

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 5

WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 1976

1 MEETING OF SENATE: The Senate met at half-past two p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The President (Senator the Honourable Condor L. Laucke) took the Chair.

2 PRAYERS.

3 PETITIONS: Senator Baume presented a petition from Mr D. Sankey of New South Wales praying that the Senate grant leave to inspect copies of Minute Papers and other documents relating to proposed overseas loans tabled on 9 July and 19 August 1975, and that these papers be made available for examination by the Queanbeyan Court.

Petition received.

Senator Sheil presented a petition from 2858 electors of Queensland praying that the Government reinstate the cadet forces.

Petition received and read.

4 CONTINGENT NOTICE OF MOTION: Senator Sim gave a Contingent Notice of Motion as follows—That (contingent on the re-appointment of the Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees) he would move—That there be referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the following matter—Australia and the Indian Ocean region.

5 QUESTIONS.

6 PAPERS: The following Papers were presented, by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Dyeline Base Paper (By-law), dated 18 June 1975.

Port Pirie—Report by the Bureau of Transport Economics, entitled "Port Pirie: Economic Evaluation of Harbour Improvements", dated October 1975.

Roads—Report by the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads, entitled "Report on Roads 1975", dated 15 December 1975, together with a statement by the Minister for Transport, the Hon. P. J. Nixon, M.P.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Airlines Agreement Act—Financial Statement by Ansett Transport Industries Limited in respect of that part of the Company and its subsidiaries relating to the operation of air services, for year ended 28 June 1975.

Australian National Airlines Act—Thirtieth Annual Report of the Australian National Airlines Commission, together with financial statements and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1974-75.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement by the Minister describing land acquired by agreement under section 7 (1) of the Act, for specified public purposes.

- 7 MARITIME INDUSTRY—COMMISSION OF INQUIRY—AUSTRALIA'S PORTS—PAPER: The Minister for Administrative Services (Senator Withers), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Maritime Industry—Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Maritime Industry on the adequacy of Australia's ports, dated February 1976.

Senator O'Byrne, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Paper.

Ordered—That the debate be adjourned till the next day of sitting, and that Senator O'Byrne have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.

- 8 METRIC CONVERSION BOARD—PAPER—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Science (Senator Webster), pursuant to Statute, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Metric Conversion Act—Fifth Annual Report of the Metric Conversion Board, for year 1974–75.

Senator Webster, by leave, made a statement relating to the Paper.

- 9 INDUSTRY AND TRADE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON INDONESIAN-AUSTRALIAN TRADE: The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Industry and Trade in the previous Parliament (Senator Coleman), by leave, brought up the Report of the Committee on Prospects for Trade between Indonesia and Australia, together with the transcript of evidence.

Ordered—That the Report be printed.

Senator Coleman, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Report.

Ordered—That the debate be adjourned till the next day of sitting, and that Senator Coleman have leave to continue her speech on the resumption of the debate.

- 10 PERSONAL EXPLANATION: Senator Colston, by leave, made a personal explanation relating to reports which appeared in various Queensland newspapers on 23 February 1976 and which were broadcast by the Macquarie Broadcasting Network.

Senators Martin and Bonner, by leave, made statements relating thereto.

- 11 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OPENING SPEECH—ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion by Senator Knight—That the following Address-in-Reply be agreed to:

To His Excellency the Governor-General

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the Senate 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.

Debate resumed.

Senator Harradine moved an amendment, viz.: That the following words be added to the Address-in-Reply: “, and the Senate is of the opinion that your advisers, having declared their intention of taking particular care over the special circumstances of the less populous States, should obtain the approval of those States prior to the implementation of your advisers' new approach to Federalism”.

Debate continued.

On the motion of the Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle) the debate was adjourned.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be an Order of the Day for a later hour of the day.

- 12 NATIONAL HEALTH BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 1

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'National Health Act 1953-1975'*”, in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 25 February 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

The Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Senator Guilfoyle the Bill was read a first time.

Senator Guilfoyle moved—That this Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Grimes the debate was adjourned.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be an Order of the Day for the next day of sitting.

- 13 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OPENING SPEECH—ADDRESS-IN-REPLY: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion by Senator Knight—That the following Address-in-Reply be agreed to:

To His Excellency the Governor-General

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the Senate 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 Senator Harradine*—That the following words be added to the Address-in-Reply: “, and the Senate is of the opinion that your advisers, having declared their intention of taking particular care over the special circumstances of the less populous States, should obtain the approval of those States prior to the implementation of your advisers' new approach to Federalism ”.

Debate resumed.

Senator Bonner addressing the Chair—

And it being eleven p.m.—

- 14 ADJOURNMENT: The President, under Sessional Order, put the Question—That the Senate do now adjourn.
Question—resolved in the affirmative.
The Senate adjourned at eleven p.m. till to-morrow at eleven a.m.
- 15 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators.

J. R. ODGERS,
Clerk of the Senate