

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 21

TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER 1974

1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable J. F. Cope) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 DEATH OF HER EXCELLENCY LADY KERR—REPLY TO RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE: Mr Speaker informed the House that, in reply to the resolution of condolence agreed to by the House on the death of Her Excellency Lady Kerr, His Excellency the Governor-General had sent the following message:

“Dear Mr Speaker,

My family and I were deeply moved by the resolution adopted by the House following the death of my wife, and I should be grateful if you would kindly convey to all Honourable Members of the House of Representatives our sincere appreciation.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN R. KERR”.

3 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR ERIC HARRISON): Dr J. F. Cairns (Acting Prime Minister) referred to the death of the Right Honourable Sir Eric Harrison, and moved—That this House expresses its deep regret at the death on 26 September 1974 of the Right Honourable Sir Eric Harrison, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., a Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of Wentworth from 1931 to 1956, and during this time, a Minister of the Crown, Acting Prime Minister, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Resident Minister in London, and then from 1956 to 1964 High Commissioner for Australia in London, places on record its appreciation of his long and distinguished public service and tenders its profound sympathy to his widow and family.

And Mr Snedden (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr Anthony (Leader of the Australian Country Party) and other honourable Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

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

Mr Snedden (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House take action against the Government's decision to recognise the sovereignty of the Soviet Union over the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Mr Holten and Mr Mathews—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government increase child endowment in the September Budget.

Mr McLeay and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with the existing national health scheme.

Dr J. F. Cairns (Acting Prime Minister)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urge the Government (1) to grant at least \$10 million immediate

emergency aid to the Sahelian region of Africa and continue to assist in the long term agricultural and social development of the region and (2) to take a leading part in initiatives to set up world food and fertilizer funds at the World Food Conference in November.

Mr Crean (Treasurer)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urge the Government to establish a nationalised transport system and to make free all transport within Australia to pensioners and all other underprivileged members of the community.

Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the Australian Country Party)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House see that television is used to build into the nation integrity, teamwork and a sense of purpose by serving, and to bring faith in God to the heart of the family and national life.

Mr K. M. Cairns—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House reject the Family Law Bill.

Mr Hodges—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House urge the Government to amend the Family Law Bill in certain respects and provide funds for family life education, programs preparing people for marriage, the decentralisation of approved guidance facilities and education in marriage courses for young married couples.

Mr Mathews—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government immediately increase, as an interim measure, current grants made to children in non-government schools to at least 50 per cent of the cost of educating children in government schools.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government hasten to introduce a universal health scheme so that health care services in Australia can function efficiently and economically.

Mr Wilson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the law be amended to allow taxpayers to deduct from income, for income tax purposes, all rates and taxes paid by them in respect of their primary home or land bought for the purpose of building thereon.

Petitions received.

5 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Dr J. F. Cairns (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the respective absences abroad of Mr Crean (Treasurer) and Mr Morrison (Minister for Science), Mr Hayden (Minister for Social Security) was acting as Treasurer and Dr Cass (Minister for the Environment and Conservation) was acting as Minister for Science.

Dr Cairns also informed the House that during the absence abroad of Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister), he was acting as Prime Minister, and that, on his own departure overseas, Mr Connor (Minister for Minerals and Energy) would act as Prime Minister during the remainder of Mr Whitlam's absence.

6 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

7 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Council for the Arts—First Annual Report, for 1973.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Glass fibre rovings and chopped strand mat (Dumping and Subsidies Act), dated 31 July 1974.

Wood working and metal working machinery, etc.; gas welding, etc. equipment and electrical welding, etc. equipment; industrial and laboratory furnaces and ovens, etc., dated 28 June 1974.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Teaching Service Act—Commonwealth Teaching Service Commissioner—Report for 1973.

States Grants (Technical Training) Act—Statement of payments for year 1972-73.

