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From October the 23rd, 1996, in the Forty-fifth Year, to March the 21st, 1997, in the Forty-sixth Year, of the Reign of
QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND

Session 1996–97

THE FIFTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
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Vol. 253
WESTMINSTER
17th October 1996

BY virtue of Her Majesty's Commission under the Great Seal, and in obedience to Her Majesty's Commands, Parliament was prorogued on the above-mentioned day to Wednesday the Twenty-third day of this instant October, to be then here holden.
Madam Speaker,

The Queen commands this Honourable House to attend Her Majesty immediately, in the House of Peers.

Accordingly, Madam Speaker, with the House, went up to attend Her Majesty: And having returned;

Madam Speaker resumed the Chair at half-past Two o'clock.

2 Elections,—Ordered, That all Members who are returned for two or more places in any part of the United Kingdom do make their Election for which of the places they will serve, within one week after it shall appear that there is no question upon the Return for that place; and if any thing shall come in question touching the Return or Election of any Member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate; and that all Members returned upon double Returns do withdraw till their returns are determined.

Resolved, That no Peer of the Realm, except a Peer of Ireland, hath any right to give his vote in the Election of any Member to serve in Parliament.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person have been elected or returned a Member of his House, or endeavoured so to be by bribery, or any other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

3 Witnesses,—Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath been tampering with any witness, in respect of his evidence to be given to this House, or any Committee thereof, or directly or indirectly hath endeavoured to deter or hinder any person from appearing or giving evidence, the same is declared to be a high crime and misdemeanor; and this House will proceed with the utmost severity against such offender.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath given false evidence in any case before this House, or any Committee thereof, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against such offender.
4 Metropolitan Police,—Ordered, That the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis do take care that during the Session of Parliament the passages through the streets leading to this House be kept free and open and that no obstruction be permitted to hinder the passage of Members to and from this House, and that no disorder be allowed in Westminster Hall, or in the passages leading to this House, during the Sitting of Parliament, and that there be no annoyance therein or thereabouts; and that the Serjeant at Arms attending this House do communicate this Order to the Commissioner aforesaid.

5 Votes and Proceedings,—Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by the Speaker, and that she do appoint the printing thereof; and that no person but such as she shall appoint do presume to print the same.

6 Outlawries,—A Bill for the more effectual preventing Clandestine Outlawries was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time.

7 Journal,—Ordered, That the Journal of this House, from the end of the last Session to the end of the present Session, with an Index thereto, be printed.

Ordered, That the said Journal and Index be printed by the appointment and under the direction of Donald William Limon, Esquire, C.B., the Clerk of this House.

Ordered, That the said Journal and Index be printed by such person as shall be licensed by the Speaker, and that no other person do presume to print the same.

8 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

9 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

10 Queen's Speech,—Madam Speaker reported Her Majesty's Speech and directed that it be entered in the Journal, as follows:

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons,

The Duke of Edinburgh and I look forward to receiving the State Visits of His Excellency the President of Israel in February and of the President of Brazil in December next year. We also look forward to our visit to Canada in June and July and to our State Visits to Thailand later this month and to Pakistan and India in October next year, the fiftieth anniversary of their independence.

National security continues to be of the highest importance. My Government will continue to play a major role in NATO's adaptation and in decisions on its enlargement, and to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security. The United Kingdom's minimum nuclear deterrent will be maintained.

Preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction remains a priority. Early provision will be made for the ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. My Government will pursue negotiations on a Convention to ban the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other explosive purposes.

In the European Union, my Government will work for an outcome to the Intergovernmental Conference which supports an outward-looking, economically liberal and flexible Union based on a partnership of nations. They will promote policies designed to improve the Union's competitiveness and economic well-being. They will work towards the opening of accession negotiations with countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

My Government will promote the further global liberalisation of trade in particular at the Ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organisation and will continue to work for transatlantic free trade in this context.

My Government will continue actively to support peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, encouraging full compliance with the Peace Agreement and promoting reconciliation between the former warring parties.

Support will continue for the search for a durable peace in the Middle East.

My Government will continue to work for a successful transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong in 1997. They will work on behalf of its people to preserve their way of life and to promote the territory's continued stability and prosperity, founded on a high degree of autonomy and the rule of law.

Preparations will be made for the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government to be held in Edinburgh in October 1997, and for the second Asia-Europe Meeting in London in 1998.
Support for the United Nations remains a priority. My Government will continue to work for a United Nations that is more effective, efficient and responsive to the needs of its Member States.

The fight against terrorism, organised crime and drug misuse and trafficking will remain a priority as will action to protect and improve the environment.

My Government will continue to promote respect for human rights and the international rule of law.

A substantial aid programme will be maintained to help improve the quality of life in poorer countries, by contributing to sustainable development and reducing poverty and suffering.

In Northern Ireland, my Government’s priority will be to maintain progress towards peace, prosperity and reconciliation, based on a comprehensive political settlement commanding widespread support. They stand ready to introduce legislation to provide for the decommissioning of firearms, ammunition and explosives in Northern Ireland. They will maintain close and friendly relations with the Republic of Ireland.

Members of the House of Commons,

Estimates for the public service will be laid before you.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons,

My Government will continue with firm financial policies designed to support sustained economic growth and rising prosperity, while maintaining low inflation. Fiscal policy will continue to be set to bring the public sector borrowing requirement back towards balance over the medium term. My Government will reduce further the share of national income taken by the public sector. They will continue to promote enterprise and further improve the performance of the economy with the aim of creating the strongest industrial economy in Western Europe in the medium term and doubling living standards over the next twenty-five years. They will promote fewer, better and simpler regulations to reduce unnecessary burdens on business.

My Government will continue to support competitiveness through advancing knowledge, improving educational and skill levels and promoting a flexible and efficient labour market. Legislation will be introduced to widen choice and diversity, improve discipline and raise standards in schools.

A Bill will be introduced to reform the sentencing and supervision of serious, dangerous and persistent offenders so as to provide greater protection for the public. Legislation will be introduced to support the fight against organised crime, including establishing a National Crime Squad. A Bill will be introduced to strengthen controls on the ownership of firearms.

Legislation will be brought forward to strengthen the powers to protect the United Kingdom coastline from pollution from merchant shipping. A Bill will again be brought before you to authorise the construction and operation of a high speed rail link between London and the Channel Tunnel.

Legislation will be introduced to improve and develop primary health care services. A Bill will be brought forward to combat social security fraud.

Legislation will be introduced to implement proposals contained in the English and Welsh Rural White Papers in relation to parish and community councils and to provide rate relief for small village shops.

In Scotland legislation will be introduced to abolish automatic early release from prison and to make other changes in the criminal justice system to improve public protection. A Bill will be brought forward to enable the transfer of publicly-owned crofting estates to crofting trusts.

My Government will introduce legislation to enable reform of the procedures of the civil courts, and other measures of law reform.

Other measures will be laid before you.

My Government will also publish Bills in draft for consultation on the introduction of voluntary identity cards and on measures to help people make better provision for their long term care needs in old age.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons,

I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.
Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament—(Sir Norman Fowler);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.26 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers presented by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the Prorogation of Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 137 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Treaty Series (No. 81, 1996),—Notes exchanged at Lome on 21st September and 12th December 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Togo concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Togo Debt Agreement No. 9 (1992)) [Cm.3378] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the Prorogation of Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

17th October 1996


4 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation No. 6) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2649), dated 16th October 1996 [Mr Secretary Hague].

18th October 1996

5 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2655), dated 15th October 1996, and

   (2) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2656), dated 11th October 1996

   [Mr Gary Streeter].

6 Social Security,—(1) Income Support (General) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2614), dated 14th October 1996, and


   [Mr Secretary Lilley].

21st October 1996

8 Civil Aviation.—Airport Byelaws (Designation) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2617), dated 14th October 1996 [Secretary Sir George Young].

9 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2632), dated 14th October 1996 [Secretary Sir George Young].


22nd October 1996

11 Housing.—Housing (Right to Buy) (Prescribed Persons) (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2651), dated 15th October 1996 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Wednesday 23rd October 1996:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

12 Health and Safety.—Draft Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

13 Income Tax.—(1) Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (China) Order 1996, (2) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996, (3) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996, and (4) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

14 Local Government Finance.—Special Grant Report (No. 22) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 16] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


16 Housing.—Draft statutory guidance on Private Sector Housing Renewal: Fitness enforcement [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

17 Road Traffic.—Motorways Traffic (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2664), dated 14th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

18 Sex Discrimination.—Draft Code of Practice on Equal Pay [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].


Other Papers:

21 Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries.—Report and Accounts of British Shipbuilders for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

22 Criminal Statistics.—Homicides in Scotland in 1995 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

23 Defence (Royal Air Force).—Amendment List No. 25 to the Major Revision 1985 to the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force [Mr Secretary Portillo].

24 European Communities.—Report by the Department of Trade and Industry on the exercise of powers conferred by certain sections of the European Communities Act 1972 and Customs and Excise (General Reliefs) Act 1979, for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

25 European Legislation.—Response of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the Twenty-eighth Report from the Select Committee on European
Legislation, Session 1995–96, the Role of National Parliaments [by Command] [Cm. 3440] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

26 Foreign Compensation,—Report of the Foreign Compensation Commission for 1995–96 [by Command] [Cm. 3372] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

27 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute, dated 17th October 1996, concerning a further financial objective desirable of achievement by the Royal Mint for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].


29 Housing (Scotland),—Report of Scottish Homes for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

30 Insurance Companies,—Report by the Department of Trade and Industry under the Insurance Companies Act 1982, for 1995 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

31 Miscellaneous (No. 24, 1996),—Amendment to Article 43, paragraph (2) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted at the Conference of the States parties on 12th December 1995 [by Command] [Cm. 3381] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

32 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions,—Reports and Accounts of the West Midlands Development Agency for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

33 National Audit,—Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on National Savings: Financial Reporting [by Act]; to be printed [No. 9] [Clerk of the House].


35 National Savings Bank,—(1) Accounts of the National Savings Bank Investment Deposits—
   (i) for 1993, and
   (ii) for 1994, and

(2) Accounts of the National Savings Bank Ordinary Deposits—
   (i) for 1993, and
   (ii) for 1994

with Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 7, 8, 5 and 6] [Clerk of the House].

36 European Investment Bank,—Overseas Development Administration Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon guarantees provided collectively by European Member States in respect of European Investment Bank lending [by Command] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

37 Prisons,—Report of the Prison Ombudsman for 1995 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Howard].

38 Statutory Instruments (Notification),—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instrument came into operation:

Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation No. 6) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2649)

[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

39 Treaty Series (No. 82, 1996),—Notes, exchanged at London on 19th June and 29th July 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America further amending the Agreement concerning the investigation of drug trafficking offences and the seizure and forfeiture of proceeds and instrumentalities of drug trafficking [by Command] [Cm. 3380] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

40 Treaty Series (No. 88, 1996),—Agreement, done at Moscow on 28th May 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Russian Federation on science and technology cooperation [by Command] [Cm. 3434] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

42 Ukraine (No. 3, 1996).—Agreement, done at Kiev on 18th April 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ukraine concerning the restraint and confiscation of the proceeds and instruments of criminal activity other than drug trafficking [by Command] [Cm. 3382] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

43 Video Recordings.—Report and Accounts of the British Board of Film Classification for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 23rd October; to be printed [No. 22-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Social Security.—First Report from the Social Security Committee [Unfunded Pension Liabilities in the European Union]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 23] [Mr Frank Field].

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Speaker appointed The Stationery Office Limited to print the Votes and Proceedings of this House.

[No. 2.]

Thursday 24th October 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill,—Mr Secretary Rifkind, supported by Mr Secretary Heseltine, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Lang, Mr Anthony Nelson and Mr Jeremy Hanley, presented a Bill to make provision about privileges and immunities in relation to an economic and trade office established in the United Kingdom by the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 1].

4 Local Government and Rating Bill,—Mr Secretary Gummer, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Howard, Secretary Sir George Young, Mr Secretary Forsyth, Mr Secretary Hague, Mr David Curry and Mr James Clappison, presented a Bill to make further provision about non-domestic rating; to make further provision about parishes and parish councils; to confer additional powers on parish councils and community councils; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 2].

5 Crime (Sentences) Bill,—Mr Secretary Howard, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Rifkind, Mr Secretary Dorrell, Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew, Mr Secretary Forsyth and Mr David Maclean, presented a Bill to make further provision with respect to the treatment of offenders; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 3].
6 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

7 Public Accounts,—Ordered, That Mr Peter Thurnham be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Charles Wardle be added to the Committee.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

8 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith and Mr Doug Hoyle be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Sir Archibald Hamilton and Mr Ernie Ross be added to the Committee.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

9 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Coventry against the retention of firearms and shotguns within domiciles of residence was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.25 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, (2) draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, and (3) draft Succession (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

2 Charities,—Draft Charities (The Proby Trust Fund) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

3 Environmental Protection,—Environmental Protection (Prescribed Processes and Substances Etc.) (Amendment) (Petrol Vapour Recovery) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2678), dated 21st October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

4 Housing,—Draft Statutory Guidance to Local Authorities, given by the Secretary of State for Wales under section 604A of the Housing Act 1985 and section 85 of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 with respect to private sector housing renewal [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

5 National Health Service,—Hull and Holderness Community Health National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) (No. 2) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2647), dated 15th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

6 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Areas and Special Parking Areas) (City of Oxford and Parish of North Hinksey) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2650), dated 16th October 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

8 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 7th March 1996, made by the Governing Body of St. John’s College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and

(2) Statutes, dated—

(i) 11th March 1996,

(ii) 1st April 1996, and

(iii) 22nd April 1996

made by the University of Cambridge amending the Statutes of the University

[by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].

Other Papers:

9 Appropriation Accounts, 1995-96,—Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for Class XIV (Scotland and the Forestry Commission) for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-x] [Mr Michael Jack].

10 Development of Tourism,—(1) Statement of appointment of a new member to the British Tourist Authority, and

(2) Statement of salaries to members of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourist Board

[by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

11 Environment,—Paper, entitled Rural England 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3444] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

12 National Lottery,—(1) Accounts of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 28] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report and Accounts of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

13 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Report of the Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 24th October; to be printed [No. 22-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 24th October; to be printed [No. 26-i] [Mrs Marion Roe].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen’s Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Roland Boyes, Mr Frank Cook, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Sir Alan Haselhurst, Sir Robert Hicks, Sir James Hill, Mr Norman Hogg, Mr Roy Hughes, Sir John Hunt, Mr Barry Jones, Sir David Knox, Mr John McWilliam, Mr Michael J. Martin, Mr John Maxton, Mr Iain Mills, Sir James Molyneaux, Mr Edward O’Hara, Sir Giles Shaw, Sir Michael Shersby, Sir Roger Sims, Mr Allan Stewart, Mr Patrick Thompson, Mrs Ann Winterton and Mr Nicholas Winterton to be members of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.
Friday 25th October 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill,—Secretary Sir George Young, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Rifkind, Mr Secretary Lang, Mr Secretary Gummer and Mr John Watts, presented a Bill to provide for the construction, maintenance and operation of a railway between St. Pancras, in London, and the Channel Tunnel portal at Castle Hill, Folkestone, in Kent, together with associated works, and of works which can be carried out in conjunction therewith; to make provision about related works; to provide for the improvement of the A2 at Cobham, in Kent, and of the M2 between junctions 1 and 4, together with associated works; to make provision with respect to compensation in relation to the acquisition of blighted land; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first, second and third time, pursuant to the Standing Order of 15th October, and passed.

3 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—Mr Secretary Forsyth, supported by Mr Secretary Heseltine, Mr Secretary Howard and Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, presented a Bill to make provision as respects Scotland in relation to criminal appeals, the disposal of offenders, criminal procedure, evidence in criminal proceedings, the treatment and early release of prisoners, offences committed by newly released prisoners, criminal legal assistance, the police, confiscation of alcohol from persons under 18, sex offenders and the payment by the Lord Advocate of grants for the provision of forensic medical services; to enable courts in England and Wales and Northern Ireland to remit offenders to courts in Scotland in certain circumstances; to make amendments consequential upon the provisions of this Act to the law in other parts of the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 28th October and to be printed [Bill 5].

4 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [23rd October], That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Monday 28th October.

5 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill,—Ordered, That—

(1) in respect of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill, notices of Amendments, new Clauses and new Schedules to be moved in Committee may be accepted by the Clerks at the Table before the Bill has been read a second time; and

(2) if the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill is committed to a Committee of the whole House, further proceedings on the Bill shall stand postponed; and that as soon as the proceedings on any Resolution come to by the House on Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill [Money] have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill.—(Mr Derek Conway.)

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Derek Conway.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 28th October.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]
APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

   (2) Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 1976 (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2684), and
   (3) Import of Seal Skins Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2686)
dated 19th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

2 Education,—Education (Inspectors of Schools in England) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2594),
dated 15th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].


5 National Health Service,—Northwick Park and St. Mark’s National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2672), dated 21st October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


7 Sea Fisheries,—Seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Act 1912 (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2685), dated 19th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:


9 Atomic Energy,—Report and Accounts of AEA Technology plc for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

10 Development of Tourism,—Statement of the salaries of members of the Wales Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

11 Monopolies and Mergers,—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed mergers between—
   (1) Severn Trent Plc and South West Water Plc, and
   (2) Wessex Water Plc and South West Water Plc
   [by Command] [Cm. 3429 and 3430] [Mr Secretary Lang].

12 Museums and Galleries,—Report of National Museums and Galleries of Wales for 1995–96 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hague].

13 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Wales on the Petition [23rd July] from residents of Wrexham for the avoidance of actions jeopardising the future of local chemists [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

14 Treaty Series (No. 86, 1996),—Protocol of 1992, done at London on 27th November 1992, to amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969 [by Command] [Cm. 3432] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].


16 Treaty Series (No. 91, 1996),—Agreement, done at London on 17th July 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China concerning maritime transport [by Command] [Cm. 3454] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].
28th October 1996

[No. 4.]
Monday 28th October 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).
3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An
   Act to constitute the Bodmin Moor Commoners' Council for the maintenance of and
   the promotion of proper standards of livestock husbandry on the commons in and about
   Bodmin Moor; to promote conservation of the commons; to confer powers on that
   Council and on the Cornwall County Council with reference to those commons; and for
   connected and other purposes, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Family Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to
   Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the
   Social Security (Adjudication) and Child Support Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1996
   (S.I., 1996, No. 2450) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—
   (Mr Gyles Brandreth)—It was agreed to.

5 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the
   adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [23rd October]. That an humble Address
   be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:
   Most Gracious Sovereign,
   We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United
   Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to
   offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty
   has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;
   And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.
   And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

6 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Ordered, That Mr Peter Ainsworth be discharged from the Select
   Committee to join with the Committee appointed by the Lords as the Joint Committee
   on Consolidation, &c., Bills and Mr Nick Hawkins be added to the Committee.—(Mr
   Richard Ottaway.)

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for fair rates for
   riding schools was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be
   printed.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past Ten
   o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
   [Adjourned at 10.28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Bills of Exchange) Order 1996, together with a
   Statement from the Treasury [by Act] [Mr William Waldegrave].

2 Income Tax,—Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order
   1996 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Customs and Excise,—Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) Regulations 1996
   (S.I., 1996, No. 2721), dated 25th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].
Other Papers:

4 Deregulation.—Proposal by the Secretary of State for Education and Employment under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 for the Deregulation (Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

5 Education.—Report and Accounts of the Teacher Training Agency for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No.1] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

6 Foreign Affairs.—Government Response to the Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1995–96, on the Intergovernmental Conference [by Command] [Cm. 3441] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Health.—Government Response to the Third Report from the Health Committee, Session 1995–96, on long-term care: future provision and funding [by Command] [Cm. 3457] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

8 Museums and Galleries.—Biennial Report of the Tate Gallery for 1994–96 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

9 Police.—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 10] [Mr Secretary Howard].

10 Royal Fine Art Commission.—Report of the Royal Fine Art Commission for 1995 [by Command] [Cm. 3426] [Mr Secretary Howard].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts.—(1) First Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Office of Gas Supply—The Regulation of Gas Tariffs: The Gas Cost Index], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 37];

(2) Second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Progress in Completing the New British Library], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 38]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 28th October; to be printed [No. 39-i]

[Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 28th October; to be printed [No. 35-i] [Mr William McKelvey].

3 Standards and Privileges.—First Special Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34] [Mr Tony Newton].

[No. 5.]

Tuesday 29th October 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sessional Returns.—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Returns for Session 1995-96 of—

(1) Business of the House;
(2) Closure of Debate and Allocation of Time;
(3) Private Bills and Private Business;
(4) Public Bills;
(5) Sittings of the House;
(6) Special Procedure Orders;
(7) Standing Committees; and
(8) Select Committees
in the same terms as the Orders made on 14th December 1994; and

(9) Delegated Legislation and Deregulation Proposals, &c., showing—

(A) the numbers of Instruments subject to the different forms of parliamentary procedure and those for which no parliamentary procedure is prescribed by statute (1) laid before the House; and (2) considered by the Joint Committee and Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, respectively, pursuant to their orders of reference, setting out the grounds on which Instruments may be drawn to the special attention of the House under Standing Order No. 124 (Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee)) and specifying the number of Instruments so reported under each of these grounds;

(B) the numbers of Instruments subject to parliamentary procedure, other than draft deregulation orders, considered by the House and by Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, respectively, showing in each case the numbers subject to affirmative and to negative procedure; and

(C) the numbers of deregulation proposals and draft orders, showing for deregulation proposals the numbers in respect of which the Deregulation Committee recommended that a draft order in the same terms should be laid before the House, that the proposals should be amended, and that the order-making power should not be used, respectively, and for draft orders the number in respect of which the Deregulation Committee recommended that the draft order should be approved, and whether or not the recommendation was agreed upon Division, and those which the Committee recommended should not be approved, respectively, and in each case, the decision of the House. —(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 10th June, the proposal should be amended before a draft order is laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Employment in Bars) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 10th June, the proposal should be amended before a draft order is laid before the House.

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee),—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Select Committee of seven Lords to join with a Committee appointed by the Commons as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, with the same orders of reference as were communicated to this House on 3rd June 1992, in Session 1992–93, with the amendment as communicated in their Message of 18th April 1995, in Session 1994–95; and that they have ordered that the Committee do meet with the Committee appointed by the Commons this day at a quarter-past Four o’clock.

6 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Speaker laid upon the Table a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office that, in respect of the following Bill brought from the House of Lords, and upon which proceedings were suspended in this House, the Agents for the Bill have deposited in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the House of Lords in the last Session, viz.:

Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].

7 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Standing Orders of 23rd July, relating to the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords], being read;

The Bill was read the first and second time and committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means.

8 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported, pursuant to the Standing Order of 23rd July, that he had gone through the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords] and made Amendments thereto.

Ordered. That the Bill, as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means, do lie upon the Table.

9 Welsh Development Agency Bill,—Mr Secretary Hague, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Lang, Mrs Secretary Shephard, Mr Jonathan Evans and Mr Gwilym Jones, presented (under Standing Order No. 48 (Procedure upon bills whose
main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue)) a Bill to make provision with respect to the financial limit in section 18(3) of the Welsh Development Agency Act 1975: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 7].

10 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [23rd October], That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words 'but humbly regret that while the Gracious Speech did introduce a number of measures already put forward by Your Majesty's Loyal Opposition, it did not also embrace other ways of raising standards in our schools including lower infant class sizes, better teacher training, stronger national targets for primary and secondary schools leading to improved literacy and essential qualifications for all; and further regret that the Gracious Speech highlighted measures which will increase division, undermine parental choice, subsidise private preparatory schools at the expense of state schools and will make it more difficult for the efficient delivery of education locally'.—(Mr David Blunkett.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 283.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Roger Knapman: 297.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being again proposed;

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

11 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of Coventy on retirement pension rates was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seventeen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.43 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Export of Works of Art,—Report of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art for the period 1st July 1995 to 30th June 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3428] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

2 Magistrates' Courts,—Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of the Magistrates' Courts Service for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 15] [Mr Gary Streeter].

3 Mental Health (Scotland),—Report of the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 17] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

5 Oil and Pipelines,—Report and Accounts of the Oil and Pipelines Agency for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—First Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1996; Proposal for the Deregulation (Employment in Bars) Order 1996; Proposal for the Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1996]; to be printed [No. 40] [Mr Barry Field].

2 Scottish Affairs,—First Special Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, on Mountain Rescue Services]; to be printed [No. 43] [Mr William McKelvey].

3 Statutory Instruments,—First Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

[No. 6.]

Wednesday 30th October 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Michael Bates);

And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Bill,—Mr Secretary Forsyth presented a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, relating to City of Edinburgh Council: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be considered on Tuesday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 4].

4 Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Bill,—Mr Secretary Forsyth presented a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, relating to Edinburgh Merchant Company: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be considered on Tuesday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 6].

5 Selection (see Appendix II).

6 Selection (Standing Committees),—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection the following Resolution:

That, after a Bill has been under consideration in a Standing Committee, no application for changes in the composition of that Committee in respect of that Bill will be entertained by this Committee except where a Member is incapacitated from attendance by illness, or where he has been appointed or ceased to be a member of the Government or has changed his office for another, or has acquired other duties, or ceased to hold or changed such duties.

Report to lie upon the table.

7 Selection (Select Committees),—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection the following Resolution:

That Motions to alter the membership of select committees may be tabled on behalf of the Committee of Selection only if previously approved at a meeting of the Committee of Selection.

Report to lie upon the Table.

8 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

9 Education Bill,—Mrs Secretary Shephard, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Howard, Mr Secretary Gummer, Mr Secretary Hague, Mr Eric Forth and Cheryl Gillan, presented a Bill to amend the law relating to education in schools and further education in England and Wales; to make provision for the supervision of the awarding of external academic and vocational qualifications in
England, Wales and Northern Ireland; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 8].

10 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that—

(1) Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business) shall have effect for this Session with the following modifications, namely;

In paragraph (4) the word 'eight' shall be substituted for the word 'ten' in line 43; in paragraph (5) the word 'fifth' shall be substituted for the word 'seventh' in line 45;

(2) Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees) shall have effect for this Session with the following modification, namely:

In paragraph (2) the word 'fifth' shall be substituted for the word 'seventh' in line 23; and

(3) Private Members' Bills shall have precedence over Government business on 13th December, 17th, 24th and 31st January, 7th, 14th and 28th February and 18th April—(Mr Bowen Wells);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words—

'(4) Private Members' Notices of Motions shall have precedence over Government business until Seven o'clock on Monday 18th November, Monday 16th December, Monday 27th January and Monday 24th February, and ballots for these Notices shall be held after Questions on Thursdays 7th November, 5th December, 16th January and 13th February.

(5) No Notice of Motion shall be handed in for any of the days on which Private Members' Notices have precedence under this Order in anticipation of the ballot for that day'—(Mr Nigel Spearing);

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr David Winnick: 87.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Gyles Brandreth: 274.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put:—It was agreed to.

11 House not to sit on certain Fridays.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11A (House not to sit on certain Fridays), That—

(1) Standing Order No. 11A (House not to sit on certain Fridays) shall have effect for this Session with the following modification, namely:

In Paragraph (1) the word 'eight' shall be substituted for the word 'ten'; and

(2) the House shall not sit on the following Fridays:

8th and 22nd November, 21st February, 7th, 14th and 21st March and 4th and 11th April—(Mr Timothy Wood):—It was agreed to.

12 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [23rd October], That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Another Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words 'but note that since 1979 the Government has broken each one of its central promises: to reverse national economic decline, to cut unemployment which stood at one million when it took office, to raise investment in the United Kingdom's manufacturing industries, to cut tax, spending and debt and to build a cohesive society; regret the absence from the Gracious Speech of measures that will strengthen the supply side of the economy, expand the United Kingdom's long term capacity, ensure high levels of sustainable growth and heal social division; call for a new employment policy which moves people from welfare to work, a new education policy which equips people for the future, a new industry policy
for investment that will increase small business and high technology investment in all regions of Britain; and note that these measures are the only sure way of ensuring opportunity for all and a durable recovery that will keep inflation and interest rates low, and bring long term prosperity for all—(Mr Gordon Brown.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made,

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 283.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Sebastian Coe: 305.

So the Question was negatived.

Another Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words 'but humbly regret that the Gracious Speech fails to set out adequate proposals to create an excellent education system for all pupils, to reform Britain's discredited system of government or to make the necessary improvements to the NHS to restore it as a first class provider of care; and further regret that measures outlined in the Gracious Speech on crime are designed for political effect rather than practical effectiveness and will do little to strengthen the police and prevent crime'—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 32 (Calling of amendments at end of debate), That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Don Foster: 38.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Roger Knapman: 300.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put: It was agreed to.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty's most honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty's Household.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till four minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Dentists,—Draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

2 Legal Profession,—(1) Draft Executory Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1996, and
(2) draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

3 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and
(2) draft Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Broadcasting,—(1) Broadcasting (Percentage of Television Multiplex Revenue) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2759),
(2) Independent Analogue Broadcasters (Reservation of Digital Capacity) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2760),
(3) Multiplex Licence (Broadcasting of Programmes in Gaelic) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2758),
dated 30th October 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

(S.I., 1996, No. 2745), and
(2) Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996,
No. 2744),
dated 28th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Other Papers:

6 Arts Councils,—Report of the Arts Council of Wales for 1995–96 [by Command] [Mr
Secretary Hague].

7 Compliance Cost Assessments,—List of Compliance Cost Assessments produced for the
period 1st January to 30th June 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3439] [Mr Roger Freeman].

8 Customs and Excise,—Report and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of Her
Majesty’s Customs and Excise for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and
Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3427] [Mr Philip Oppenheim].

Act]; to be printed [No. 12] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

10 Foreign Affairs,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth
Affairs on the Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1995–96,
Public Expenditure: Spending Plans of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the
Overseas Development Administration 1996–97 to 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 3385]
[Mr Secretary Rifkind].

11 Local Government (Wales),—Accounts of the Staff Commission for Wales for 1995–96, with
the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Hague].

12 Museums and Galleries,—(1) Accounts of the Museum of London,
(2) Report and Accounts of Sir John Soane’s Museum, and
(3) Report and Consolidated Financial Statements of the Horniman Public Museum
and Public Park Trust,
for 1995–96 [by Command] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

13 Representation of the People,—European Parliamentary Elections (Day of By-election)
(Merseyside West Constituency) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2710), dated 22nd October
1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

14 Reserve Forces,—Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces under section 11
of the Reserve Forces Act 1980 on the call-out of personnel of the Air Force Reserve [by
Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

15 Treaty Series (No. 75, 1996),—Convention on Social Security, done at London on 19th
October 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland and the Government of Malta [by Command] [Cm. 3422] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

16 Treaty Series (No. 83, 1996),—Agreement, done at London on 15th March 1995, between the
Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Government of the Republic of Venezuela for the promotion and protection of
investments [by Command] [Cm. 3423] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

17 Treaty Series (No. 84, 1996),—Agreement, done at London on 13th July 1995, between the
Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Government of Romania for the promotion and reciprocal protection of investments [by
Command] [Cm. 3424] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

18 Treaty Series (No. 85, 1996),—Agreement, done at London on 24th November 1993, between the
Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan concerning air services [by Command] [Cm.
3443] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Chairmen’s Panel (Parliament Act 1911),—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That, in pursuance of Section 1(3) of the Parliament Act 1911, it had appointed Sir Giles Shaw and Mr Roy Hughes to be the two Members whom the Speaker shall consult, if practicable, before certifying a Bill to be a Money Bill.

2 Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel),—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had appointed twenty-four Members to be the Panel of Members to serve on the Committee on Unopposed Bills under Standing Order 111 relating to Private Business (reference to committees of opposed and unopposed Bills), viz.: Mr Richard Alexander, Mr Jack Aspinwall, Mr Robert Banks, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr John Butterfill, Sir Peter Fry, Mr Robert Litherland, Sir Robert Hicks, Mr John Hutton, Mr Brian Jenkins, Sir David Knox, Mr William McKelvey, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr David Marshall, Mr Barry Porter, Mr Ernie Ross, Sir Roger Sims, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Jack Thompson, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Dennis Turner, Mrs Ann Winterton, Audrey Wise and Mr Mark Wolfson.

3 Provisional Orders (Scotland) (Panel),—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That, in pursuance of Standing Order 228 relating to Private Business (Parliamentary Panel), it had selected thirteen Members to form the Parliamentary Panel of Members of this House to act as Commissioners under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, viz.: Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Phil Gallie, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Mr Michael J. Martin, Sir Hector Monro, Mr Ernie Ross, Rachel Squire, Mr Allan Stewart, Mr Bill Walker and Mr Andrew Welsh.

4 Standing Committee C,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had designated Standing Committee C as the Committee on which Government Bills shall not have precedence.

5 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated twenty-four additional Members to serve on the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for the remainder of the Session, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr James Cran, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Harold Elletson, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Charles Hendry, Mr Norman Hogg, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr William O’Brien, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Clive Soley, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Roger Stott, Sir John Wheeler, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Timothy Wood and Mr Tony Worthington.

6 Welsh Grand Committee,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated three additional Members to serve on the Welsh Grand Committee for the remainder of the Session, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, viz.: Mr Nigel Evans, Mr William Hague and Mrs Jacqui Lait.

7 Standing Orders Committee,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eleven Members to serve on the Standing Orders Committee under Standing Order 103 relating to Private Business (Appointment of Standing Orders Committee), viz.: Sir Andrew Bowden, Dame Janet Fookes, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Norman Hogg, Sir Geoffrey Lofthouse, Mr Gordon McMaster, Mr Michael Morris, Mr James Pawsey, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Michael Stern and Mr Nicholas Winterton.

8 European Standing Committee A,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated thirteen Members to serve on European Standing Committee A, viz.: Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Peter Butler, Mr Michael Connarty, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr David Harris, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Helen Jackson, Mr David Lidington, Mr William Ross, Mr John Sykes and Mr Jon Trickett.

9 European Standing Committee B,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated thirteen Members to serve on European Standing Committee B, viz.: Mr Hartley Booth, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Richard Burden, Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Nizj Joseph Deva, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Mr John Whittingdale.

10 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Michael Bates, Mr Gerald Beringham, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Judith Church, Mr Michael
Clapham, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr James Couchman, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr David Harris, Mr Adam Ingram, Mrs Angela Knight, Mr David Nicholson, Mr Mike O'Brien, Sir Cranley Onslow and Mr David Shaw.

11 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 22) (House of Commons Paper No. 16), viz.: Mr Hartley Booth, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Ann Coffey, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Peter Luff, Alice Mahon, Mr Bill Michie, Sir James Spicer, Mr Walter Sweeney, Mr Peter Thurnham, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Nigel Waterson and Mr John Whittingdale.

12 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Child Support Departure Direction and Consequential Amendments Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Peter Butler, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr David Congdon, Mrs Edwina Currie, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Dudley Fishburn, Mr John Fraser, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mrs Lin Golding, Mr Robert Jackson, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr Nigel Spearing, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr George Walden and Mr Malcolm Wicks.

13 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Jonathan Aitken, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Den Dover, Mr Douglas French, Mr Roger Gale, Sir Michael Grylls, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr David Jamieson, Lynne Jones, Mr Austin Mitchell, Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Iain Sproat, Mr Michael Stephen, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Timothy Wood.

14 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Grants to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 1996, viz.: Mr Michael Alison, Sir Anthony Durant, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr Nick Hawkins, Margaret Hodge, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Steve Norris, Mr Bill Olner, Sir Geoffrey Pattie, Mr Peter L. Pike, Sir Dudley Smith, Mr Iain Sproat, Rachel Squire, Mr John Sykes, Mr Jen Trickett, Audrey Wise and Mr Timothy Wood.

15 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Security (Adjudication) and Child Support Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Robert Atkins, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Vivian Bendall, Mr Michael Carttiss, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Hugh Dykes, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Roger Evans, Sir Norman Fowler, Maria Fyfe, Mrs Lin Golding, Mr Alan Howarth, Joan Lestor, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Terry Rooney and Mr Neville Trotter.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 45-i] [Sir Jerry Wiggin].


   (2) Second Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Education Committee, Session 1995–96 (The Work of the Department for Education and Employment)]; to be printed [No. 32]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 25-i] [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 41-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].
4 European Legislation.—First Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 46-i] [Mr David Howell].

6 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 57-i] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 52-i] [Mr Clive Soley].

8 Public Accounts.—(1) Third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Sale of the Mining Operations of the British Coal Corporation]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 60]; and

(2) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 30th October; to be printed [No. 61-i]

[Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Science and Technology.—First Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, on the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council]; to be printed [No. 47] [Sir Giles Shaw].

10 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 30th October, to be printed [No. 56-i] [Mr Frank Field].

11 Trade and Industry.—(1) First Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, on Trade with India]; to be printed [No. 48];

(2) Second Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Seventh Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, on Former Mineshafts]; to be printed [No. 49]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 30th October; to be printed [Nos. 50-i and 51]

[Mr Martin O'Neill].

12 Transport.—(1) First Special Report from the Transport Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, Risk Reduction for Vulnerable Road Users]; to be printed [No. 53];

(2) Second Special Report from the Transport Committee [Government Observations on the Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, The Adequacy and Enforcement of Regulations Governing Heavy Goods Vehicles, Buses and Coaches]; to be printed [No. 54]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 30th October; to be printed [No. 55-i]

[Mr Paul Channon].

13 Welsh Affairs.—(1) First Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96 (The Training of Ambulance Paramedics)]; to be printed [No. 58]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee; to be printed [No. 59]

[Mr Gareth Wardell].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the draft Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) Regulations 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(2) the Special Grant Report (No. 22) (House of Commons Paper No. 16) to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(3) the draft Child Support Departure Direction and Consequential Amendments Regulations 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(4) the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1996 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(5) the draft Grants to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 1996 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(6) the Social Security (Adjudication) and Child Support Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1996 to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir James Hill Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) Regulations 1996;
(2) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 22) (House of Commons Paper No. 16);
(3) Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Child Support Departure Direction and Consequential Amendments Regulations;
(4) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1996;
(5) Sir Michael Shersby Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Grants to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 1996; and
(6) Mr Patrick Thompson Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Security (Adjudication) and Child Support Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1996.

3 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), the following referrals have been made:

(1) European Community Documents Nos. 9651/96, relating to a strategy for waste management, and 10495/96, relating to the identification of cattle and labelling of beef and beef products, to European Standing Committee A, and
(2) European Community Documents Nos. 9795/96, relating to the information society: priorities and implications, and 9372/96, relating to the draft general budget 1997, together with SEC (96) 1677, relating to the letter of amendment No. 1 to the preliminary draft budget 1997, to European Standing Committee B.

[No. 7.]

Thursday 31st October 1996.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill,—Mr Secretary Gummer, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Forsyth, Mr Secretary Hague and Mr James Clappison presented a Bill to make provision (including provision having retrospective effect) authorising the Secretary of State to impose charges in respect of registrations effected in accordance with regulations under section 6(2) or 7(1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 9].

4 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Secretary Howard, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Portillo, Mr Secretary Forsyth and Ann Widdecombe presented a Bill to amend the Firearms Acts 1968 to 1992; to make provision in relation to the licensing and regulation of pistol clubs; to make further
provision for regulating the possession of, and transactions relating to, firearms and ammunition; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 10].

5 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill.—The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mrs Jacqui Lait):—It was agreed to.

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed pursuant to Order [25th October].

6 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of refunds paid by virtue of the Act—(Mrs Jacqui Lait):—It was agreed to.

7 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill.—The House, pursuant to Order [25th October], immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.
Schedule agreed to.
Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

8 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That Mr Roy Thomason be discharged from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments and Mr Walter Sweeney be added to the Committees.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Five o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Protection,—Stands for Carry-cots (Safety) (Revocation) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2756), dated 29th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

2 Housing,—(1) Allocation of Housing Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2753), and
(2) Homelessness Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2754),
dated 30th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 31] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Other Papers:

5 Education.—Report and Accounts of the Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

6 Environment.—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Environment Committee, Session 1995–96, on World Trade and the Environment [by Command] [Cm. 3445] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

7 Export Credits Guarantee Department.—Report, Trading Accounts and Associated Financial Statements of the Export Credits Guarantee Department for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang]; to be printed [No. 4-I and -II].

8 National Lottery.—(1) Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Lottery Sports Fund for Wales for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague], and
(2) Report and Accounts of the Millennium Commission for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

9 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

10 Social Security.—Government Reply to the Fourth Report from the Select Committee on Social Security, Session 1995–96, on Child Support [by Command] [Cm. 3449] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

11 Terrorism.—Report of the Inquiry into Legislation against Terrorism, by the Rt Hon Lord Lloyd of Berwick [by Command] [Cm. 3420] [Mr Secretary Howard].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 31st October; to be printed [No. 26-ii] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 31st October; to be printed [No. 65-i] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

3 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 31st October; to be printed [No. 64] [Mr Gareth Wardell].

[No. 8.]

Friday 1st November 1996.

The House met at half past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Contract (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Secretary Forsyth, supported by Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, presented a Bill to reform the law of Scotland relating to the admissibility of extrinsic evidence to prove an additional term of a contract or unilateral voluntary obligation, to the supersession of a contract by a deed executed in implement of it and to the obtaining of damages for breach of contract of sale; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 4th November and to be printed [Bill 11].

The Bill stood referred to a second reading committee, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58B (Law Commission bills).

3 Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill.—Mr Secretary Forsyth, supported by Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, presented a bill to make further provision about the Scottish legal services ombudsman; to alter the jurisdiction of the Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland; and
for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 4th November and to be printed [Bill 12].

4 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Richard Ottaway);

The Motion was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn.

5 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 7th November, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions on the Motions in the name of Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew relating to the draft Registration of Clubs and the draft Licensing (Northern Ireland) Orders 1997 not later than one and a half hours after the start of proceedings on the first such Motion; and the said Motions may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

6 Liaison,—Ordered, That Sir Thomas Arnold be discharged from the Liaison Committee and Mr Matthew Carrington be added to the Committee.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Gyles Brandreth);

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eighteen minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 4th November.

[Adjourned at 2.42 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Customs and Excise,—Wine and Made-wine (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2752), dated 28th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Phillip Oppenheim].

Other Papers:

2 European Communities (No. 16, 1996),—Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, done at Luxembourg on 22nd April 1996, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Armenia, of the other part, with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3452] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

MEMORANDA

1 Public Bills (Scotland),—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (Bills in relation to their principle)) the Speaker certified that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Contract (Scotland) Bill and the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.

2 Wednesday sittings,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings), the Speaker has appointed Wednesday 11th December, Wednesday 12th February and Wednesday 12th March as days when the subject or subjects for debates on the motion for the adjournment until half-past twelve o’clock shall be select committee reports chosen by the Liaison Committee.
Monday 4th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Death of a Member,—The Speaker made the following communication to the House:

I regret to have to report to the House the death of George Barrington Porter, Esquire, Member for Wirral South. I am sure that Members on all sides of the House will join me in mourning the loss of a colleague and in extending our sympathy to the honourable Member’s family and to his friends.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

4 Crime (Sentences) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Crime (Sentences) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give the Crime (Sentences) Bill a Second Reading, because it fails to establish a system of sentencing which adequately protects the public and ensures the rehabilitation of offenders and the alleviation of crime; fails to address the decline in conviction rates and will undermine the securing of convictions in certain cases; will require the building of 12 new prisons which will divert funding from essential law and order services including policing and crime prevention; undermines the doctrine of the separation of powers and fetters the proper role of judicial discretion; will damage the process of parole leading to a greater risk to the public; fails to seek long term reductions in youth crime as a primary aim of policy; and fails to seek restorative justice and the incorporation of victims into the justice system’, instead thereof. (Mr Alex Carlile.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Don Foster: 25.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Richard Ottaway: 165.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Richard Ottaway: 149.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Don Foster: 23.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

5 Crime (Sentences) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Crime (Sentences) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Crime (Sentences) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act. (Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

6 National Heritage,—Ordered, That Mr Anthony Coombs be discharged from the National Heritage Committee and Mr Tim Rathbone be added to the Committee. (Sir Fergus Montgomery, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Public Service,—Ordered, That Mr Peter Ainsworth be discharged from the Public Service Committee and Mr Peter Luff be added to the Committee. (Sir Fergus Montgomery, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Treasury,—Ordered, That Sir Thomas Arnold be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr Tim Yeo be added to the Committee. (Sir Fergus Montgomery, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.52 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951) (Repeal) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 National Health Service,—(1) Dorset Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2731),

(2) Eastbourne and County Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2732),

(3) St. James’s and Seacroft University Hospitals National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2734), and

(4) United Leeds Teaching Hospitals National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2733), dated 28th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

3 Trade Descriptions,—Trade Descriptions (Place of Production) (Marking) (Revocation) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2757), dated 29th October 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

4 Transport,—Travel Concession Schemes (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2711), dated 22nd October 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

5 Inland Revenue,—Report and Financial Statement of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Inland Revenue for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3446] [Mr Michael Jack].

6 Provisional Orders (Scotland),—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Lord Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, That they have taken into consideration the representation which has been made to the Secretary of State for Scotland by Girobank plc that they desire to obtain the parliamentary powers specified in the schedule thereto, to be operative in Scotland and elsewhere, and that it is expedient that such powers should be conferred by one enactment because it is necessary to provide for the uniform regulation in Scotland and elsewhere of the affairs of Girobank plc, and are of the opinion that the said powers could be more properly obtained by the promotion of a Private Bill than by the promotion of a Private Bill and of a draft Provisional Order under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

7 Relations between Central and Local Government,—Government Response to the Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Relations between Central and Local Government “Rebuilding Trust” [by Command] [Cm. 3464] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

8 Treaty Series (No. 92, 1996),—1994 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (Resolution MSC 42(64)) [by Command] [Cm. 3455] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—(1) Fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Construction of Quarry House]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 69]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 4th November; to be printed [No. 70-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 4th November; to be printed [No. 71-i] [Sir Giles Shaw].
3 Treasury, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 4th November; to be printed [No. 68-i] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

[No. 10.]

Tuesday 5th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Bill.

Bill to be read the third time to-morrow.

2 Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Bill.

Bill to be read the third time to-morrow.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir James Hill reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) Regulations 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mr Barry Jones reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 22) (House of Commons Paper No. 16).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Transport,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Railtrack Group PLC (Target Investment Limit) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2551) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

8 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill which, without proper review or study, seeks to reverse the key reforms introduced in the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 passed in this Parliament; proposes to introduce, without any Scottish piloting or examination, electronic tagging for offenders and lays the way open for electronic tagging of offenders under the age of 16, thereby threatening the operation of Scotland’s unique Children’s Hearings system; provides hopelessly optimistic and unrealistic estimated costs and manpower implications; and miserably fails to address the real problems of crime in Scotland which have so greatly increased in the last seventeen years’, instead thereof.—(Mr George Robertson.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Ms Angela Eagle: 267.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Bowen Wells: 288.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Bowen Wells: 285.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Don Foster: 22.

So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

9 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, there shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament—

(a) any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State—
   (i) in respect of contracts for the remote monitoring of restriction of liberty orders;
   (ii) in respect of common police services in Scotland;

(b) any expenses incurred by the Scottish Legal Aid Board in relation to—
   (i) the employment by it of solicitors for the purpose of providing criminal legal assistance;
   (ii) contracts entered into by it with firms of solicitors for the provision of criminal legal assistance;

(c) any expenses incurred by the Lord Advocate in respect of grants for the provision of forensic medical services; and

(d) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums so payable out of money so provided under any other Act—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

10 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—Ordered, That the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill may be proceeded with as if it had been certified by the Speaker as relating exclusively to Scotland.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.57 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Appropriation Accounts, 1995-96,—Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for Class II (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-II] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Public Petitions,—Observations by—
   (1) the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Education and Employment on the Petition [17th July, in the last Session of Parliament] by residents of Southampton against vouchers for nursery education,
   (2) the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [22nd July, in the last Session of Parliament] by residents of Bradford against proposals to develop Bierley Hall Hospital as a specialised clinic for people with mental health problems, and
   (3) the Secretary of State for the Environment on the Petition [24th July, in the last Session of Parliament] by residents of North Lincolnshire for a review of the basis upon which standard spending assessment is calculated [by Standing Order], to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Service,—First Special Report from the Public Service Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee (Session 1995-96) on Ministerial Accountability and Responsibility]; to be printed [No. 67] [Mr Giles Radice].

2 Statutory Instruments,—Second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].
Wednesday 6th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Derek Conway);
And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Bill.—The City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Bill was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed.

3 Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Bill.—The Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Bill was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5 Selection (see Appendix II).

6 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

7 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Child Support Departure Direction and Consequent Amendments Regulations 1996.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1996.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Local Government and Rating Bill.—The Local Government and Rating Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

10 Local Government and Rating Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Local Government and Rating Bill [Money];
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Local Government and Rating Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
(a) any expenses of the Secretary of State incurred in consequence of that Act; and
(b) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other enactment—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

11 Local Government and Rating Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Local Government and Rating Bill, it is expedient to authorise any increase in the sums payable into the Consolidated Fund resulting from the imposition of liability for non-domestic rates on the Crown—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

12 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 22) (House of Commons Paper No. 16), a copy of which was laid before this House on 23rd October, be approved—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

13 Financial Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 17th July, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

14 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet at half-past Ten o'clock:
(1) in the County Buildings, Cupar, on Monday 25th November to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee;
(2) in Scotland on Monday 9th December to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee;
(3) at Westminster on Wednesday 11th December;
(4) in the City Chambers, Edinburgh, on Monday 13th January to take Questions for oral answer and to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee;
(5) in Scotland on Monday 3rd February to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee; and
(6) in Scotland on Monday 17th February to take Questions for oral answer and to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee. — (Mr Anthony Coombs.)

15 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Arbroath for better hospital services in Angus was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

16 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.25 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Harbours, Docks, Piers and Ferries,—Draft Port of Tyne Authority (Transfer of Undertaking) Order 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Delivery of Government Services,—Paper, entitled Government Direct: a Prospectus for the Electronic Delivery of Government Services [by Command] [Cm. 3438] [Mr Roger Freeman].

4 Local Government Finance,—Accounts of the Scottish Office Development Department Non-Domestic Rating for 1995–96, with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 74] [Clerk of the House].

5 Health Service Commissioner,—First Report of the Health Service Commissioner, Session 1996–97, Selected Investigations—Access to Official Information in the National Health Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 62] [Clerk of the House].

6 Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland,—Report of the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland for 1995 [by Command] [Cm. 3431] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

7 Science and Technology,—Government Response to the Fifth Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, Session 1995–96, Information Society: Agenda for Action in the UK [by Command] [Cm. 3450] [Mr Secretary Lang].

8 Telecommunications,—Amendments, done at Kyoto on 14th October 1994, to the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union [by Command] [Cm. 3447] [Mr Secretary Lang].

9 Treaty Series (No. 93, 1996),—International Convention on Salvage, done at London on 28th April 1989, with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3458] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, that it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Crime (Sentences) Bill, viz.: Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Warren Hawksley, Mr George Howarth, Mr John Hutton, Jane Kennedy, Sir Ivan Lawrence, Mr David Lidington, Mr Eifyn Llwyd, Mr David Maclean, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Alun Michael, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Mr Tom Sackville, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Don Touhig.
2 First Scottish Standing Committee,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Niri Joseph Deva, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Maria Fyfe, Mr Phil Gallie, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr George Kynoch, Mr John McAllion, Mr John McFall, Sir Hector Mono, Mr Raymond S. Robertson, Rachel Squire, Mr Allan Stewart and Mr Bill Walker.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Rupert Allason, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Nicholas Baker, Mr Matthew Banks, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Richard Burden, Mr John Carlisle, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Ken Eastham, Mr Tim Eggar, Sir George Gardiner, Mr Neil Hamilton, Mr Alan Keen, Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Paul Tyler.

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (China) Order 1996, and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr John Austin-Walker, Mr John Biffen, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Jamie Cann, Judith Church, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Peter Grillibbs, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Norman Hogg, Mr Michael Jack, Sir Patrick McNair-Wilson, Dawn Primarolo, Mr John Redwood, Sir James Spicer and Sir Peter Tapsell.

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Succession (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr James Cran, Mr George Galloway, Mr Charles Hendry, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Douglas Hurd, Mr Ken Livingstone, Lady Olaia Maitland, Mr Andrew Robathan, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Sir John Wheeler, Mr David Wilshire, Mr David Winnick, Mr Mark Wolfson, Mr Timothy Wood and Mr Tony Worthington.

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Michael Carttiss and Mr Sebastian Coe (nominated in respect of the Social Security (Adjudication) and Child Support Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1996); and had appointed in substitution Mr Nigel Evans and Mrs Jacqui Lait.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 45-4]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee
[Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) First Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Department for Education and Employment’s Expenditure Plans 1996-97 to 1997-98] together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 76]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 25-ii];
[Sir Malcom Thornton].

3 European Legislation,—Second Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-ii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 73-i and -ii]; [Mr David Howell].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 57-i][Sir Ivan Lawrence].
6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 79-i] [Mr Clive Soley].

7 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—First Special Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration [Government Response to the Second Report from the Select Committee on Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1995-96, on Open Government]; to be printed [No. 75] [Mr James Pawsey].

8 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Procedure on 6th November; to be printed [No. 77-i] [Sir Peter Emery].

9 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Highways Agency: The Bridge Programme], with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 83];

(2) Sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Audit of European Community Transactions], with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 84]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 6th November; to be printed [No. 85-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

10 Public Service,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 78-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

11 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 81-i] [Sir Giles Shaw].

12 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 35-ii] [Mr William McKelvey].

13 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 80-i] [Mr Frank Field].

14 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 50-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

15 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 55-ii] [Mr Paul Channon].

16 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 6th November; to be printed [No. 65-ii] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the Crime (Sentences) Bill to Standing Committee A;

(2) the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill to the First Scottish Standing Committee;

(3) the draft Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(4) the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (China) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996, and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order 1996 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(5) the draft Succession (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mr Nicholas Winterton and Mr John Maxton Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Crime (Sentences) Bill;

(2) Mr Michael J. Martin and Mrs Ann Winterton Chairmen of the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill;

(3) Sir Robert Hicks Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 1996;

(4) Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (China)
Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996, and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order 1996;

(5) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Succession (Northern Ireland) Order 1996; and

(6) Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 10495/96, relating to the identification of cattle and labelling of beef and beef products.

3 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), the following referrals have been made:

(1) European Community Document No. 5231/96, relating to air carrier liability, to European Standing Committee A; and

(2) European Community Documents Nos. 12357/95, relating to cinema and television films, 10305/96, relating to development of the social dialogue, and 10602/96, relating to the Former Yugoslavia and South-Eastern Europe, together with No. 7312/96, relating to the Former Yugoslavia; aid for reconstruction and rehabilitation, referred on 17th July 1996, COM(96)499, relating to introduction of the euro, together with COM(96)498, relating to reinforced convergence procedures and a new exchange rate mechanism and COM(96)496, relating to a stability pact for ensuring budgetary discipline in stage 3 of EMU, to European Standing Committee B.

[No. 12.]

Thursday 7th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Queen's Speech (Answer to Address),—The Vice-Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That Her Majesty, having been attended with its Address of 30th October, was pleased to receive the same very graciously and give the following Answer:

I have received with great satisfaction the loyal and dutiful expression of your thanks for the speech with which I opened the present Session of Parliament.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Michael Shersby reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Grants to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Patrick Thompson reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Social Security (Adjudication) and Child Support Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2450).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Copyright,—Resolved. That the draft Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 11th July, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved.—(Mr Ian Taylor.)

7 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 30th October, be approved—(Mr Malcolm Moss);

And it being one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [1st November]:—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the other Question required to be put at that hour.

Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, that the draft Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 30th October, be approved—(Mr Michael Bates);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 61.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 30th October, be approved.

8 Broadcasting.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 15th October, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Michael Bates):—It was agreed to.

9 Family Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), that the draft Child Support Departure Direction and Consequential Amendments Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 15th October, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Michael Bates):—It was agreed to.

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Dundee and elsewhere seeking legislation to ban the private ownership of handguns was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Michael Bates.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes to eight o’clock, adjourned till Monday 11th November.

[Adjourned at 7.32 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Disabled Persons,—Disability Discrimination (Questions and Replies) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2793), dated 5th November 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].


Other Papers:

3 Criminal Statistics,—Criminal Statistics for England and Wales for 1995 [by Command][Cm. 3421] [Mr Secretary Howard].

4 International Labour Conference,—Paper, entitled International Labour Conference: Presentation of a Convention, a Recommendation and a Protocol to an earlier Convention adopted at the 82nd Session of the International Labour Conference (1995) and the proposed action by Her Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Convention, Recommendation and Protocol [by Command] [Cm. 3436] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

5 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Education and Employment on the Petition [17th July, in the last Session of Parliament] by residents of Halifax and Calder Valley against vouchers for nursery education in Calderdale [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 7th November; to be printed [No. 26-iii] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 7th November; to be printed [No. 86-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Sir James Hill Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 12357/95, relating to cinema and television films.
Monday 11th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Education Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Education Bill;

    And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

    An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and add the words 'this House believes that the Education Bill is not an acceptable and effective measure unless it focuses on clauses related to the improvement of discipline, baseline assessment and targets in schools, the regulation of supply teachers, inspection of local education authorities, careers guidance and the merger of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority and the National Council for Vocational Qualifications; adds clauses to reduce infant class sizes to a maximum of 30, to introduce a General Teaching Council to promote and regulate the teaching profession and to establish the means to ensure that every 11 year old without a special educational need reaches level 4 in national reading tests; and removes those divisive proposals which reduce parental choice, extend the taxpayers' subsidy of private schools and undermine the efficient planning of school places', instead thereof.—(Mr David Blunkett.)

    And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

    The House divided.

    Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Kevin Hughes: 257.

    Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Bowen Wells: 285.

    So the Question was negatived.

    And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

    The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

    A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a special standing committee—(Mr David Blunkett);

    The House divided.

    Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Kevin Hughes: 257.

    Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Bowen Wells: 284.

    So the Question was negatived.

    The Deputy Speaker declared that the Bill stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Education Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Education Bill [Money];

    A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Education Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

        (a) any sums required by the Secretary of State for the payment of grants under the Act;

        (b) any administrative expenses incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act; and

        (c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other Act—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

5 Public Accounts Commission.—Resolved, That Mr Phil Gallie and Dr Ian Twinn be appointed to the Public Accounts Commission in place of Sir Peter Hordern and Sir Thomas Arnold, under the National Audit Act 1983.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)
6 Public Accounts,—Ordered, That Ms Angela Eagle be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe be added to the Committee.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

7 European Legislation,—Ordered, That Mr Kevin Hughes be discharged from the Select Committee on European Legislation and Mr John McAllion be added to the Committee.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

8 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Thomas McAvoy be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Dr Norman A. Godman be added to the Committee.—(Mr Andrew MacKay, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Treasury,—Ordered, That Mr Clive Betts be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr Ian Pearson be added to the Committee.—(Mr Andrew MacKay, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Anthony Coombs);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then two minutes to Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.58 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 8th November 1996 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 137 (Presentation of command papers):

1 European Communities (No. 22, 1996),—Protocol, done at Brussels on 24th July 1996, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union on the interpretation, by way of preliminary rulings, by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on the Establishment of a European Police Office, with declaration [Cm. 3465] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

2 Treaty Series (No. 90, 1996),—Agreement, done at Dar es Salaam on 7th January 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for the promotion and protection of investments [Cm. 3453] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 8th November 1996 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—Teachers (Compensation for Redundancy and Premature Retirement) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2777), dated 29th October 1996 [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

4 Environmental Protection,—(1) Dog Fouling (Fixed Penalties) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2763), and

(2) Dogs (Fouling of Land) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2762), dated 30th October 1996 [Mr Secretary Gummer].


7 Industrial Tribunals,—Industrial Tribunals (Interest on Awards in Discrimination Cases) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2803), dated 5th November 1996 [Mr Secretary Lang].

8 National Health Service,—Joint Consultative Committees Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2820), dated 6th November 1996 [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

9 Pensions,—Local Government Teachers' and National Health Service (Scotland) Pension Schemes (Provision of Information and Administrative Expenses etc.) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2809), dated 2nd November 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].
Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 11th November 1996:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

10 Industrial Development,—Draft Scottish Enterprise (Aggregate Amount Outstanding) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

11 Legal Profession,—(1) Draft Executy Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1996, and (2) draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

12 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—(1) Draft African Development Fund (Seventh Replenishment) Order 1996, and (2) draft International Development Association (Interim Trust Fund) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

14 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Coronary Heart Disease in Northern Ireland [by Act]; to be printed [No. 72] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].


16 Fire Services,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland for 1995–96 [by Command] [Cm. 3451] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

17 Free Trade and Foreign Policy,—Paper, entitled Free Trade and Foreign Policy: A Global Vision [by Command] [Cm. 3437] [Mr Secretary Lang].

18 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence: The Supply of Food to the Armed Forces [by Act], to be printed [No. 66] [Clerk of the House].

Papers withdrawn:


20 Legal Profession,—(1) Draft Executy Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1996, and (2) draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1996 [laid 30th October].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 11th November; to be printed [No. 89-i and -ii] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Standards and Privileges,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Standards and Privileges on 11th November; to be printed [No. 88-i] [Mr Tony Newton].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed,
That the Promoters of the King's College London Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding
anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the
present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and
all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with:

That if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, the Agents for the Bill
shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them stating that the Bill is
the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the Lords in the last Session:

That, as soon as a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office, that such a
declaration has been so deposited, has been laid upon the Table of the House, the Bill
shall be read the first and second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House
as having been so read) and shall be ordered to be read the third time;

That no further Fees shall be charged in respect of any proceedings on the Bill in respect
of which Fees have already been incurred during any previous Session—(The First Deputy
Chairman of Ways and Means);

And objection being taken to further proceeding, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Tuesday 19th November.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the
following Resolutions:

That the draft Deregulation (Bills of Exchange) Order 1996, which was laid before this
House on 28th October, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

That the draft Deregulation (Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951 (Repeal))
Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 4th November, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Robert Hicks reported from the
First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Health and Safety (Repeals
and Revocations) Regulations 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Donald Anderson reported
from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Double
Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation
Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief
(Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996, the draft Double Taxation Relief
(Taxes on Income) (China) Order 1996 and the draft Double Taxation Relief
(Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of
the Firearms (Amendment) Bill;

And a Motion being made and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read
a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word 'That' to
the end of the Question and add the words 'this House declines to give a Second Reading
to a Bill which includes provisions outlawing the possession of handguns which, without
evidence, go beyond the recommendations of the public inquiry conducted by Lord
Cullen into the shootings at the Dunblane primary school on 13th March 1996', instead
thereof.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tony Marlow, Mr Rupert Allason: 35.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Gyles Brandreth: 384.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading)—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Commital of bills), That Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms be committed to a Committee of the whole House.

That the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee.

That when the provisions of the Bill considered, respectively, by the Committee of the whole House and by the Standing Committee have been reported to the House, the Bill be proceeded with as if the Bill had been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee—(Ann Widdecombe)—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

8 Ecclesiastical Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Grants to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 15th October, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

9 Welsh Development Agency Bill,—Ordered, That—

(1) in respect of the Welsh Development Agency Bill, notices of Amendments, new Clauses and new Schedules to be moved in Committee may be accepted by the Clerks at the Table before the Bill has been read a second time; and

(2) if the Welsh Development Agency Bill is committed to a Committee of the whole House, further proceedings on the Bill shall stand postponed; and that as soon as the proceedings on any Resolution come to by the House on Welsh Development Agency Bill [Money] have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the Isle of Wight for amendments to the Firearms Acts to be based on the recommendations of the Cullen Report was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.48 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Fees and Charges.—Draft Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act (Fees) (No. 1) Order 1996 [by Act][Mr Secretary Howard].

Other Papers:

2 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Performance Report for 1995–96 [by Command][Cm. 3448] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

3 Provisional Orders (Scotland).—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Lord Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, That they have taken into consideration the representation which has been made to the Secretary of State for Scotland by Lloyds Bank Plc, TSB Bank plc and Hill Samuel Bank Limited that they desire to obtain the Parliamentary powers specified therein, to be operative in Scotland and elsewhere, and that it is expedient that such powers should be conferred by one enactment because it is necessary to provide for the uniform regulation in Scotland and elsewhere of the affairs of Lloyds Bank Plc, TSB Bank plc and Hill
Samuel Bank Limited and are of the opinion that the said powers could be more properly
obtained by the promotion of a Private Bill than by the promotion of a Private Bill and
of a draft Provisional Order under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Minister for Planning, Construction and Energy
Efficiency on the Petition [17th July, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of
East London for a memorial in a park setting to commemorate the suffering of East End
civilians in World War II [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

5 Special Procedure Orders,—Report by the Lord Chairman of Committees of the House of
Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, under section 3 of
the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, That they had taken into
consideration the Petitions presented by—
   (i) Oakwell Residents Association, and
   (ii) F.S.K. Nominees Limited, RBNBC and RBNB
against the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area)
Compulsory Purchase Order 1994; and that they had certified each of them under the said
section as proper to be received and as a Petition of General Objection [by Act] [Chairman
of Ways and Means].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Second Report from the Deregulation Committee, [The draft Deregulation
(Bills of Exchange) Order 1996: The draft Deregulation (Rag Flock and Other Filling
Materials Act 1951 (Repeal)) Order 1996]; to be printed [No. 91] [Mr Barry Field].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 12th
November; to be printed [No. 46-ii] [Mr David Howell].

3 Standards and Privileges,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Standards
and Privileges on 12th November; to be printed [No. 88-ii] [Mr Tony Newton].

4 Statutory Instruments,—Third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments,
together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-iii] [Mr
Andrew F. Bennett].

[No. 15.]

Wednesday 13th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do
now adjourn—(Mr Roger Knapman);
   And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed,
   without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 European Standing Committee A,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from European Standing
Committee A the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 10495/96,
   relating to the identification and registration of bovine animals, and the labelling of beef
   and beef products; and supports the principle of improved traceability for cattle as a
   means to improve consumer confidence in beef.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

6 European Standing Committee B,—Sir James Hill reported from European Standing
Committee B the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 12357/95, relating to the establishment of a European Guarantee Fund to promote cinema and television production; and supports the Government's view that such a fund can only be successful in strengthening the audiovisual industries if it is privately funded and run on wholly commercial lines.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

7 Opposition Day [1st allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

BSE crisis and the ban on beef and beef products.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that this House notes that after the Florence European Council the Prime Minister assured the House that by October the United Kingdom should meet the conditions for the ban to be lifted on the export of beef from certified herds and certain other categories and that by November the United Kingdom should meet the conditions for the ban to be lifted on all beef that can be sold in the United Kingdom; deplores the fact that the ban on the export of United Kingdom beef remains fully in place and that Her Majesty's Government has failed to meet the conditions for it to be lifted within the timetable they themselves announced; recalls that in advance of Florence Her Majesty's Government pursued a policy of non-co-operation which led to a deterioration in relations with the other member states of the European Union, and failed to resolve the crisis for the United Kingdom's beef industry; believes that the measures adopted by Her Majesty's Government following the identification of BSE a decade ago were inadequate and enforcement was unsatisfactory; notes the confusion and delay since the House was advised on 20th March that BSE was considered the most likely cause of a new variant of CJD and the failure of Her Majesty's Government to meet its own targets for the slaughter programme; depletes the hardship and suffering caused to beef farmers and the beef industry; and regrets that Her Majesty's Government has not protected the interests of United Kingdom consumers or producers of beef—(Mr Robin Cook);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'congratulates the Government on the action it has taken to deal with the BSE crisis which has led to the restoration of consumer confidence; welcomes the package of support the Government has provided to the beef industry; notes the significant improvement in the measures to deal with the disposal of animals over 30 months of age and the progress made towards meeting the criteria set out in the agreement for lifting the European ban on British beef; and urges the Labour Party to drop its cynical political opportunism at the expense of many who depend on this important industry', instead thereof.(Mr Douglas Hogg.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Dennis Turner: 302.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 303.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 30 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 303.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Dennis Turner: 302*.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House congratulates the Government on the action it has taken to deal with the BSE crisis which has led to the restoration of consumer confidence; welcomes the package of support the Government has provided to the beef industry; notes the significant improvement in the measures to deal with the disposal of animals over 30 months of age and the progress made towards meeting the criteria set out in the agreement for lifting the European ban on British beef; and urges the Labour Party to drop its cynical political opportunism at the expense of many who depend on this important industry.

8 Health and Safety.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 23rd October, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth).—It was agreed to.

*The number of Noes has been altered from 295, as reported by the Tellers, to 302 in accordance with directions given to the Clerk of the House by Madam Speaker on Thursday 14th November.
9 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 23rd October—(Mr Gyles Brandreth)—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.

10 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 23rd October—(Mr Gyles Brandreth)—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.

11 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 23rd October—(Mr Gyles Brandreth)—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.

12 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees and Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (China) Order 1996 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 23rd October—(Mr Gyles Brandreth)—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.

13 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees and Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order 1996 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 28th October—(Mr Gyles Brandreth)—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.00 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Home-Grown Cereals Authority Levy (Variation) Scheme (Approval) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2843), dated 12th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

2 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

3 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—Draft Caribbean Development Bank (Further Payments) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Other Papers:

4 European Communities (No. 18, 1996).—Convention, done at Brussels on 26th July 1995, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, on the use of information technology for customs purposes [by Command] [Cm. 3460] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

5 European Communities (No. 19, 1996).—Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, done at Luxembourg on 22nd April 1996, establishing a Partnership between the European
Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Azerbaijan with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3456] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

6 Health Service Commissioner,—Second Report of the Health Service Commissioner, Session 1996-97, Selected Investigations Completed April to September 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 87] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Health Service,—Paper, entitled The National Health Service: A Service with Ambitions [by Command] [Cm. 3425] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

8 Prisons,—Report of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 44] [Mr Secretary Howard].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee B,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Local Government and Rating Bill, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Hilary Armstrong, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr James Clappison, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr David Curry, Helen Jackson, Mr Gwilym Jones, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr Keith Mans, Bridget Prentice, Mr David Rendel, Mr Rod Richards, Mr Mark Robinson, Mr George Stevenson, Mr John Sykes and Mr Daiydd Wigley.

2 Standing Committee D,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the Education Bill, viz.: Mr Clive Betts, Mr Hartley Booth, Mr David Congdon, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mr David Evennett, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Don Foster, Cheryl Gillan, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr John Gunnell, Margaret Hodge, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr John Marshall, Estelle Morris, Mr James Pawsley and Mr David Shaw.

3 Standing Committee E,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated twenty-three Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, viz.: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Congdon, Mr James Couchman, Mr David Faber, Mr Sam Galbraith, Mr Doug Henderson, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Terry Lewis, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Peter Luft, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Tim Smith, Mr Nigel Waterson and Ann Widdecombe.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it has nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Richard Alexander, Mr Nicholas Baker, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Dr Michael Clark, Mr David Evans, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr John Gunnell, Mr John Heppell, Tessa Jowell, Mr Robert Key, Mr Norman Lamont, Alice Mahon, Mr Gerald Malone, Sir Michael Marshall, Mr Bill Michie, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Nigel Waterson and Audrey Wise.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr John Butcher, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Harold Ettleson, Mr Marcus Fox, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Richard Needham, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Sir Keith Speed, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr A. Cecil Walker, Sir John Wheeler, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Tim Yeo and Mr David Young.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Railtrack Group PLC (Target Investment Limit) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Richard Body, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Sir Graham Bright, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Terry Dicks, Mr Don Dixon, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Alan Keen, Mr John MacGregor, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Richard Ryder, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr David Tredinnick and Mr John Watts.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 94-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Environment,—(1) First Report from the Environment Committee [Water Conservation and Supply], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42];

(2) First Special Report from the Environment Committee [Government Reply to the Fifth Report from the Committee (Session 1995–96) on Department of the Environment Estimates 1996–97 and Annual Report 1996]; to be printed [No. 92]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Environment Committee [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 European Legislation,—Third Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36–iii] [Sir Robert Hicks].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 73–iii] [Mr David Howell].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 57–iii] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

6 National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 86–ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 96–i] [Mr Clive Soley].

8 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration on 13th November; to be printed [No. 93–i] [Mr James Pawsey].

9 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Procedure on 13th November; to be printed [No. 95–i] [Sir Peter Emery].

10 Public Accounts,—(1) Seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Hospital Information Support Systems Initiative]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 97];

(2) Eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Information Technology Services Agency: Outsourcing the Service Delivery Operations]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 98]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 13th November; to be printed [No. 99–i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

11 Public Service,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 78–ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

12 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 35–iii] [Mr William McKelvey].

13 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 13th November, to be printed [No. 80–ii] [Mr Frank Field].

14 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 50–iii] [Sir Cranley Onslow].

15 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 13th November; to be printed [No. 55–iii] [Mr Paul Channon].
MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

   (1) the Local Government and Rating Bill to Standing Committee B;
   (2) the Education Bill to Standing Committee D;
   (3) the Firearms (Amendment) Bill (except Clauses 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules within the terms of the Order of the House of 12th November) to Standing Committee E;
   (4) the draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
   (5) the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (6) the Railtrack Group PLC (Target Investment Limit) Order 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

   (1) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody and Mr Patrick Thompson Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Local Government and Rating Bill;
   (2) Sir Michael Shersby and Mr Edward O'Hara Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Education Bill;
   (3) Sir David Knox and Mr Norman Hogg Chairmen of Standing Committee E in respect of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses or Schedules within the terms of the Order of the House of 12th November);
   (4) Mr Allan Stewart and Mr Michael J. Martin Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Cupar on Monday 25th November;
   (5) Sir James Hill Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1996;
   (6) Sir James Hill Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996;
   (7) Sir Roger Sims Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated legislation in respect of the Railtrack Group PLC (Target Investment Limit) Order 1996;
   (8) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 9651/96, relating to the strategy for waste management; and
   (9) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. COM (96) 499, relating to the introduction of the euro; European Community Document No. COM (96) 498, relating to reinforced convergence procedures and a new exchange rate mechanism; and European Community Document No. COM (96) 496, relating to a stability pact for ensuring budgetary discipline in stage 3 of EMU.

3 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), European Community Document No. PE 252-724, relating to the 1997 Budget, has been referred to European Standing Committee B, together with E.C.D. No. 9372/96 which was referred on 30th October.

[No. 16.]

Thursday 14th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).
3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Succession (Northern Ireland) Order 1996. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Division (Numbers incorrectly reported).—Mr Richard Ottaway, a Teller in the No Division Lobby in the Division of 13th November on the Question, That the proposed words be added to the Question (BSE crisis and the ban on beef and beef products), stated in his place that the number of the Noes had been erroneously reported as 295, instead of 302, which was the correct number;

Whereupon the Speaker directed the Clerk to correct the number in the Journal accordingly: Ayes 303, Noes 302.

6 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Anthony Coombs);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

And the Motion having been made at Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then half-past Ten o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Local Government.—(1) Local Government Changes for England (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2826), and


2 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Medical Stores) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2821), dated 5th November 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

3 Road Traffic.—Vehicle Registration (Sale of Information) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2800), dated 6th November 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriations in Aid.—Treasury Minute, dated 14th November 1996, directing the applications of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Winter Supplementary Estimates for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Defence Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the UK Hydrographic Office for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 33] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

6 Supply Estimates, 1996–97,—Winter Supplementary Estimates for 1996–97 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 18] [Mr Michael Jack].

7 Supply Estimates, 1997–98,—(1) Estimates (Classes I-XVIII), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 19] [Mr Michael Jack];

(2) Estimates for the House of Commons Commission (Class XVIII, A), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 20] [The Speaker]; and

(3) Estimates for the National Audit Office (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1) for which a Vote on Account is required for 1997–98 [by Command], to be printed [No. 21] [Sir Terence Higgins].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee D,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee D, Mr David Congdon (nominated in respect of the Education Bill); and had appointed in substitution Mr Jacques Arnold.

2 Standing Committee E,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from Standing Committee E, Lady Olga Maitland (nominated in respect of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill); and had appointed in substitution Mr Jerry Hayes.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 14th November; to be printed [No. 26-iv] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 14th November; to be printed [No. 86-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 13th November; to be printed [Nos. 81-ii and 71-iii] [Sir Giles Shaw].

[No. 17.]

Friday 15th November 1996.

The House met at half past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Social Security Administration (Fraud),—Mr Secretary Lilley, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Howard, Mr Secretary Lang, Mr Secretary Gummer, Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew, Mrs Secretary Shephard, Mr Secretary Forsyth, Mr Secretary Hague, Mr Alistair Burt and Mr Oliver Heald presented a Bill to amend the law relating to social security offences and to make other amendments of the law relating to the administration of social security: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 18th November and to be printed [Bill 15].

3 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);
And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

4 Contract (Scotland) Bill,—Ordered, That the Contract (Scotland) Bill shall no longer stand referred to a Second Reading Committee and shall be referred to the Scottish Grand Committee.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

5 Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill;
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the Bill be referred to the Scottish Grand Committee—(Mrs Jacqui Lait):—It was agreed to.

6 Scottish Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—
(1) at the meeting of the Scottish Grand Committee on Monday 25th November—
(a) proceedings on the substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee shall lapse at One o'clock; and
(b) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion which may then be made in relation to the Contract (Scotland) Bill at Two o'clock, if not previously concluded;
(2) at the meeting of the Committee on Monday 9th December—
(a) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 94D(2)(b) (Scottish Grand Committee (ministerial statements)), the proceedings on any ministerial statement which may be made shall be brought to a conclusion not later than half an hour after their commencement;
(b) proceedings on the substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee shall lapse at half-past One o'clock; and
(c) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion which may then be made in relation to the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill at half-past Two o'clock, if not previously concluded;

(3) at the meetings of the Committee on Monday 13th January and Monday 17th February, proceedings on the substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee shall lapse at half-past One o'clock;

(4) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 94B (Scottish Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), notices of questions for Monday 17th February may be given on Tuesday 4th February; and

(5) the Order of the House [6th November] shall be amended—
(a) in paragraph (2), by leaving out the word 'Scotland' and inserting the words 'South Lanarkshire Council Buildings, Hamilton'; and
(b) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end the words 'to consider a substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee.'—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 21st November, the Speaker shall not later than Seven o'clock put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to the impact of a windfall tax on the privatised utilities.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

8 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Jacqui Lait);

And the Motion having been made at half-past Two o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Three o'clock, till Monday 18th November.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Road Traffic,—The Ayr Road Route (M77) (Speed Limit) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2863), dated 15th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


Other Papers:

3 Miscellaneous (No. 27, 1996),—International Natural Rubber Agreement 1995, done at Geneva on 17th February 1995 [by Command] [Cm. 3468] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

4 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Accounts of the National Library of Wales for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hague].

5 Transport,—Statement of determination of performance-related bonus payments to the Executive Members of the British Railways Board for 1995–96 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].
Monday 18th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Firearms (Amendment) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Firearms (Amendment) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any administrative expenses incurred by the Secretary of State which are attributable to that Act;

(2) the payment out of money so provided of any sums required by the Secretary of State for paying compensation in respect of—

(a) property which is surrendered or forfeited under that Act; or

(b) any other loss which may be incurred as a result of that Act; and

(3) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of any sums received under that Act by the Secretary of State—(Mr Secretary Howard);

And it being three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills):—It was agreed to.

4 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the Bill:—

Committee of the whole House

1.—(1) The proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be completed in two allotted days and shall be brought to a conclusion at Ten o’clock on the second of those days.

(2) On the first allotted day—

(a) proceedings on any amendments to Clause No. 1 which may be selected and which would amend that Clause at any place before the words “a small-calibre pistol” at line 16 of page 1 of the Bill shall be brought to a conclusion one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the first such amendment;

(b) proceedings on any amendments to Clause No. 1 which may be selected and which would leave out the words “a small-calibre pistol” at line 16 of page 1 of the Bill shall be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the first such amendment;

(c) proceedings on any other amendments to Clause No. 1 which may be selected shall be brought to a conclusion one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the first such amendment; and

(d) the remaining proceedings on Clause No. 1 shall be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

(3) No motion as to the order in which proceedings are to be considered in the Committee shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown and the Question on any such motion shall be put forthwith.

(4) When the Order of the Day is read for the House to resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill, the Speaker shall leave the Chair without putting any Question and the House shall resolve itself into a Committee forthwith whether or not notice of an Instruction to the Committee has been given; and Standing Order No. 64 (Committee of whole House on bill) shall not apply.

(5) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings to which this paragraph applies on the first allotted day.

(6) Standing Order No. 80 (Business Committee) shall not apply in relation to the proceedings to which this paragraph applies.
Standing Committee

2.—(1) The Standing Committee to which the remainder of the Bill is allocated shall report the Bill not later than 28th November.

(2) Proceedings at a sitting of the Standing Committee on 28th November may continue until Ten o’clock whether or not the House is adjourned before that time, and if the House is adjourned before those proceedings have been brought to a conclusion, the Standing Committee shall report the Bill to the House on 29th November.

Report

3.—(1) The proceedings on consideration shall be completed in one allotted day and shall be brought to a conclusion at midnight.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings.

Third Reading

4.—(1) The proceedings on Third Reading shall be completed in one allotted day and shall be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings.

Business Committee

5.—(1) For the purposes of Standing Order No. 80 (Business Committee) this Order shall be taken to allot to the proceedings on consideration of the Bill such part of the allotted day as the Resolution of the Business Committee may determine.

(2) The Business Committee shall report to the House its Resolution as to the proceedings on consideration, not later than the fourth day on which the House sits after the day on which the Chairman of the Standing Committee reports the Bill to the House.

(3) Any Resolution of the Business Committee may be varied by a further Report of the Committee under Standing Order No. 80, whether or not within the time specified in sub-paragraph (2) and whether or not that Resolution has been agreed to by the House.

(4) No Motion shall be made as to the order in which proceedings on consideration are taken but the Resolutions of the Business Committee may include alterations in that order.

Procedure in Standing Committee

6.—(1) At a sitting of the Standing Committee at which any proceedings on the Bill are to be brought to a conclusion under a Resolution of the Business Sub-Committee, the Chairman shall not adjourn the Committee under any Order relating to the sittings of the Committee until those proceedings have been brought to a conclusion.

(2) No Motion shall be made in the Standing Committee relating to the sitting of the Committee except by a Minister of the Crown, and the Chairman shall permit a brief explanatory statement from the Member who moves, and from a Member who opposes, the Motion, and shall then put the Question thereon.

(3) No Motion shall be made as to the order in which proceedings are to be considered in the Standing Committee, but the Resolutions of the Business Sub-Committee may include alterations in that order.

Report of proceedings in Committee

7. On the conclusion of the proceedings in any Committee on the bill, the Chairman shall report such of the Bill’s provisions as were committed (or re-committed) to that Committee to the House without putting any Question.

Dilatory Motions

8. No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of proceedings on, the Bill shall be made in the Standing Committee or on an allotted day except by a Minister of the Crown, and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

Extra time

9. If an allotted day is one to which a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 20 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) stands over from an earlier day, paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for a period of time equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion.

Private business

10. Any private business which has been set down for consideration at Seven o’clock on an allotted day shall, instead of being considered as provided by Standing Orders, be considered at the conclusion of the proceedings on the Bill on that day, and paragraph
(1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to the private business for a period of three hours from the conclusion of the proceedings on the Bill or, if those proceedings are concluded before Ten o'clock, for a period equal to the time elapsing between Seven o'clock and the conclusion of those proceedings.

Procedure at time for conclusion of proceedings

11. For the purpose of bringing to a conclusion any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee or the Business Sub-Committee and which have not previously been brought to a conclusion, the Chairman or the Speaker shall forthwith put the following Questions (but no others)—

(a) any Question already proposed from the Chair;

(b) any Question necessary to bring to a decision a Question so proposed (including, in the case of a new Clause or new Schedule which has been read a second time, whether before the time so appointed or in pursuance of paragraph (a), the Question that the Clause or Schedule, or the Clause or Schedule as amended, be added to the Bill);

(c) the Question on any amendment or Motion standing on the Order Paper, whether in the name of a Minister of the Crown or not, which is moved or made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded; and on a motion so made for a new Clause or new Schedule, the Chairman or the Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

12.—(1) Proceedings under paragraph 11 of this Order shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

(2) If an allotted day is one on which a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 20 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) would, apart from this Order, stand over to Seven o'clock—

(a) that Motion shall stand over until the conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which, under this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee, are to be brought to a conclusion at or before that time;

(b) the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which, under this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee, are to be brought to a conclusion after that time shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion.

(3) If an allotted day is one to which a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 20 stands over from an earlier day, the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which, under this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee, are to be brought to a conclusion on that day shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion.

Supplemental orders

13.—(1) The proceedings on any Motion made in the House by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order (including anything which might have been the subject of a report of the Business Committee or Business Sub-Committee) shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one hour after they have been commenced.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings.

(3) If an allotted day on which any proceedings on the Bill are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before that time no notice shall be required of a Motion made at the next sitting by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order.

Saving

14. Nothing in this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee or Business Sub-Committee shall—

(a) prevent any proceedings to which the Order or Resolution applies from being taken or completed earlier than is required by the Order or Resolution; or

(b) prevent any business (whether on the Bill or not) from being proceeded with on any day after the completion of all such proceedings on the Bill as are to be taken on that day.
15.—(1) References in this Order to proceedings on consideration or proceedings on Third Reading include references to proceedings at those stages respectively, for, on or in consequence of, recommittal.

(2) On an allotted day no debate shall be permitted on any Motion to recommit the Bill (whether as a whole or otherwise), and the Speaker shall put forthwith any Question necessary to dispose of the Motion, including the Question on any amendment moved to the Question.

Interpretation

16. In this Order—
‘allotted day’ means any day (other than a Friday) on which the Bill is put down as first Government Order of the Day, provided that a Motion for allotting time to the proceedings on the Bill to be taken on that day either has been agreed on a previous day, or is set down for consideration on that day;
‘Resolution of the Business Sub-Committee’ means a Resolution of the Business Sub-Committee as agreed to by the Standing Committee;
‘the Bill’ means the Firearms (Amendment) Bill;
‘Resolution of the Business Committee’ means a Resolution of the Business Committee as agreed to by the House.—(Mr Secretary Howard.)

5 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Extension of s. 5 of the Firearms Act 1968 to prohibit certain small firearms).
Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 1, line 15, after the word ‘weapon’, to insert the words ‘(including those powered by carbon dioxide)’.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 1, line 16, after the word ‘apply’, to insert the words ‘a firearm which is incapable of holding more than one cartridge’.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 17) proposed, in page 1, line 16, after the word ‘apply’, to insert the words ‘a permitted centre-fire pistol’.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 16, to leave out the words ‘a small-calibre pistol’.—(Mr Robert G. Hughes.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Greg Pope: 281.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Michael Bates: 306.
Amendments (Nos. 20 to 22) made.
Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 1, line 22, after the word ‘any’, to insert the word ‘readily’.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 23) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)
The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Sebastian Coe reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from students of the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne for improvements in higher education was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till four minutes past Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.4 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Food,—Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2817), dated 7th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

Other Papers:

2 Agriculture,—Report and Accounts of the Home-Grown Cereals Authority for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

3 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Department of the Environment: Control of Belfast Action Teams’ Expenditure [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 63] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

4 Deregulation,—Proposal by the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 for the Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs: Debit Cards) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Health and Safety in NHS Acute Hospital Trusts in England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 82] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 18th November; to be printed [No. 89-iii and -iv] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 18th November; to be printed [No. 65-iii] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir James Hill and Mr Donald Anderson additional Chairmen of the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill;

(2) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (in place of Sir James Hill); and

(3) Sir James Hill Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 9651/96, relating to a strategy for waste management (in place of Mr Barry Jones).
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th November, That the Promoters of the King's College London Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with:

That if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, the Agents for the Bill shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the Lords in the last Session:

That, as soon as a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office, that such a declaration has been so deposited, has been laid upon the Table of the House, the Bill shall be read the first and second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read) and shall be ordered to be read the third time;

That no further Fees shall be charged in respect of any proceedings on the Bill in respect of which Fees have already been incurred during any previous Session;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Tuesday 26th November.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Gaming on Sunday in Scotland) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 8th July, a draft order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 1st July, a draft order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir James Hill reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms) [2nd allotted day],—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms).

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 2 to 4 agreed to.

Clause No. 5 (Trophies of war).

Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 2, line 37, at the end to add the words 'and if the firearm is deactivated or disabled from firing in a prescribed manner'.—(Mr Doug Henderson.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

A Clause (Shot pistols)—(Sir Jerry Wiggin)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Exemption for collectors)—(Sir Jerry Wiggin)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Exemption for dealers)—(Sir Jerry Wiggin)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms), as amended, to the House, pursuant to Order [18th November].

Mr Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 and any new Clauses and Schedules appearing on the Order Paper not later than Friday 15th November which relate to the prohibition of small firearms or to further special exemptions from the general prohibition of small firearms), and made Amendments thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 5), as amended in the Committee, do lie upon the Table.

8 Firearms (Amendment) Bill, Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, Standing Committee E shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Ann Widdecombe.)

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Seven o'clock, adjourned till to—morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.57 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Supreme Court, Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment) 1996 (S. I., 1996, No. 2892), dated 18th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

Other Papers:

3 Railways,—Report of the Rail Users' Consultative Committee for Wales for 1995–96 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

4 Trade Unions,—Paper, entitled Industrial Action and Trade Unions [by Command] [Cm. 3470] [Mr Secretary Lang].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Third Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Gaming on Sunday in Scotland) Order 1996; Proposal for the Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1996]; to be printed [No. 100] [Mr Barry Field].
2 Statutory Instruments.—(1) Fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-iv]; and
(2) First Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 30-i]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

MEMORANDUM

Business Sub-committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 103 (Business sub-committees), the Speaker nominated the following members of Standing Committee E to be members of the Business Sub-Committee to consider the Allocation of Time Order relating to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, viz: Sir David Knox (Chairman), Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Doug Henderson, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Mr Richard Ottaway and Ann Widdecombe.

[No. 20.]

Wednesday 20th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Michael Bates);

And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Barnsley East Writ,—Ordered, That the Speaker do issue her Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough Constituency of Barnsley East in the room of Terry Patchett, Esquire, deceased. (Mr Donald Dewar.)

3 Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Bill,—Mr Secretary Forsyth presented a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, relating to Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally); And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be considered on Tuesday 26th November and to be printed [Bill 13].

4 Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Bill,—Mr Secretary Forsyth presented a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, relating to Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway); And the same time was read the first time; and ordered to be considered on Tuesday 26th November and to be printed [Bill 14].

5 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

6 Selection (see Appendix II).

7 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

8 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Roger Sims reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Railtrack Group PLC (Target Investment Limit) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2551), referred to a Committee on 5th November.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 European Standing Committee A,—Sir James Hill reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 9651/96, relating to waste management strategy; and endorses the Government's objective of broadly supporting the review so that future waste management strategy balances the need for a high level of environmental protection with the need for an appropriate level of regulation to ensure the functioning of the internal market.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
European Standing Committee B.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from European Standing Committee B, That the Committee had come to no Resolution in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 10867/96, relating to the introduction of the Euro, 10892/96, relating to a stability pact for ensuring budgetary discipline in stage 3 of economic and monetary union, and 10893/96, relating to reinforced convergence procedures and a new exchange rate mechanism in stage 3 of economic and monetary union.

Report to lie upon the Table.

Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Secretary Forsyth, supported by Mr George Kynoch and Mr Secretary Hague, presented a Bill to amend the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961 in relation to flood prevention measures to be taken by local authorities; to repeal section 11(2) of the Land Drainage (Scotland) Act 1930 and section 8(2) of the Land Drainage (Scotland) Act 1941; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow and to be printed [Bill printed].

Knives Bill.—Mr Jimmy Wray, supported by Mr Don Dixon, Audrey Wise, Diana Maddock, Mr David Mellor, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Don Touhig, Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr John McAllion and Mr Jim Cunningham, presented a Bill to create new criminal offences in relation to the possession or marketing of, and publications relating to, knives; to confer powers on the police to stop and search people or vehicles for knives and other offensive weapons and to seize items found; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th December and to be printed [Bill 16].

Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill.—Mr Barry Legg, supported by Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Nigel Evans, Dr Ian Twinun, Mr David Evans, Mr Bill Walker, Mr David Shaw, Mr David Faber, Mr David Martin, Mr Walter Sweeney and Mr Andrew Hargreaves, presented a Bill to amend the law about public entertainments licences relating to places at or near which controlled drugs are supplied or used and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 17].

Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill.—Dr Robert Spink, supported by Mr Kenneth Baker, Mr John Patten, Sir Ivan Lawrence, Dame Jill Knight, Mr David Amess, Mr David Faber, Sir Michael Shersby, Mr John Hutton, Mr Walter Sweeney, Mr A. J. Beith and Ms Janet Anderson, presented a Bill to permit the confiscation of intoxicating liquor held by or for use by young persons in public and certain other places, and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 18].

Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill.—Mr Nigel Waterson, supported by Sir Ivan Lawrence, Mr Charles Wardle, Mr Bob Dunn, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr John Marshall, Mr Michael Brown, Mr Peter Butler, Mr John Sykes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Nick Hawkins and Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, presented a Bill to make provision about conspiracy, or incitement, to commit offences outside the United Kingdom: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 31st January and to be printed [Bill 19].

Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill.—Mrs Audrey Wise, supported by Mr Hugh Bayley, Sir Andrew Bowden, Ann Clwyd, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Ms Liz Lynne, Alice Mahon, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Nicholas Winterton, Mr Jimmy Wray and Mr Dafydd Wigley, presented a Bill to provide that wind chill factor is taken into account in the calculation of cold weather payments: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 20].

Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill.—Mr John Ward, supported by Mr Harold Elletson, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr David Nicholson, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Sir Irvine Patnick, Mr Neil Hamilton, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Charles Hendry, Mr David Congdon, Mr Michael Brown and Mr Bernard Jenkin, presented a Bill to enable prisoners in England and Wales, and other persons to whom provisions of the Prisons Act 1952 are applied by section 43 of that Act, to be tested for alcohol: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th December and to be printed [Bill 21].

Road Traffic (Reduction) Bill.—Mr Don Foster, supported by Joan Walley, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Alan Simpson, Mrs Anne Campbell, Sir Richard Body, Roseanna Cunningham and Mr John Marshall, presented a Bill to establish targets for a reduction in road traffic levels in the United Kingdom; to require local authorities to draw up local road traffic reduction plans; to require the Secretary of State to draw up a national road traffic plan; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 22].
reduction plan to ensure that the targets are met; and for related purposes: And the same
was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and
to be printed [Bill 22].

19 Criminal Evidence (Amendment) Bill.—Mr Nigel Evans, supported by Mr Joe Ashton, Mr
Ian Bruce, Ann Coffey, Ann Clwyd, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr David Hanson, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr
Colin Pickthall, Dr Robert Spink, Mr John Sykes and Mr Nigel Waterson, presented a
Bill to make provision extending the categories of persons from whom non-intimate
body samples may be taken without consent under Part V of the Police and Criminal
Evidence Act 1984; and to add a further time limit to those operating for the purposes
of section 63A(4)(a) of that Act: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be
read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 23].

20 Telecommunications (Fraud) Bill.—Mr Ian Bruce, supported by Sir Michael Marshall,
Sir Gerard Vaughan, Mr John McWilliam, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr
Robert Macleman, Mr William Ross, Mr Gary Waller, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Stephen
Timms and Mrs Anne Campbell, presented a Bill to amend the Telecommunications
Act 1984 to make further provision for the prevention of fraud in connection with use
of a telecommunication system: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be
read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 24].

21 United Nations Personnel Bill.—Mr John Marshall, supported by Mr Norman Hogg, Mr
Harry Greenway, Mr Michael Alison, Mr David Sunberg, Mr David Harris, Mr
Greville Janner, Mr Jacques Arnold, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Simon Coombs,
Mr Michael Sivertsen and Mr Michael Brown, presented a Bill to enable effect to be given
to certain provisions of the Convention on the safety of United Nations and associated
personnel adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9th December
1994: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on
Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 25].

22 General Teaching Council (England and Wales) Bill.—Sir Malcolm Thornton, supported by
Mr Don Foster, Sir Peter Fry, Sir Alan Haselhurst, Mr David Jameson, Mr Alan Meale,
Mr David Porter and Mr Gerry Steinberg, presented a Bill to provide for the
establishment in England and Wales of a General Teaching Council, with the functions
of developing, promoting and regulating the practice of the profession of teaching; and
for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a
second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 26].

23 Local Government (Gaelic Names) (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Thomas Graham, supported by
Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Don Dixon, Mr Jimmy Wray, Mr Brian Wilson, Mr Calum
MacDonald, Maria Fyfe, Mr Gordon McMaster, Mr John McFall, Mr Eric Clarke and
Mr Alan Meale, presented a Bill to enable local authorities in Scotland to take Gaelic
names; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be
read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 27].

24 Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Consents) Bill.—Mrs Anne Campbell, supported by
Mr Joe Ashton, Helen Jackson, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Maria Fyfe, Mrs Teresa
Gorman, Audrey Wise, Sir Gerald Vaughan and Sir David Steel, presented a Bill to
amend Schedule 3 to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 so as to provide
that consents to the use of gametes or embryos may exceptionally be given other than in
writing: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on
Friday 13th December and to be printed [Bill 28].

25 Witness Protection Bill.—Mrs Irene Adams, supported by Mr Gordon McMaster, Mr
William Mc Kelvey, Mr Ken Magennis, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Phil Gallie,
Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Robert Litherland and
Mr John McFall, presented a Bill to provide further protection for victims and other
witnesses in criminal trials: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be
read a second time on Friday 31st January and to be printed [Bill 29].

26 Police (Health and Safety) Bill.—Mr Ray Whitney, supported by Mr A. J. Beith, Mr John
Greenway, Dame Jill Knight, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Andrew Mackinlay,
Mr Ken Magennis, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Ian Pearson and Mr Walter Sweeney,
presented a Bill to make provision about the health, safety and welfare at work of
members of police forces, special constables, other persons having the powers or
privileges of a constable, and police cadets: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be
read a second time on Friday 31st January and to be printed [Bill 30].

27 Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill.—Mr Robert G. Hughes, supported by Mr Simon
Coombs, Mr David Congdon, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr John
Marshall and Mr Don Touhig, presented a Bill to make provision for regulating access
by defendants and others to certain categories of material disclosed by the prosecution
in connection with proceedings relating to certain sexual and other offences: And the same was read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 31st January and to be printed [Bill 31].

28 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill.—Diana Maddock, supported by Mr Roger Gale, Jane Kennedy, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr David Amess, Bridget Prentice, Mr Cynog Dafis, Sir Andrew Bowden, Mr Tony Banks, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Harry Greenway and Mr David Jamieson, presented a Bill to amend and extend certain enactments regulating the breeding and sale of dogs; to regulate the welfare of dogs kept in breeding establishments; to extend powers of inspection and for purposes connected with those matters: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 32].

29 Policyholders Protection Bill.—Mr John Butterfill, supported by Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr John Greenway, Joan Walley, Mr Douglas French, Mr Nick Hawkins and Mr David Trimble, presented a Bill to amend the Policyholders Protection Act 1973; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 33].

30 Police (Property) Bill.—Mr David Evennett, supported by Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr David Porter, Mr David Congdon, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Andrew MacKinlay, Mr Patrick Thompson, Mr Jim Callaghan and Mr Simon Hughes, presented a Bill to make further provision with respect to property in the possession of the police: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 34].

31 Pharmacists (Fitness to Practise) Bill.—Sir Michael Shersby, supported by Sir John Hannam, Mrs Margaret Ewing, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr Anthony Steen, Sir Gerard Vaughan, Mrs Lin Golding, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr John Wilkinson, Mr Richard Alexander and Mr Gordon Oakes, presented a Bill to make provision about finding registered pharmaceutical chemists unfit to practise due to ill health; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 35].

32 Opposition Day [2nd allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

National Health Service.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House reasserts its belief in the fundamental principles of the National Health Service, established fifty years ago, that health care should be available to all, based on need and not on ability to pay; expresses its dismay at the changes effected by Her Majesty's Government, which are undermining these principles; is alarmed at the way in which the competitive internal market in the NHS is distorting decisions on patient care, creating a two-tier inequitable service, and has led to an explosion of unnecessary and expensive bureaucracy; expresses grave concern about the impending winter crisis in the NHS in many parts of the country, about which Her Majesty's Government appears wholly unconcerned; resolves to take wasteful expenditure out of the bureaucratic procedures of the internal market and devote it instead to improving patient care; and seeks to restore the ethos of the NHS to that of a public service, not of a commercial competitive business.—(Mr Chris Smith);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘believes the National Health Service is one of the success stories of modern Britain and is wholeheartedly committed to developing the NHS on the basis of its founding principles of universality, high quality and availability on the basis of clinical need, without regard for the patient’s ability to pay; expresses its support for the Government’s initiatives to release £300 million from unnecessary NHS administration; welcomes both the Government’s further plans to develop NHS primary care and the recent White Paper A Service With Ambitions, which sets out a medium-term framework for a high-quality patient-focused NHS, and welcomes the Government’s pledge to spend more money on the NHS, over and above inflation, for each year of the five years of the next Parliament’, instead thereof.(Mr Secretary Dorrell.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Ms Angela Eagle: 268.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Roger Knapman: 274.

So the Question was negatived.
And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 30 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House believes the National Health Service is one of the success stories of modern Britain and is wholeheartedly committed to developing the NHS on the basis of its founding principles of universality, high quality and availability on the basis of clinical need, without regard for the patient’s ability to pay; expresses its support for the Government’s initiatives to release £300 million from unnecessary NHS administration; welcomes both the Government’s further plans to develop NHS primary care and the recent White Paper A Service With Ambitions, which sets out a medium-term framework for a high-quality patient-focused NHS; and welcomes the Government’s pledge to spend more money on the NHS, over and above inflation, for each year of the five years of the next Parliament.

33 Cinema and Television Production.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 12357/95, relating to the establishment of a European Guarantee Fund to promote cinema and television production; and supports the Government’s view that such a fund can only be successful in strengthening the audiovisual industries if it is privately funded and run on wholly commercial lines—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

34 Identification of Cattle and Labelling of Beef and Beef Products.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 10495/96, relating to the identification and registration of bovine animals, and the labelling of beef and beef products; and supports the principle of improved traceability for cattle as a means to improve consumer confidence in beef—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

35 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Succession (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 24th October, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

36 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 24th October, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

37 Dentists.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 30th October, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

38 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.37 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Magistrates’ Courts.—Draft Magistrates’ Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

2 Northern Ireland.—(1) Draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and (2) draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland Consequential Amendments) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Other Papers:

4 National Heritage,—Report and Accounts of English Heritage for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

5 Northern Ireland,—Northeastern Region Appropriation Accounts for 1995-96 together with the Consolidated Fund Services Account, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon and upon the Revenue Accounts [by Act]; to be printed [No. 14] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Petition [29th October] from citizens of Coventry on retirement pensions [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Reserve Forces,—Statement, under section 11 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980, by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces on the call out of territorial army and army reserve personnel [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

8 Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation for 1995 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Howard].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft African Development Fund (Seventh Replenishment) Order 1996, the draft International Development Association (Interim Trust Fund) Order 1996, and the draft Caribbean Development Bank (Further Payments) Order 1996, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr George Foulkes, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Tristan Garel-Jones, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Andrew Hargreaves, Mr Toby Jessel, Sir Mark Lennox-Boyd, Alice Mahon, Emma Nicholson, Mr John Patten, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr Keith Vaz, Mr Mike Watson, Mr Bowen Wells and Mr Ray Whitney.

2 European Standing Committee B,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from European Standing Committee B Roseanna Cunningham and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, and had appointed in substitution Mr Brian David Jenkins and Mr Denis MacShane.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) First Report from the Agriculture Committee [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1996], with an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 103];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 45-iii]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 25-iii] [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 102-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Legislation,—Fourth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-iv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 57-iv] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 79-ii] [Mr Clive Soley].
7 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration on 20th November; to be printed [No. 93-ii] [Mr James Pawsey].

