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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Report on the Operations of
the Committee for 1986

February 1987

(Bills and documents referred)
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Membership

Dr R.E. Klugman, M.P. (Chairman)

Hon. A.E. Adermann, M.P.

Hon. N.A. Brown, Q.C., M.P. (to 10 September 1985)

Mr D.M. Cameron, M.P.

Mr L. Kent, M.P.

Mr E.J. Lindsay, R.F.D., M.P.

Mr M.J. Maher, M.P.

Mr J.M. Spender, Q.C., M.P. (from 10 September 1985)

Clerk to the Committee

Mr L.M. Barlin

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NEW STANDING ORDER 28A ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON 9 OCTOBER 1984, a.m.

Committee of Members' Interests

28A. (a) A Committee of Members' Interests shall be appointed at the commencement of each Parliament—

- (i) to inquire into and report upon the arrangements made for the compilation, maintenance and accessibility of a Register of Members' Interests;
- (ii) to consider any proposals made by Members and others as to the form and content of the register;
- (iii) to consider any specific complaints made in relation to the registering or declaring of interests;
- (iv) to consider what changes to any code of conduct adopted by the House are necessary or desirable;
- (v) to consider what classes of person (if any) other than Members ought to be required to register and declare their interests, and
- (vi) to make recommendations upon these and any other matters which are relevant.

(b) The committee shall consist of 7 members, 4 Members to be nominated by either the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House or the Government Whip and 3 Members to be nominated by either the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition or the Opposition Whip:

Provided that, where the Opposition is composed of 2 parties, the committee shall consist of 4 Members to be nominated by either the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House or the Government Whip, 2 Members to be nominated by either the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition or the Opposition Whip, and 1 Member to be nominated by either the Leader of the Third Party, the Deputy Leader of the Third Party or the Third Party Whip.

(c) The committee shall elect as chairman of the committee one of the Members nominated either by the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House or the Government Whip.

(d) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records but shall not exercise that power, nor undertake an investigation of the private interests of any person, unless approved by not less than 4 members of the committee other than the chairman.

(e) The committee shall have power to confer with a similar committee of the Senate.

(f) The committee shall, as soon as practicable after 31 December in each year, prepare and table in the House a report on its operations during that year and shall also have power to report from time to time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**REGISTRATION AND DECLARATION OF
MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

**Requirements of the House of Representatives
from 22 October 1986**

*Resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m. as amended on 13 February
1986 and 22 October 1986*

That the following resolutions relating to the registration and declaration of Members' interests be adopted, such resolutions to have effect from the commencement of the 34th Parliament and to continue in force unless and until amended or repealed by the House of Representatives in this or a subsequent Parliament:

(1) Declaration of Members' interests

That within 28 days of making and subscribing an oath or affirmation as a Member of the House of Representatives each Member shall provide to the Registrar of Members' Interests, a statement of—

- (1) the Member's registrable interests, and
- (2) the registrable interests of which the Member is aware (a) of the Member's spouse and (b) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support,

in accordance with resolutions adopted by the House and in a form determined by the Committee of Members' Interests from time to time, and shall also notify any alteration of those interests to the Registrar within 28 days of that alteration occurring.

(2) Registrable interests

That the statement of a Member's registrable interests to be provided by a Member shall include the registrable interests of which the Member is aware (1) of the Member's spouse and (2) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support, and shall cover the following matters:

- (a) shareholdings in public and private companies (including holding companies) indicating the name of the company or companies;
- (b) family and business trusts and nominee companies—
 - (i) in which a beneficial interest is held, indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and beneficial interest, and
 - (ii) in which the Member, the Member's spouse, or a child who is wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support, is a trustee (but not including a trustee of an estate where no beneficial interest is held by the Member, the Member's spouse or dependent children), indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and the beneficiary of the trust;
- (c) real estate, including the location (suburb or area only) and the purpose for which it is owned;
- (d) registered directorships of companies;
- (e) partnerships indicating the nature of the interests and the activities of the partnership;
- (f) liabilities indicating the nature of the liability and the creditor concerned;
- (g) the nature of any bonds, debentures and like investments;

