

PART III

THE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS



THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FIFTH ASSEMBLY

No. 1

Tuesday 28 April 1987

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**The First Session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory was begun and held at Parliament House, Darwin, on Tuesday, the twenty-eighth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven.**

1. On which day, being the first day of the meeting of the First Session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory for the despatch of business pursuant to a Notice published in the *Northern Territory Government Gazette* S29 of 2 April 1987, Horace Guy Smith, Clerk of the Assembly, Ian Bruce McNeill, Deputy Clerk, Graham Phillip Gadd, Clerk-Assistant and Helen Mary Allmich, Serjeant-at-Arms, attending in the said place according to their duty -

And Members having taken their seats -

The Notice calling the Parliament together was produced and read by the Clerk, as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

*Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978*

NOTICE OF APPOINTING THE TIME FOR THE HOLDING OF  
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

I, Eric Eugene Johnston, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, in pursuance of section 22(1) of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, appoint 10 o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, 28 April 1987, as the time for the commencement of the first session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia, to be held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber, Darwin.

Dated this thirty-first day of March, 1987.

(L.S.)

(Sgd) E.E. Johnston  
Administrator

2. APPROACH OF THE DEPUTY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR:  
The approach of the Deputy of His Honour the Administrator was announced by the Serjeant-at-Arms.  
The Honourable Justice Kevin Fredrick O'Leary, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory of Australia, entered the Chamber and took the Chair.

The Deputy addressed Members of the Assembly, as follows:

Members of the Assembly, pray be seated -

Members of the Legislative Assembly, His Honour the Administrator, not thinking fit to be present in person at this time, has been pleased to appoint me his Deputy to do in his name all that is necessary to be performed in declaring this Assembly open, as will be more fully explained from my Commission which will now be read:

The Honourable Justice Kevin Fredrick O'Leary produced his Commission appointing him as the Deputy of the Administrator and directed the Clerk to read the same - Which was then read as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia.

To: The Honourable Justice Kevin Fredrick O'Leary, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory of Australia.

Greeting:

WHEREAS by section 41 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* the Administrator may appoint a person, or persons jointly or severally, to be his deputy or deputies in the Territory, or a part of the Territory, and in that capacity to exercise during the pleasure of the Administrator such powers and functions of the Administrator as he assigns to the deputy or deputies:

AND WHEREAS, by notice dated 31 March 1987 and published in the *Northern Territory Government Gazette* on 2 April 1987, I appointed Tuesday 28 April 1987 as the day for the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia to assemble for the despatch of business; and all members of the Legislative Assembly are required to give their attendance accordingly at the Legislative Assembly Chamber, Darwin, in the Northern Territory of Australia, at 10 o'clock in the morning on that day:

NOW THEREFORE I, ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, appoint you to be my deputy within the Northern Territory of Australia to declare open the Legislative Assembly at the time and place appointed by that notice.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Northern Territory of Australia, this twenty-first day of April, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven.

(L.S.)

(Sgd) E.E. JOHNSTON  
Administrator

3. AUTHORIZATION TO ADMINISTER OATHS AND PRESENT SPEAKER:

The Deputy further addressed Members of the Assembly as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

His Honour the Administrator desires me to inform you that, after all Members present shall have been sworn, the causes of His Honour calling this Assembly together will be declared by him in person at this place; and it being necessary that a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall be first chosen, you, Members of the Legislative Assembly, will proceed to choose some proper person to be your Speaker; and later this day the person whom you shall so choose will present himself to His Honour at such time and place as His Honour shall appoint.

The Deputy produced his Authorization to administer to Members the Oaths or Affirmations of Allegiance and of office, and directed the Clerk to read the same - Which was then read as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia.

To: The Honourable Kevin Fredrick O'Leary, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory of Australia.

Greeting:

WHEREAS by section 13 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* it is, amongst other things, enacted that every member of the Legislative Assembly shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Administrator, or a person authorized by the Administrator, an oath or affirmation of allegiance in the form in Schedule 2 to the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* and an oath or affirmation of office in the form in Schedule 3 to that Act:

NOW THEREFORE I, ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, command and authorize you to attend at the Legislative Assembly Chamber, Darwin, on Tuesday 28 April 1987 on the opening of the Assembly at 10 o'clock in the morning of that day and there and then to administer those oaths or affirmations to such members of the Legislative Assembly as are present.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Northern Territory of Australia, this twenty-first day of April, One thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven.

(L.S.)

(Sgd) E.E. JOHNSTON  
Administrator

4. RETURNS TO WRITS - PAPERS TABLED:

The Clerk produced and laid on the Table the Returns to Writs for the election of Members of the Legislative Assembly held on 7 March 1987, and the following Members named in the returns made and subscribed the oaths or affirmations required by law:

Stanley Gabriel Tipiloura	-	Arafura
Eric Houquet Poole	-	Araluen
Wesley Wagner Lanhupuy	-	Arnhem

Ian Lindsay Tuxworth	-	Barkly
Roger William Stanley Vale	-	Braitling
Nicholas Manuel Dondas	-	Casuarina
Marshall Bruce Perron	-	Fannie Bay
Raymond Allan Hanrahan	-	Flynn
Richard Alfred Setter	-	Jingili
Michael James Palmer	-	Karama
Michael Anthony Reed	-	Katherine
Cecilia Noel Padgham-Purich	-	Koolpinyah
Frederick Arthur Finch	-	Leanyer
Colin Charles Firmin	-	Ludmilla
Neil Randal Bell	-	Macdonnell
Terence Edward Smith	-	Millner
Daniel Murray Leo	-	Nhulunbuy
Stephen Paul Hatton	-	Nightcliff
Barry Francis Coulter	-	Palmerston
Tom Harris	-	Port Darwin
Denis Wilfred Collins	-	Sadadeen
Daryl William Manzie	-	Sanderson
Brian Richard Ede	-	Stuart
Terence Robert McCarthy	-	Victoria River
Donald Francis Dale	-	Wanguri

The Honourable Kevin Fredrick O'Leary then withdrew from the Chamber.

5. ELECTION OF SPEAKER:

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) addressing the Clerk of the Assembly (Mr H.G. Smith), Acting Chairman of the Assembly; reminded the Assembly that the time had come when it was necessary for the Assembly to choose one of its Members to be Speaker -

Whereupon Mr Hatton proposed to the Assembly for its Speaker the Member for Braitling, Mr Vale, and moved - That the Member for Braitling, do take the Chair as Speaker.

Which motion was seconded by the Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan) and Mr Vale accepted the nomination.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith) proposed to the Assembly for its Speaker the Member for Nhulunbuy, Mr Leo and moved - That the Member for Nhulunbuy do take the Chair as Speaker.

Which motion was seconded by the Member for Stuart (Mr Ede) and Mr Leo accepted the nomination.

The time for proposals having expired the Assembly then proceeded to ballot.

**Bells rung and ballot conducted - scrutineers Mr Firmin and Mr Lanhupuy.**

The Clerk of the Assembly announced the result of the ballot as Mr Vale (Braitling) 17 votes, Mr Leo (Nhulunbuy) 7 votes, Informal 1 vote, and declared the Member for Braitling elected as Speaker in accordance with Standing Orders.

Members having offered congratulations to Mr Speaker - Mr Speaker thanked the Assembly for the high honour it had conferred upon him, and thereupon took the Chair.

6. PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER TO ADMINISTRATOR:

The Speaker invited honourable Members to accompany him to the Lounge where he would present himself to His Honour the Administrator as the choice of the Assembly as its Speaker.

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**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 10.28 and 10.36 a.m.

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**The Assembly having resumed -**

The Speaker reported that, accompanied by Honourable Members, he had presented himself to His Honour the Administrator as the choice of the Assembly for its Speaker and His Honour was pleased to congratulate him upon his appointment as Speaker.

7. SPEAKER'S AUTHORIZATION TO ADMINISTER OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS - PAPER TABLED:

The Speaker announced that he had received from His Honour the Administrator the following authorization to administer to Members Oaths or Affirmations of Allegiance and of Office, which was laid upon the Table and read by the Clerk:

The authorization was read by the Clerk, as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia.

To: The Honourable Roger William Stanley Vale, M.L.A.

Greeting: WHEREAS by section 13 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* it is, amongst other things, enacted that every member of the Legislative Assembly shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Administrator, or a person authorized by the Administrator, an oath or affirmation of allegiance in the form in Schedule 2 to the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* and an oath or affirmation of office in the form in Schedule 3 to that Act:

NOW THEREFORE I, ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, command and authorize you from time to time, in the Legislative Assembly Chamber, Darwin, to administer those oaths or affirmations to such members of the Legislative Assembly as have not already taken and subscribed them since their election to the Assembly.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Northern Territory of Australia, this twenty-eighth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven.

(L.S.)

(Sgd) E.E. JOHNSTON  
Administrator

8. APPROACH OF HIS HONOUR THE ADMINISTRATOR:

The approach of His Honour the Administrator was announced by the Serjeant-at-Arms.

9. HIS HONOUR'S OPENING SPEECH:

His Honour the Administrator entered the Chamber. Mr Speaker left the Chair and His Honour, having taken the Chair delivered his Address declaring the causes of his calling the Assembly together.

(Text of Speech appears in Hansard)

Upon completing his Address to the Assembly, His Honour was pleased to present the Speaker with a copy of his Address and retired from the Chamber, led by the Serjeant-at-Arms.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

10. PRAYERS.

11. MINISTRY AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT - PAPER TABLED:

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton), by leave, made a statement informing the Assembly of the appointment of Ministers, the organization of the government and the division of administrative responsibilities.