8 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 20th November; to be printed [No. 106-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 81-iii] [Sir Giles Shaw].

10 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 35-iv] [Mr William McKelvey].

11 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 80-iii] [Mr Frank Field].

12 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 50-iv] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

13 Transport,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 105-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Transport Committee
[Mr Paul Channon].

14 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 20th November; to be printed [No. 104-i] [Mr Gareth Wardell].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated the draft African Development Fund (Seventh Replenishment) Order 1996, the draft International Development Association (Interim Trust Fund) Order 1996 and the draft Caribbean Development Bank (Further Payments) Order 1996 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mr Iain Mills Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft African Development Fund (Seventh Replenishment) Order 1996, the draft International Development Association (Interim Trust Fund) Order 1996 and the draft Caribbean Development Bank (Further Payments) Order 1996;

(2) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 7208/95, relating to water for human consumption; and

(3) Sir James Hill Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 7312/96, relating to Former Yugoslavia: aid for reconstruction and rehabilitation, and European Community Document No. 10602/96, relating to the Former Yugoslavia and south-eastern Europe.

3 Chairmen's Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen's Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr John Butterfill and Mr Michael Lord to be members of the Chairmen's Panel during this Session.

4 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by HM Treasury on 15th November 1996, relating to the Letter of Amendment No. 2 to the preliminary draft budget 1997, has been referred to European Standing Committee B, together with European Community Document No. 9372/96, which was referred on 30th October.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Firearms (Amendment) Bill.—Sir David Knox reported from Standing Committee E the Firearms (Amendment) Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1 to 5), without Amendment.

   Bill, as amended in the Committee and not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 37].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 109].

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   The Lords have agreed to the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill to be considered on Monday 25th November and to be printed [Bill 38].

6 Windfall Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the dangers and injustices inherent in the concept of a windfall tax on the privatised utilities and condemns a tax that would hit consumers, shareholders and pensioners while damaging the credibility of the United Kingdom as a stable regime for inward investment—(Mr Secretary Heseltine);

   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'notes the plight of unemployed young people and the long-term unemployed and welcomes the Labour Party's initiatives to deal with these problems, to be financed by a windfall levy on the excess profits of the privatised utilities', instead thereof.—(Mr John Prescott.)

   And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 212.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Michael Bates, Mr Richard Ottaway: 254.

   So the Question was negatived.

   And the Main Question being put;

   Resolved, That this House deplores the dangers and injustices inherent in the concept of a windfall tax on the privatised utilities and condemns a tax that would hit consumers, shareholders and pensioners while damaging the credibility of the United Kingdom as a stable regime for inward investment.

7 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Bills of Exchange) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Mrs Jacqui Lait):—It was agreed to.

8 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from

   (1) residents of Wakefield against nursery vouchers; and

   (2) residents of London in favour of local pharmacies

   were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Michael Bates.)

   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes to Eight o'clock, adjourned till Monday 25th November.

[Adjourned at 7.54 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1. Housing.—Approval of Codes of Management Practice (Residential Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2839), dated 11th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

2. National Health Service. — (1) Leeds Community and Mental Health Services Teaching National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2861), and

   (2) Northumberland Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2862),

   dated 14th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


Other Papers:

4. Museums and Galleries. — Accounts of the Victoria and Albert Museum for 1995-96; with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 107] [Clerk of the House].

5. Social Security Administration (Asbestos Related Diseases). — Report by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council in accordance with Section 171 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 reviewing the prescription of Pneumoconiosis (asbestosis), Diffuse Mesothelioma, Primary Carcinoma of the lung where there is accompanying evidence of asbestosis or bilateral diffuse pleural thickening or both, and Bilateral Diffuse Pleural Thickening [by Command] [Cm. 3467] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

National Heritage. — (1) First Report from the National Heritage Committee [Tourism], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 108]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the National Heritage Committee

   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

MEMORANDA

1. Chairmen of Standing Committees. — In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Mr Norman Hogg Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 7512/96, relating to Former Yugoslavia: aid for reconstruction and rehabilitation, and European Community Document No. 10602/96, relating to Former Yugoslavia and south-eastern Europe (in place of Sir James Hill).

2. Public Bills (Scotland). — In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Speaker certified that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.

3. Business Committee. — In pursuance of Standing Order No. 80 (Business Committee) the Speaker nominated Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Doug Henderson, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Mr Richard Ottaway and Ann Widdecombe to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Contract (Scotland) Bill,—Mr Michael J. Martin reported from the Scottish Grand Committee, That it had considered the Contract (Scotland) Bill in relation to the principle of the Bill and had directed him to make a report thereof to the House: And the Report was brought up and read.

Bill to be read a second time to-morrow.

4 Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Paul Flynn, supported Mr Tony Banks, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr David Hanson, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr David Winnick, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr George Foulkes and Ms Diane Abbott, presented a Bill to impose national spending limits on political parties at parliamentary general elections: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 39].

5 Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill,—Mr John Marshall, supported by Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr Bob Dunn, Mr Harry Greenway and Mr Michael Alison, presented a Bill to require a person lawfully in possession of the body of a deceased person to authorise the donation of the body or any specified part of the body for therapeutic or medical purposes if the deceased person had requested such a donation: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 7th February and to be printed [Bill 40].

6 Residential Homes Bill,—Mr David Congdon presented a Bill to prevent local authorities from being both a provider and a purchaser of residential care by requiring them to dispose of residential homes for the elderly and other homes to the private and voluntary sector; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 41].

7 Parking Penalty Charge Bill,—Mr Piers Merchant presented a Bill to amend section 66 and schedule 6 of the Road Traffic Act 1991 in order to add to the grounds on which representations may be made to a London authority concerning a Parking Penalty Charge Notice: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 42].


9 Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill,—The Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

10 Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Social Security Administration Fraud Bill [Money],

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—
The payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
(a) any expenditure of a Minister of the Crown or government department incurred in consequence of the Act; and
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under any other Act; and
(2) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of sums received by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act—(Mr Roger Knapman)—It was agreed to.

11 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time),—Ordered, That the Order [18th November] relating to Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time) be varied by substituting for paragraphs 3 and 4 the following paragraph—

'Report and Third Reading
3A.—(1) The proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be completed in one allotted day and shall be brought to a conclusion at midnight on that day.
(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings.'—(Mr Roger Knapman.)

12 Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales),—Ordered, That the Matter of the implications of the Budget for Wales, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)

13 Welsh Grand Committee (sittings),—Ordered, That the Welsh Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Wednesday 4th December at half-past Ten o’clock and between Four o’clock and Six o’clock to consider the Matter of the implications of the Budget for Wales.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Bernard Thomas Taylor for reform of the legal aid provisions at industrial tribunals was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Roger Knapman);
And the Motion having been made at Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 22nd November 1996 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

(2) Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2936), and
dated 20th November 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

2 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2903), dated 19th November 1996 [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 25th November 1996:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

3 County Courts,—Draft High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

4 Family Law,—Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

6 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (Child Maintenance Bonus) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


8 National Health Service,—East Yorkshire Community Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2866), dated 18th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


Other Papers:

10 Charities (Scotland),—Report of Scottish Charities Nominee for the year ended 31st August 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

11 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997 with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

12 European Communities (No. 20, 1996),—Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, done at Florence on 21st June 1996, between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Uzbekistan with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3463] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

13 Housing,—Paper, entitled Household Growth: Where Shall We Live? [by Command] [Cm. 3471] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

14 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Aid to Indonesia [by Act]; to be printed [No. 101] [Clerk of the House].

15 Science and Technology,—(1) Accounts of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 115] [Clerk of the House];

(2) Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 119] [Clerk of the House]; and

(3) Report of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

16 Treaty Series (No. 94, 1996),—Notes exchanged at Kiev on 13th October 1995 and 29th March 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ukraine concerning the termination of the agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the Mutual Abolition of Consular Fees on Visas, done at Moscow on 13th April 1964 [by Command] [Cm. 3462] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers withdrawn:

17 Legal Profession,—(1) Draft Executry Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1996, and

(2) draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1996 [laid 11th November].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 25th November; to be printed [Nos. 121-i and 122-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 25th November; to be printed [No. 120] [Mr Matthew Carrington].
PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th November, That the Promoters of the King's College London Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with:

That if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, the Agents for the Bill shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the Lords in the last Session:

That, as soon as a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office, that such a declaration has been so deposited, has been laid upon the Table of the House, the Bill shall be read the first and second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read) and shall be ordered to be read the third time;

That no further Fees shall be charged in respect of any proceedings on the Bill in respect of which Fees have already been incurred during any previous Session;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Tuesday 3rd December.

2 Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Bill.

Bill to be read the third time to-morrow.

3 Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Bill.

Bill to be read the third time to-morrow.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Business Committee).—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Business Committee, That it had come to a Resolution in respect of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That, on the allotted day which under the Order of 18th November (as varied by the Order of 25th November) is to be given to the proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading, those proceedings shall, subject to the provisions of that Order, be brought to a conclusion as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consideration and Third Reading</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

6 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Iain Mills reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft African Development Fund (Seventh Replenishment) Order 1996, the draft International Development Association (Interim Trust Fund) Order 1996 and the draft Caribbean Development Bank (Further Payments) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Financial Statement and Budget Report, 1997-98.—Ordered, That there be laid before this House a copy of the Financial Statement and Budget Report, 1997–98, as laid before this House by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer when opening the Budget. (Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.)

9 Ways and Means.—Provisional Collection of Taxes.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50 (Ways and means motions), That, pursuant to section 5 of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968, provisional statutory effect shall be given to the following motions:—

(a) Spirits, and wines of equivalent strength (rates of duty) (motion No. 2);
(b) Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duty and rebate) (motion No. 7);  
(c) Tobacco products (rates of duty) (motion No. 9); and  
(d) Vehicle excise duty (increase in general rate) (motion No. 12)—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer)—It was agreed to.

10 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That it is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance; but this Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—  
(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;  
(b) for refunding an amount of tax;  
(c) for varying any rate at which that tax is at any time chargeable; or  
(d) for any relief, other than a relief which—  
(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and  
(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description—  
(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer);  
Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

11 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—  
(1) residents of Worcestershire against the grant of permissions to Norchem for a waste management facility; and  
(2) residents of Lincolnshire against the proposed closure of Bourne Hospital were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjudged at 10 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 European Communities.—(1) Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Estonia) Order 1996,  
(2) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Latvia) Order 1996, and  
(3) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lithuania) Order 1996  
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].


3 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

(2) Group Repair (Qualifying Buildings) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2883), dated 18th November 1996,  
(3) Home Repair Assistance Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2887), dated 18th November 1996,  
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26th—27th November 1996

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(6) Housing Renewal Grants (Services and Charges) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2884), dated 18th November 1996,

(7) Housing (Fitness Enforcement Procedures) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2885), dated 18th November 1996, and

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].


(2) Income Tax (Employments) (Notional Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2969), and

(3) Income Tax (Furnished Accommodation) (Basic Amount) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2953),
dated 26th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

6 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Ship Inspection and Survey Organisations) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2908), dated 19th November 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

7 Value Added Tax,—(1) Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2960),

(2) Value Added Tax (Increase of Consideration for Fuel) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2948),

(3) Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2950), and


Other Papers:

8 Financial Statement and Budget Report, 1997-98,—Financial Statement and Budget Report 1997-98 [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 90] [Mr Michael Jack].

9 Law Commission (Scotland),—(1) Report of the Scottish Law Commission for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 27], and

(2) Report of the Scottish Law Commission on the consolidation of certain enactments relating to Town and Country Planning in Scotland [by Command] [Cm. 3644] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 26th November; to be printed [No. 123-i] [Mr David Howell].

[No. 24.]

Wednesday 27th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Bill,—The Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Bill was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed.

3 Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Bill,—The Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Bill was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
5 Selection (see Appendix II).
6 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

7 European Standing Committee A.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 7208/95, relating to drinking water; and endorses the Government's objective of amending the proposal so that it is more in line with the best scientific and medical advice on the appropriate standards for drinking water and to ensure that the benefits resulting from the proposal are more proportional to the costs it would impose.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

8 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Norman Hogg reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 7312/96, on aid for reconstruction and rehabilitation in the former Yugoslavia, and endorses the Government's view that it provides a necessary and appropriate base for EU expenditure in the former Yugoslavia, and for the transparency of the EU’s actions; and takes note of European Community Document No. 10602/96, relating to common principles for future contractual relations with certain countries in south-eastern Europe, and endorses the Government’s view that it provides a sensible broad approach for the development of EU relations with the countries concerned.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

9 Access to the Countryside Bill,—Mr Paddy Tipping presented a Bill to amend the law of trespass and to enable members of the public to resort on foot to open country in England and Wales for their recreation; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 43].

10 Dogs (Electric Shock Collars) Bill,—Mr David Rendel, supported by Diana Maddock, Mr Matthew Taylor, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones and Mr Don Foster, presented a Bill to ban the manufacture, sale or use of collars which administer electric shocks to dogs by remote control: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 7th February and to be printed [Bill 44].

11 Ways and Means,—Amendment of the law,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, That it is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance; but this Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—

(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
(b) for refunding an amount of tax;
(c) for varying any rate at which that tax is at any time chargeable; or
(d) for any relief, other than a relief which—

(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow. [Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Defence,—Army Terms of Service (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2973), dated 25th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].


      (2) National Park Authorities (Levies) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2976), dated 27th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague]; and


Other Papers:

7 Dominican Republic (No. 1, 1996),—Agreement on Maritime Delimitation, done at Santo Domingo on 2nd August 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Dominican Republic, concerning the Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary between the Dominican Republic and the Turks and Caicos Islands [by Command] [Cm. 3461] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

8 European Communities (No. 21, 1996),—Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, done at Luxembourg on 22nd April 1996, between the European Communities and their Member States and Georgia with final act [by Command] [Cm. 3472] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

9 Forestry,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Forestry Commission for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 3] [Mr Douglas Hogg]; and

      (2) Statements of Accounts of—

      (i) Department of Forestry,

      (ii) Forest Enterprise, and

      (iii) the Forestry Fund

for 1995–96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 3] [Mr Michael Jack].


11 National Galleries (Scotland),—Accounts of the National Galleries of Scotland 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 125] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Home-Grown Cereals Authority Levy (Variation) Scheme (Approval) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Gerald Bingham, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Michael Cartiss, Sir Peter Fry, Mr Edward Garnier, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Michael Jopling, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Paul Marland, Sir Roger Moate, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Michael Stephen, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Jon Trickett and Mr Paul Tyler.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mr Peter Brooke, Sir Sydney Chapman, Jean Corston, Mr David Davis, Mr John Fraser, Mr Andrew Hargreaves, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Mr Tom King, Mr Andrew Miller, Sir Fergus
Montgomery, Ms Joyce Quin, Sir Tim Sainsbury, Mr Nigel Spearing, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr Paddy Topping, Mr Michael Trend, Mr Bowen Wells and Mr David Young.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Scottish Enterprise (Aggregate Amount Outstanding) Order 1996, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Tim Devlin, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Jimmy Dunnachie, Maria Fyfe, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr George Kynoch, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mrs Ray Michie, Sir Irvine Patrick, Mr Richard Shepherd, Rachel Squire, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Cyril D. Townsend, Mr Peter Viggers and Mr John Wilkinson.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 27th November; to be printed [No. 45-iv] [Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Defence,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 13th and 27th November; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Defence Committee;
to be printed [No. 127-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].

3 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 27th November; to be printed [No. 124-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 27th November; to be printed [No. 57-v] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 27th November; to be printed [No. 79-iii] [Mr Clive Soley].

6 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration on 27th November; to be printed [No. 93-iii] [Mr James Pawsey].

7 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Procedure on 27th November; to be printed [No. 126-i] [Sir Peter Emery].

8 Science and Technology,—First Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Prior Options Reviews of Public Sector Research Establishments]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 71] [Sir Giles Shaw].

9 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 27th November; to be printed [No. 35-v] [Mr William McKelvey].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 27th November; to be printed [No. 50-v] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

11 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 27th November;
to be printed [No. 105-ii] [Mr Paul Chanon].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—
(1) the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill to Standing Committee E;
(2) the Home-Grown Cereals Authority Levy (Variation) Scheme (Approval) Order 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(3) the draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(4) the draft Scottish Enterprise (Aggregate Amount Outstanding) Order 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—
(1) Mr John McWilliam and Sir James Hill Chairmen of Standing Committee E in respect of the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill;
(2) Mr John Butterfill Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Home-Grown Cereals Authority Levy (Variation) Scheme (Approval) Order 1996;

(3) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996;

(4) Sir Roger Sims Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Scottish Enterprise (Aggregate Amount Outstanding) Order 1996;

(5) Sir James Hill Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 5231/96, relating to Air Carrier Liability;

(6) Mr Allan Stewart Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 9573/96, relating to protection against third country legislation;

(7) Mr John Maxton and Mr Norman Hogg Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Hamilton on Monday 9th December;

(8) Mr Norman Hogg Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Wednesday 11th December; and

(9) Mr Roy Hughes Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of the meetings of the Committee on Wednesday 4th December.

[No. 25.]

Thursday 28th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Income Tax.—The Vice Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That its Addresses of 13th November relating to Income Tax had been presented to Her Majesty; and that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and to give the following Answer.

I have received your Addresses praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Latvia) Order 1996, the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Denmark) Order 1996, the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Finland) Order 1996, the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (China) Order 1996 and the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order 1996 be made in the form of the drafts laid before your House.

I will comply with your request.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Liaison.—Sir Terence Higgins reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 131 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report the following recommendations for the allocation of time for the consideration of Estimates on allotted days (being the first and second parts of the first allotted day in the present Session).

That a day not later than 6th February be allotted for the consideration of the following Vote on Account for the financial year 1997–98:

Vote on Account, Class XVII, Vote 1, Cabinet Office: Office of Public Service in so far as it relates to Access to Government Information;

That a day not later than 5th August be allotted for the consideration of the following Estimate for the financial year 1997–98:

Class IV, Vote 1, Department of Trade and Industry: programmes and administration in so far as it relates to export licensing and BMARC.

Report to lie upon the Table.

4 Liaison.—Sir Terence Higgins reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 131 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report that it had chosen the First Report from the Social Security Committee, Session 1996–97, on Unfunded Pension Liabilities in the European Union, and the Fourth Report from the Environment Committee, Session 1995–96, on World Trade and the Environment to be debated on Wednesday 11th December pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

5 Selection (see Appendix II).
6 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

7 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Bill, without Amendment.

8 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the law.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [26th November], That it is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance; but this Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—

(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
(b) for refunding an amount of tax;
(c) for varying any rate at which that tax is at any time chargeable; or
(d) for any relief, other than a relief which—

(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Roger Knapman.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.25 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out.—Draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Allocation of Housing and Homelessness Functions) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Building Societies.—Building Societies (Designated Capital Resources) (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2989), dated 26th November 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].


4 Patents.—Patents (Fees) Rules 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2972), dated 26th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].


7 Value Added Tax.—Value Added Tax (Place of Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2992), dated 28th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Phillip Oppenheim].

Other Papers:

8 Employment Protection.—Report of the Central Arbitration Committee for 1995 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

9 Fair Employment.—Report and Accounts of the Fair Employment Commission for Northern Ireland for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 2] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

10 Monopolies and Mergers.—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed transfer to Newsquest Media Group Limited of the newspapers of Westminster Press Limited [by Command] [Cm. 3485] [Mr Secretary Lang].
11 Railways.—Objectives, Instructions and Guidance to the Passenger Rail Franchising Director from the Secretary of State for Transport pursuant to section 5 of the Railways Act 1993 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Paper withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Standing Committee E.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, that it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill, viz.: Mr Michael Brown, Mr Alistair Burt, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr David Clelland, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr David Congdon, Mr John Denham, Mr Harold Eletson, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Terry Rooney and Mr John Whittingdale.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 28th November; to be printed [No. 128-i] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 28th November; to be printed [No. 129-i] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

[No. 26.]

Friday 29th November 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Christians of Heston for curtailment of arms exports was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill.—Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Howard, Mr Secretary Rifkind, Mr Secretary Portillo, Mr Secretary Forsyth and Sir John Wheeler presented a Bill to make provision connected with Northern Ireland about the decommissioning of firearms, ammunition and explosives; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 2nd December and to be printed [Bill 45].

5 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Timothy Wood);

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

6 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 3rd December, the Speaker shall put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to public expenditure, including the Question on any amendment thereto which she may have selected, and the said Questions may be decided after the expiry of the time for opposed business.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 5th December, the Motion in the name of Mr Tony Blair relating to the Social Security (Disability Living Allowance and Claims and Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 may be proceeded with as if Standing Orders Nos. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents) and 15 (Delegated legislation (negative procedure)), were applicable thereto.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)
8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 2nd December.

[Adjourned at 2.54 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(2) Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 (Enforcement of Overseas Forfeiture Orders) (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2878), and


dated 19th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].


Other Papers:

6 European Communities (No. 23, 1996),—Developments in the European Union, January to June 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3469] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].