- (h) saving or investment accounts, indicating their nature and the name of the bank or other institutions concerned;
- (i) the nature of any other assets (excluding household and personal effects) each valued at over \$5,000;
- (j) the nature of any other substantial sources of income;
- (k) gifts valued at more than \$250 received from official sources, or at more than \$100 where received from other than official sources provided that a gift received by a Member, the Member's spouse or dependent children from family members or personal friends in a purely personal capacity need not be registered unless the Member judges that an appearance of conflict of interest may be seen to exist;
- (l) any sponsored travel or hospitality received;
- (m) membership of any organisation, and
- (n) any other interests where a conflict of interest with a Member's public duties could foreseeably arise or be seen to arise.

(3) Register and Registrar of Members' Interests

That—

- (a) at the commencement of each Parliament, and at other times as necessary, Mr Speaker shall appoint an officer of the Department of the House of Representatives as the Registrar of Members' Interests and that officer shall also be clerk to the Committee of Members' Interests;
- (b) the Registrar of Members' Interests shall, in accordance with procedures determined by the Committee of Members' Interests, maintain a Register of Members' Interests in a form to be determined by that committee from time to time;
- (c) as soon as possible after the commencement of each Parliament the chairman of the Committee of Members' Interests shall table in the House a copy of the completed Register of Members' Interests and shall also table from time to time as required any notification by a Member of alteration of those interests, and
- (d) the Register of Members' Interests shall be available for inspection by any person under conditions to be laid down by the Committee of Members' Interests from time to time.

(4) Declaration of interest in debate and other proceedings

That, notwithstanding the lodgment by a Member of a statement of the Member's registrable interests and the registrable interests of which the Member is aware (1) of the Member's spouse and (2) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support, and the incorporation of that statement in a Register of Members' Interests, a Member shall declare any relevant interest—

- (a) at the beginning of his or her speech if the Member should participate in debate in the House, committee of the whole House, or a committee of the House (or of the House and the Senate), and
 - (b) as soon as practicable after a division is called for in the House, committee of the whole House, or a committee of the House (or of the House and the Senate) if the Member proposes to vote in that division, and
- the declaration shall be recorded and indexed in the *Votes and Proceedings* or minutes of proceedings (as applicable) and in any *Hansard* report of those proceedings or that division:

Provided that it shall not be necessary for a Member to declare an interest when directing a question seeking information in accordance with standing order 142 or 143.

Additional resolutions adopted by the House on 13 February 1986

That this House re-affirms the requirement for the registration and declaration of the interests of Members, their spouses and dependent children adopted by the House of Representatives on 9 October 1984 a.m.

That any Member of the House of Representatives who—

- (a) knowingly fails to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests by the due date,
- (b) knowingly fails to notify any alteration of those interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests within 28 days of the change occurring, or

(c) knowingly provides false or misleading information to the Registrar of Members' Interests,

shall be guilty of a serious contempt of the House of Representatives and shall be dealt with by the House accordingly.

Note

The requirements set out above are those in force from 22 October 1986.

No reference has been made to—

- (1) earlier registration requirements deleted on 13 February 1986, or 22 October 1986, and
- (2) resolutions of 21 March 1985 and 13 February 1986 which related to the lodgement of initial statements of interests by Members of the 34th Parliament.

REPORT

Introduction

1. Under standing order 28A by which it is appointed, the Committee is required, as soon as practicable after 31 December in each year, to prepare and table in the House a report on its operations during that year. The membership of the Committee in the 34th Parliament was nominated on 20 March 1985 but, because of a number of difficulties encountered with the registration requirements, Members were not required to lodge statements of interests until 30 June 1986. This first Annual Report of the Committee is for the year ended 31 December 1986 although some reference is included in respect of earlier activities of the Committee.

Background

2. On 9 October 1984 a.m. the House adopted resolutions effective from the next (34th) Parliament requiring each Member of the House within 28 days of making and subscribing an oath or affirmation as a Member to provide to the Registrar of Members' Interests a statement of

(i) the Member's registrable interests, and

(ii) the registrable interests of which the Member is aware (a) of the Member's spouse and (b) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support.

The statements were to be provided in accordance with resolutions adopted by the House and in a form determined by the Committee of Members' Interests from time to time.

3. In its Special Report of 20 March 1985 (PP No.57/1985) the Committee advised the House that because of the late appointment of Members, the Committee was unable to determine a form of return in sufficient time for Members to comply with the registration requirements. As a consequence, on 21 March 1985 (V & P 1985/99-100) the House provided a further period of 28 days from the day of issue of the forms of annual return by the Registrar of Members' Interests for the lodgement of statements of interests.

4. In a further Report of 18 September 1985 relating to the Registration Requirements (PP No.305/1985) the Committee advised the House of difficulties associated with the registration requirements and sought advice on a number of issues prior to its determination of the return form. Following this report, on 13 February 1986 (V & P 1985-86/693-4) the House -

- (a) re-affirmed the requirement for the registration and declaration of the interests of Members, their spouses and dependent children adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m.;
- (b) made amendments to certain matters requiring registration;
- (c) required the Committee to determine a form for the registration of interests by 10 April 1986;
- (d) determined that each current Member of the House of Representatives was required to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests by 30 June 1986, and

(e) resolved that any Member of the House of Representatives who -

(i) knowingly fails to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests by the due date;

(ii) knowingly fails to notify any alteration of those interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests within 28 days of the change occurring, or

(iii) knowingly provides false or misleading information to the Registrar of Members' Interests

shall be guilty of a serious contempt of the House of Representatives and shall be dealt with by the House accordingly.

Determination of a form of return

5. Following clarification by the House of the areas of concern, the Committee proceeded to determine a form of return to be used by Members for the registration of interests. Copies of the form and the accompanying explanatory notes were appended to the Committee's report of 18 March 1986 to the House (PP No.68/1986). As well as reflecting the recently approved changes in the registration requirements made by the House, the forms also made it clear that trustees of estates not holding beneficial interests in those estates, need not disclose the trustee arrangements. This reflected views originally expressed by the Committee in its report of 18 September 1985 which were supported by the Leader of the House in his statement to the House on 13 February 1986.

6. Forms of return and the accompanying explanatory notes were forwarded to all Members of the House on 10 April 1986 for lodgement with the Registrar by 30 June 1986. The Committee determined that interests to be included in the initial return forms were those held on 1 June 1986.

The Register

7. Following receipt of completed return forms from all Members, the Registrar brought to the attention of the Committee a number of matters which required determination by it. In no case was the identity of the particular Member revealed by the Registrar to the Committee. Opportunities were then provided for the Members concerned to provide supplementary material to the Registrar.

8. Photocopies were prepared of all return forms, supplementary statements and notifications of alterations of interests received up to 8 August 1986. On 19 August 1986, as required by the House resolutions, the Chairman tabled in the House a copy of the completed Register together with copies of further notifications of alterations of interests received during the period 9-18 August 1986.

Notifications of alterations of interests

9. The resolutions of the House require Members to notify any alteration of interests to the Registrar within 28 days of the alteration occurring. They also provide for the Chairman of the Committee of Members' Interests to table the notifications in the House from time to time. Because of the number and frequency of notifications, and the fact that the Register itself is updated and available for public inspection on a daily basis from the Registrar of Members' Interests, the Committee determined

that notifications of alterations of interests received would be tabled once only during both the Budget and autumn sittings of the House. Apart from those tabled with the first completed Register on 19 August 1986, notifications of alterations covering the period 20 August 1986 to 25 November 1986 were tabled by the Chairman on 27 November 1986.

Frequency of returns

10. The original resolutions of the House provided for the lodgement of statements of interests on an annual basis. Returns were required within 28 days of making and subscribing an oath or affirmation at the commencement of a Parliament and within 28 days of the commencement of the first period of sittings in each subsequent calendar year while remaining a Member of the House of Representatives. The Committee believed that the requirement to complete forms on an annual basis served no purpose, was wasteful of resources and placed an unnecessary burden on Members. In this regard it noted that Members were required to notify any alteration of interests within 28 days of the change occurring. These notifications were incorporated in the Register on a daily basis and available for public inspection. In these circumstances up-to-date interests were always reflected and the completion of further forms at the beginning of each year would serve no practical purpose. The Committee recommended the discontinuance of the requirement in its report to the House of 14 August 1986 (PP No.189/1986) and on 22 October 1986 (V & P 1985-86/1258) the House accepted the recommendation. The terms of the resolution of the House are attached as Appendix I.

Other matters considered by the Committee

11. Standing order 28A requires the Committee -

"to consider what classes of person (if any) other than Members ought to be required to register and declare their interests".

The Committee has given consideration to this aspect of its terms of reference and, in its report of 18 September 1985 relating to the registration requirements, stated:

"It is apparent also to the Committee that members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery are rather uniquely placed to exert considerable influence in the decision making process - a matter referred to by the Prime Minister in his statement to the House of Representatives on 22 September 1983. Indeed, it is believed that some media organisations and their Parliamentary Press Gallery representatives would claim to have played a not insignificant part in a number of political events in recent years. In these circumstances, the Committee proposes giving early consideration to requiring, amongst others, members of the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery to register their interests in a manner similar to that applying to Members of the House.".

12. The Committee sought and obtained advice from The Secretary, Attorney-General's Department in relation to this matter. However, the Committee has not yet determined its attitude in respect of the registration and declaration of the interests of members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery, nor indeed in relation to other classes of person. Any recommendation for the registration of the interests of other classes of persons will be reported to the House.

Conditions of access to the Register

13. The resolutions of the House provide that -

"the Register of Members' Interests shall be available for inspection by any person under conditions to be laid down by the Committee of Members' Interests from time to time".

On 20 May 1986 the Committee determined that -

"(1) In any Parliament, the Register of Members' Interests shall not be available for public inspection until after the first completed Register for that Parliament has been tabled by the Chairman of the Committee of Members' Interests, and

(2) Thereafter, by prior appointment, the Register shall be available for public inspection between the hours of 10 a.m. - 12 noon and 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. on working days in the Office of the Registrar of Members' Interests (Room ---). Appointments may be made by telephoning extension ----".

14. The Registrar has reported that there has been minimal demand only from persons seeking to inspect the Register. The fact that a copy of the completed Register and copies of notifications of alteration of interests are tabled in the House has apparently satisfied the needs of most persons wishing to examine the interests of Members.

Administrative matters

15. The Committee established in the 34th Parliament met on 8 occasions in 1985 and 6 during 1986.

16. The Deputy Clerk of the House was appointed as Registrar of Members' Interests by the Speaker on 21 February 1985 and the appointment announced to the House on 22 February 1985. As required by the resolutions of the House, the Registrar is also Clerk to the Committee.

17. Whilst substantial costs were incurred in producing copies of the Register for Members and other interested persons, in all other respects the Committee has been able to operate at minimal cost to the Parliament.

Other matters

18. Standing order 28A requires the Committee to consider any specific complaints made in relation to the registering or declaring of interests. No complaints have been made to the Committee in this respect. However, the Committee has made a number of determinations on matters referred to the Registrar by Members for advice. These determinations have been wide ranging covering such matters as the need to register membership of a particular organisation to the date of "alteration of interest" in the case of the purchase or sale of real estate where the Committee determined that settlement is the operative day. In all cases, as is the position in respect of all dealings by Members with the Registrar, the anonymity of the person making the inquiry of the Registrar was strictly maintained.

19. The Committee also considered submissions made to it by the Leader of the House questioning the need to register the membership of all organisations and also the need to register receipt of gifts received by Ministers in an official capacity and dealt with in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Government. The Committee rejected the submissions preferring the view that the system of registration would be more effective if all such items were required to be registered.

20. In its report to the House of 14 August 1986, the Committee drew attention to the significant cost incurred in producing copies of the completed Register. Following the Committee's report, the Chairman of the Publications Committee wrote to the Committee suggesting the publication of 2 versions of the completed Register - one in its complete form and the other in an abridged form. Whilst appreciating the suggestions made by the Publications Committee, the Committee resolved that it should retain its publication arrangements to ensure the completeness and accuracy of copies of the Register.

Appreciation

21. As Chairman of the Committee, I place on record my appreciation of the manner in which all members of the Committee have approached their task. To implement a system of registration of interests and resolve the numerous queries that have arisen has not been an easy task. Whilst differing views on the need for, and effectiveness of, the Register have been held by members of the Committee - indeed, some Members were and are entirely opposed to registration of interests as unnecessary, intrusive, and serving no public interest - all have applied themselves diligently to ensure that the first completed Register was tabled on the first sitting day in the Budget sittings 1986 and to draw up satisfactory working arrangements for the operation of the system of registration. I greatly appreciate their efforts and co-operation.

I also place on record the excellent and diligent work of the Registrar, Mr L.M. Barlin, who services this Committee and who had and has the task of dealing with many queries from Members.

R.E. KLUGMAN
CHAIRMAN

18 February 1987

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

34th Parliament - 11th Meeting

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
9 April 1986 at 3.30 p.m.

(1) Present:

Dr R.E. Klugman, MP (Chairman)
Hon. A.E. Adermann, MP
Mr D.M. Cameron, MP
Mr L. Kent, MP
Mr E.J. Lindsay, RFD, MP
Mr M.J. Maher, MP

(2) Minutes of Proceedings:

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 18 March 1986 were confirmed.

(3) Presentation of report to the House:

The Chairman informed the Committee that on 20 March 1986 he had presented to the House the Committee's Report on the Form of Return for Registration of Interests.

The Chairman advised that the Leader of the House had agreed that shareholdings and real estate held as trustee or executor of a deceased estate need not be registered where no beneficial interest was held in that estate.

(4) Despatch of Forms of return to Members

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Registrar would despatch forms of return and explanatory notes to all Members of the House tomorrow.

(5) Requirement for other classes of person to register interests:

The Committee deliberated in respect of its responsibility under sub-paragraph (a)(v) of Standing Order 28A to consider what classes of person (if any) other than Members ought to be required to register and declare their interests.

Mr Kent moved -

That, at this stage, the obligation to register interests should not be extended to other classes of person.

Debate ensued.

Question - put.

The Committee divided (the Chairman, Dr Klugman, in the Chair) -

Ayes, 2 Noes, 3

Mr Kent	Mr Adermann
Mr Lindsay	Mr Cameron
	Mr Maher

And so it was negatived.

Mr D.M. Cameron moved -

That, in order that it may properly exercise its responsibility under sub-paragraph (a)(v) of Standing Order 28A, legal advice be sought from the Attorney-General's Department on the powers of the House in respect of a requirement for other classes of person to register their interests.

Debate ensued

Question - put.

The Committee divided (the Chairman, Dr Klugman, in the Chair) -

Ayes, 3 Noes, 2

Mr Adermann	Mr Kent
Mr Cameron	Mr Lindsay
Mr Maher	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered - That the Clerk to the Committee prepare draft questions upon which the advice of the Attorney-General's Department was to be sought and circulate these draft questions for comment by Committee members prior to despatch to the Attorney-General's Department.

The Committee adjourned at 4.45 p.m. until a date and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed

Chairman

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

34TH PARLIAMENT - 12TH MEETING

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
20 May 1986 at 4.15 p.m.

(1) Present:

Dr R.E. Klugman, MP (Chairman)
Hon. A.E. Adermann, MP
Mr D.M. Cameron, MP
Mr L. Kent, MP
Mr E.J. Lindsay, RFD, MP
Mr M.J. Maher, MP
Mr J.M. Spender, QC, MP

(2) Minutes of Proceedings:

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting
held on 9 April 1986 were confirmed.

(3) Advice from Secretary, Attorney-General's Department:

The Chairman presented an Opinion by the
Secretary, Attorney-General's Department dated
9 May 1986 on the powers of the House in respect
of a requirement for other classes of person
to register their interests.

The Committee deliberated.

Ordered - That consideration of the Opinion
be deferred until the next meeting.

(4) Form of Register to be maintained by Registrar:

The Chairman presented a paper prepared by
the Clerk which analysed the various options.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr D.M. Cameron -

That the Register of Members' Interests
to be maintained by the Registrar of Members'
Interests should consist of the original
or photocopies of (1) the return forms
provided by Members and (2) notifications
of alteration of interests received by
the Registrar.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr D.M. Cameron -

That the completed Register of Members' Interests to be tabled by the Chairman should comprise photocopies of the return forms provided by Members.

(5) Notifications of alteration of interests:

The Committee deliberated in respect of the frequency with which the Chairman should table notifications of alterations of interests.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Kent -

That, in view of the fact that an up-to-date Register of Members' Interests will be maintained by the Registrar and be available for public inspection, notifications of alterations of interests received by the Registrar need be tabled by the Chairman on one occasion only during each of the autumn and Budget sittings of the House.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Kent -

That notifications of alterations of interests should be provided to the Registrar of Members' Interests in writing, and that a pro forma form be provided for this purpose.

(6) Conditions of access to the Register:

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Maher -

That -

- (1) In any Parliament, the Register of Members' Interests shall not be available for public inspection until after the first completed Register for that Parliament has been tabled by the Chairman of the Committee of Members' Interests, and
- (2) Thereafter, by prior appointment, the Register shall be available for public inspection between the hours of 10 am - 12 noon and 2 pm - 4 pm on working days in the Office of the Registrar of Members' Interests (Room L114). Appointments may be made by telephoning extension 6038.

- (7) The Committee adjourned at 4.57 pm until a date and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed

Chairman

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

34TH PARLIAMENT -13TH MEETING

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held in
Sydney on 24 July 1986 at 9 am

(1) Present:

Dr R.E. Klugman, MP (Chairman)
Mr D.M. Cameron, MP
Mr M.J. Maher, MP
Mr J.M. Spender, QC, MP

(2) Minutes of Proceedings:

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 20 May 1986 were confirmed.

(3) Consideration of return forms supplied by Members:

The Clerk, as Registrar of Members' Interests, and without revealing the identity of those Members concerned, brought to the attention of the Committee a number of matters relating to the manner of completion of certain return forms.

Ordered - That the Registrar should contact those Members and provide an opportunity for supplementary advice to be given in relation to their returns.

Ordered - That the need for inclusion in a Member's return of Membership of a Masonic Lodge or similar organisations should be considered by the Committee at another meeting.

(4) Printing and binding of Register

Resolved - On the motion of Mr D.M. Cameron -

That, as near as conveniently possible to 31 July 1986, the Registrar should take action to have stocks of the completed Register produced to enable the Chairman to table it in the House of Representatives on 19 August 1986.

(5) Number of copies of Register

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Maher -

That having regard to the very significant costs involved in producing the completed Register, a total of not more than 360 copies of the completed Register should be produced.

(6) Notification of alteration of interests in respect of real estate

The committee considered a paper prepared by the Clerk in respect of the appropriate date for notification of alteration of interests in respect of the purchase or sale of real estate.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Spender -

That for the purposes of notification of alteration of interests, in the case of the purchase or sale of real estate settlement shall be the operative day and notification of alteration of interests shall be required within 28 days of that day.

(7) Frequency of lodgement of returns:

The committee deliberated in respect of the requirement in the resolutions of the House of Representatives for the annual lodgement of completed return forms by all Members.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr D.M. Cameron -

That, having regard to -

- (1) the requirement for a Member to notify any alteration of interests within 28 days of the alteration occurring, and
- (2) the very significant costs involved in compiling the completed Register,

the Committee report to the House recommending that

- (a) the registration requirements be amended to provide that each Member need complete a return form once only during each Parliament within 28 days of the commencement of that Parliament or within 28 days of taking a seat in the House following a by-election, as appropriate, and
- (b) the requirement for notification of alteration of interests within 28 days of the alteration occurring should remain.

(8) Adjournment:

The committee adjourned at 10.55 am to a day and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed

Chairman

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

34TH PARLIAMENT - 14TH MEETING

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
23 September 1986 at 3.50 pm

(1) Present:

Dr R.E. Klugman, MP (Chairman)
Hon. A.E. Adermann, MP
Mr D.M. Cameron, MP
Mr L. Kent, MP
Mr E.J. Lindsay, RFD, MP
Mr M.J. Maher, MP
Mr J.M. Spender, QC, MP

(2) Minutes of proceedings

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held
on 24 July 1986 were confirmed.

(3) Register of Members' Interests

The Chairman informed the committee that the
completed Register of Members' Interests comprising

Returns and later notifications of alterations
to 8 August 1986, and

Notifications of alterations received after
8 August 1986

had been presented to the House on 19 August 1986.

The Chairman also informed the committee that
prior to the completion of the Register the Registrar
had contacted all Members whose return forms
may not have been complete to provide them with
an opportunity to supply supplementary advice
in relation to their returns.

(4) Report to the House -

The Chairman informed the committee that following
an oral clearance of his draft report by all
Committee members, he had on 19 August 1986 presented
to the House a Report relating to the requirement
for the annual registration of interests.

(5) Letter from the Leader of the House

The Chairman presented a letter from the Leader of the House relating to the registration requirements and forwarding a copy of a letter received by him from the Prime Minister.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Adermann -

That the Committee stands by its earlier decision contained in its report of 18 September 1985 and adopted by the House on 13 February 1986, that Members are required to register membership of any organisation.

The Committee further deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Spender -

That the Leader of the House be advised that the requirement to register the receipt of gifts is a separate obligation cast upon each Member of the House irrespective of any other obligations that the Member may have as a Minister.

(6) Letter from the Chairman of the Publications Committee

The Chairman presented a letter from the Chairman of the Publications Committee requesting the committee to consider 2 suggestions for the publication of future Registers of Members Interests.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr D.M. Cameron -

That the Chairman of the Publications Committee be advised that the Committee notes the committee's comments and suggestions for the publication of 2 versions of the completed Register of Members' Interests, but has determined that it should retain its present publication arrangements to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the Register.

(7) Public service requirements for the registration of interests of senior public servants

The Chairman presented a copy of a letter dated 20 August 1986 from the Secretary, Public Service Board, forwarding a copy of Public Service Board Memorandum 83/1935 of 14 August 1986 relating to the registration of interests by senior public servants and containing guidelines for registration.

(8) Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.55 pm until a date and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed

CHAIRMAN

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

34th Parliament - 15th Meeting

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
18 February 1987 at 3.46 p.m.

(1) Present:

Dr R.E. Klugman, M.P. (Chairman)
Hon. A.E. Adermann, M.P.
Mr D.M. Cameron, M.P.
Mr L. Kent, M.P.
Mr E.J. Lindsay, R.F.D., M.P.
Mr M.J. Maher, M.P.
Mr J.M. Spender, Q.C., M.P.

(2) Minutes of Proceedings

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting
held on 23 September 1986 were confirmed.

(3) Amendment of resolutions of the House

The Chairman presented an extract from the
Votes and Proceedings No. 132 dated Wednesday,
22 October 1986 amending the resolutions of
the House of Representatives to require full
statements of interests to be provided once
only each Parliament in lieu of on an annual
basis.

(4) Registration of shareholdings

The Registrar having sought advice from the
Committee on the need for the registration
of certain shareholdings

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Maher - That
the Committee confirms that the requirement
for the registration of shareholdings in
public and private companies is appropriately
set out in the 2 points contained in Item
1 of the Explanatory Notes relating to this
matter.

(5) Annual Report for 1986

The Chairman brought up his Draft Annual Report of the Committee for 1986.

Report, by leave, taken as a whole, amended and agreed to.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Adermann -
That the draft Annual Report, as amended,
be the Annual Report of the Committee for
1986.

(6) Adjournment

At 4.15 p.m. the Committee adjourned until
a date and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed.

CHAIRMAN

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 1986

16 **REGISTRATION AND DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS—AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That—

- (1) the resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m., as amended on 21 March 1985 and 13 February 1986, relating to the registration and declaration of Members' interests be further amended as follows:
 - (a) Resolution (1), omit "and within 28 days after the commencement of the first period of sittings in each subsequent calendar year while remaining a Member of the House of Representatives," and
 - (b) Resolution (3), omit "and in each subsequent calendar year during the life of that Parliament," and
- (2) in all other respects the resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m., as amended on 21 March 1985 and 13 February 1986, requiring the registration and declaration of Members' interests continue in force.

Question—put and passed.

