across the health sector to reduce the risk and cost of needle stick injury to health professionals and health service consumers; and
- (3) calls on the Federal Government to:
- (a) initiate trials of retractable syringes for Government-funded needle supply and exchange programs to determine the practicality, clinical effectiveness and cost effectiveness of supplying retractable syringes; and
  - (b) embrace the use of retractable syringes in the Commonwealth's own medical and allied health activities, for example Defence.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting, and Mrs May was granted leave to continue her speech when the debate is resumed.

### 13 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.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

### 14 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Ordered—That order of the day No. 2, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.

### 15 GENE TECHNOLOGY BILL 2000

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 Billson addressing the House—

---

### 16 ADJOURNMENT

It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

---

---

**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 28 August 2000:

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 226.

Air Navigation Act—Instrument 2000 No. M23.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 2000 No. 12.

Bankruptcy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 220.

Child Support Legislation Amendment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 223.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—  
Airworthiness Directives—

Part 39-105—2000 28 June, 4, 18, 23, 24(2) August.

Part 39-107—2000 17 August.

Civil Aviation Amendment Order—2000 No. 10.

Instruments 2000 Nos CASA 309, CASA 338.

Statutory Rules 2000 No. 227.

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Amendment Orders—2000 No. 1.

Crimes Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 219.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 234.

Dairy Produce Act—Scheme—2000 Dairy Structural Adjustment Program Amendment (No. 3).

Epidemiological Studies (Confidentiality) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 225.

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—Orders—Export Control (Fees) Amendment 2000 (No. 2).

Federal Court of Australia Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 2000 Nos 233, 235.

Financial Management and Accountability Act—

Financial Management and Accountability Orders—Amendment—2000 No. 1.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 224.

Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 228.

*Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 Nos 229, 230.

International Monetary Agreements Act—Australian Government Loan to Papua New Guinea—August 2000—National Interest Statement.

Radiocommunications Act—

Instruments—2000—Radiocommunications (Compliance Labelling—Incidental Emissions) Amendment Notice (No. 1).

Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 221.

*Telecommunications Act 1997—*

Determinations under subsection 51(1)—2000—  
Amendment No. 1.

No. 2.

Determination under section 95(1)—2000 Amendment No. 1.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 222.

Tobacco Charges Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 231.

Wool Tax (Administration) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 232.



#### **ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hollis, Mr Horne, Ms Kernot, Mr Lee, Mr Lloyd, Mr O'Connor, Mr Pyne, Mr Quick, Dr Stone and Mr M. A. J. Vaile.



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives