

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 10

TUESDAY, 16 MARCH 1976

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

Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Mr D. M. Cameron and Mr Jull—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Fry and Mr Haslem—from certain residents of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the introduction of self-government for the A.C.T. be not proceeded with until the residents of the Territory are consulted by means of a referendum.

Mr Hayden and Mr Macphee—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government demand a ceasefire in East Timor and the withdrawal of Indonesian troops, supply medical and humanitarian aid to Fretilin-controlled areas and withdraw all military aid to Indonesia.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Cadet forces be re-instated.

Dr J. F. Cairns—from certain citizens of Australia praying that funds be provided immediately to the Victorian Government for the construction of a second wing of classrooms at Mossfiel Primary School, Werribee, Vic.

Mr Chipp—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government reverse the decision to cut 1975-76 overseas development assistance, reaffirm Australia's commitment of assistance of a minimum of 0.7 per cent of GNP and establish an independent statutory authority to administer such assistance.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.

Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens of Australia praying that powers to vary income tax be not given to State Governments and that a system of double taxation be not imposed on incomes.

Mr Jacobi—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Health Insurance Act be not amended.

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that milk substitutes for children up to 6 years of age be restored to the schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits.

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.

Petitions received.

3 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry) was acting as Minister for Foreign Affairs.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Member named: Mr Speaker named the honourable Member for Oxley (Mr Hayden) for refusing to withdraw without qualification an unparliamentary remark.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member for Oxley be suspended from the service of the House.

Mr Hayden having withdrawn the remark without qualification, the motion for the suspension of the honourable Member for Oxley was withdrawn, by leave.

Questions without notice continued.

Paper: Mr Hurford, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General)—

Mr Ellicott laid upon the table the following paper:

Australian Capital Territory Court of Petty Sessions—Transcript of decision by the Chief Magistrate on 8 March 1976 in the cases of Francis Ley, informant, and George Howard Branson and Ransley Victor Garland, defendants.

Questions without notice continued.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Fisheries Council—Sixth meeting, Canberra, 3 October 1975—Resolutions.

Department of Aboriginal Affairs—Report for year 1974–75.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Aerospace industry, dated 21 October 1975.

Cellulose acetate flake, dated 29 January 1976.

Financing promotion of rural products (Export inspection of rural products)—

Interim report, dated 12 December 1975.

Hosiery, dated 11 December 1975.

Rural reconstruction, dated 13 January 1976.

Mainline upgrading—Reports by the Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated November 1975—Evaluation of a range of options for the—

Melbourne–Serviceton rail link.

Melbourne–Sydney rail link.

Pursuant to statute:

Criminology Research Act—

Australian Institute of Criminology—Board of Management—Third Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.

Criminology Research Council—Third Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.

Fishing Industry Act—Nineteenth Annual Report, for year 1974–75.

Services Trust Funds Act—

Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—Twenty-eighth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.

Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—Twenty-seventh Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.

Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1974.

6 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:

9 March 1976—Message No. 7—

States Grants (Capital Assistance) 1976.

Air Navigation (Charges) 1976.

7 NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA COUNCIL: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *National Library Act* 1960–1973, this House elects Mr Bryant to be a member of the Council of the National Library of Australia and to continue as a member for a period of 3 years from this day.

Question—put and passed.

8 PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE SYSTEM—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to inquire into, report on and make recommendations for—
 - (a) a balanced system of committees for the Parliament;
 - (b) the integration of the committee system into the procedures of the Parliament, and
 - (c) arrangements for committee meetings which will best suit the convenience of Senators and Members.
- (2) That the committee consist of four Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Prime Minister, three Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, three Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and three Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister or by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (5) That the committee elect as Deputy Chairman one of the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition being a member from a different House than the Chairman, and that the member so elected act as Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee.
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members and to refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (7) That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to sit during any recess or adjournment of the Parliament.
- (8) That seven members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, and a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (9) That in matters of procedure the Chairman or Deputy Chairman presiding at the meeting have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, have a casting vote, and that; in other matters, the Chairman or Deputy Chairman have a deliberative vote only.
- (10) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (11) That the committee or a sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (12) That the committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that all members of the committee have not been appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy on the committee.
- (13) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.

- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committee on the Parliamentary Committee System appointed during the Twenty-ninth Parliament.
 - (15) That the committee have leave to report from time to time but so that its final recommendations be presented on or before 26 May 1976 and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
 - (16) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
 - (17) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.
- Debate adjourned (Mr Scholes), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

9 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Sinclair (Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to consider and report on—
 - (a) foreign affairs and defence generally, and
 - (b) such matters as may be referred to the committee—
 - (i) by the Minister for Foreign Affairs;
 - (ii) by the Minister for Defence, or
 - (iii) by resolution of either House of the Parliament.
- (2) That the committee consist of eight Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Prime Minister, six Members of the House of Representatives nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, four Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and three Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister or by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (6) That the Chairman of the committee may, from time to time, appoint another member of the committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the committee, and that the member so appointed act as Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of four or more of its members and to refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider.
- (8) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for and examine persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to meet and transact business in public or private session and notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament.
- (9) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (10) That seven members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee and three members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (11) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman, or the Deputy Chairman when acting as Chairman, have a casting vote.

- (12) That the committee have power to consider and make use of the minutes of evidence and records of Joint Committees on Foreign Affairs and Defence, appointed in previous Parliaments, relating to any matter on which those committees had not completed consideration.
- (13) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered, with the approval of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee.
- (14) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (15) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (16) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

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

10 ROAD SAFETY—PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to inquire into and report on—
 - (a) the main causes of the present high level of the road toll in Australia;
 - (b) the most effective means of achieving greater road safety in Australia;
 - (c) the particular aspects of the problem to which those concerned with road safety could most advantageously direct their efforts, and
 - (d) the economic cost to the community of road accidents in Australia in terms of—
 - (i) material damage;
 - (ii) loss of man hours and earning capacity, and
 - (iii) cost of treatment of accident victims.
- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
- (3) That the committee consist of eight members, five to be nominated by the Prime Minister and three to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (5) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (6) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (7) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (9) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.

- (10) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (11) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (12) That the committee have power to move from place to place and to sit during any recess.
- (13) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any recess, sittings or adjournment.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (15) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Standing Committee on Road Safety appointed during the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Parliaments.
- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

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

11 ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr MacKellar (Minister representing the Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to inquire into and report on—
 - (a) environmental aspects of legislative and administrative measures which ought to be taken in order to ensure the wise and effective management of the Australian environment and of Australia's natural resources, and
 - (b) such other matters relating to the environment and conservation and the management of Australia's natural resources as are referred to it by—
 - (i) the Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development,
 - or
 - (ii) resolution of the House.
- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
- (3) That the committee consist of eight members, five to be nominated by the Prime Minister and three to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (5) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (6) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (7) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.

- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (9) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (10) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (11) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (12) That the committee have power to move from place to place and to sit during any recess.
- (13) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any recess, sittings or adjournment.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (15) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation appointed during the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Parliaments.
- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

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

12 SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES—PROPOSED SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Viner (Minister representing the Minister for Education), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Select Committee be appointed:
 - (a) to inquire into the incidence of all forms of specific learning difficulties among Australian children and adults;
 - (b) to examine measures that are being taken at the present time to overcome such difficulties;
 - (c) to report on the success that present measures are having in alleviating specific learning difficulties;
 - (d) to examine the awareness of specific learning difficulties among the community generally and among the medical, health, teaching and social welfare professions in particular;
 - (e) to examine the extent to which problems associated with the incidence of specific learning difficulties are being researched in Australia at the present time;
 - (f) to examine the social, emotional and other handicaps that individuals with specific learning difficulties suffer;
 - (g) to recommend measures that can be taken to heighten community awareness of specific learning difficulties, and

- (h) to recommend action that can be taken by the Federal Government or by the Federal Government in co-operation with State and local governments as well as voluntary organisations to alleviate the difficulties and, in particular, to examine the need for widespread screenings of young children to detect the existence of specific learning symptoms so that adequate remedial programs can be recommended from an early age.
- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
 - (3) That the committee consist of eight members, five to be nominated by the Prime Minister and three to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
 - (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
 - (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
 - (6) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
 - (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (8) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
 - (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
 - (10) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
 - (11) That the committee have power to move from place to place and to sit during any recess.
 - (12) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any recess, sittings or adjournment.
 - (13) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
 - (14) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
 - (15) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
 - (16) That the committee report by 25 August 1976 and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to the committee's Report.
 - (17) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Select Committee on Specific Learning Difficulties appointed during the Twenty-ninth Parliament.
 - (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

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

13 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to inquire into, take evidence and report on:
 - (a) the present circumstances of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people and the effect of policies and programs on them, and
 - (b) such other matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people as are referred to it by—
 - (i) resolution of the House, or
 - (ii) reference from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.
- (2) That the committee recognise the responsibility of the States in these matters and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects.
- (3) That the committee consist of eight members, five to be nominated by the Prime Minister and three to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.
- (4) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (5) That the members of the committee hold office as a committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (6) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (7) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (9) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (10) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (11) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (12) That the committee have power to move from place to place and to sit during any recess.
- (13) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any recess, sittings or adjournment.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (15) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (18) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs appointed during the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Parliaments.

- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

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

14 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to—
 - (a) examine and report on all proposals for modification or variations of the plan of lay-out of the City of Canberra and its environs published in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on the nineteenth day of November 1925, as previously modified or varied, which are referred to the committee by the Minister for the Capital Territory, and
 - (b) examine and report on such other matters relating to the Australian Capital Territory as may be referred to the committee—
 - (i) by the Minister for the Capital Territory, or
 - (ii) by resolution of either House of the Parliament.
- (2) That the committee consist of ten members, four to be nominated by the Prime Minister, two to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, two Senators nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and two Senators nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.
- (5) That the committee elect as Chairman of the committee one of the members nominated by the Prime Minister or by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (6) That the committee elect a Deputy Chairman who shall perform the duties of the Chairman of the committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present at a meeting of the committee, the members present shall elect another member to perform the duties of the Chairman at that meeting.
- (7) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members, and to appoint the Chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (8) That a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may take part in the public proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote or move any motion or constitute a quorum.
- (10) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (11) That the committee have power to move from place to place and to sit during any recess.
- (12) That any sub-committee have power to move from place to place, adjourn from time to time and to sit during any recess or adjournment.
- (13) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.

- (14) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (15) That the committee in selecting particular matters for investigation take account of the investigations of other Parliamentary committees and avoid duplication.
- (16) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (17) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (19) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

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

15 NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:
Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee be appointed to act for and represent the Parliament, as the client for the new and permanent Parliament House, in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House and all matters incidental thereto.
- (2) That the committee reconsider and, as necessary, amend the recommendations of the former Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House contained in its report dated March 1970, which when revised shall be used as the basis of the construction of the new and permanent Parliament House.
- (3) That the committee also consider and report on matters coming within the terms of section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974* as may be referred to it—
 - (i) by the Minister responsible for administering the *National Capital Development Commission Act 1957–1975*, or
 - (ii) by resolution of either House of Parliament.
- (4) That the committee consist of:
 - (a) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (b) The Minister responsible for administering the *National Capital Development Commission Act 1957–1975*;
 - (c) Six Members of the House of Representatives, three of whom shall be nominated by the Prime Minister and three by the Leader of the Opposition, and
 - (d) Six Senators, three of whom shall be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and three by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.
- (5) That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives be Joint Chairmen of the committee.
- (6) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (7) That the members of the committee hold office as a Joint Standing Committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
- (8) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members and to refer to such a sub-committee any matter that the committee is empowered to inquire into.

- (9) That the committee or a sub-committee so appointed have power to send for persons, papers and records, to move from place to place and to sit during any adjournment or recess of the Parliament.
- (10) That the committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (11) That seven members of the committee, one of whom is the President or the Speaker, constitute a quorum of the committee and a majority of the members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.
- (12) That in matters of procedure, each of the Chairmen, whether or not occupying the Chair, have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman occupying the Chair have a casting vote.
- (13) That in matters other than those of procedure, each of the Chairmen, whether or not occupying the Chair, have a deliberative vote.
- (14) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Standing Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House appointed during the Twenty-ninth Parliament.
- (15) That the committee and sub-committees be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources.
- (16) That the committee or a sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it or any information obtained in the course of its inquiries or any document presented to it.
- (17) That the committee be authorised to provide, on behalf of the Parliament, all necessary information concerning the functional requirements for the new and permanent Parliament House and matters incidental thereto direct to the National Capital Development Commission as the Authority responsible to Parliament to undertake or arrange for the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (19) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

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

16 AUSTRALIA-JAPAN FOUNDATION BILL 1976: 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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

17 LOANS (QANTAS AIRWAYS LIMITED) BILL 1976: 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. 8, dated 19 February 1976, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue and moneys for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

- 18 **LOANS (AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AIRLINES COMMISSION) BILL 1976:** 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—
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 9, dated 19 February 1976, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue and moneys for the purposes of the Bill.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.
- 19 **FINANCIAL AGREEMENT BILL 1976:** 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. 10, dated 26 February 1976, 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 Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 20 **NATIONAL DEBT SINKING FUND AMENDMENT BILL 1976:** 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—
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 21 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—COMMONWEALTH TEACHING SERVICE BILL 1976:** Message No. 9, dated 16 March 1976, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Commonwealth Teaching Service Act 1972–1973’*”.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Viner (Minister representing the Minister for Education) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Scholes), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 22 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 6 to 12, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 23 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL’S SPEECH:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:
 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Dr Jenkins, viz.—* That the following words be added to the Address: “, but note that—
 (a) the Speech makes no acknowledgment of the financial pre-eminence of the House of Representatives;
 (b) the Speech makes no reference to the need for action to ensure that there cannot be a recurrence of the Constitutional crisis which threatens the continuation of the Australian Parliamentary system, and

- (c) the proposals outlined in the Speech are so framed as to cause a major transfer of resources from middle and low income families to those on higher income levels"—

Debate resumed.

Mr Fife addressing the House—

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

Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Mr Fife continued his speech.

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

- 24 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

16 March 1976—Message—

No. 10—Loan 1976.

No. 11—Loan (No. 2) 1976.

- 25 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11.00 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 16 March 1976, pursuant to statute:

Export Market Development Grants Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 73.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of land, etc., acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act.

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1976—

No. 10—Police and Police Offences.

No. 11—Prisons.

No. 12—Motor Vehicles (No. 3) 1975.

Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—By-laws—

Postal—1976—Amendment No. 1.

Postal (Staff)—1976—Amendment No. 2.

Postal Staff (Salaries)—1976—Amendment No. 2.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1975—

No. 725—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.†

No. 747—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.†

No. 851—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia.†

No. 852—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.

No. 853—Australian Journalists Association.

No. 854—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia and another.

No. 855—Professional Radio Employees' Institute of Australasia and others.†

No. 856—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.

No. 857—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.

No. 858—Commonwealth Foremen's Association of Australia, Commonwealth Public Service and Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†

- No. 859—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.
 No. 860—Customs Officers' Association of Australia, Fourth Division, and Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 861—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia.
 No. 862—Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers.
 No. 863—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.
 No. 864—Association of Professional Engineers, Australia, and another.
 No. 865—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 866—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.
 No. 867—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 868—Merchant Service Guild of Australia.
 No. 869—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.
 No. 870—Telecommunication Technical Officers' Association, Postmaster-General's Department.
 No. 871—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.†
 No. 872—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
- 1976—
- No. 1—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.
 No. 2—Customs Officers' Association of Australia, Fourth Division.
 No. 3—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.
 No. 4—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 5—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.
 No. 6—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 7—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.
 No. 8—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 9—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 No. 10—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 11—Commonwealth Foremen's Association of Australia, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 12—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 13—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 14—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 Nos. 15 to 18—Royal Australian Nursing Federation and Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.
 No. 19—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 No. 20—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia and Federated Ironworkers' Association of Australia.
 No. 21—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†
 No. 22—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 Nos. 23 and 24—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 No. 25—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.
 No. 26—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.†
 No. 27—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 28—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.†
 No. 29—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.
 No. 31—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 32—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 33—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†
 No. 34—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 Nos. 35, 36, 42 and 43—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 No. 44—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.

No. 45—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.†

No. 46—Australian Workers' Union.

No. 47—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
(† Not accompanied by statement.)

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Regulation—1976—No. 6 (Public Health Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Peacock and Mr I. L. Robinson.

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