

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 28

TUESDAY, 5 MAY 1981

1 The House met, at 2.45 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 JOINT SITTING—CHOICE OF SENATOR—STATEMENT BY MR SPEAKER: Mr Speaker informed the House that, in accordance with the provisions of the *Senate (Representation of Territories) Act* 1973, at a joint sitting held in the Senate Chamber at 2.15 p.m. this day, Margaret Elizabeth Reid was chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator John William Knight, a Senator for the Australian Capital Territory.

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

Mr B. O. Jones, Mr C. K. Jones, Mr J. L. McMahon and Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to sell Trans Australia Airlines be rejected.

Mr Howe and Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to deny unemployment benefits to unemployed persons under 18 years of age be unconditionally withdrawn and that certain other action be taken in regard to unemployment benefits and employment policies.

Mr J. L. McMahon and Mr Mountford—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 Bowen—from certain residents of the Electoral Division of Kingsford-Smith praying that the total education expenditure for 1980-81 for government schools and colleges be restored and substantially increased.

Mr R. J. Brown—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the allocation of funds for government school programs be restored and substantially increased.

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.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that section 79 (1) of the Family Law Act be amended to allow Family Courts to be made open to the public and to permit publication of the details of their proceedings, provided that the names of parties and other identifying information are prohibited from disclosure.

Mr Cowan—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant breeder's rights in Australia be rejected.

Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.

Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that specific grants for the community health program in New South Wales be maintained at the current level.

Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that there be no extension of Kingsford-Smith Airport, Sydney, N.S.W.

Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the House recognise the importance of the hotel industry and that any proposal to increase the excise on beer be rejected.

Sir William McMahon—from certain citizens praying that laws be passed to outlaw discrimination in employment and in the provision of unemployment benefits, based upon race, ethnic origin, marital status and sex.

Mr Porter—from certain residents of Butler Tanks, S.A., praying that the right to sort all mail addressed to Butler Tanks be returned to the Butler Tanks Post Office.

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.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 PAPER: The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:

Aboriginal Loans Commission Act—Aboriginal Loans Commission—6th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1979-80.

6 DEFENCE—JOINT AUSTRALIAN/UNITED STATES FACILITIES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to joint Australian/United States of America defence facilities in Australia and associated matters, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Defence—Joint Australian/United States facilities—

Copies of—

Agreed minutes of interpretation regarding agreement between the Governments of Australia and the United States of America relating to the establishment of a U.S. naval communication station in Australia, dated 9 May 1963.

Arrangements between the U.S. Department of the Navy and the Commonwealth of Australia Department of Defence for the use and occupation by the U.S. Navy of Commonwealth land and for associated matters, dated 3 February 1967, together with 9 attachments.

Explanatory notes on North West Cape technical arrangements.

Technical arrangements between the U.S. Department of the Navy and the Commonwealth of Australia Department of Defence relating to—

Commissaries at North West Cape, W.A., dated 24 and 28 October 1966.

Handling of R.A.N. and R.N. submarine message traffic via North West Cape, dated 18 May 1967 and 1 February 1968.

Telecommunications service, dated 31 December 1965 and 11 January 1966. Ministerial statement, 5 May 1981.

Mr Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Moore, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) speaking for a period not exceeding 25 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hodgman—Minister for the Capital Territory), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

7 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:
 Mr Fry (Acting Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory:

Report on the 73rd/74th series of proposed variations of the plan of lay-out of the City of Canberra and its environs, together with copies of extracts from the minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

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

8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOSPITAL SERVICES AND MEDICAL BENEFITS:
 Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Dr Blewett had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to honour its promise to maintain free public hospital provision and universal Commonwealth medical benefits”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Dr Blewett addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

9 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICE: Mr Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent notice No. 47, general business, being called on forthwith.

Question—put and passed.

10 SPIRITS REGULATIONS—AMENDMENT TO REGULATION 9B—DISALLOWANCE: Mr Giles, pursuant to notice, moved—That the amendment to Regulation 9B of the Spirits Regulations as contained in Statutory Rules 1980, No. 384, made under the *Spirits Act* 1906, be disallowed.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3) 1980–81: 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 Willis, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill, the House—

- (a) deplores the failure of the Government to fully spend appropriations in important areas of Government expenditure;
- (b) rejects the Government’s claims that the improvements in economic growth that have occurred recently have been due to the effects of Government policies;
- (c) recognises that such modest recovery as has occurred is due to the failure of the Government to achieve particular policy objectives and to factors beyond the control of the Australian Government;
- (d) notes with alarm the gathering signs of an acute credit squeeze as exemplified by record and rising interest rates and shortages of home mortgage finance;
- (e) expresses its concern that severely restrictive monetary policies and a threatened tightening of fiscal policy will produce a renewed downturn in the rate of economic growth, and a further rise in unemployment, and
- (f) accordingly expresses its complete lack of confidence in Government economic policies”—

Debate resumed.

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

12 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3) 1980-81: 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 Willis, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill, the House—

- (a) deplores the failure of the Government to fully spend appropriations in important areas of Government expenditure;
- (b) rejects the Government’s claims that the improvements in economic growth that have occurred recently have been due to the effects of Government policies;
- (c) recognises that such modest recovery as has occurred is due to the failure of the Government to achieve particular policy objectives and to factors beyond the control of the Australian Government;
- (d) notes with alarm the gathering signs of an acute credit squeeze as exemplified by record and rising interest rates and shortages of home mortgage finance;
- (e) expresses its concern that severely restrictive monetary policies and a threatened tightening of fiscal policy will produce a renewed downturn in the rate of economic growth, and a further rise in unemployment, and
- (f) accordingly expresses its complete lack of confidence in Government economic policies”—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

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Mr Adermann	Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Porter
Mr Anthony	Mr Coleman	Mr Jarman	Mr Rocher
Mr Baume	Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Birney	Mr Dean	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bourchier	Mr Dobie	Mr Lusher	Mr Shack
Mr Bradfield	Dr Edwards	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Falconer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fife	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Spender
Mr Bungey	Mr Fisher*	Mr McLean	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Mr McVeigh	Mr Tambling
Mr Cadman	Mr Hall	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr Moore	Mr Tuckey
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr Newman	Mr Viner
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hodgman	Mr Nixon	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Howard	Mr O’Keefe	

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Mr Armitage	Mr Cohen	Mr Johnson*	Mr Milton
Mr Beazley	Mr Cross	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Morris
Dr Blewett	Mr Cunningham	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Morrison
Mr Bowen	Mr Dawkins	Mr Keating	Mr Mountford
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Duffy	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scholes
Mr R. J. Brown	Dr Everingham	Mr Kent	Mr Scott
Mr Campbell	Mr Free	Dr Klugman	Dr Theophanous
Dr Cass	Mr Holding	Mr McLeay	Mr West
Mr Charles	Mr Humphreys*	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mrs Child	Mr Hurford	Mr Mildren	Mr Young

*Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Mr Thomson (Minister for Science and Technology) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Thomson, the Bill was read a third time.

13 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1980-81: 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 Thomson (Minister for Science and Technology), the Bill was read a third time.

14 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Thomson (Minister for Science and Technology) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.55 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 5 May 1981:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Audit Act—Report of the Auditor-General upon audits, examinations and inspections carried out under the Audit and other Acts, dated 30 March 1981—Corrigendum slip to paper presented on 31 March 1981.

Pursuant to statute:

Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 77.

Australian National University Act—Statutes—

No. 146—Enrolment, Courses and Degrees Amendment No. 13.

No. 147—Academic and Ceremonial Dress Amendment No. 9.

Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 78.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statements (2) of lands acquired by agreement authorized under sub-section 7 (1).

Parliament Act—Proposal, together with site plans, for the construction within the Parliamentary Zone of car parks and security lighting therein.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 79.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Regulations—1981—No. 9 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Connolly, Mr Drummond, Mr Groom, Mr Hicks, Mr Innes, Mr Katter, Mr Robinson and Mr Wallis.

J. A. PITTIFER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives