

## AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

## No. 2

WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 1976

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- 1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES: The following warrant nominating Deputy Chairmen of Committees, pursuant to standing order 18, was laid upon the Table by Mr Speaker:

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 18, I nominate—

Robert Noel Bonnett, Esquire

Peter Hertford Drummond, Esquire

Geoffrey O'Halloran Giles, Esquire

Alan William Jarman, Esquire, and

The Honourable Ian Louis Robinson,

to act as Deputy Chairmen of Committees when requested so to do by the Chairman of Committees.

Given under my hand on 18 February 1976.

B. M. SNEDDEN  
SPEAKER

- 3 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Bonnett and Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Cadet forces be re-instated.
- Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the present system of uniform personal taxation be retained.
- Dr Klugman—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the introduction of television and radio licence fees, the imposition of a tax levy for Medibank and the introduction of higher charges for drugs dispensed under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be prevented.
- Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes be not re-introduced.
- Mr Neil—from certain citizens of Australia praying that no further measures be taken which will make home ownership unattractive to those who have a home and unachievable for those who have not.
- Mr Wallis—from certain citizens of Australia praying that facilities necessary for reasonable television reception be provided in the district of Le Hunte, S.A.,

Petitions received.

- 4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

## 5 PAPERS: Mr Speaker presented, pursuant to statute:

Audit Act—Supplementary Report of the Auditor-General upon other accounts, for year 1974-75.

Ordered to be printed.

The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Meteorological Services—Towards new perspectives—Discussion paper issued by the Minister for Science, dated 12 January 1976.

Industries Assistance Commission—

Reports—

Dairy industry, dated 23 October 1975.

Fruitgrowing—Interim report, dated 30 October 1975.

Iron and steel industry—Short term assistance for hoop, strip, sheets and plates of certain alloy steels, dated 8 October 1975.

Temporary Assistance Authority—Annual Report, for period 1 January 1974 to 23 October 1975.

Poverty—Commission of Inquiry—

First Main Report—Poverty in Australia—Volume 2, dated April 1975.

Statement by Senator Guilfoyle (Minister for Social Security).

Referendums, 1974—Statistical Returns showing the voting within each Sub-division in relation to the submission to the electors of Proposed Laws for the alteration of the Constitution, entitled—

“Constitution Alteration (Simultaneous Elections) 1974”,

“Constitution Alteration (Mode of Altering the Constitution) 1974”,

“Constitution Alteration (Democratic Elections) 1974” and

“Constitution Alteration (Local Government Bodies) 1974”

for the States of—

New South Wales.

Queensland.

South Australia.

Tasmania.

Victoria.

Western Australia.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—Twelfth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974-75.

Australian Shipping Commission Act—Australian Shipping Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974-75.

Hospitals and Health Services Commission Act—Hospitals and Health Services Commission—Auditor-General's Report on financial statement for year 1974-75.

National Library Act—Council of the National Library of Australia—Fifteenth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974-75.

Petroleum Search Subsidy Act—Sixteenth Annual Statement, for year 1974-75.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Consumer Affairs Ordinance—Consumer Affairs Council—Second Annual Report of the operations of the Council and of the Consumer Affairs Bureau, for year 1974-75.

Transport—Department of Transport—Second Annual Report, for year 1974-75, including the report by the Minister pursuant to the Air Navigation Act.

6 DESTROYERS FOR THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY AND FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS AT WOOMERA, S.A.—MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by leave, made ministerial statements relating to

the acquisition of destroyers for the Royal Australian Navy and to the future operations of the Woomera Rocket Range, S.A., and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Destroyers for the Royal Australian Navy—Ministerial statement, 18 February 1976.

Woomera, S.A.—Future arrangements—Ministerial statement, 18 February 1976.

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

Debate ensued.

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

- 7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WAGE INDEXATION: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Willis had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The action of the Government in breaking its election promise to support wage indexation”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 8 ADDRESS IN REPLY COMMITTEE: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That Mr Groom be discharged from attendance on the Committee appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor-General and that Mr Sainsbury be appointed a member of the committee in his place.

Question—put and passed.

- 9 HOURS OF MEETING: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

That, unless otherwise ordered, the House shall meet for the despatch of business on each Tuesday and Wednesday at 2.15 p.m. and on each Thursday at 10.30 a.m.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 ADJOURNMENT OF SITTING: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

That, unless otherwise ordered, at 10.30 p.m. on each sitting day the Speaker shall propose the question—That the House do now adjourn—which question shall be open to debate; if the House be in committee at the time stated, the Chairman shall report progress and upon such report being made the Speaker shall forthwith propose the question—That the House do now adjourn—which question shall be open to debate.

Provided that:

- (a) if a division be in progress at the time fixed for interruption such division shall be completed and the result announced,
- (b) if, on the question—That the House do now adjourn—being proposed, a Minister requires the question to be put forthwith without debate, the Speaker shall forthwith put the question,
- (c) nothing in this order shall operate to prevent a motion for the adjournment of the House being moved by a Minister at an earlier hour,
- (d) any business under discussion and not disposed of at the time of the adjournment shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting, and
- (e) if the question—That the House do now adjourn—is negatived, the House or committee shall resume the proceedings at the point at which they had been interrupted.

Provided further that, if at 11.00 p.m., the question before the House is—That the House do now adjourn—the Speaker shall forthwith adjourn the House until the time of its next meeting.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 11 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH: Mr Sainsbury brought up the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech, prepared by the committee appointed at the previous sitting, and the same was read by the Clerk, as follows:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Mr Sainsbury moved—That the Address be agreed to.

Mr Braithwaite seconded the motion.

Debate continued.

Mr Ruddock addressing the House—

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.54 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 18 February 1976, pursuant to statute:

Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, Nos. 60, 61.

Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 64.

Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, Nos. 49, 51, 52, 55, 59.

Defence (Visiting Forces) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 45.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, Nos. 46, 50, 53, 54, 56, 57.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—  
Ordinances—1976—

No. 1—Canberra Showground Trust.

No. 2—Flammable Liquids.

No. 3—Motor Traffic.

Regulations—1976—

No. 2 (Building and Services Ordinance).

No. 3 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).

War Service Estates Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 47.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Garland, Mr Groom and Mr Yates.

N. J. PARKES,

Clerk of the House of Representatives