- 8 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
 26 September 1974—Message—
 No. 48—Wool Marketing (Loan) 1974.
 No. 49—Wool Tax (Nos. 1 to 5) 1974 (*without requests*).
 No. 50—Wool Industry 1974.
 No. 51—Wheat Industry Stabilization 1974.
 No. 52—Wheat Products Export Adjustment 1974 (*without requests*).
 No. 53—Wheat Export Charge 1974 (*without requests*).
- 9 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:
 27 September 1974—Message—
 No. 37—
 Asian Development Fund 1974.
 Broadcasting and Television 1974.
 No. 38—
 Papua New Guinea 1974.
 Petroleum (Submerged Lands) 1974.
 Wool Marketing (Loan) 1974.
 No. 39—Election Candidates (Public Service and Defence Force) 1974.
- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PROPERTY INCOME—PROPOSED SURCHARGE: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Lynch (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The need for the complete withdrawal of the Government’s proposed surcharge on property income”.
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Lynch addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 11 COMMONWEALTH BANKS BILL 1974: Mr Hayden (Acting Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Banks Act 1959–1973* with respect to the Functions of the Development Bank and to the Remuneration of the Holders of Certain Offices.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Hayden moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr McLeay), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION (ORGANIZATIONS) BILL 1974: Mr C. R. Cameron (Minister for Labor and Immigration), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Law relating to Conciliation and Arbitration.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Cameron moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Fraser), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 AUSTRALIAN TOURIST COMMISSION BILL 1974: Mr Stewart (Minister for Tourism and Recreation), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Tourist Commission Act 1967–1973*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Stewart moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Killen), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 14 UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION BILL 1974: 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.
The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 and 2, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.
Clause 3 debated and agreed to.
Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drury reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr Beazley (Minister for Education), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 15 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 16 STATES GRANTS (BEEF CATTLE ROADS) BILL 1974: 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.
Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 40, dated 19 September 1974, 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 Dr Patterson (Minister for Northern Development), the Bill was read a third time.
- 17 STATES GRANTS BILL 1974: 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.
Member named: Mr Speaker named the honourable Member for Wilmot (Mr Duthie) for refusing to withdraw an unparliamentary remark.
Mr Daly (Leader of the House) having addressed the Chair, and Mr Duthie having withdrawn the remark, the matter was not further proceeded with.
Debate continued.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 41, dated 19 September 1974, 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 Daly, the Bill was read a third time.
- 18 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:
30 September 1974—Message No. 42—
Post and Telegraph Rates 1974.
Post and Telegraph 1974.
- 19 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate, dated 1 October 1974, were reported—
(a) concurring in the resolution of the House relating to the appointment of a Joint Committee on the Pecuniary Interest of Members of the Parliament, and agreeing

that the resolution have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders—Message No. 59.

(b) returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 54—Liquefied Gas (Road Vehicle Use) Tax 1974 (*without requests*).

No. 56—Sewerage Agreements 1974.

No. 57—Queensland Grant (Ross River Dam) 1974.

No. 58—Julius Dam Agreement 1974.

20 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—LIQUEFIED GAS (ROAD VEHICLE USE) TAX COLLECTION BILL 1974: The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 55

MR SPEAKER,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to Taxation imposed on the use, for the purpose of propelling Road Vehicles, of Liquefied Gas*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Canberra, 1 October 1974

JUSTIN O'BYRNE,
President

Ordered—That the amendments be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

21 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1974-75—BUDGET DEBATE: 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Snedden (Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "this House is of the opinion that the Budget fails to tackle Australia's economic crisis, in that:

- (1) unemployment is permitted to grow and the prospect for school leavers is prejudiced,
- (2) inflation is accelerated,
- (3) existing poverty is ignored and new poverty is created,
- (4) personal income tax is increased 45 per cent,
- (5) living standards will be lowered,
- (6) private enterprise is stifled,
- (7) Government power is further centralised,
- (8) individual incentive and thrift is penalised, and
- (9) a double tax is levied on estates;

and because the Government:

- (a) has made the Budget a socialist vehicle to intensify the attack on the States and break down the free enterprise system,
- (b) believes the absurdity that the Government can spend without people paying or can build without people producing, and
- (c) has preached private restraint but has threatened its achievement by its own Government extravagance"—

Debate resumed.

Dr Klugman addressing the House—

22 ADJOURNMENT: It being half-past ten o'clock p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until eleven o'clock p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at twelve o'clock noon.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 1 October 1974, pursuant to statute:

- Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 160.
- Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 171.
- Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 157.
- Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 159.
- Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 161.
- Lands Acquisition Act—
 - Land, etc., acquired for post office purposes—
 - Beachport, South Australia.
 - Coober Pedy, South Australia.
 - Kilkenny, South Australia.
 - Woolpunda, South Australia.
 - Statement of lands, etc., acquired by agreement authorised under section 7 (1) of the Act.
- Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 158.
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 164.
- Northern Territory Representation Act, Northern Territory (Administration) Act and Commonwealth Electoral Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 165.
- Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, Nos. 167, 168, 169.
- Stevedoring Industry Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 162.
- Therapeutic Goods Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 166.
- Trade Commissioners Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1974, No. 163.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bouchier, Mr Collard, Mr Corbett, Mr Crean, Mr England, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr Keogh, Mr Morrison, Mr Sullivan, Mr Whitlam and Mr Wilson.

N. J. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives