

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 24

THURSDAY, 9 APRIL 1981

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

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

Mr Beazley, Mr Campbell, Dr Cass, Mr Cunningham, Mr Dawkins, Mr Duffy, Mr Hawke, Mr Howe, Mr Jacobi, Dr Jenkins, Mr B. O. Jones, Mr Mildren and Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that insulin syringes for diabetics be made available on the National Health Scheme and insulin prescriptions revert to 10 bottles.

Mr D. M. Cameron and Mr Millar—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.

Mr Hawke and Mr Hodgman—from certain residents of Victoria praying that musicians dismissed from the A.B.C. Melbourne Showband be reinstated and that funds be made available to enable the band to continue.

Mr Bradfield—from certain citizens praying that in view of the spiritual and moral decline of the nation a national day of prayer and fasting be held in 1981.

Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that private and confidential medical records be protected from scrutiny.

Mr Chapman—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that sanitary products for women be brought under the scrutiny of the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee and certain other actions be taken in regard to the possible threat posed to the health of women by toxic shock syndrome.

Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to grant a service pension to ex-service personnel who did not serve overseas.

Mr Free—from certain citizens praying that funding of children's services be restored to at least the real value of funding allocated in the 1975-76 Budget and future allocations be spent in full for the purposes designated.

Mr Free—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Macquarie praying that Telecom Australia be directed to provide an adequate service to subscribers and users in the 047 telephone zone.

Mr Holding—from certain residents of Victoria praying that unemployed persons under 18 years of age not be denied unemployment benefits.

Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that legislation be introduced to require labelling of perfumes, cosmetics and toilet preparations to indicate any use of animal ingredients during manufacture.

Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that Service Pensions be extended to all merchant seamen who served in theatres of war.

Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that requests for export permits covering mineral sand products from Moreton Island, Qld, be refused.

Mr McLean—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that steps be taken to formulate an airline policy providing for greater competition so that prices and service are determined by free market forces.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that militant unions not be permitted to hold the country to ransom and that a forceful and resolute stand be taken against union militancy.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Administrative Review Council—Report on Australian Broadcasting Tribunal procedures, dated 6 February 1981.

Australian Shippers' Council—Annual Report, for year 1979–80.

Pursuant to statute:

Australia–Japan Foundation Act—Australia–Japan Foundation—4th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1979–80.

Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Act—Australian Apple and Pear Corporation—6th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1980.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Health Commission Ordinance—Capital Territory Health Commission—Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1979–80.

5 PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY: Mr Speaker informed the House that he had ascertained that His Excellency the Governor-General would be pleased to receive the Address in Reply at Government House at 4.45 p.m. this day.

Mr Speaker said he would be glad if the mover and seconder, together with other Members, would accompany him to present the Address.

6 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 28 April 1981, at 2.15 p.m., unless Mr Speaker shall fix an alternative day or hour of meeting or, in the incapacity or absence from Australia of Mr Speaker, the Chairman of Committees may fix an alternative day or hour, such alternative day or hour of meeting to be notified by telegram or letter addressed to each Member of the House.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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.

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 ROAD SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that the Government Whip had nominated Mr Chapman to be a member of the Standing Committee on Road Safety in place of Mr Shack.

9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HIGH TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that both Mr B. O. Jones and Mr Dean had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, Mr Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr B. O. Jones, namely, "The Fraser

Government's abject failure to promote the establishment of Australian based and owned high technology industries, especially in computers and biotechnology, and to change Australia's extremely adverse position in technology transfer".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr B. O. Jones addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 10 PAPERS: Mr Howard (Treasurer), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Rundle shale oil project—Copies of letters to Mr Howard, from—

Mr Ian McFarlane, Chairman, Southern Pacific Petroleum NL, dated 3 March 1981, together with 2 attachments.

Mr John Rankine, Deputy Chairman, Southern Pacific Petroleum NL, dated 25 March 1981.

- 11 COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION—26TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE—REPORT OF DELEGATION FROM COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA BRANCH—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Fisher, by leave, presented the following paper:

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—26th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Zambia, September-October 1980—Report of Delegation from Commonwealth of Australia Branch—

and, by leave, moved—That the paper be printed.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Fisher, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

- 12 ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT—DEBATE AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE—REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr C. K. Jones, by leave, presented the following paper:

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development—Debate at the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, September 1980—Report of Australian Delegation—

and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

Dr Edwards, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the report.

- 13 BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION ACT—GOVERNMENT REVIEW—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:

Mr Sinclair (Minister for Communications), by leave, made a ministerial statement announcing the conclusions of the Government's review of aspects of the Broadcasting and Television Act and related matters.

Mr Dawkins, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 14 PHILIPPINES—INCIDENT AT AN AUSTRALIAN AID PROJECT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:

Mr Street (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the shooting of 2 Australians at a Philippines/Australia Development Assistance Project site, the outcome of investigations conducted and intentions regarding the future of the project.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 15 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON AUSTRALIA AND ASEAN—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Street (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence on Australia and ASEAN.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

Suspension of sitting: At 4.22 p.m., Mr Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of sitting: At 8 p.m., Mr Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

- 16 PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY: Mr Deputy Speaker reported that, accompanied by Members, Mr Speaker had waited this day upon His Excellency the Governor-General at Government House, and had presented to him the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech on the Opening of the 1st Session of the 32nd Parliament, agreed to by the House on 7 April 1981, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply:

Mr Speaker,

Thank you for your Address-in-Reply which you have just presented to me.

It will be my pleasure and my duty to convey to Her Majesty The Queen the message of loyalty from the House of Representatives, to which the Address gives expression.

- 17 QUARANTINE AMENDMENT BILL 1981: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Health), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Quarantine Act 1908*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 18 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICE: Mr Fife (Minister for Education), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent notice No. 53, general business, being called on forthwith.

Question—put and passed.

- 19 COAL LOADER CAPACITY: Mr Baume, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House—

- (1) expresses its concern at the threat to Australian coal exports posed by continuing delays in the building of adequate coal loader capacity, particularly in New South Wales, and at the level of industrial disruption at existing coal loaders in that State, and
- (2) calls upon the New South Wales Government to—
 - (a) allow private enterprise to build the additional coal loader capacity in Newcastle required to meet substantially rising demand for steaming coal;
 - (b) re-examine the urgent need for the construction by private enterprise of a coal loader in Botany Bay to cater for western and south western steaming and coking coals, and
 - (c) increase the capacity of the proposed Port Kembla coal loader to receive coal transported by road in excess of the stated 2 million tonnes maximum in view of the inability of the New South Wales Railways to provide adequate handling capacity for at least another 5 years.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned (Mr MacKenzie), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 20 PARLIAMENTARY CONTRIBUTORY SUPERANNUATION AMENDMENT BILL 1981: Mr Howard (Minister representing the Minister for Finance), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1948*.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate, by leave, ensued.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 27, dated 9 April 1981, 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 Howard, the Bill was read a third time.

- 21 COAL LOADER CAPACITY: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Baume relating to coal loader capacity (*moved earlier this day, see entry No. 19*)—

Papers: Mr MacKenzie, by leave, during his speech, presented the following papers:

Coal loading delays—Copies of 5 papers showing statistics relating to vessel delay periods in New South Wales ports, October 1980 to March 1981.

Debate continued.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

- 22 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—3RD REPORT: Mr Baume (Chairman) presented the 3rd Report from the Publications Committee (sitting in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

3RD REPORT

The Publications Committee has the honour to report that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered petitions and papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, and papers previously presented, recommends that the following be printed:

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act—Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Annual Report, for year 1979–80.

Advisory Council for Inter-Government Relations Act—Advisory Council for Inter-Government Relations—Annual Report (4th), for year ended 31 August 1980.

Australia-China Council—Annual Report, for year 1979–80.

Australia-Japan Foundation Act—Australia-Japan Foundation—Annual Report (4th), for 1979–80.

Australian Apple and Pear Corporation Act—Australian Apple and Pear Corporation—Report (6th), for 1980.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies—Social Impact of Uranium Mining on the Aborigines of the Northern Territory—Report, for period 1 April 1980 to 30 September 1980.

Australian Plague Locust Commission—Annual Report, for year 1979–80.

Australian Shippers' Council—Report for 1979–80.

Aviation—General Aviation Study—Report by Department of Transport.

Bounty (Drilling Bits) Act—Return, for period 1 October 1979 to 30 September 1980.

Commonwealth Teaching Service Act—Commonwealth Teaching Service Commissioner—Report for 1980.

Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission—Annual Report (24th) of President, for year ended 13 August 1980.

Department of the House of Representatives—Annual Report, for 1980.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Cheese, dated 15 March 1979 (No. 204).

Crushing or Grinding Machines, dated 27 January 1981 (No. 257).

Fluorescent and Filament Lamps—Short Term Assistance, dated 3 December 1980 (No. 253).

Iron and Steel Industry, dated 25 July 1980 (No. 249).

Manufactured Tobacco, dated 23 January 1981 (No. 256).

Metal Cans and Canisters of Iron or Steel, dated 19 December 1980 (No. 254).

Industries Assistance Commission Act—Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Certain works trucks and stackers, dated 23 February 1981 (No. 53).

National Companies and Securities Commission Act—National Companies and Securities Commission—Annual Report (1st), together with financial statements and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for the period 11 March 1980 to 30 June 1980.

National Health Act—Registered Medical and Hospital Benefits Organizations—Annual Report (9th), on the operations of the Organizations, for year 1978-79.

Official Establishments Trust—Annual Report (1st), for year 1979-80.

Schools Commission Act—Schools Commission—Report for Triennium 1982-84, dated March 1981.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Health Commission Ordinance—Capital Territory Health Commission—Report for 1979-80.

Tertiary Education Commission Act—Tertiary Education Commission—Report for Triennium 1982-84—

Volume 1, dated February 1981—

Part 1—Recommendations on Guidelines.

Part 2—Advice of Universities Council.

Part 3—Advice of Advanced Education Council.

Part 4—Advice of Technical and Further Education Council.

Part 5—Appendixes.

Summary of Recommendations on Guidelines, dated February 1981.

M. E. BAUME

Chairman

9 April 1981

Mr Baume, by leave, moved—That the report be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

23 ADJOURNMENT: Mr McVeigh (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday, 28 April 1981, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to the resolution agreed to this day (*see entry No. 6*)

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 9 April 1981, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Lands acquired for—

Airport purposes—Cribb Island, Lower Nudgee and Myrtletown, Qld.

Defence purposes—

Bulimba, Qld.

Canungra, Qld.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Birney, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Cohen, Mr Falconer and Mr Lloyd.

J. A. PETTIFER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives