

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 44

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 1976

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- 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 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Bryant, Mr Crean, Mr Hayden, Mr Innes, Dr Jenkins and Mr L. K. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Mr Ignazio Salemi be permitted to remain in Australia.
  - Mr Armitage, Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Martin, Mr Morris and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the M.V. *Australian Trader* be restored to the Tasmanian service.
  - Mr Beazley, Mr L. K. Johnson, Dr Richardson and Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be maintained.
  - Mr Bradfield, Mr Jarman and Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that social security payments be adjusted instantly and automatically with increases in the Consumer Price Index and certain other benefits be adjusted.
  - Mr Beazley and Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that the indexed value of education spending be maintained and the recommendations of several reports on education be implemented.
  - Dr J. F. Cairns and Mr Lusher—from certain electors praying that chiropractors' fees be covered by health insurance and be tax deductible.
  - Mr Hurford and Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the decision to curtail the home mortgage interest tax deduction scheme be reconsidered and the benefits be upgraded by indexation.
  - Mr Jarman and Mr Willis—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Assistance Plan be continued as recommended in the report tabled in Parliament on 4 March 1976.
  - Mr Abel—from certain citizens praying that a licence be granted to 2RD FM Community Radio to operate a public access radio station to service the mid-western suburbs of Sydney.
  - Mr Beazley—from certain citizens praying that the means test on all aged pensions be abolished immediately.
  - Mr Carige—from certain electors of the Division of Capricornia praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
  - Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.
  - Mr Falconer—from certain citizens praying that further mining and export of uranium, except for bio-medical purposes, be banned and the Australian Atomic Energy Commission be transformed into an Australian Energy Commission.

Mr Fry—from certain citizens praying that the Government make more provision for cyclists.

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

Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the principles of Medibank be strengthened and extended from general revenue.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Newcastle, N.S.W., praying that the Government place immediate orders with the Newcastle State Dockyard and implement the plan to build a graving dock in Newcastle.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be maintained, advertising on the A.B.C. be rejected, public funding of the Commission be developed and any general inquiries into broadcasting be conducted publicly.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper:* Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Aboriginal unemployment statistics, 1972–1976.

Questions without notice continued.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Housing industry—Indicative Planning Council—Report for 1976–77 to 1978–79.

United Nations—General Assembly—Thirtieth Session, New York, 16 September to 17 December 1975—Report of Australian Delegation.

Pursuant to statute:

National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—Fifty-third Annual Report, for year 1975–76.

5 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 7 September next, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker, or, in the absence from Australia of Mr Speaker, the Chairman of Committees, shall by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House, fix an alternative day of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

6 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT: Mr Kelly (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to the development of navy supply centre and army workshop facility at defence establishment, Zetland, N.S.W. (First report of 1976)

Ordered to be printed.

7 GRIEVANCE DEBATE: Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Ordered—That Mr Morris be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

8 ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE VETERANS' RESIDENCES AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Act 1953*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

9 ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1976: Mr Ellicott (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend certain Acts in consequence of certain Administrative Changes, and to provide for related matters. Bill read a first time.

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

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

10 TELECOMMUNICATIONS AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Post and Telecommunications), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Telecommunications Act 1975*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr E. L. Robinson 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.

11 STATES GRANTS (HOUSING ASSISTANCE) BILL (NO. 2) 1976: Mr Newman (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to Authorize Advances to the States of Financial Assistance in connexion with Housing and to Authorize the Borrowing of Certain Moneys by the Commonwealth.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

12 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1976-77—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 E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House condemns the Budget because:*

- (a) it pursues a policy of unemployment as a weapon to reduce real wages and salaries;
- (b) it abdicates federal government responsibilities and forces the State governments and local governments either to reduce their services or institute additional charges, or both;
- (c) it introduces an additional tax in the form of the Medibank levy, thus further reducing consumer spending;
- (d) it reduces the availability of services to the whole community but particularly to those most vulnerable to hardship, notably Aborigines, the unemployed and migrants, and
- (e) it fails to institute selective stimulatory expenditure to reduce unemployment and restore consumer confidence”—

Debate resumed.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speeches:* Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) and Mr Hurford each speaking for a period not exceeding 35 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

Mr Hurford was granted leave to continue his speech for a further 2 minutes.

Debate continued.

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

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

26 August 1976—Message No. 94—Broadcasting and Television Amendment 1976.

14 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Newman (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

*Debate extended:* It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) required the debate to be extended.

Mr Howard addressing the House—

*Closure of Member moved:* Mr Scholes moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 18

Mr Armitage	Mr Innes	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Jacobi	Mr Morris	
Mr Crean	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Scholes	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Garrick	Mr Jones	Mr Stewart	Mr James
Mr Hayden	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam	Mr L. K. Johnson

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Mr Adermann	Mr Drummond	Mr Lusher	Dr Richardson
Mr Baillieu	Dr Edwards	Mr Lynch	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr MacKellar	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr Falconer	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Ruddock
Mr Burchier	Mr Fife	Mr McLean	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Gillard	Mr McLeay	Mr Shipton
Mr Brown	Mr Goodluck	Mr McVeigh	Mr Short
Mr Bungey	Mr Groom	Mr Macphee	Mr Simon
Mr Cadman	Mr Haslem	Mr Martyr	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hodges	Mr Millar	Mr Staley
Mr Calder	Mr Hodgman	Mr Neil	Mr Street
Mr Carige	Mr Howard	Mr Newman	Mr Wentworth
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr O'Keefe	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cotter	Mr Jull	Mr Peacock	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Dobie	Mr Lloyd	Mr Porter	Mr Fisher

And so it was negatived.

It being past 11.10 p.m., Mr Deputy Speaker, at 11.19 p.m., adjourned the House until Tuesday, 7 September next, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker, or, in the absence from Australia of Mr Speaker, the Chairman of Committees, shall, by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House, fix an alternative day of meeting.

**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 26 August 1976, pursuant to statute:

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1976—

No. 318—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 343—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

Nos. 344 and 345—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 346—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees Association.

No. 347—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.

No. 348—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†

No. 349—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

No. 350—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).†

No. 351—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.†

No. 352—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†  
Nos. 353 and 354—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.  
(† Not accompanied by statement)

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except  
Dr Cass, Mr Cohen, Mr Corbett, Mr Hamer and Mr Viner.

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