

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 21

THURSDAY, 8 APRIL 1976

1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PRIVILEGE—STATEMENT BY MR SPEAKER: Mr Speaker referred to the matters of privilege raised yesterday by Mr James. In regard to the first matter, relating to a speech by Mr Neil, Mr Speaker stated that no question of privilege was involved.

In relation to the second matter concerning the remarks made by Mr D. Rofe, Q.C., in the Queanbeyan Court of Petty Sessions on 5 April 1976, as reported in the *Canberra Times* of 6 April 1976, Mr Speaker referred to the privilege of freedom of speech in Parliament and the terms of the 9th Article of the Bill of Rights and the application of those provisions to the matter raised. In the present instance he was not satisfied that a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege existed and, further, the matter had not been raised at the earliest opportunity. Accordingly, the matter could not be given precedence over other business.

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

Mr Jacobi and Mr Short—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% of G.N.P. and establish an independent statutory authority to administer such assistance.

Mr Martin and Mr A. P. Whitlam—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.

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 Holten—from certain citizens of Myrtleford, Mount Beauty, Bright, Wandiligong, Wangaratta, Chiltern, Yarrawonga and Beechworth, Vic., praying that plans for a university at Albury-Wodonga be proceeded with.

Mr McLean—from certain citizens of Australia praying that payments under the National Employment and Training System be re-adjusted to the equivalent of the average adult male award wage.

Mr Neil—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Australian immigration staff in Damascus be doubled to that which was operating in Beirut in peace time, and that the refugee provisions of Australia's immigration policy be applied.

Mr Simon—from certain electors of the Division of McMillan praying that the integrity and independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be maintained, no consideration be given to the placing of advertisements on the A.B.C. and a full-time Chairman to be appointed to the Commission immediately.

Mr Wallis—from certain citizens of Whyalla, S.A., praying that the threatened closure of the shipbuilding industry in Whyalla be alleviated by facilitating construction at Whyalla of 2 vessels on order from the Australian National Line.

Petitions received.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Fraser (Prime Minister)—Mr Fraser laid upon the Table the following paper:

Election—Part of briefing note for Prime Minister.

Questions without notice continued.

5 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

7 April 1976—Message No. 27—Phosphate Fertilizers Bounty Amendment 1976.

6 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 27 April, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker shall, by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House, fix an earlier day of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

7 ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Young, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the limitation of Electoral Expenditure and the Public Disclosure of the Sources of Funds made available to Political Parties and Candidates.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Young moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate, by leave, ensued.

Mr Yates addressing the House—

Closure: Mr Scholes moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—being accordingly put—The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 32

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Dr Cass	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr Nicholls

NOES, 82

Mr Abel	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Adermann	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Dr Richardson
Mr Aldred	Dr Edwards	Mr Kelly	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Falconer	Mr King	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baume	Mr Fife	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Birney	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Shipton
Mr Bonnett	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr Burchier	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr Bradfield	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Brown	Mr Graham	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Street
Mr Bungey	Mr Hamer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodges	Mr Martyr	Mr Wentworth
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Holten	Mr Moore	Mr Yates
Mr Carige	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Cotter	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Corbett

And so it was negatived.

The time allotted for precedence to general business having expired, government business was called on.

8 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL: 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 Bill:

7 April 1976—Message No. 31—Australia—Japan Foundation 1976.

9 EXPENDITURE—PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Standing Committee be appointed to:
 - (a) consider any papers on public expenditure presented to this House and such of the estimates as it sees fit to examine;
 - (b) consider how, if at all, policies implied in the figures of expenditure and in the estimates may be carried out more economically;
 - (c) examine the relationship between the costs and benefits of implementing government programs, and
 - (d) inquire into and report on any question in connection with public expenditure which is referred to it by this House.
- (2) That the committee consist of 6 members to be nominated by the Prime Minister, 5 members to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, and the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts or his nominee.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a 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.
- (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 5 or more of its members, and shall 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, sitting 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 5 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee.
- (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 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.

10 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE: Ordered—That notice No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

11 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 7 (1976): Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 7 (1976).

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

12 STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS) 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. 32, dated 25 March 1976, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue and moneys for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 to 6, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 7—

Mr Bowen moved the following amendment: Page 10, line 4, after “State,” insert “but only after consultation with the Schools Commission and report to the Parliament,”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 32

Mr Armitage	Mr Crean	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Jones	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Fry	Mr Keating	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Innes	Mr Scholes	
Dr Cass	Mr Jacobi	Mr Stewart	
Mr Cohen	Dr Jenkins	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Wallis	Mr James
			Mr Nicholls

NOES, 82

Mr Abel	Mr Cotter	Mr Katter	Mr Porter
Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr Kelly	Dr Richardson
Mr Anthony	Mr Drummond	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Dr Edwards	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Birney	Mr Falconer	Mr Lynch	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr Bouchier	Mr Garland	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Bradfield	Mr Giles	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Gillard	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Brown	Mr Goodluck	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Bungey	Mr Graham	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Hamer	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Haslem	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr Carige	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman	
Mr Chipp	Mr Jarman	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr O'Keefe	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Corbett	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock	Mr Fisher

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 8 to 10, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 11—

Mr Bowen moved the following amendment: Page 13, after paragraph 2 (a) insert the following paragraph:

“(aa) after consultation with the Schools Commission, the Commonwealth Education Minister may permit the allocation of a specific amount from a schools allocation to be spent at the discretion of the school board;”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the paragraph proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 32

Mr Armitage	Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keating	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Dr Cass	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cohen	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
Mr Connor	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Wallis	Mr Nicholls

NOES, 79

Mr Abel	Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Peacock
Mr Adermann	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Dr Richardson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Falconer	Mr King	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Fife	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bouchier	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr Bradfield	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Brown	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bungey	Mr Graham	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Burr	Mr Hamer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Holten	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Carige	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr Yates
Mr Chipp	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Corbett

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister representing the Minister for Education), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

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

8 April 1976—Message—

No. 28—Nitrogenous Fertilizers Subsidy Amendment 1976.

No. 29—Loans (Qantas Airways Limited) 1976.

No. 30—Loans (Australian National Airlines Commission) 1976.

14 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE: Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), by leave, moved—That Mr Innes be discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, and that, in his place, Mr Crean be appointed a member of the Committee.

Question—put and passed.

15 COMMONWEALTH TEACHING SERVICE 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 Viner (Minister representing the Minister for Education), the Bill was read a third time.

16 ROADS ACTS 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—
 Debate resumed.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 33, dated 5 April 1976, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
 The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and debated.
 Mr Jones rising to address the committee—
Closure: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport) moved—That the question be now put.
 Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.
 And the question—That the Bill be agreed to—was put accordingly, and passed.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Giles reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr Nixon, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

17 POPULATION POLICY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 30 March 1976*), viz.:
 Population policy—Ministerial statement, 30 March 1976—
Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Innes speaking for a period not exceeding 28 minutes.
 Question—put and passed.
 Debate resumed.
 Mr Macphee addressing the House—

18 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr James addressing the House—
Closure: Mr Yates moved—That the question be now put.
 The Deputy Speaker having put the question—That the question be now put—stated that the “Ayes” had it.
 And a division having been called for—
 The House proceeded to divide.
 Division, by leave, not further proceeded with.

It being 11.00 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday, 27 April, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker shall, by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House, fix an earlier day of meeting.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 8 April 1976, pursuant to statute:

- Audit Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 91.
- Census and Statistics Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 89.
- Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 87.
- Dried Vine Fruits Stabilization Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 86.
- Insurance Acts—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 90.
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1976—
No. 13—Transfer of Executive Powers 1975.
No. 14—Interpretation 1975.
- Social Welfare Commission Acts—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 88.

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

* On leave

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