8 Police (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Police Authority for Northern Ireland, including Accounts of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Fund and the Police Property Fund, for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 116] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

9 Reserve Forces,.—Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces under Section 11 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980 on the call-out of members of the Air Force Reserve [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Science and Technology,—Memoranda laid before the Science and Technology Committee [Sir Giles Shaw].
Monday 2nd December 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the law.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [26th November], That it is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance; but this Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—

(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
(b) for refunding an amount of tax;
(c) for varying any rate at which that tax is at any time chargeable; or
(d) for any relief, other than a relief which—

(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

4 Trade and Industry.—Ordered, That Mr Michael Stephen be added to the Trade and Industry Committee.—(Mr Bob Dunn, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX 1

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security.—Draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

2 Town and Country Planning.—Draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Town and Country Planning (Scotland).—Draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Agriculture.—(1) Beef (Marketing Payment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2999), and

(2) Bovine Products (Despatch To Other Member States) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3000), dated 29th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

5 Sheriff Court (Scotland).—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Sheriff Officers) 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2858), dated 12th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Other Papers:

7 Deregulation.—(1) Proposal by the Secretary of State for the Environment under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 for the Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer]; and

(2) Proposal by the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 for the Deregulation (Betting and Gaming Advertising) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

8 Environmental Protection.—Accounts of the Nature Conservancy Council for England for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 135] [Clerk of the House].

9 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority: Sale of Facilities Services Division [by Act]; to be printed [No. 118] [Clerk of the House].

10 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment on the Petition [28th October] from citizens of the United Kingdom concerning the non-domestic rates paid by riding schools [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

11 Science and Technology.—(1) Accounts of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 133] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Annual Report of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr David Davis and Mr Andrew Hargreaves (nominated in respect of the draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996); and had appointed in substitution Mr David Maclean and Mr Peter Luff.

MEMORANDUM

Public Bills (Scotland).—In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)) the Speaker certified, that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Local Government (Gaelic Names) (Scotland) Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.

[No. 28.]

Tuesday 3rd December 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 19th November, That the Promoters of the King’s College London Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with:

That if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, the Agents for the Bill shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the Lords in the last Session:

That, as soon as a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office, that such a declaration has been so deposited, has been laid upon the Table of the House, the Bill shall be read the first and second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read) and shall be ordered to be read the third time;
3rd December 1996

That no further Fees shall be charged in respect of any proceedings on the Bill in respect of which Fees have already been incurred during any previous Session;
And the Question being again proposed;
And objection being taken to further proceeding;
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Tuesday 10th December.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Business Committee).—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Business Committee, That it had come to a further Resolution in respect of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:
That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 26th November be varied by substituting for the provisions of that Resolution the following provisions:
That—
(1) the order in which proceedings on Consideration are taken shall be new Clauses relating to air weapons, new Clauses relating to compensation, other new Clauses, amendments to Clauses, amendments to Schedules;
(2) on the allotted day which under the Order of 18th November (as varied by the Order of 25th November) is to be given to the proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading those proceedings shall, subject to the provisions of that Order, be brought to a conclusion as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses relating to air weapons</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses relating to compensation</td>
<td>7.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining proceedings on Consideration</td>
<td>11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

4 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:
That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Betting Licensing) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 22nd July, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

5 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6 Local Government and Rating Bill.—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Local Government and Rating Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 139].

7 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John Butterfill reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Home-Grown Cereals Authority Levy (Variation) Scheme (Approval) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2843).
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
Consolidation, &c., Bills.—The Lords communicate that they have resolved that the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] be referred to the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills; with which Resolution the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

10 Local Authorities (Youth Expenditure).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require local authorities to take into account the priorities of young people in allocating
expenditure: And that Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr David Alton, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Tim Devlin, Mr Simon Hughes, Sir Jim Lester and Mr Stephen Timms do prepare and bring it in.

11 Local Authorities (Youth Expenditure) Bill.—Mr Andrew Rowe accordingly presented a Bill to require local authorities to take into account the priorities of young people in allocating expenditure: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 7th February and to be printed [Bill 46].

12 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the law.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned debate on the Question proposed [26th November], That it is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance; but this Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—
   (a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
   (b) for refunding an amount of tax;
   (c) for varying any rate at which that tax is at any time chargeable; or
   (d) for any relief, other than a relief which—
      (i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
      (ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description;

   And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 8, after the word 'chargeable', to insert the words 'other than an amendment for the reduction to five per cent. of the rate chargeable on fuel and power for domestic or charity use'.—(Mr John Prescott.)

   Question put, That the Amendment be made.
   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Eric Clarke: 312.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Michael Bates: 317.

   So the Question was negatived.

   And the Main Question being put:—It was agreed to.

   Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance; but this Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—
   (a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
   (b) for refunding an amount of tax;
   (c) for varying any rate at which that tax is at any time chargeable; or
   (d) for any relief, other than a relief which—
      (i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
      (ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description.

   The Deputy Speaker then, pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 50 (Ways and means motions), put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of the further Motions, which were made by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.

   2. Spirits, and wines of equivalent strength (rates of duty)

   Resolved, That—

   (1) In section 5 of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979, for “£19.78” there shall be substituted “£18.99”.

   (2) In Part II of the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1 to that Act, for “£19.78” there shall be substituted “£18.99”.

   (3) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 26th November 1996.

   And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
3. Wine and made-wine (rates of duty on lower strengths)

Resolved, That—

(1) For Part I of the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1 to the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 there shall be substituted—

PART I

WINE OR MADE-WINE OF A STRENGTH NOT EXCEEDING 22 PER CENT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of wine or made-wine</th>
<th>Rates of duty per hectolitre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength not exceeding 4 per cent.</td>
<td>£43.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength exceeding 4 per cent. but not exceeding 5.5 per cent.</td>
<td>£59.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength exceeding 5.5 per cent. but not exceeding 15 per cent. and not being sparkling</td>
<td>£140.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparkling wine or sparkling made-wine of a strength exceeding 5.5 per cent. but less than 8.5 per cent.</td>
<td>£195.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparkling wine or sparkling made-wine of a strength of 8.5 per cent. or of a strength exceeding 8.5 per cent. but not exceeding 15 per cent.</td>
<td>£200.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength exceeding 15 per cent. but not exceeding 22 per cent.</td>
<td>£187.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall come into force on 1st January 1997.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

4. Duty on sparkling cider

Resolved, That—

(1) In subsection (1A) of section 62 of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979—

(a) in paragraph (a) after “exceeding 7.5 per cent.” there shall be inserted “which is not sparkling cider”; and

(b) immediately before the word “and” at the end of that paragraph there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

“(aa) £36.45 per hectolitre in the case of sparkling cider of a strength exceeding 5.5 per cent.;”.

(2) After subsection (6) of that section there shall be inserted the following subsection—

“(7) References in this section to making cider shall be construed as including references to producing sparkling cider by rendering cider sparkling; and references in this section to cider made in the United Kingdom, to makers of cider and to making cider for sale shall be construed accordingly.”

(3) After that section there shall be inserted the following section—
62A.- (1) This section applies for the purposes of section 62 above.

(2) Cider which is for the time being in a closed bottle is sparkling if, due to the presence of carbon dioxide, the pressure in the bottle, measured at a temperature of 20 degrees C, is not less than 3 bars in excess of atmospheric pressure.

(3) Cider which is for the time being in a closed bottle is sparkling regardless of the pressure in the bottle if the bottle has a mushroom-shaped stopper (whether solid or hollow) held in place by a tie or fastening.

(4) Cider which is not for the time being in a closed container is sparkling if it has characteristics similar to those of cider which has been removed from a closed bottle and which, before removal, fell within subsection (2) above.

(5) Cider shall be regarded as having been rendered sparkling if, as a result of aeration, fermentation or any other process, it either—

(a) falls within subsection (2) above; or

(b) takes on characteristics similar to those of cider which has been removed from a closed bottle and which, before removal, fell within subsection (2) above.

(6) Cider which has not previously been rendered sparkling by virtue of subsection (5) above shall be regarded as having been rendered sparkling if it is transferred into a closed bottle which has a mushroom-shaped stopper (whether solid or hollow) held in place by a tie or fastening.

(7) Cider which is in a closed bottle and has not previously been rendered sparkling by virtue of subsection (5) or (6) above shall be regarded as having been rendered sparkling if the stopper of its bottle is exchanged for a stopper of a kind mentioned in subsection (6) above.

(4) In section 64 of that Act, after subsection (1) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

"(1A) In subsection (1) above the references to a maker of cider include references to any person who is taken for the purposes of section 62 above to be a maker of cider."

(5) This Resolution shall come into force on 1st January 1997.

(6) Any order or regulations made under section 62 or 64 of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 before 1st January 1997 shall have effect on and after that date (but only if and for so long as the order or regulations would be in force apart from this paragraph) as if the amendments made to that Act by this Resolution had been made before the making of the order or regulations.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

Resolved, That—

(1) After section 62A of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 there shall be inserted the following section—

"Cider labelled as strong cider. 62B.—(1) For the purposes of this Act, any liquor which would apart from this section be standard cider and which—

(a) is in an up-labelled container, or

(b) has, at any time after 31st December 1996 when it was in the United Kingdom, been in an up-labelled container,

shall be deemed to be strong cider, and not standard cider.

(2) Accordingly, references in this Act to making cider include references to—

(a) putting standard cider in an up-labelled container; or
(b) causing a container in which there is standard cider to be up-labelled.

(3) Where, by virtue of this section, any duty is charged under section 62 above on any cider, a rebate shall be allowed in respect of the amount of any duty charged on that cider under that section otherwise than by virtue of this section.

(4) For the purposes of this section—

(a) "standard cider" means cider which is not sparkling and is of a strength not exceeding 7.5 per cent.; and

(b) "strong cider" means cider which is not sparkling and is of a strength exceeding 7.5 per cent.

(5) For the purposes of this section a container is up-labelled if there is anything on—

(a) the container itself,

(b) a label or leaflet attached to or used with the container, or

(c) any packaging used for or in association with the container, which states or tends to suggest that the strength of any liquor in that container falls within the strong cider strength range.

(6) For the purposes of subsection (5) above, a strength falls within the strong cider strength range if it exceeds 7.5 per cent. but is less than 8.5 per cent."

(2) This Resolution shall come into force on 1st January 1997.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

6. Cider labelled as made-wine

Resolved, That—

(1) After section 55A of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 there shall be inserted the following section—

"Cider labelled as made-wine

55B.—(1) For the purposes of this Act, any liquor which would apart from this section be cider and which—

(a) is in an up-labelled container, or

(b) has, at any time after 31st December 1996 when it was in the United Kingdom, been in an up-labelled container,

shall be deemed to be made-wine, and not cider.

(2) Accordingly, references in this Act to producing made-wine include references to—

(a) putting cider in an up-labelled container; or

(b) causing a container in which there is cider to be up-labelled.

(3) For the purposes of this Act, where any liquor is deemed by this section to be made-wine, it shall be deemed—

(a) if it is in an up-labelled container, to be made-wine of the strength that the labelling for the container states or tends to suggest; and

(b) if it is no longer in an up-labelled container, to be made-wine of the strength stated or suggested by the labelling for the up-labelled container in which it was contained when it was first deemed by this section to be made-wine.

(4) Subsection (3)(a) above has effect subject to any provision that may be
made by regulations under section 2(3) above.

(5) Where, by virtue of this section, any duty is charged under section 55 above on any liquor, a rebate shall be allowed in respect of the amount of any duty charged on that liquor under section 62 below.

(6) For the purposes of this section a container is up-labelled if the labelling for the container states or tends to suggest that the strength of any liquor in that container is or exceeds 8.5 per cent.

(7) In this section references to the labelling for any container are references to anything on—

(a) the container itself,
(b) a label or leaflet attached to or used with the container, or
(c) any packaging used for or in association with the container."

(2) In section 1 of that Act—

(a) in subsection (5), after “subsection (10)” there shall be inserted “and section 55B(1)”; and
(b) in subsection (6), after “means” there shall be inserted “, subject to section 55B(1) below,”.

(3) This Resolution shall come into force on 1st January 1997.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

7. Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duty and rebate)

The Question being put, That—

(1) In section 6(1) of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979, for “£0.3912” and “£0.3430” there shall be substituted “£0.4168” and “£0.3686”, respectively.

(2) In section 8(3) of that Act, for “£0.2817” there shall be substituted “£0.2113”.

(3) In section 11(1) of that Act, for “£0.0181” and “£0.0233” there shall be substituted “£0.0194” and “£0.0250”, respectively.

(4) In section 14(1) of that Act, for “£0.0181” there shall be substituted “£0.0194”.

(5) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Michael Bates: 316.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Andrew Welsh: 43.

So the Question was agreed to.

8. Hydrocarbon oil (mixing of heavy oil)

Resolved, That provision may be made about the mixing of different descriptions of heavy oil.

9. Tobacco products (rates of duty)

Resolved, That—

(1) For the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1 to the Tobacco Products Duty Act 1979 there shall be substituted—

"TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cigarettes</td>
<td>An amount equal to 21 per cent. of the retail price plus £65.97 per thousand cigarettes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigars</td>
<td>£98.02 per kilogram.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand-rolling tobacco</td>
<td>£87.74 per kilogram.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other smoking tobacco and chewing tobacco</td>
<td>£43.10 per kilogram.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
10. Air passenger duty

The Question being put, That provision may be made about the rates of air passenger duty under section 30 of the Finance Act 1994.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Michael Bates: 317.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Andrew Welsh: 43.

So the Question was agreed to.

11. Gaming duty

Resolved, That provision may be made for charging a duty of excise on premises where gaming takes place.

12. Vehicle excise duty (increase in general rate)

Resolved, That—

(1) In Schedule 1 to the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, in paragraph 1(2), for “£140” there shall be substituted “£145”.

(2) This Resolution applies in relation to licences taken out after 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

13. Insurance premium tax

Resolved, That provision may be made about insurance premium tax.

14. Value added tax (aggregation of businesses)

Resolved, That provision may be made about the giving of directions under paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994 for two or more persons to be treated as a single taxable person.

15. Value added tax (goods donated to charity)

Resolved, That—

(1) In Group 15 of Schedule 8 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994, for Note (1) there shall be substituted the following Note—

“(1) Item 1 shall apply only if—

(a) the supply is a sale of goods donated to that charity or taxable person;

(b) the sale takes place as a result of the goods having been made available to the general public for purchase (whether in a shop or elsewhere); and

(c) the sale does not take place as a result of any arrangements (whether legally binding or not) which related to the goods and were entered into by each of the parties to the sale before the goods were made available to the general public.”

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to supplies made on or after 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

16. Value added tax (charitable institutions)

Resolved, That—

(1) In Group 15 of Schedule 8 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after Note (4) there shall be inserted the following Notes—

“(4A) Subject to Note (5B), a charitable institution shall not be regarded as providing care or medical or surgical treatment for handicapped persons unless—

(a) it provides care or medical or surgical treatment in a relevant establishment; and

(b) the majority of the persons who receive care or medical or surgical treatment in that establishment are handicapped persons.

(4B) “Relevant establishment” means—

(a) a day-centre, other than a day-centre which exists primarily as a place for activities that are social or recreational or both; or

(b) an institution which is—
(i) approved, licensed or registered in accordance with the provisions of any enactment or Northern Ireland legislation; or
(ii) exempted by or under the provisions of any enactment or Northern Ireland legislation from any requirement to be approved, licensed or registered;
and in paragraph (b) above the references to the provisions of any enactment or Northern Ireland legislation are references only to provisions which, so far as relating to England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, have the same effect in every locality within that part of the United Kingdom."

(2) After Note (5) to that Group there shall be inserted the following Notes—

"(5A) Subject to Note (5B), items 4 to 7 do not apply where the eligible body falls within Note (4)(f) unless the relevant goods are or are to be used in a relevant establishment in which that body provides care or medical or surgical treatment to persons the majority of whom are handicapped.

(5B) Nothing in Note (4A) or (5A) shall prevent a supply from falling within items 4 to 7 where—

(a) the eligible body provides medical care to handicapped persons in their own homes;
(b) the relevant goods fall within Note (3)(a) or are parts or accessories for use in or with goods described in Note (3)(a); and
(c) those goods are or are to be used in or in connection with the provision of that care."

(3) This Resolution has effect in relation to supplies made on or after 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

17. Value added tax (exemption of insurance services)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the provisions of Schedule 9 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994 by virtue of which supplies involving the provision of insurance or reinsurance, and related supplies, are exempt.

18. Value added tax (buildings and land etc.)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made about—

(a) the construction for the purposes of Schedules 8 and 9 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994, or corresponding provisions of the Value Added Tax Act 1983, of references to the grant of any interest, right, licence or facilities; and
(b) the circumstances in which supplies are made taxable by an election under paragraph 2 of Schedule 10 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994, or under the corresponding provisions of the Value Added Tax Act 1983.

19. Value added tax (supplies to persons not fully taxable)

Resolved, That paragraphs 2(3A) and 3(8A) of Schedule 10 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994 shall not have effect in relation to any supply made after 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

20. Value added tax (bad debt relief)

Resolved, That provision may be made repealing section 36(4)(b) of, and paragraph 9(1) of Schedule 13 to, the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

21. Value added tax (input tax and bad debts)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 36 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after subsection (4) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

"(4A) Where—

(a) a person is entitled under subsection (2) above to be refunded an amount of VAT, and
(b) that VAT has at any time been included in the input tax of another person, that other person shall be taken, as from the time when the claim for the refund is made, not
to have been entitled to any credit for input tax in respect of the VAT that has to be refunded on that claim."

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to any entitlement under section 36 of that Act of 1994 to a refund of VAT charged on a supply made after 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

22. Value added tax (description of group members)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 43 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after subsection (1) there shall be inserted the following subsections—

"(1AA) Where—

(a) it is material, for the purposes of any provision made by or under this Act ("the relevant provision"), whether the person by or to whom a supply is made, or the person by whom goods are acquired or imported, is a person of a particular description,

(b) paragraph (b) or (c) of subsection (1) above applies to any supply, acquisition or importation, and

(c) there is a difference that would be material for the purposes of the relevant provision between—

(i) the description applicable to the representative member, and

(ii) the description applicable to the body which (apart from this section) would be regarded for the purposes of this Act as making the supply, acquisition or importation or, as the case may be, as being the person to whom the supply is made,

the relevant provision shall have effect in relation to that supply, acquisition or importation as if the only description applicable to the representative member were the description in fact applicable to that body.

(1AB) Subsection (1AA) above does not apply to the extent that what is material for the purposes of the relevant provision is whether a person is a taxable person."

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to any supply made after 26th November 1996 and in relation to any acquisition or importation taking place after that date.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

23. Value added tax (deemed self-supplies within groups)

Resolved, That provision may be made for allowing an order made by virtue of section 43(2) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 to require the representative member of a group to be treated as a person of such description as may be determined under the order.

24. Value added tax (group supplies using an overseas member)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 43 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after subsection (2) there shall be inserted the following subsections—

"(2A) A supply made by a member of a group ("the supplier") to another member of the group ("the UK member") shall not be disregarded under subsection (1)(a) above if—

(a) it would (if there were no group) be a supply of services falling within Schedule 5 to a person belonging in the United Kingdom;

(b) those services are not within any of the descriptions specified in Schedule 9;

(c) the supplier has been supplied (whether or not by a person belonging in the United Kingdom) with services falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 8 of Schedule 5;

(d) the supplier belonged outside the United Kingdom when it was supplied with the services mentioned in paragraph (c) above; and

(e) the services so mentioned have been used by the supplier for making the supply to the UK member.

(2B) Subject to subsection (2C) below, where a supply is excluded by virtue of subsection (2A) above from the supplies that are disregarded in pursuance of subsection (1)(a) above, all the same consequences shall follow under this Act as if that supply—

(a) were a taxable supply in the United Kingdom by the representative member to itself, and
(b) without prejudice to that, were made by the representative member in the course or furtherance of its business.

(2C) A supply which is deemed by virtue of subsection (2B) above to be a supply by the representative member to itself—

(a) shall not be taken into account as a supply made by the representative member when determining any allowance of input tax under section 26(1) in the case of the representative member;

(b) shall be deemed for the purposes of paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 to be a supply in the case of which the person making the supply and the person supplied are connected within the meaning of section 839 of the Taxes Act (connected persons); and

(c) subject to paragraph (b) above, shall be taken to be a supply the value and time of which are determined as if it were a supply of services which is treated by virtue of section 8 as made by the person by whom the services are received.

(2D) For the purposes of subsection (2A) above where—

(a) there has been a supply of the assets of a business of a person ("the transferor") to a person to whom the whole or any part of that business was transferred as a going concern ("the transferee");

(b) that supply is either

(i) a supply falling to be treated, in accordance with an order under section 5(3), as being neither a supply of goods nor a supply of services, or

(ii) a supply that would have fallen to be so treated if it had taken place in the United Kingdom,

and

(c) the transferor was supplied with services falling within paragraphs 1 to 8 of Schedule 5 at a time before the transfer when the transferor belonged outside the United Kingdom,

those services, so far as they are used by the transferee for making any supply falling within that Schedule, shall be deemed to have been supplied to the transferee at a time when the transferee belonged outside the United Kingdom.

