

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 14

WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 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 Bonner presented a petition from 78 citizens of Australia praying that the Government use its power to protect the natural environment of Fraser Island for the long-term benefit of the people of Australia.

Petition received and read.

The Clerk announced that Senator Jessop had lodged a petition for presentation, viz.:

From 15 citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Government reverse its decision to cut expenditure on overseas aid, re-affirm Australia's commitment of Overseas Development Assistance at a minimum of 0.7 per cent of the Gross National Product, and establish an independent statutory authority to administer overseas aid.

Petition received.

- 4 CONTINGENT NOTICE OF MOTION: The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wriedt) gave a Contingent Notice of Motion as follows—That (contingent on the President proceeding to the placing of business on any day) he would move—That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Senator Wriedt moving a motion relating to the order of business on the Notice Paper.
- 5 NOTICE OF MOTION: Senator Mulvihill gave a Notice of Motion as follows—That, on the next day of sitting, he would move—That there be referred to the Standing Committee on Science and the Environment the following matter—The impact on the Australian environment of the current wood-chip industry programme.

6 QUESTIONS.

- 7 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S MESSAGES—ASSENT TO BILLS: The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented by the President:

JOHN R. KERR,

Governor-General

Message No. 4

Proposed laws intituled:—

Loan Act 1976

Loan Act (No. 2) 1976

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said laws.

Government House,

Canberra, 23 March 1976

JOHN R. KERR,

Governor-General

Message No. 5

Proposed law intituled:—

Meat Export Charge Amendment Act 1976

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said law.

Government House,

Canberra, 23 March 1976

- 8 AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE—PAPER: The Minister for Science (Senator Webster), pursuant to Statute, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Australian Institute of Marine Science Act—Third Annual Report of the Council of the Australian Institute of Marine Science, together with financial statement and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1974–75.

Senator Keefe, 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 Keefe have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.

- 9 PUBLIC WORKS—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—REPORT: Senator Melzer brought up the following Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works: Thirty-ninth General Report.

- 10 PAPERS: The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 80.

Defence Act, Naval Defence Act, Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, Nos 81, 82.

- 11 POSTPONEMENT: Senator Devitt moved—That Business of the Senate, Notice of Motion No. 1, relating to the disallowance of new sub-section (8) of section 16 of the *Unit Titles Ordinance* 1970–1971, contained in paragraph (b) of section 3 of the *Unit Titles Ordinance* 1975, as contained in Australian Capital Territory Ordinance No. 31 of 1975, and made under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act* 1910–1973, be postponed till the next day of sitting.

Question—put and passed.

- 12 NORFOLK ISLAND ADMINISTRATION ORDINANCE—STATEMENT BY SENATOR: Senator Devitt, by leave, made a statement informing the Senate that the objection of the Regulations and Ordinances Committee to the *Administration Ordinance* 1975, as contained in Norfolk Island Ordinance No. 5 of 1975, and made under the *Norfolk Island Act* 1957–1973, would be substantially overcome by amendments which the Minister for Administrative Services had undertaken would be made.

Notice of Motion withdrawn: Senator Devitt thereupon withdrew Business of the Senate, Notice of Motion No. 2.

- 13 POSTPONEMENT: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), at the request of Senator Sim, moved—That Business of the Senate, Notice of Motion No. 3, relating to the reference of a matter to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence, be postponed till the next day of sitting.

Question—put and passed.

- 14 STATES GRANTS (FRUIT CANNERIES) BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Senator Walsh moved an amendment, viz.: At end of motion, add “, but the Senate is of the opinion that—

- (a) the problems of the canned fruit industry are a legacy of the over-expansion of the production base fostered by successive Liberal and Country Party Governments throughout the 1960s; and
- (b) the Government should consider immediately the AIDC report handed down in September 1975, with a view towards significant rationalisation of this industry to prevent further hardship to growers and their families”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be added—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 25		NOES, 34	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Bishop	McLaren	Archer	Laucke
Brown	Melzer	Baume	Martin
Button	Mulvihill	Bonner	Maunsell
Cameron	O'Byrne	Carrick	Messner
Cavanagh	Primmer	Collard	Missen
Coleman	Robertson	Cormack,	Rae
Colston	Ryan	Sir Magnus	Scott
Devitt	Sibraa	Cotton	Sheil
Gietzelt	Walsh	Davidson	Tehan
Grimes	Wheeldon	Drake-Brockman	Thomas
Keeffe	Wriedt	Durack	Townley
McClelland,		Greenwood	Walters
Douglas	<i>Teller:</i>	Guilfoyle	Webster
McIntosh	Georges	Hall	Withers
		Jessop	Wood
		Kilgariff	Wright
		Knight	<i>Teller:</i>
		Lajovic	Chaney

Amendment negatived accordingly.

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

Bill read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

- 15 DRIED VINE FRUITS STABILIZATION AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

16 LEGISLATIVE AND GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES—APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS:

The President informed the Senate that he had received letters from the Leader of the Government in the Senate and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate nominating Senators to serve on Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees, as follows:

Constitutional and Legal Affairs

Senators Button, Chaney, Devitt, James McClelland and Missen.

Education and the Arts

Senators Button, Collard, Davidson, Martin, Robertson and Ryan.

Foreign Affairs and Defence

Senators Knight, McIntosh, Primmer, Scott, Sibraa and Sim.

Social Welfare

Senators Baume, Brown, Grimes, Melzer, Tehan and Walters.

Trade and Commerce

Senators Archer, Cameron, Coleman, Lajovic, Sheil and Walsh.

National Resources

Senators Durack, Maunsell, McAuliffe, McLaren, Robertson and Thomas.

Science and the Environment

Senators Bonner, Gietzelt, Jessop, Melzer, Mulvihill and Townley.

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, moved—

That the Senators nominated be appointed members of the respective Committees.

Question—put and passed.

17 DRIED VINE FRUITS LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That this Bill be now read a first time.

Debate resumed.

Senator Sheil addressing the Chair—

And it being eleven p.m.—

18 ADJOURNMENT: The President, under Sessional Order, put the Question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—resolved in the affirmative.

The Senate adjourned at seventeen minutes past eleven p.m. till to-morrow at eleven a.m.

19 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators McAuliffe and James McClelland.

J. R. ODGERS,

Clerk of the Senate