**Paper tabled:** Mr Hatton laid on the Table a copy of His Honour the Administrator's Administrative Arrangements Order, dated 19 March 1987.

MINISTERS, MINISTRIES AND MAJOR FUNCTIONS

HON. S.P. HATTON

- **Chief Minister:** Department of the Chief Minister; Department of the Legislative Assembly; Office of Women's Affairs; and Parliamentary Counsel.

HON. R.A. HANRAHAN

- **Minister for Lands and Housing:** Department of Lands and Housing; Northern Territory Land Corporation; Aboriginal Sacred Sites Protection Authority; and Northern Territory Housing Commission.
- **Minister for Conservation:** Conservation Commission; Museums and Art Galleries; and Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation.
- **Minister for Tourism:** Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

HON. B.F. COULTER

- **Treasurer and Minister for Local Government:** Northern Territory Treasury; Territory Insurance Office; Jabiru Town Development Authority; Racing, Gaming and Liquor Commission; and local government financing.
- **Minister for Mines and Energy:** Northern Territory Water Authority; Department of Mines and Energy; and Northern Territory Electricity Commission.

HON. M.B. PERRON

- **Minister for Industries and Development:** Department of Industries and Development; Trade Development Authority; Agricultural Development and Marketing Authority.

HON. D.W. MANZIE

- **Attorney-General:** Department of Law.
- **Minister for Education:** Department of Education; University College of the Northern Territory; Darwin Institute of Technology; and Northern Territory Teaching Service.



HON. D.F. DALE

- **Minister for Health and Community Services:** Department of Health and Community Services.

HON. T. HARRIS

- **Minister for Labour and Administrative Services:** Public Service; industrial relations; occupational health and safety; and worker's compensation.

HON.F.A. FINCH

- **Minister for Transport and Works:** Department of Transport and Works; and Darwin Port Authority.

OFFICE HOLDERS

HON. R.A. HANRAHAN: Deputy Chief Minister and Leader of Government Business.

MR C.C. FIRMIN: Government Whip.

12. OPPOSITION OFFICE HOLDERS - STATEMENT:

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith), by leave, made a statement relating to the Opposition office holders.

SHADOW MINISTRY AND OPPOSITION OFFICE HOLDERS

Mr T.E. SMITH - Leader of the Opposition  
Treasury; Industry and Development with Special Responsibility for Defence Liaison; Women's Affairs; Legislative Assembly and Auditor-General/Ombudsman

Mr B.R. EDE - Deputy Leader of the Opposition  
Tourism; Education; Special Responsibilities for Aboriginal Affairs and Electoral Reform; and Constitutional Development

Mr W.W. LANHUPUY - Opposition Whip  
Health and Community Services; and Local Government

Mr N.R. BELL  
Attorney-General; Lands and Housing; and Transport and Works

Mr D.M. LEO  
Labour and Administrative Services; and Mines and Energy

Mr S.G. TIPILOURA  
Police, Fire and Emergency Services; and Conservation

13. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 1):

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Legislative Assembly (Register of Members' Interests) Act*.

Bill read a first time.

On the motion of Mr Hatton the second reading of the Bill was made an order of the day for a later hour.

14. CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES - APPOINTMENT:

The Speaker, addressing Members of the Assembly, reminded Members that it is now necessary for the Assembly to appoint a Member to be its Chairman of Committees -

Whereupon the Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) proposed to the Assembly for its Chairman of Committees the Member for Victoria River, Mr McCarthy, and moved - That the Member for Victoria River be appointed Chairman of Committees.

Which motion was seconded by the Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan) and Mr McCarthy accepted the nomination.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr T.E. Smith) proposed to the Assembly for its Chairman of Committees the Member for Macdonnell, Mr Bell, and moved - That the Member for Macdonnell be appointed Chairman of Committees.

Which motion was seconded by the Member for Stuart (Mr Ede) and Mr Bell accepted the nomination.

The time for motions having expired the Assembly then proceeded to ballot.

**Bells rung and ballot conducted - Scrutineers Mr Firmin and Mr Lanhupuy**

The Speaker announced the result of the ballot as Mr McCarthy (Victoria River) 18 votes, Mr Bell (MacDonnell) 7 votes, and declared Mr McCarthy appointed as Chairman of Committees.

Mr McCarthy thanked the Assembly for the high honour it had conferred upon him and acknowledged the congratulations of Members.

**15. ADMINISTRATOR'S SPEECH:**

Mr Speaker reported to the Assembly that he had received a copy of the Opening Speech delivered by His Honour the Administrator to the Assembly this day.

**16. ADDRESS-IN-REPLY:**

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) moved - That the following Address be agreed to:

To His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR - We, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Honour for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to the Assembly.

Ordered - That the debate be adjourned and Mr Hatton have leave to continue his remarks on the resumption of the debate.

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**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 11.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

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**17. ADJOURNMENT OF ASSEMBLY - SESSIONAL ORDER:**

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, during the present session of the Assembly, Mr Speaker may, at his discretion and notwithstanding any previous Resolution of the Assembly, appoint a day and/or time for the holding of a sitting of the Assembly, which day and/or time shall be notified to each Member in writing.

Question - put and passed.

18. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, unless otherwise ordered and pursuant to Standing Order 17, Mr Speaker, Mr Hanrahan, Mr Lanhupuy, Mr Bell and Mr Poole be appointed as Members of the Standing Orders Committee.

Question - put and passed.

19. COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, unless otherwise ordered and pursuant to Standing Order 18, Mr Bell, Mr Dondas, Mr Firmin, Mr Perron and Mr Smith be appointed as Members of the Committee of Privileges.

Question - put and passed.

20. PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE - REFERENCE - MOTION:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That -

- (1) the *Legislative Assembly (Power and Privileges) Act* be referred to the Committee of Privileges for inquiry and report on any amendments the Committee may consider necessary to recommend to the Assembly;
- (2) for the purpose of the inquiry, the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records and to move from place to place;
- (3) the Committee shall have leave to make interim reports to the Assembly on any matter which it deems to be of an urgent nature; and
- (4) unless otherwise ordered, the Committee report to the Assembly no later than the first sitting day in 1988.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

21. HOUSE COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, unless otherwise ordered and pursuant to Standing Order 19, Mr Speaker, Mr Dondas, Mr Lanhupuy, Mr Leo, and Mr Reed be appointed as Members of the House Committee.

Question - put and passed.

22. PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, unless otherwise ordered and pursuant to Standing Order 20, Mr Bell, Mr Poole, Mr Reed, Mr Setter, and Mr Tipiloura be appointed as Members of the Publications Committee.

Question - put and passed.

23. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION AND TABLED PAPERS COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, unless otherwise ordered and pursuant to Standing Order 21, Mr McCarthy, Mr Reed, Mr Setter, Mr Smith, and Mr Tipiloura be appointed as Members of the Subordinate Legislation and Tabled Papers Committee.

Question - put and passed.

24. SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, during the present Session of the Assembly -

- (1) a Committee to be known as the Sessional Committee on the Environment be appointed comprising, unless otherwise ordered, Mr Bell, Mr McCarthy, Mr Poole, Mr Reed and Mr Tipiloura;
- (2) the Committee be empowered, unless otherwise ordered, to inquire into and from time to time report upon and make recommendations on:
  - (a) all matters relating to uranium mining and processing activities and their effects on the environment within the Alligator Rivers Region; and
  - (b) any matter relating to mining and/or the environment within the Northern Territory which is referred to it by -
    - (i) the relevant Minister; or
    - (ii) resolution of the Legislative Assembly;
- (3) the Committee be empowered to send for persons, papers and records, to sit in public or in private session notwithstanding any adjournment of the Assembly, to adjourn from place to place and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken and make such interim recommendations as it may deem fit, and to publish information pertaining to its activities from time to time;
- (4) the Committee be empowered to publish from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it, and, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, a daily **Hansard** be published of such proceedings as take place in public;
- (5) the Committee be empowered to consider the Minutes of Proceedings, evidence taken and records of similar Committees appointed in previous Assemblies; and
- (6) the foregoing provision of this Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

Question - put and passed.

25. NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE COMMITTEE - SESSIONAL COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That, during the present Session of the Assembly -

- (1) a Committee to be known as the New Parliament House Committee be appointed comprising, unless otherwise ordered, Mr Speaker, Mr Firmin, Mr Lanhupuy, Mr Leo, and Mr Setter;
- (2) the Committee act for and represent the Legislative Assembly in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of any interim accommodation proposed for the

Legislative Assembly, its Committees, Members and officers and all matters incidental thereto;

- (3) the Committee act for and represent the Legislative Assembly, as the client for the new Parliament House, in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of the new Parliament House and all matters incidental thereto;
- (4) the Committee reconsider and, as necessary, amend the Parliament House Competition brief which, when revised, shall be used as the basis for the design and construction of the new Parliament House, unless otherwise ordered by the Assembly or unless the Committee resolves to reconsider any section of the revised brief;
- (5) the Committee also consider and report on any matter relating to the planning, design and construction of the new Parliament House and matters incidental thereto or any matter relating to the planning, design and construction of interim accommodation proposed for the Legislative Assembly, its Committees, Members and officers as may be referred to it by -
  - (a) the relevant Minister; or
  - (b) Resolution of the Legislative Assembly;
- (6) the Committee be empowered, with the approval of the Speaker, to employ necessary staff and be provided with such facilities and resources as it may from time to time require;
- (7) the Committee report and make recommendations to the Assembly on these matters from time to time;
- (8) the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit in public or in private session, notwithstanding any adjournment of the Assembly, to adjourn from place to place, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken and such interim recommendations as it may deem fit;
- (9) the Committee be empowered to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it, and, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, a daily **Hansard** be published of such proceedings as take place in public;
- (10) the Committee be empowered to consider the Minutes of Proceedings, evidence taken and records of similar Committees established in previous Assemblies; and
- (11) the foregoing provisions of this Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

Question - put and passed.

26. SELECT COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT - APPOINTMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That -

WHEREAS this Assembly is of the opinion that when the Northern Territory of Australia becomes a new State it should do so as a Member of the Federation on terms resulting in equality with the other States with its people having the same constitutional rights, privileges, entitlements and responsibilities as the people of the existing States;

AND WHEREAS insofar as it is constitutionally possible the equality should apply as on the date of the grant of statehood to the new State,

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to draft a new State Constitution;

- (1) a Select Committee be established to inquire into, report and make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on:
  - (a) a Constitution for the new State and the principles upon which it should be drawn, including:
    - (i) legislative powers;
    - (ii) executive powers;
    - (iii) judicial powers; and
    - (iv) the method to be adopted to have a draft new State Constitution approved by or on behalf of the people of the Northern Territory; and
  - (b) the issues, conditions and procedures pertinent to the entry of the Northern Territory into the Federation as a new State;
- (2) the Committee undertake a role in promoting the awareness of Statehood issues to the Northern Territory and Australian populations;
- (3) unless otherwise ordered, the Committee consist of the Chief Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Ede, Mr Lanhupuy, Mr Palmer, and Mr Setter;
- (4) in the unavoidable absence of the Chief Minister, a Member of the Government nominated by the Chief Minister may attend any meeting of the Committee and participate in its proceedings as a Member of the Committee;
- (5) in the unavoidable absence of the Leader of the Opposition, a Member of the Opposition, nominated by the Leader of the Opposition may attend any meeting of the Committee and participate in its proceedings as a Member of the Committee;
- (6) the Chairman of the Committee may, from time to time, appoint a Member of the Committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the Committee and the Member so appointed shall act as Chairman of the Committee, at any time when there is no Chairman or when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the Committee;

- (7) in the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman, or the Deputy Chairman when acting as Chairman, shall have a casting vote;
- (8) the Committee have power to appoint sub-committees and to refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the Committee is empowered to examine;
- (9) four Members of the Committee constitute a quorum of the Committee and two Members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of the sub-committee;
- (10) the Committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, to meet and transact business in public or private session and to sit during any adjournment of the Assembly;
- (11) the Committee shall be empowered to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it and, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, a daily **Hansard** shall be published of such proceedings of the Committee as take place in public;
- (12) the Committee have leave to report from time to time and that any Member of the Committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any Report;
- (13) the Committee report to the Assembly twelve months from the date of this Resolution;
- (14) unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, all documents received by the Committee during its inquiry shall remain in the custody of the Assembly: provided that, on the application of a department or person, any document, if not likely to be further required, may, in the Speaker's discretion, be returned to the department or person from whom it was obtained;
- (15) members of the public and representatives of the news media may attend and report any public session of the Committee, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee;
- (16) the Committee may authorize the televising of public hearings of the Committee under such rules as the Speaker considers appropriate;
- (17) the Committee shall be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and shall be empowered, with the approval of the Speaker, to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the Committee;
- (18) nothing in these Terms of Reference or in the Standing Orders shall be taken to limit or control the duties, powers or functions of any Minister of the Territory who is also a Member of the Select Committee;
- (19) the Committee be empowered to consider the Minutes of Proceedings, evidence taken and records of similar committees established in the previous Assembly; and

- (20) the foregoing provisions of this Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

27. COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS - SESSIONAL ORDER - MOTION TO APPOINT:  
The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That -

1. The following provisional Standing Order, to operate on a trial basis as a Sessional Order, be agreed to:

21A. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

- (1) A Standing Committee of Public Accounts to consist of five Members shall be appointed at the commencement of each Assembly.
- (2) The duties of the Committee shall be -
- (a) to examine the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Northern Territory and each statement and report transmitted to the Legislative Assembly by the Auditor-General, pursuant to the *Financial Administration and Audit Act*;
  - (b) to report to the Legislative Assembly with such comments as it thinks fit, any items or matters in or arising in connection with those accounts, statements or reports, or in connection with the receipt or disbursement of the moneys to which they relate, to which the Committee is of the opinion that the attention of Parliament should be drawn;
  - (c) to report to the Legislative Assembly any alteration which the Committee thinks desirable in the form of the public accounts or in the method of keeping them or in the method of receipt, control, issue or payment of public moneys;
  - (d) to inquire into and report to the Legislative Assembly on any question in connection with the public accounts of the Territory -
    - (i) which is referred to it by a resolution of the Assembly; or
    - (ii) which is referred to it by the Administrator or a Minister; and
  - (e) to examine the reports of the Auditor-General laid before the Legislative Assembly with the accounts of a Public Authority of the Northern Territory (including any documents annexed or appended to those reports).
- (3) The Committee shall examine only those accounts of receipts and expenditure of the Northern Territory and reports of the



Auditor-General for financial years commencing after 30 June 1986: provided that this shall not prevent the consideration by the Committee of matters included in reports of the Auditor-General for the year ending 30 June 1986 which have or may have a continuing effect on the form of the public accounts, the method of receipt, control, issue or payment of public moneys.

- (4) Prior to determining whether to undertake an inquiry into any matter which may have arisen in connection with the public accounts of the Territory, pursuant to paragraphs (2)(a) and (e), with the concurrence of the Committee, the Chairman is empowered to write to the Chief Executive Officer of the relevant Department or Public Authority for a report on the matter.
- (5) The Committee shall take care not to inquire into any matters which are being examined by a Select Committee of the Assembly especially appointed to inquire into such matters and any question arising in connection therewith may be referred to the Assembly for determination.
- (6) The Committee shall elect a Government Member as Chairman.
- (7) The Chairman of the Committee may, from time to time, appoint a Member of the Committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the Committee and the Member so appointed shall act as Chairman of the Committee at any time when there is no Chairman or when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the Committee.
- (8) In the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman, or the Deputy Chairman when acting as Chairman, shall have a casting vote.
- (9) The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees and to refer to any such sub-committee any matter which the Committee is empowered to examine.
- (10) Three Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum of the Committee and two Members of a sub-committee shall constitute a quorum of the sub-committee.
- (11) The Committee or any sub-committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, to meet and transact business in public or private session and to sit during any adjournment of the Assembly.
- (12) The Committee shall be empowered to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it and, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, a daily **Hansard** shall be published of such proceedings of the Committee as take place in public.
- (13) The Committee may proceed to the despatch of business notwithstanding that all Members have not been appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.

- (14) The Committee shall report annually and shall have leave to report from time to time and to report its proceedings and evidence taken; and any Member of the Committee shall have power to add a protest or dissent to any Report.
  - (15) Unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, all documents received by the Committee during its inquiry shall remain in the custody of the Assembly: provided that, on the application of a department or person, any document, if not likely to be further required, may, in the Speaker's discretion, be returned to the department or person from whom it was obtained.
  - (16) The Committee shall be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and shall be empowered, with the approval of the Speaker, to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the Committee.
  - (17) The foregoing provisions of this Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders; and
2. That, unless otherwise ordered, Mr Ede, Mr McCarthy, Mr Leo, Mr Palmer, and Mr Poole be appointed as Members of the Committee.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

28. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES - WARRANT:

Mr Speaker laid on the Table the following warrant:

WARRANT

Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 12, I hereby nominate Mr Lanhupuy, Mr Poole, Mr Reed, and Mr Setter to act as Deputy Chairmen of Committees when requested so to do by the Chairman of Committees.

Given under my hand this twenty-eighth day of April, nineteen hundred and eighty-seven.

(Sgd) R.W.S. Vale  
Speaker.

29. NOTICES:

The following notices were given:

Mr Hanrahan: To move -

That, in accordance with section 13(2) of the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*, this Assembly advises the Administrator, to revoke the declaration as a park of ALL THAT parcel of land at Howard Springs abutting Howard Springs Road and Gunn Point Road in the Hundred of Bagot, County of Palmerston, Northern Territory of Australia containing an area of 3120 m<sup>2</sup> more or less being part of Portion 2821 commencing at a point bearing 269° 57' 30" 1648.73 m from the most northern northeastern corner of Portion 2821 thence by lines bearing 262° 16' 61.78 m 251° 46' 30' 61.78 m 241° 17' 30'

61.78 m 230° 48" 61.78 m 41° 36" 118.72 m 65° 46" 30' 18.24 m 89° 57" 30' 126.5 m to the point of commencement, and originally declared as a park by an instrument dated 22 March 1985 and appearing at page 4 of Gazette No. G13 dated 3 April 1985.

Mr Hanrahan: To present the Building Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 6); the Crown Lands Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 7); and the Housing Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 14).

Mr Coulter: To present the Pay-roll Tax Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 13); the Credit Unions Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 15); and the Stamp Duty Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 16).

Mr Finch: To present the Traffic Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 5).

Mr Manzie: To present the Summary Offences Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 2); the Firearms Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 3); the Trespass Bill 1987 (Serial 8); the Sale of Goods (Vienna Convention) Bill 1987 (Serial 9); the Wills Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 10); and the Public Trustee Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 11).

Mr Smith: to move -

That this Assembly, pursuant to section 4A of the *Inquiries Act*, resolves that a Board of Inquiry be appointed to inquire into and report to the Administrator within three months on the failure of the Northern Territory Electricity Commission to provide a regular reliable power supply to Darwin and, in particular, to:

- (a) examine the circumstances behind the failure of the Darwin power supply since the commissioning of the Channel Island Power Station and any future failures that may occur during the life of the inquiry;
- (b) examine the adequacy and condition of equipment involved in the failures and report on the ability of the equipment to provide a reliable power supply for Darwin;
- (c) examine current operational procedures and report on their adequacy to handle day to day and emergency situations;
- (d) determine an appropriate schedule for the decommissioning of Stokes Hill Power Station; and
- (e) make recommendations on the future delivery of a reliable power supply to Darwin consumers.

30. COMMONWEALTH DAY - MESSAGE FROM COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION - PAPER TABLED - PAPER NOTED:

Mr Speaker laid on the Table the following message from the Honourable Bal Ram Jakhar MP, Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association relating to Commonwealth Day, 9 March 1987:

The Commonwealth family is a unique organization in terms of international co-operation and international living. Besides the United Nations and non-aligned movement, the Commonwealth is the largest and the most representative forum of nations. With its membership today spanning six continents and seven oceans, embracing more than a third of the world's population, it serves as a bridge between races, cultures, countries and continents. This voluntary organization of nations not only serves their interests,

but also contributes towards the evolution of an international order promoting global peace, harmony and progress.

Over the years the Commonwealth has built up a network of institutions for mutual co-operation and consultation at all levels and in all spheres. At the parliamentary level the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association seeks to promote Commonwealth understanding and respect for parliamentary institutions. It provides a forum to the legislators from the Commonwealth countries to discuss and sort out the problems afflicting contemporary society.

Today, this Commonwealth Day gives us the opportunity of pledging ourselves to rid our world of poverty, ignorance and injustice and to do our best for the promotion of world peace and prosperity. We will continue to strengthen our fraternal organization based on mutual understanding and respect in order to meet the challenges of today's society more effectively.

The Commonwealth is worthy of our deepest commitment and our strongest support.

Dr the Honourable Bal Ram Jakhar, MP,  
Speaker of the Lok Sabha, India and  
Chairman of the Executive Committee  
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Mr Bell moved - That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

31. FRINGE BENEFITS TAX RESOLUTION - PAPER TABLED:

Mr Speaker laid on the Table a letter dated 2 January 1987 and accompanying documents from the Acting Prime Minister, the Honourable Lionel Bowen MP, concerning the Resolution of the Legislative Assembly on 11 June 1986 relating to Fringe Benefits Tax.

32. KAKADU NATIONAL PARK, STAGE TWO - PROPOSED HERITAGE LISTING RESOLUTION - PAPER TABLED:

Mr Speaker laid on the Table a letter, dated 26 March 1987, from the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister, Honourable Lionel Bowen MP, concerning the Resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly on 11 June 1986 relating to the proposed Heritage Listing of Kakadu National Park, Stage Two.

33. ADDRESS-IN-REPLY:

The order of the day having been read for debate on the motion of Mr Hatton - That the following Address be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR - We, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Honour for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to the Assembly.

Debate ensued.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith) seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak at a later hour.

On the motion of the Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) the debate was adjourned.

34. ADJOURNMENT:

The Minister for Labour and Administrative Services (Mr Harris) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 6.44 p.m. until tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

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PAPERS TABLED:

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 28 April 1987:

**Agreements and Determinations:**

Police Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.1/82 - 27 March 1987

Police Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.2/82 - 27 March 1987

Police Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.2/82 - 3 April 1987

Prisons Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.10 - 17 December 1986

Senior Prison Officers Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.3 -  
7 February 1987

**Annual Reports:**

Accounting Standards Review Board, 1985-86

Jabiru Town Development Authority, 1985-86

Northern Territory Racing and Gaming Commission, 1986 (Seventh)

Public Trustee, 1985-86

**Financial Statement:**

ANZ - Executor and Trustee Company Limited, 1985-86

**Recommendations under S.103 of Crown Lands Act:**

Revocation of Reserve No.1018 - Mindil Beach

Revocation of Reserve No.1024 - Town of Darwin

Revocation of Reserve No.1081 - Town of Nightcliff

Revocation of Reserve No.1235 - Lots 3844 and 1359, Town of Darwin

**Regulations 1986:**

No.46 Palmerston (Private Swimming Pool) By-laws

No.47 Amendment to Workers' Compensation (Rates of Compensation)  
Regulations

No.48 Amendments of the Motor Vehicles Regulations

No.49 Work Health Regulations

No.50 Amendments of the Criminal Law (Conditional Release of Offenders)  
(Community Service Orders) Regulations

No.51 Amendments of the Northern Territory Building Code

No.52 Grain Marketing (Election of Grower Members) Regulations

No.53 Amendment of the Public Holidays Regulations

**Regulations 1987:**

No. 1 Amendment of the Building Societies Regulations

No. 2 Amendment of the Motor Vehicles (Fees and Charges) Regulations

No. 3 Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Regulations

No. 4 Amendment of the Juries Regulations

No. 5 University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing  
traffic on College sites

- No. 6 University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the meetings of Council
- No. 7 University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the election of members of the Council
- No. 8 University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the site
- No. 9 University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the use and custody of the common seal
- No.10 University College of the Northern Territory By-laws on fees
- No.11 Barunga-Wugularr Community Government Council (Common Seal) By-laws
- No.12 Wallace Rockhole Community Government Council (Common Seal) By-laws
- No.13 Amendments of the Coal Regulations
- No.14 Community Welfare (Child Care) Regulations

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ATTENDANCE:

All Members attended the sitting.

# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 2

Wednesday 29 April 1987

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1. The Assembly met at 10.00 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker, the Honourable R.W.S. Vale, took the Chair.
2. PRAYERS.
3. MONITORING THE ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS BY TELEVISION FOR HANSARD PURPOSES:  
Mr Speaker informed the Assembly of the introduction of television cameras inside the Chamber for **Hansard** monitoring purposes. The introduction of this system will permit Legislative Assembly staff to make a video of all proceedings of the Assembly for historical and other purposes and is capable of being expanded to facilitate closed circuit television coverage of proceedings to Ministers' and Members' offices. The Speaker further advised that he would refer the matter of future expansion of the system to the House Committee.
4. NOTICES:  
The following notice was given:  
Mr Hanrahan: To present the Valuation of Land Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 17).
5. QUESTIONS:  
Questions were asked of Ministers.
6. AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT, 1985-86 - PRESCRIBED STATUTORY CORPORATIONS - PAPER TABLED - ORDER TO PRINT - MOTION TO NOTE PAPER:  
The Speaker laid on the Table the report of the Auditor-General upon Prescribed Statutory Corporations for the year ended 30 June 1986.  
The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That the report be printed.  
Question - put and passed.  
Mr Hanrahan moved - That the Assembly take note of the paper.  
Ordered - That the debate be adjourned and that Mr Hanrahan have leave to continue his remarks on the resumption of the debate.
7. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - STANDING ORDERS - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:  
The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, made a short statement to the Assembly deliniating the government's intentions to adhere to the provisions of Standing Orders and past practice as they relate to Matters of Public Importance.
8. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - ELECTORAL REFORM:  
Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that the Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Mr Ede) had proposed that the following definite matter of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion this day:  

"the need for reform in the Northern Territory electoral system".

**The proposed discussion having received the necessary support -**  
Mr Ede addressed the Assembly.  
Discussion ensued.

**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 11.53 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.

Discussion resumed.  
Discussion concluded.

9. REVOCATION OF PARK, HUNDRED OF BAGOT - TERRITORY PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT - MOTION:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) moved -

That, in accordance with section 13(2) of the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*, this Assembly advises the Administrator, to revoke the declaration as a park of ALL THAT parcel of land at Howard Springs abutting Howard Springs Road and Gunn Point Road in the Hundred of Bagot, County of Palmerston, Northern Territory of Australia containing an area of 3120 m<sup>2</sup> more or less being part of Portion 2821 commencing at a point bearing 269° 57' 30' 1648.73 m from the most northern northeastern corner of Portion 2821 thence by lines bearing 262° 16' 61.78 m 251° 46' 30' 61.78 m 241° 17' 30' 61.78 m 230° 48' 61.78 m 41° 36' 118.72 m 65° 46' 30' 18.24 m 89° 57' 30' 126.5 m to the point of commencement, and originally declared as a park by an instrument dated 22 March 1985 and appearing at page 4 of Gazette No. G13 dated 3 April 1985.

On the motion of Mrs Padgham-Purich (Koolpinyah) debate was adjourned.

10. BUILDING AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 6):

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Building Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Hanrahan moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Lanhupuy (Arnhem) debate was adjourned.

11. CROWN LANDS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 7):

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Crown Lands Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Hanrahan moved - That the Bill be now read a second time

On the motion of Mr Lanhupuy (Arnhem) debate was adjourned.

12. HOUSING AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 14):

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Housing Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Hanrahan moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

13. PAY-ROLL TAX AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 13):

The Treasurer and Minister for Local Government (Mr Coulter), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Pay-roll Tax Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Coulter moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Smith (Millner) debate was adjourned.



14. CREDIT UNIONS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 15):  
The Treasurer and Minister for Local Government (Mr Coulter), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Credit Unions Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Coulter moved - that the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Smith (Millner) debate was adjourned.
15. NOTICE WITHDRAWN - STAMP DUTY AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 16):  
The Treasurer and Minister for Local Government (Mr Coulter), withdrew Government Business, Notice No.7.
16. TRAFFIC AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 5):  
The Minister for Transport and Works (Mr Finch), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Traffic Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Finch moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.
17. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - TAKE TWO BILLS TOGETHER:  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) moved - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent two Bills namely: the Summary Offences Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 2); and the Firearms Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 3) -
- (a) being presented and read a first time together and one motion being put in regard to, respectively, the second readings, the Committee's report stage, and the third readings of the Bills together; and
  - (b) the consideration of the Bills separately in Committee of the Whole.
- Question - put and passed - there being an absolute majority of the whole number of Members present and no dissentient voice.
18. SUMMARY OFFENCES AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 2); and FIREARMS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 3):  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice and resolution, presented Bills for Acts to amend the *Summary Offences Act* and the *Firearms Act*.  
Bills read a first time.  
Mr Manzie moved - That the Bills be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.
19. TRESPASS BILL 1987 (Serial 8):  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to trespass.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Manzie moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.
20. SALE OF GOODS (VIENNA CONVENTION) BILL 1987 (Serial 9):  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to give effect within the Territory to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, and for other purposes.  
Bill read a first time.

Mr Manzie moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

21. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - TAKE TWO BILLS TOGETHER:

The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) moved - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent two Bills namely: the Wills Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 10) and the Public Trustee Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 11),

(a) being presented and read a first time together and one motion being put in regard to, respectively, the second readings, the Committee's report stage, and the third readings of the Bills together; and

(b) the consideration of the Bills separately in Committee of the Whole.

Question - put and passed - there being an absolute majority of the whole number of Members present and no dissentient voice.

22. WILLS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 10); and PUBLIC TRUSTEE AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 11):

The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice and resolution, presented Bills for Acts to amend the *Wills Act* and the *Public Trustee Act*.

Bills read a first time.

Mr Manzie moved - That the Bills be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

23. ADDRESS-IN-REPLY:

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of the Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) - That the following Address be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR - We, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Honour for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to the Assembly.

Debate resumed.

On the motion of Mr Leo (Nhulunbuy) debate was adjourned.

24. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 1):

The order of the day having been read for the second reading of the Bill - The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Ede (Stuart) debate was adjourned.

25. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - CALL ON GENERAL BUSINESS:

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith), pursuant to Standing Order 306, moved - That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent General Business, Notice No.1, relating to the appointment of a Board of Inquiry into the provisions of a regular, reliable power supply to Darwin, being called on forthwith.

Question - put and passed - there being an absolute majority of Members of the Assembly present and no dissentient voice.

26. PROPOSED BOARD OF INQUIRY, DARWIN POWER SUPPLY - MOTION:

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith) moved - That this Assembly, pursuant to section 4A of the *Inquiries Act*, resolves that a Board of Inquiry be appointed to inquire into and report to the Administrator within three months on the failure of the Northern Territory Electricity Commission to provide a regular reliable power supply to Darwin and, in particular, to:

- (a) examine the circumstances behind the failure of the Darwin power supply since the opening of the Channel Island Power Station and any future failures that may occur during the life of the inquiry;
- (b) examine the adequacy and condition of equipment involved in the failures and report on the ability of the equipment to provide a reliable power supply for Darwin;
- (c) examine current operational procedures and report on their adequacy to handle day to day and emergency situations;
- (d) determine an appropriate schedule for the decommissioning of Stokes Hill Power Station; and
- (e) make recommendations on the future delivery of a reliable power supply to Darwin consumers.

Debate ensued.

Question - put.

The Assembly divided (the Speaker, Hon. R.W.S. Vale, in the Chair) -

AYES, 5  
Mr Bell  
Mr Ede  
Mr Lanhupuy  
Mr Leo  
Mr Smith

NOES, 15  
Mr Collins  
Mr Coulter  
Mr Dondas  
Mr Hanrahan  
Mr Harris  
Mr Hatton  
Mr Manzie  
Mrs Padgham-Purich  
Mr Palmer  
Mr Perron  
Mr Poole  
Mr Reed  
Mr Setter  
Mr Tuxworth  
Mr Vale

And so it was resolved in the negative.

27. ADJOURNMENT:

The Minister for Labour and Administrative Services (Mr Harris) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 9.53 p.m. until tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

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PAPERS TABLED:

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 29 April 1987:

**Annual Reports:**

Aboriginal Sacred Sites Protection Authority, 1984-85  
Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary Board, 1984-85  
Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary Board, 1985-86  
Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory, 1985-86 (Seventh)  
Department of the Chief Minister, 1985-86  
Department of Lands, 1985-86  
Electrical Workers and Contractors Licensing Board, 1985-86 (Third)  
Northern Territory Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Board for Year ended  
30 September 1986

**Financial Statement:**

Darwin Omnibus Service, 1985-86

**Hospital Management Boards:**

Alice Springs, 1985-86  
Royal Darwin, 1985-86

**Recommendations under S.103 of Crown Lands Act:**

Revocation of Reserve No.1484, Esplanade, Town of Darwin

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ATTENDANCE:

All Members attended the sitting.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 3

Thursday 30 April 1987

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1. The Assembly met at 10.00 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker, the Honourable R.W.S. Vale, took the Chair.

2. PRAYERS.

3. NOTICE:

The following notice was given:

Mr Coulter: To present the Mineral Royalty Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 18).

4. QUESTIONS:

Questions were asked of Ministers.

5. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - ALICE SPRINGS PLANNING:

Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that the Member for Macdonnell (Mr Bell) had proposed that the following definite matter of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion this day:

"the Northern Territory Government's inability to dispel the continuing uncertainty about the future direction of growth of Alice Springs".

**The proposed discussion having received the necessary support -**

Mr Bell addressed the Assembly.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

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**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 12.11 and 2.00 p.m.

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6. MINISTRY AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS - RESIGNATION OF MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT - MOTION TO NOTE STATEMENT:

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton), by leave, made a statement relating to the resignation of the Minister for Labour and Administrative Services (Mr Harris) from the Ministry. Mr Hatton advised the Assembly that he would assume responsibility for this portfolio.

Mr Hatton moved - That the Assembly take note of the statement.

Ordered - That the debate be adjourned and Mr Hatton have leave to continue his remarks on the resumption of the debate.

7. PERSONAL EXPLANATION:

The Member for Port Darwin (Mr Harris), by leave, made a personal explanation relating to the circumstances leading to his resignation from the Ministry.

8. VALUATION OF LAND AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 17):

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Valuation of Land Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Hanrahan moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - PASS BILLS THROUGH ALL STAGES:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Building Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 6); the Crown Lands Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 7); the Pay-roll Tax Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 13); the Credit Unions Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 15); the Traffic Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 5); the Summary Offences Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 2); the Firearms Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 3); and the Trespass Bill 1987 (Serial 8) passing through all stages at these sittings.

Question - put and passed - there being an absolute majority of the whole number of Members present and no dissentient voice.

10. SECURITY IN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PRECINCTS - STATEMENT:

Mr Speaker made a statement relating to security in the Legislative Assembly and advised that he intends to refer the matter to the House Committee for consideration.

11. ADDRESS-IN-REPLY:

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Hatton - That the following address be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR - We, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Honour for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to the Assembly.

Debate resumed.

On the motion of Mr Collins (Sadadeen) debate was adjourned.

12. REVOCATION OF PARK, TERRITORY PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT - MOTION:

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Hanrahan (29 April 1987) -

That, in accordance with section 13(2) of the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*, this Assembly advises the Administrator, to revoke the declaration as a park of ALL THAT parcel of land at Howard Springs abutting Howard Springs Road and Gunn Point Road in the Hundred of Bagot, County of Palmerston, Northern Territory of Australia containing an area of 3120 m<sup>2</sup> more or less being part of Portion 2821 commencing at a point bearing 269° 57' 30" 1648.73 m from the most northern northeastern corner of Portion 2821 thence by lines bearing 262° 16' 61.78 m 251° 46' 30' 61.78 m 241° 17' 30' 61.78 m 230° 48' 61.78 m 41° 36' 118.72 m 65° 46' 30' 18.24 m 89° 57' 30' 126.5 m to the point of commencement, and originally declared as a park by an instrument dated 22 March 1985 and appearing at page 4 of Gazette No. G13 dated 3 April 1985.

Mrs Padgham-Purich moved the following amendment -

Omit "and" (second last occurring).

Amendment agreed to.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

13. BUILDING AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 6):

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 -

Debate resumed.

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question - put and passed.

The Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

14. CROWN LANDS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 7):

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 -

Debate resumed.

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question - put and passed.

The Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

15. PAY-ROLL TAX AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 13):

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 -

Debate resumed.

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

The Treasurer and Minister for Local Government (Mr Coulter) moved - That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question - put and passed.

The Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 8.55 p.m. until 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 5 May 1987.

=====

ATTENDANCE:

All Members attended the sitting.





MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 4

Tuesday 5 May 1987

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1. The Assembly met at 10.00 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker, the Honourable R.W.S. Vale, took the Chair.

2. PRAYERS.

3. MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - APPOINTMENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton), by leave, made a statement relating to his appointment by the Administrator on 1 May 1987 as Minister for Labour and Administrative Services. Mr Hatton advised that a new Minister would be appointed at the end of the week.

4. NOTICES:

The following notice was given:

Mr Manzie: To present the Statute Law Revision Bill 1987 (Serial 19), and the Supreme Court (Rules of Procedure) Bill 1987 (Serial 22).

5. QUESTIONS:

Questions were asked of Ministers.

6. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - WORK HEALTH ACT:

Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that the leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith) had proposed that the following definite matter of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion this day:

"the problems caused for injured Territory workers by the failure of the Government to adequately plan for the introduction of the *Work Health Act*".

**The proposed discussion having received the necessary support -**

Mr Smith addressed the Assembly.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

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**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 12.08 and 2.00 p.m.

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7. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE - REFERENCES TO COMMITTEE - MOTIONS:

The Member for Karama (Mr Palmer), by leave, moved -

(1) That the following matters be referred to the Public Accounts Committee for inquiry and report:

(A) The patterns of expenditure of Government Departments and Authorities that rely on annual budget appropriations, to determine whether there is any evidence of accelerated year-end spending and the circumstances that have led to such accelerated expenditure.

(B)1. The actual and contingent liabilities of the Northern Territory Government, in particular:

- (I) the Yulara development;
- (II) the Alice Springs and Darwin Sheraton Hotels;
- (III) the Alice Springs and Darwin casinos; and
- (IV) the proposed development on Myilly Point, on and adjacent to the site of the old Darwin Hospital.

2. In considering this reference, the Public Accounts Committee shall not consider the appropriateness or otherwise of Government decisions or policies.

(c)1. All matters concerning the recent decision of the Northern Territory Government relating to the aero-medical contract including:

- (I) the adequacy of the tender documents;
- (II) whether all relevant matters were considered in assessing the tenders;
- (III) whether proper procedures were followed in assessing the tenders; and
- (IV) whether the Tender Board formed for the purpose was properly constituted.

2. This matter shall not be considered by the Committee until such time as all litigation relating to the matter has been completed.

(2) That, in considering these references, the Committee be empowered to consider the Minutes of Proceedings, evidence taken and records of the previous Public Accounts Committee established in the Fourth Assembly.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

8. PERSONAL EXPLANATION:

The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), by leave, made a personal explanation relating to comments attributed to him by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Smith) during the discussion of the Matter of Public Importance earlier this day.

9. MINERAL ROYALTY AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 18) - PAPER TABLED:

The Minister for Mines and Energy (Mr Coulter), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Mineral Royalty Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Coulter moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Coulter laid on the Table an information paper of Northern Territory Government proposals to amend the *Mineral Royalty Act*.

On the motion of Mr Leo (Nhulunbuy) debate was adjourned.

10. ADDRESS-IN-REPLY:

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Hatton - That the following address be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR - We, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Honour for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to the Assembly.

Debate resumed.  
Question - put and passed.

11. PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS-IN-REPLY:

Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that the Address-in-Reply would be presented to His Honour the Administrator at 4.30 p.m. on Thursday 7 May 1987, and invited Honourable Members to accompany him to Government House at that time.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 9.25 p.m. until tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

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PAPERS TABLED:

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 5 May 1987:

**Community Government Schemes -**  
Borrooloola  
Nguiu

=====

ATTENDANCE:

All Members attended the sitting.



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 5

Wednesday 6 May 1987

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1. The Assembly met at 10.00 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker, the Honourable R.W.S. Vale, took the Chair.
  2. PRAYERS.
  3. PETITIONS:  
Mr Ede, by leave, presented a petition, not conforming with Standing Orders, from 461 citizens of the Northern Territory relating to the granting of a takeaway liquor licence to Melanka Lodge.  
**Petition read.**
  4. NOTICES:  
The following notices were given:  
Mr Coulter: To present the Stamp Duty Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 16).  
Mr Perron: To present the Stock Diseases Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 24) and the Stock Routes and Travelling Stock Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 23).  
Mr Manzie: To present the Companies (Trustees and Personal Representatives) Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 21).
  5. QUESTIONS:  
Questions were asked of Ministers.
  6. FURTHER NOTICE:  
The following further notice was given, by leave:  
Mr Hanrahan: To present the Planning Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 20).
  7. TERRITORY ENERGY RESOURCES - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT - MOTION TO NOTE STATEMENT:  
The Minister for Mines and Energy (Mr Coulter) made a statement relating to the plans, prospects and opportunities of the energy industry in the Northern Territory.  
The Member for Nhulunbuy (Mr Leo) moved - That the Assembly take note of the statement.  
Debate ensued.
- 
- Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 12.09 and 2.00 p.m.
- 

Debate resumed.

On the motion of Mr Leo (Nhulunbuy) debate was adjourned.

8. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - PASTORAL LAND MANAGEMENT:  
Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that the Member for Macdonnell (Mr Bell) had proposed that the following definite matter of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion this day:

"the inability of the Government to institute the legal and administrative arrangements necessary for the effective utilisation of the Northern Territory's pastoral land".

**The proposed discussion having received the necessary support -**

Mr Bell addressed the Assembly.

Discussion ensued.

**Point of Order:** The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) raised a point of order to the effect that the comments in debate made by the Member for Macdonnell (Mr Bell) referred to matters which were *sub judice*, being presently the matter of an appeal before the High Court and should therefore not be debated.

Debate ensued upon the point of order.

**Ruling of Speaker:** Mr Speaker ruled - That it is the present practice in this Assembly that, when discussion by the Assembly of a matter before a Court, or the reporting of such a discussion may, and he emphasized may, prejudice the position of parties before a Court, no discussion on the matter would be permitted.

He further stated that he intended to maintain that practice and ruled that no further reference to the matter before the Court could be made.

Discussion resumed upon the matter of public importance.

Discussion concluded.

9. FURTHER NOTICES:

The following further notices were given, by leave:

Mr Coulter: To present the Power and Water Authority Bill 1987 (Serial 25), the Electricity Commission Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 26), the Water Supply and Sewerage Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 27) and the Public Service Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 28).

10. STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL 1987 (Serial 19):

The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to revise and correct the law of the Territory in minor respects.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Manzie moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

11. SUPREME COURT (RULES OF PROCEDURE) BILL 1987 (Serial 22):

The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Supreme Court Act*, to ratify, validate and approve the Rules of the Supreme Court conditionally made by the Judges of the Supreme Court on 1 June 1987, to make provision for the amendment of those Rules in certain circumstances, to adjust the procedure and practice of the Supreme Court during an interim period, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Manzie moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

12. FURTHER NOTICE:

The following further notice was given, by leave:

Mr Finch: To present the Motor Vehicles Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 4).

13. CREDIT UNIONS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 15):

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 -

Debate resumed.

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of the Treasurer (Mr Coulter) the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

14. TRAFFIC AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 5):  
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 -  
Debate resumed.  
**Distinguished visitor:** Mr Speaker informed the Assembly of the presence in the Gallery of Mr Bill Jeffries, M.P., Member for Heretaunga, New Zealand and Under Secretary to the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Works and Development. On behalf of all Members Mr Speaker extended a warm welcome to the distinguished visitor.  
Debate continued.  
On the motion of Mr McCarthy (Victoria River) debate was adjourned.
15. SUMMARY OFFENCES AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 2); and FIREARMS AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 3):  
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 -  
Debate resumed.  
Question - put and passed.  
Bills read a second time.  
Leave granted for third readings to be moved forthwith.  
On the motion of the Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) the Bills were read a third time and passed to be proposed laws.
16. TRESPASS BILL 1987 (Serial 8):  
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 -  
Debate resumed.  
Question - put and passed.  
Bill read a second time.  
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.  
On the motion of the Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.
17. ADJOURNMENT:  
The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question - put and passed.  
The Assembly adjourned at 9.09 p.m. until tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

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PAPERS TABLED:

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 6 May 1987:

**Annual Reports:**

Industry and Employment Training Advisory Council, 1985-86  
Northern Territory Liquor Commission, 1985-86  
Northern Territory Totalizator Administration Board, 1985-86 (First)  
Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory, 1983-84  
Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory, 1984-85  
Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory, 1985-86

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ATTENDANCE:

All Members attended the sitting.





MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 6

Thursday 7 May 1987

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1. The Assembly met at 10.00 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker, the Honourable R.W.S. Vale, took the Chair.

2. PRAYERS.

3. PETITIONS:

Mr Smith presented a petition from 361 citizens of Darwin requesting the rescission of a decision to abolish the Tertiary Book Allowance in the Northern Territory.

**Petition read.**

4. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That the Assembly at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 2 June 1987 at 10.00 a.m. or such other time and/or date as may be set by Mr Speaker, pursuant to sessional order.

5. QUESTIONS:

Questions were asked of Ministers.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS - APPOINTMENT OF MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton), by leave, made a statement relating to the proposed appointment of Mr McCarthy by the Administrator on 8 May 1987 as Minister for Labour and Administrative Services.

**Statement by Speaker:** Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that consequent upon the proposed appointment of the Chairman of Committees, Mr McCarthy, to the ministry the Assembly would proceed to appoint a new Chairman of Committees at 2.30 p.m.

7. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - PUBLIC SERVICE EFFICIENCY:

Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that the Member for Stuart (Mr Ede) had proposed that the following definite matter of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion this day:

"the Government's inability to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the NT Public Service".

**The proposed discussion having received the necessary support -**

Mr Ede addressed the Assembly.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion postponed.

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**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting was suspended between 11.50 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

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And it being 2.30 p.m.

8. RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES - PAPER TABLED:

Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that he had received a letter from the Member for Victoria River (Mr McCarthy) in the following terms:

Mr Speaker,

I hereby tender my resignation from the position of Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd) T.R. McCarthy  
Member for Victoria River.

9. CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES - APPOINTMENT:

The Speaker advised the Assembly that it was now necessary for the Assembly to appoint a Chairman of Committees.

The Chief Minister (Mr Hatton) thereupon proposed to the Assembly for its Chairman of Committees the Member for Casuarina, Mr Dondas, and moved - That the Member for Casuarina be appointed Chairman of Committees.

The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan) seconded the motion.

Mr Dondas accepted the nomination.

There being no further motion and the time for motions having expired - Mr Speaker declared the Honourable Member for Casuarina to have been appointed Chairman of Committees of this Assembly.

10. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION AND TABLED PAPERS COMMITTEE, SESSIONAL COMMITTEE

ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE - CHANGES OF MEMBERSHIP: The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan), by leave, moved - That the Honourable Member for Victoria River be discharged from further attendance on the Standing Committee on Subordinate Legislation and Tabled Papers; the Sessional Committee on the Environment; and the Public Accounts Committee, and that Members be appointed to those Committees, as follows:

(a) Standing Committee on Subordinate Legislation and Tabled Papers - Mr Poole;

(b) Sessional Committee on the Environment - Mr Dondas; and

(c) Public Accounts Committee - Mr Harris.

Question - put and passed.

11. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - PUBLIC SERVICE EFFICIENCY, CONTINUED:

Discussion resumed on the matter of public importance proposed by Mr Ede:

"the Government's inability to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the NT Public Service".

Discussion concluded.

12. STAMP DUTY AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 16):

The Treasurer and Minister for Local Government (Mr Coulter), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Stamp Duty Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Coulter moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Ede (Stuart) debate was adjourned.

13. STOCK ROUTES AND TRAVELLING STOCK AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 23):  
The Minister for Industries and Development (Mr Perron), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Stock Routes and Travelling Stock Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Perron moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Ede (Stuart) debate was adjourned.
14. STOCK DISEASES AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 24):  
The Minister for Industries and Development (Mr Perron), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Stock Diseases Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Perron moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Ede (Stuart) debate was adjourned.
15. COMPANIES (TRUSTEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES) AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 21):  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Companies (Trustees and Personal Representatives) Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Manzie moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.
16. PLANNING AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 20):  
The Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr Hanrahan), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Planning Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Hanrahan moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.
17. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - TAKE FOUR BILLS TOGETHER:  
The Treasurer (Mr Coulter) moved - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent four Bills namely: the Power and Water Authority Bill 1987 (Serial 25); the Electricity Commission Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 26); the Water Supply and Sewerage Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 27); and the Public Service Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 28),
- (a) being presented and read a first time together and one motion being put in regard to, respectively, the second readings, the Committee's Report stage and the third readings of the Bills together; and
  - (b) the consideration of the Bills separately in Committee of the Whole.
18. POWER AND WATER AUTHORITY BILL 1987 (Serial 25), ELECTRICITY COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 26), WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 27), and PUBLIC SERVICE AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 28):  
The Treasurer (Mr Coulter), pursuant to notice and resolution, presented Bills for Acts to: establish the Power and Water Authority and for related purposes; amend the *Electricity Commission Act*; amend the *Water Supply and Sewerage Act*; and amend the *Public Service Act*.  
Bills read a first time.  
Mr Coulter moved - That the Bills be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.

19. MOTOR VEHICLES AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 4):  
The Minister for Transport and Works (Mr Finch), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Motor Vehicles Act*.  
Bill read a first time.  
Mr Finch moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.  
On the motion of Mr Bell (Macdonnell) debate was adjourned.
20. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - PASS BILL THROUGH ALL STAGES:  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) moved - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Companies (Trustees and Personal Representatives) Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 21) passing through all stages at these sittings.  
Question - put and passed - there being an absolute majority of the whole number of Members present and no dissentient voice.
21. COMPANIES (TRUSTEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES) AMENDMENT BILL 1987 (Serial 21):  
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 -  
Debate resumed.  
Question - put and passed.  
Bill read a second time  
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.  
On the motion of the Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.
22. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - PASS BILL THROUGH ALL STAGES:  
The Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) moved - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Statute Law Revision Bill 1987 (Serial 19) passing through all stages at these sittings.  
Question - put and passed - there being an absolute majority of the whole number of Members present and no dissentient voice.
23. STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL 1987 (Serial 19):  
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 -  
Debate resumed.  
Question - put and passed.  
Bill read a second time.  
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.  
On the motion of the Attorney-General (Mr Manzie) the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.
24. ADJOURNMENT:  
The Leader of Government Business (Mr Hanrahan) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
**Presentation of Address-in-Reply:** Mr Speaker advised the Assembly that he would present the Address-in-Reply to His Honour the Administrator at Government House this afternoon at 5.00 p.m. and invited Honourable Members to accompany him.

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**Suspension of sitting:** The sitting of the Assembly was adjourned at 4.45 p.m. until the ringing of the Bells.

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The Bells having been rung at 5.37 p.m. the Speaker Mr R.W.S. Vale resumed the Chair.

**ADDRESS-IN-REPLY - PRESENTATION:** Mr Speaker informed the Assembly that, accompanied by Honourable Members, he had this day waited upon His Honour the Administrator and presented to him the Address-in-Reply to the Speech His Honour delivered on the occasion of the opening of the First Session of the Fifth Assembly, which was agreed to on 5 May 1987; and that His Honour had been pleased to make the following reply:

Mr Speaker, thank you for your Address-in-Reply which you have presented to me. It will afford me pleasure to convey to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen the Message of Loyalty of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia to which the Address gives expression.

Debate upon the motion - That the Assembly do now adjourn - resumed.  
Question - put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 6.28 p.m. until Tuesday 2 June 1987 at 10.00 a.m. or such other time and/or date as may be set by Mr Speaker, pursuant to sessional order.

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**PAPERS TABLED:**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 7 May 1987:

**Annual Reports**

National Crime Authority, 1985-86

Palmerston Development Authority, 1984-85 (Fifth and Final)

Police Force of the Northern Territory, Northern Territory Emergency Service, Fire Service of the Northern Territory, 1985-86

**Financial Administration and Audit Act**

Direction by the Administrator - Section 13(1)(a) dated 3 March 1987

Direction by the Treasurer - Section 13(1)(b) dated 4 March 1987

**Remuneration Tribunal Review 1987**

Determination No.1/87 - 7 March 1987

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**ATTENDANCE:**

All Members attended the sitting.

H.G. SMITH

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

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FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

INDEX TO MINUTES

SITTING DAY Nos. 1 to 6

From	to	Pages
28 April 1987	7 May 1987	1-43
ADDRESS-IN-REPLY		5,8,18,24, 28,32
Presentation		33,42,43
ADMINISTRATOR'S SPEECH		5,6
ATTENDANCE OF ADMINISTRATOR		5
ATTENDANCE OF DEPUTY		1
AUTHORIZATION TO ADMINISTER OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS		
- Deputy		3
- Speaker		5
BILLS		D = Discharged P = Passed N = Negatived W = Withdrawn
Serial 6 Building Amendment 1987		17,22,29P
21 Companies (Trustees and Personal Representatives) Amendment 1987		35,41,42P
15 Credit Unions Amendment 1987		17,22,36P
7 Crown Lands Amendment 1987		17,22,29P
26 Electricity Commission Amendment 1987		36,41
3 Firearms Amendment 1987		17,23,37P
14 Housing Amendment 1987		17,22
1 Legislative Assembly (Register of Members' Interests) Amendment 1987		7,24
18 Mineral Royalty Amendment 1987		27,32
4 Motor Vehicles Amendment 1987		36,42
13 Pay-roll Tax Amendment 1987		17,22,29P
20 Planning Amendment 1987		35,41
25 Power and Water Authority 1987		36,41
28 Public Service Amendment 1987		36,41
11 Public Trustee Amendment 1987		17,24
9 Sale of Goods (Vienna Convention) 1987		17,23
16 Stamp Duty Amendment 1987		17,23,35,40
19 Statute Law Revision 1987		31,36,42P
24 Stock Diseases Amendment 1987		35,41
23 Stock Routes and Travelling Stock Amendment 1987		35,41
2 Summary Offences Amendment 1987		7,23,37P
22 Supreme Court (Rules of Procedure) 1987		31,36
5 Traffic Amendment 1987		17,23,37

8 Trespass 1987	17,23,37P
17 Valuation of Land Amendment 1987	21,27
27 Water Supply and Sewerage Amendment 1987	36,41
10 Wills Amendment 1987	17,24
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES	
- Appointment (Dondas)	40
(McCarthy)	7
- Resignation (McCarthy)	39
- Warrant	16
COMMISSION OF DEPUTY	2
COMMONWEALTH DAY MESSAGE	17
DISCUSSION - MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	
Alice Sprints planning	27
Electoral reform	21
Pastoral land management	35
Public Service efficiency	39,40
Work Health Act	31
DISTINGUISHED VISITOR	
Mr Bill Jeffries, MP, Member for Heretaunga, New Zealand	37
ELECTION OF SPEAKER	4
MOTIONS (Procedural)	
Suspend standing orders -	
Call on General Business, Notice No.1	24
Pass Bills through all stages -	
Building Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 6)	28
Companies (Trustees and Personal Representatives) Amendment 1987 (Serial 21)	42
Credit Unions Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 15)	28
Crown Lands Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 7)	28
Firearms Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 3)	28
Pay-roll Tax Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 13)	28
Statute Law Revision Bill 1987 (Serial 19)	42
Summary Offences Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 2)	28
Traffic Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 5)	28
Trespass Bill 1987 (Serial 8)	28
Take four Bills together -	
Power and Water Authority Bill 1987 (Serial 25)	41
Electricity Commission Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 26)	41
Water Supply and Sewerage Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 27)	41
Public Service Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 28)	41
Take two Bills together -	
Summary Offences Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 2) and Firearms Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 3)	23
Wills Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 10) and Public Trustee Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 11)	24
MOTIONS (Substantive)	
Adjournment of Assembly, Sessional Order	8

Address-in-Reply	5,8,18,24, 28,32
Adjournment of the Assembly	39
Appoint - Chairman of Committees - Bell	8
Dondas	40
McCarthy	7
Appoint - Committee of Privileges	9
Appoint - House Committee	9
Appoint - New Parliament House Committee	10,11
Appoint - Publications Committee	9
Appoint - Select Committee on Constitutional Development	11,12,13
Appoint - Sessional Committee on the Environment	10
Appoint - Sessional Committee on New Parliament House	10,11
Appoint - Sessional Committee of Public Accounts	14,15,16
Appoint - Speaker	4
Appoint - Subordinate Legislation and Tabled Papers Committee	9 9
Appoint - Standing Orders Committee	9
Chairman of Committees - Appoint - Mr Dondas	40
- Mr McCarthy	7
Committee of Privileges - Appoint	9
- Reference, <i>Legislative Assembly</i> <i>(Powers and Privileges) Act</i>	9
Darwin Power Supply, Appoint proposed Board of Inquiry	17,24,25,
Environment Committee - Membership change, appoint Mr Dondas	40
House Committee - Appoint	9
Note paper -	
Auditor-General's Report, 1985-86 - Prescribed Statutory Corporations	21
Commonwealth Day Message	17,18
Note statement -	
Minister for Labour and Administrative Services - Assumed responsibilities by Mr Hatton	27
Resignation of Minister for Labour and Administrative Services, Mr Harris	27
Territory energy resources	35
Print -	
Auditor-General's Report, 1985-86 - Prescribed Statutory Corporations	21
Privileges Committee - Appoint	9
- Reference, <i>Legislative Assembly</i> <i>(Powers and Privileges) Act</i>	9
Public Accounts Committee -	
Appoint	14
Membership change, Mr Harris	40
Reference, Actual and contingent liabilities	31,32
Reference, Aero-medical contract	31,32
Reference, year end accelerated expenditure	31,32
Publications Committee - Appoint	9
Revocation of Park, Hundred of Bagot - <i>Territory Parks</i> <i>and Wildlife Conservation Act</i>	16,22,28
Select Committee on Constitutional Development - Appoint	11,12,13
Sessional Committees -	
° Constitutional Development - Appoint	11,12,13
° Environment -	
Appoint	10
Membership change, Mr Dondas	40
° New Parliament House Committee - Appoint	10,11



INDEX TO MINUTES - 28 April 1987 - 7 May 1987

° Public Accounts Committee -	
Appoint	14,15,16
Membership change, Mr Harris	40
Sessional order -	
Adjournment of Assembly	8
Public Accounts Committee - Appoint	14,15,16
Speaker, appointment	4
Standing Orders Committee - Appoint	9
Subordinate Legislation and Tabled Papers Committee -	
Appoint	9
Membership change, Mr Poole	40
Territory energy resources	35
MOTION NEGATIVED	
Darwin Power Supply	25
NOTICE	
Appointing commencement of Fifth Assembly, 28 April 1987	1
NOTICE WITHDRAWN	
Stamp Duty Amendment Bill 1987 (Serial 16)	23
OFFICE HOLDERS	
Government	6,7
Opposition	7
PAPERS AND REPORTS TABLED	
Administrator's Address to Assembly, 28 April 1987	8
Agreements and Determinations -	
Police Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.1/82 -	
27 March 1987	19
Police Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.2/82 -	
27 March 1987	19
Police Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.2/82 -	
3 April 1987	19
Prisons Arbitral Tribunal Determination No.10 -	
17 December 1986	19
Senior Prison Officers Arbitral Tribunal Determination	
No.3 - 7 February 1987	19
Annual Reports -	
Aboriginal Sacred Sites Protection Authority, 1984-85	26
Auditor-General's Report, 1985-86 - Prescribed	
Statutory Corporations	21
Accounting Standards Review Board, 1985-86	19
Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary Board, 1984-85	26
Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary Board, 1985-86	26
Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory,	
1985-86 (Seventh)	26
Department of the Chief Minister, 1985-86	26
Department of Lands, 1985-86	26
Electrical Workers and Contractors Licensing Board,	
1985-86	26
Industry and Employment Training Advisory Council,	
1985-86	37
Jabiru Town Development Authority, 1985-86	19
National Crime Authority, 1985-86	43
Northern Territory Liquor Commission, 1985-86	37

INDEX TO MINUTES - 28 April 1987 - 7 May 1987

---

Northern Territory Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Board for Year ended 30 September 1986	26
Northern Territory Racing and Gaming Commission 1986	19
Northern Territory Totalizator Administration Board, 1985-86 (First)	37
Palmerston Development Authority, 1984-85 (Fifth and Final)	43
Police Force of the Northern Territory, Northern Territory Emergency Service, Fire Service of the Northern Territory, 1985-86	43
Public Trustee, 1985-86	19
Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory, 1983-84	37
Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory, 1984-85	37
Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory, 1985-86	37
Authorization to administer Oaths, Deputy, dated 21 April 1987	3
Commission of Deputy of Administrator, dated 21 April 1987	2
Commonwealth Day Message, 9 March 1987	17,18
Community Government Schemes -	
Borroloola	33
Nguu	33
Financial Administration and Audit Act -	
Direction by the Administrator - Section 13(1)(a), 3 April 1987	43
Direction by the Treasurer - Section 13(1)(b), 4 March 1987	43
Financial Statements -	
A.N.Z. - Executor and Trustee Company Limited, 1985-86	19
Darwin Omnibus Service, 1985-86	26
Hospital Management Boards -	
Alice Springs 1985-86	26
Royal Darwin 1985-86	26
Letter from the Hon. Lionel Bowen M.P., dated 2 January 1987 - Fringe Benefits Tax Resolution	18
Letter from the Hon. Lionel Bowen M.P., dated 26 March 1987 - Heritage Resolution	18
Letter, resignation of Mr McCarthy as Chairman of Committees	40
Mineral Royalty Act, N.T. Government proposals	32
Ministry and Administrative arrangements of Government	6,7
Notice appointing and fixing time of Fifth Assembly, dated 31 March 1987	1
Recommendations under S.103 of Crown Lands Act -	
Revocation of Reserve No.1018 - Mindil Beach	19
Revocation of Reserve No.1024 - Town of Darwin	19
Revocation of Reserve No.1081 - Town of Nightcliff	19
Revocation of Reserve No.1235 - Lots 3844 and 1359, Town of Darwin	19
Revocation of Reserve No.1484 - Esplanade, Town of Darwin	26
Regulations 1986 -	
No.46 - Palmerston (Private Swimming Pool) By-laws	19
No.47 - Amendment to Workers' Compensation (Rates of Compensation) Regulations	19
No.48 - Amendment of the Motor Vehicles Regulations	19
No.49 - Work Health Regulations	19

INDEX TO MINUTES - 28 April 1987 - 7 May 1987

---

No.50 - Amendments of the Criminal Law (Conditional Release of Offenders) (Community Service Orders) Regulations	19
No.51 - Amendments of the Northern Territory Building Code	19
No.52 - Grain Marketing (Election of Grower Members) Regulations	19
No.53 - Amendment of the Public Holidays Regulations Regulations 1987 -	19
No. 1 - Amendment of the Building Societies Regulations	19
No. 2 - Amendment of the Motor Vehicles (Fares and Charges) Regulations	19
No. 3 - Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Regulations	19
No. 4 - Amendment of the Juries Regulations	19
No. 5 - University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing traffic on College sites	19
No. 6 - University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the meetings of Council	20
No. 7 - University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the election of members of the Council	20
No. 8 - University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the site	20
No. 9 - University College of the Northern Territory By-laws governing the use and custody of the common seal	20
No.10 - University College of the Northern Territory By-laws of fees	20
No.11 - Barunga-Wugularr Community Government Council (Common Seal) By-laws	20
No.12 - Wallace Rock-hole Community Government Council (Common Seal) By-laws	20
No.13 - Amendment of the Coal Regulations	20
No.14 - Community Welfare (Child Care) Regulations	20
Remuneration Tribunal Review 1987	
Determination No.1/87, 7 March 1987	43
Returns to Writs for General Election, 7 March 1987	3
PERSONAL EXPLANATION	
Mr Harris	27
Mr Manzie	32
PETITIONS	
Liquor Licence, Melanka Lodge	35
Tertiary Book Allowance	39
PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER TO ADMINISTRATOR	4
RETURN TO WRITS	
General Election, 7 March 1987	3
RULING OF SPEAKER	
Sub judge	36
STATEMENTS	
Chairman of Committees, appointment Mr Dondas	40
Resignation of Mr McCarthy	39

INDEX TO MINUTES - 28 April 1987 - 7 May 1987

---

Minister for Labour and Administrative Services, Mr Hatton assumed portfolio responsibilities	27,31
Minister for Labour and Administrative Services, resignation of Mr Harris	27
Minister for Labour and Administrative Services, appointment of Mr McCarthy	39
Ministry and Administrative Arrangements of Government	6,7
Opposition Office Holders	7
Resignation of Minister for Labour and Administrative Services, Mr Harris	27
Security in Legislative Assembly precincts	28
Televising and Video recording of Assembly proceedings	21
Territory energy resources	35
WARRANT - DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES	16