(2E) Where, in the case of a supply of assets falling within paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2D) above—

(a) the transferor himself acquired any of the assets in question by way of a previous supply of assets falling within those paragraphs, and

(b) there are services falling within paragraphs 1 to 8 of Schedule 5 which, if used by the transferor for making supplies falling within that Schedule, would be deemed by virtue of that subsection to have been supplied to the transferor at a time when he belonged outside the United Kingdom,

that subsection shall have effect, notwithstanding that the services have not been so used by the transferor, as if the transferor were a person to whom those services were supplied and as if he were a person belonging outside the United Kingdom at the time of their deemed supply to him; and this subsection shall apply accordingly through any number of successive supplies of assets falling within paragraphs (a) and (b) of that subsection."

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to supplies made on or after 26th November 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

25. Value added tax (services subject to the reverse charge)

Resolved, That provision may be made authorising an order under section 8(5) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 to make provision in connection with any addition to or variation of Schedule 5 to that Act.

26. Value added tax (interest)

Resolved, That—

(1) Section 78 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 shall have effect, and be deemed always to have had effect, with the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (1)—

“(1A) In subsection (1) above—

(a) references to an amount which the Commissioners are liable in consequence of any matter to pay or repay to any person are references, where a claim for the payment or repayment has to be made, to only so much of that amount as is the subject of a claim that the Commissioners are required to satisfy or have satisfied; and
(b) the amounts referred to in paragraph (d) do not include any amount payable under this section.”

(2) That section shall have effect in relation to any claim made on or after 18th July 1996, and shall be deemed always to have had effect in relation to such a claim, with the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (11)—

“(11) A claim under this section shall not be made more than three years after the end of the applicable period to which it relates.”

(3) That section shall have effect, and be deemed always to have had effect, with the substitution of the following paragraph for paragraph (a) of subsection (12)—

“(a) references to the authorisation by the Commissioners of the payment of any amount include references to the discharge by way of set-off (whether under section 81(3) or otherwise) of the Commissioners’ liability to pay that amount; and”.

(4) After that section there shall be inserted the following section—

“Assessment for interest overpayments. 78A.-(1) Where—

(a) any amount has been paid to any person by way of interest under section 78, but

(b) that person was not entitled to that amount under that section,

the Commissioners may, to the best of their judgement, assess the amount so paid to which that person was not entitled and notify it to him.

(2) An assessment made under subsection (1) above shall not be made more than two years after the time when evidence of facts sufficient in the opinion of the Commissioners to justify the making of the assessment comes to the knowledge of the Commissioners.

(3) Where an amount has been assessed and notified to any person under subsection (1) above, that amount shall be deemed (subject to the provisions of this Act as to appeals) to be an amount of VAT due from him and may be recovered accordingly.

(4) Subsection (3) above does not have effect if or to the extent that the assessment in question has been withdrawn or reduced.

(5) An assessment under subsection (1) above shall be a recovery assessment for the purposes of section 84(3A).

(6) Sections 74 and 77(6) apply in relation to assessments under subsection (1) above as they apply in relation to assessments under section 73 but as if the reference in subsection (1) of section 74 to the reckonable date were a reference to the date on which the assessment is notified.

(7) Where by virtue of subsection (6) above any person is liable to interest under section 74—

(a) section 76 shall have effect in relation to that liability with the omission of subsections (2) to (6); and

(b) section 77, except subsection (6), shall not apply to an assessment of the amount due by way of interest;

and (without prejudice to the power to make assessments for interest for later periods) the interest to which any assessment made under section 76 by virtue of paragraph (a) above may relate shall be confined to interest for a period of no more than two years ending with the time when the assessment to interest is made.

(8) For the purposes of this section notification to a personal representative, trustee in bankruptcy, interim or permanent trustee, receiver, liquidator or person otherwise acting in a representative capacity in relation to another shall be treated as notification to the person in relation to whom he so acts.”

(5) In section 83 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after paragraph (s) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

“(sa) an assessment under section 78A(1) or the amount of such an assessment;”.

(6) In section 84 of that Act, after subsection (3) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

“(3A) An appeal against an assessment which is a recovery assessment for the purposes of this subsection, or against the amount of such an assessment, shall not be entertained unless—

(a) the amount notified by the assessment has been paid or deposited with the Commissioners; or

(b) on being satisfied that the appellant would otherwise suffer hardship, the Commissioners agree, or the tribunal decides, that the appeal should be entertained notwithstanding that that amount has not been so paid or deposited.”

(7) Paragraph (4) above comes into force on 4th December 1996 in relation to amounts paid
by way of interest at any time on or after 18th July 1996.

(8) Paragraphs (5) and (6) above come into force on 4th December 1996 in relation to assessments made on or after that date.

(9) Amendments corresponding to those made by paragraphs (1) and (3) above shall be deemed to have had effect, for the purposes of the cases to which the enactments applied, in relation to the enactments directly or indirectly re-enacted in section 78 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

27. Value added tax (unjust enrichment)

Resolved, That provision may be made—

(a) modifying the provisions of section 80 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 under which it is a defence for the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, on a claim for repayment, that the repayment would unjustly enrich the claimant; and

(b) making provision about the cases where arrangements for reimbursement may be taken into account in determining whether a person would be unjustly enriched by a repayment under that section.

28. Value added tax (time limits for repayment liabilities)

Resolved, That—

(1) For subsections (4) and (5) of section 80 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 there shall be substituted the following subsection—

“(4) The Commissioners shall not be liable, on a claim made under this section, to repay any amount paid to them more than three years before the making of the claim.”

(2) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4) below, paragraph (1) above shall be deemed to have come into force on 18th July 1996 as a provision applying, for the purposes of the making of any repayment on or after that date, to all claims under section 80 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, including claims made before that date and claims relating to payments made before that date.

(3) Paragraph (4) below applies as respects the making of any repayment on or after 18th July 1996 on a claim under section 80 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 if—

(a) legal proceedings for questioning any decision (“the disputed decision”) of the Commissioners, or of an officer of the Commissioners, were brought by any person at any time before that date,

(b) a determination has been or is made in those proceedings that the disputed decision was wrong or should be set aside,

(c) the claim is one made by that person at a time after the proceedings were brought (whether before or after the making of the determination), and

(d) the claim relates to—

(i) an amount paid by that person to the Commissioners on the basis of the disputed decision, or

(ii) an amount paid by that person to the Commissioners before the relevant date (including an amount paid before the making of the disputed decision) on grounds which, in all material respects, correspond to those on which that decision was made.

(4) Where this paragraph applies in the case of any claim—

(a) subsection (4) of section 80 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 (as inserted by this Resolution) shall not apply, and shall be taken never to have applied, in relation to so much of that claim as relates to an amount falling within paragraph (3)(d)(i) or (ii) above, but

(b) the Commissioners shall not be liable on that claim, and shall be taken never to have been liable on that claim, to repay any amount so falling which was paid to them more than three years before the proceedings mentioned in paragraph (3)(a) above were brought.

(5) In paragraph (3)(d) above—

(a) the reference to the relevant date is a reference to whichever is the earlier of 18th July 1996 and the date of the making of the determination in question; and

(b) the reference to an amount paid on the basis of a decision, or on any grounds,
includes an amount so paid on terms (however expressed) which questioned the correctness of the decision or, as the case may be, of those grounds.

(6) After the subsection (4) inserted in section 80 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 by this Resolution there shall be inserted the following subsections—

"(4A) Where—

(a) any amount has been paid, at any time on or after 18th July 1996, to any person by way of a repayment under this section, and

(b) the amount paid exceeded the Commissioners' repayment liability to that person at that time,

the Commissioners may, to the best of their judgement, assess the excess paid to that person and notify it to him.

(4B) For the purposes of subsection (4A) above the Commissioners' repayment liability to a person at any time is—

(a) in a case where any provision affecting the amount which they were liable to repay to that person at that time is subsequently deemed to have been in force at that time, the amount which the Commissioners are to be treated, in accordance with that provision, as having been liable at that time to repay to that person; and

(b) in any other case, the amount which they were liable at that time to repay to that person.

(4C) Subsections (2) to (8) of section 78A apply in the case of an assessment under subsection (4A) above as they apply in the case of an assessment under section 78A(1)."

(7) In section 83 of that Act, in paragraph (t), after "80" there shall be inserted "an assessment under subsection (4A) of that section or the amount of such an assessment".

(8) Nothing contained in—

(a) any regulations under section 25(1) of, or paragraph 2 of Schedule 11 to, that Act relating to the correction of errors or the making of adjustments, or

(b) any requirement imposed under any such regulations,

shall be taken, in relation to any time on or after 18th July 1996, to have conferred an entitlement on any person to receive, by way of repayment, any amount to which he would not have had any entitlement on a claim under section 80 of that Act.

(9) Paragraphs (6) to (8) above come into force on 4th December 1996.

(10) In this Resolution—

"the Commissioners" means the Commissioners of Customs and Excise; and

"legal proceedings" means any proceedings before a court or tribunal.

(11) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 13 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994, the references in this Resolution, and in subsection (4) of section 80 of that Act (as inserted by this Resolution), to a claim under that section include references to a claim first made under section 24 of the Finance Act 1989.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 81 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after subsection (3) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

"(3A) Where—

(a) the Commissioners are liable to pay or repay any amount to any person under this Act,

(b) that amount falls to be paid or repaid in consequence of a mistake previously made about whether or to what extent amounts were payable under this Act to or by that person, and

(c) by reason of that mistake a liability of that person to pay a sum by way of VAT, penalty, interest or surcharge was not assessed, was not enforced or was not satisfied,

any limitation on the time within which the Commissioners are entitled to take steps for recovering that sum shall be disregarded in determining whether that sum is required by subsection (3) above to be set against the amount mentioned in paragraph (a) above."
Paragraph (1) above shall be deemed to have come into force on 18th July 1996 as a provision applying for determining the amount of any payment or repayment by the Commissioners on or after that date, including a payment or repayment in respect of a liability arising before that date.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

30. Value added tax (transitional provision for set-offs)

Resolved. That—

(1) Where—

(a) at any time before 4th December 1996, any person ("the taxpayer") became liable to pay any sum ("the relevant sum") to the Commissioners by way of VAT, penalty, interest or surcharge,

(b) at any time on or after 18th July 1996 and before 4th December 1996 an amount was set against the whole or any part of the relevant sum,

(c) the amount set against that sum was an amount which is treated under the Resolution of the House (value added tax (time limits for repayment liabilities)) of 3rd December 1996 as not having been due from the Commissioners at the time when it was set against that sum, and

(d) as a consequence, the taxpayer's liability to pay the whole or a part of the relevant sum falls to be treated as not having been discharged in accordance with section 81(3) of the 1994 Act,

the Commissioners may, to the best of their judgement, assess the amount of the continuing liability of the taxpayer and notify it to him.

(2) In paragraph (1) above the reference to the continuing liability of the taxpayer is a reference to so much of the liability to pay the relevant sum as—

(a) would have been discharged if the amount mentioned in paragraph (1)(b) above had been required to be set against the relevant sum in accordance with section 81(3) of the 1994 Act, but

(b) falls, by virtue of the Resolution of the House (value added tax (time limits for repayment liabilities)) of 3rd December 1996, to be treated as not having been discharged in accordance with section 81(3) of that Act.

(3) The taxpayer's only liabilities under the 1994 Act in respect of his failure, on or after the time mentioned in paragraph (1)(b) above, to pay an amount assessable under this Resolution shall be—

(a) his liability to be assessed for that amount under this Resolution; and

(b) liabilities arising under the following provisions of this Resolution.

(4) Subsections (2) to (8) of section 78A of the 1994 Act apply in the case of an assessment under paragraph (1) above as they apply in the case of an assessment under section 78A(1) of that Act.

(5) The 1994 Act shall have effect as if the matters specified in section 83 of that Act (matters subject to appeal) included an assessment under this Resolution and the amount of such an assessment.

(6) Nothing contained in—

(a) any regulations under section 25(1) of, or paragraph 2 of Schedule 11 to, the 1994 Act relating to the correction of errors or the making of adjustments, or

(b) any requirement imposed under any such regulations,

shall be taken, in relation to any time on or after 18th July 1996, to have conferred on any person any entitlement, otherwise than in accordance with section 81(3) of that Act, to set any amount, as an amount due from the Commissioners, against any sum which that person was liable to pay to the Commissioners by way of VAT, penalty, interest or surcharge.

(7) In this Resolution—

"the 1994 Act" means the Value Added Tax Act 1994; and

"the Commissioners" means the Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

(8) This Resolution shall come into force on 4th December 1996.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
31. Repayments by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise

Resolved, That provision may be made about the liability of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to make repayments of amounts paid to them by way of excise duty or insurance premium tax or landfill tax and about their powers to recover amounts repaid by them.

32. Excise duty assessments

Resolved, That provision may be made about amounts which may be assessed as excise duty.

33. Income tax (charge and rates for 1997-98)

The Question being put, That—

(1) Income tax shall be charged for the year 1997-98, and for that year—

(a) the lower rate shall be 20 per cent.;
(b) the basic rate shall be 23 per cent.; and
(c) the higher rate shall be 40 per cent.

(2) For the year 1997-98 section 1(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall apply as if the amount specified in paragraph (aa) were £4,100; and, accordingly, section 1(4) of that Act shall apply for the year 1997-98 in relation only to the amount specified in section 1(2)(b) of that Act.

(3) In section 686(1A) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, for the words “for any year of assessment shall be the rate equal to the sum of the basic rate and the additional rate in force for that year” there shall be substituted “, in relation to any year of assessment for which income tax is charged, shall be 34 per cent. or such other rate as Parliament may determine”.

(4) Paragraph (3) above has effect in relation to the year 1997-98 and subsequent years of assessment.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Michael Bates: 316.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Archy Kirkwood: 35.

So the Question was agreed to.

34. Income tax (modification of indexed allowances)

Resolved, That—

(1) For the year 1997-98 the amounts specified in the provisions mentioned in paragraph (2) below shall be taken to be as set out in that paragraph; and, accordingly, section 257C(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, so far as it relates to the amounts so specified, shall not apply for the year 1997-98.

(2) In section 257 of that Act—

(a) the amount in subsection (1) shall be £4,045;
(b) the amount in subsection (2) shall be £5,220; and
(c) the amount in subsection (3) shall be £5,400.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

35. Blind person’s allowance

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 265(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, for “£1,250” there shall be substituted “£1,280”.

(2) This Resolution shall apply for the year 1997-98.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

36. Relief for interest (limit for 1997-98)

Resolved, That, for the year 1997-98, the qualifying maximum defined in section 367(5) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be £30,000.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
37. Corporation tax (charge and rate for financial year 1997)

Resolved, That corporation tax shall be charged for the financial year 1997 at the rate of 33 per cent.

38. Corporation tax (small companies: 1997)

Resolved, That, for the financial year 1997—

(a) the small companies' rate shall be 23 per cent.; and

(b) the fraction mentioned in section 13(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be one fortieth.

39. Wayleaves for electricity cables, telephone lines, etc.

Resolved, That section 120 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be amended as follows.

(1) In subsection (1)—

(a) at the beginning there shall be inserted "Subject to subsection (1A) below,; and

(b) the words from "and, subject to" onwards shall be omitted.

(2) After subsection (1) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

"(1A) If—

(a) the profits and gains arising to any person for any chargeable period include both rent in respect of any such easement as is mentioned in subsection (1) above and amounts which are charged to tax under Schedule A, and

(b) some or all of the land to which the easement relates is included in the land by reference to which the amounts charged under Schedule A arise,

then, for that period, that rent shall be charged to tax under Schedule A, instead of being charged under Schedule D."

(3) Subsections (2) to (4) and, in subsection (5), paragraph (c) and the word "and" immediately preceding it shall cease to have effect.

(4) This Resolution has effect in relation to payments made on or after 6th April 1997.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

40. Profit-related pay

Resolved, That provision may be made for phasing out the relief under Chapter III of Part V of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

41. Special treatment for certain company distributions

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made for distributions of a company to be treated—

(a) as if they were foreign income dividends; and

(b) in cases where they are made to trustees, as if they were income to which section 686 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 applies.

42. Distributions to dealers

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 95 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

43. Distributions of exempt funds

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending section 236 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

44. Foreign income dividends (unauthorised unit trusts)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 246D of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

45. Tax avoidance (meaning of "tax advantage")

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending section 709 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.
46. Stock lending and manufactured payments

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of income tax, corporation tax and capital gains tax about stock lending arrangements and manufactured payments.

47. Loan relationships (transitional provisions etc.)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending section 90 of, and Schedule 15 to, the Finance Act 1996.

48. Payments under life insurance policies

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made about the treatment for the purposes of enactments relating to income tax and corporation tax of sums paid or payable under life insurance policies.

49. Transfer of assets abroad

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 739 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

50. Leasing of assets (finance leases and loans)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of income tax and corporation tax in relation to arrangements which—

(a) are or have been entered into by companies or other persons, and

(b) are of such a kind as, in the case of companies incorporated in any part of the United Kingdom, falls for the purposes of accounts of such companies to be treated in accordance with normal accountancy practice as finance leases or loans.

51. Capital allowances

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending the Capital Allowances Act 1990.

52. Expenditure on mineral exploration and access

Resolved, That provision may be made about the deduction of expenditure incurred on mineral exploration and access (as defined in section 121(1) of the Capital Allowances Act 1990) in computing the profits or gains of a trade.

53. Chargeable gains (roll-over relief on re-investment)

Resolved, That provision may be made about roll-over relief under Chapter IA of Part V of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

54. Chargeable gains (conversions etc. of securities)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made for the purposes of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 about—

(a) the conversion and exchange of securities;

(b) the circumstances in which such conversions or exchanges are to be deemed to take place; and

(c) the rights which are to be deemed to be securities of a company.

55. Double taxation relief (underlying tax)

Resolved, That provision may be made restricting the extent to which underlying tax may be taken into account, in accordance with Part XVIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, in determining the credits allowable against United Kingdom taxes.

56. Double taxation relief (loan relationships)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 807A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

57. Stamp duty

Resolved, That provision may be made about stamp duty.

58. Stamp duty reserve tax

Resolved, That provision may be made about stamp duty reserve tax.
59. Petroleum revenue tax (allowable non-field expenditure)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending section 113 of the Finance Act 1984.

60. Relief from tax (incidental and consequential charges)

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise any incidental or consequential charges to any duty or tax (including charges having retrospective effect) which may arise from provisions designed in general to afford relief from taxation.

Procedure (Future Taxation).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters which may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may contain provision taking effect in a future year for amending section 198 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Finance Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Finance Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act of the present Session relating to finance, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of sums payable by the Secretary of State by virtue of provisions of that Act relating to vehicle excise and registration.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions; And that The Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Heseltine, Mr Secretary Howard, Mr Secretary Gummer, Mr Secretary Lilley, Mr William Waldegrave, Mr Secretary Dorrell, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Phillip Oppenheim and Mrs Angela Knight do prepare and bring it in.

13 Finance Bill.—Mr Michael Jack accordingly presented a Bill to grant certain duties, to alter other duties, and to amend the law relating to the National Debt and the Public Revenue, and to make further provision in connection with Finance: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 47].

14 Public Expenditure.—The Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion relating to Public Expenditure, pursuant to Order [29th November].

A Motion was made and the Question was proposed, That this House welcomes the new public expenditure plans announced by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget speech on 26th November; congratulates Her Majesty's Government on maintaining firm control of public spending while increasing resources for key priority services including the health service, education and law and order; supports the Government's continuing progress in improving efficiency and controlling the costs of government; and applauds its plans to tackle fraud and evasion.—(Mr Richard Ottaway);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'rejects the incompetence and mismanagement of the economy by Her Majesty's Government, the misallocation of resources, wrong priorities and the failure to maintain proper and prudent control of the public finances that has resulted in declining public services, and the failure to rebuild infrastructure or to equip Britain for the future; calls for a new approach to rebuild the country, in particular a welfare to work programme financed by a windfall levy on the privatised utilities that will get people back to work and reduce the costs of economic failure, releasing resources for front line public services; calls for switches of resources to provide smaller class sizes from phasing out the Assisted Places Scheme and front line patient care from the costs of National Health Service bureaucracy; and believes that the failure of the Government to manage the economy has resulted in 22 tax rises, including the extension of VAT to domestic fuel, and an increased tax burden', instead thereof. (Mr Alistair Darling.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Dennis Turner: 280.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Richard Ottaway: 316.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Michael Bates, Mr Roger Knapman: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Dennis Turner: 306.

So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That this House welcomes the new public expenditure plans announced by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget speech on 26th November; congratulates Her Majesty’s Government on maintaining firm control of public spending while increasing resources for key priority services including the health service, education and law and order; supports the Government’s continuing progress in improving efficiency and controlling the costs of government; and applauds its plans to tackle fraud and evasion.

15 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Nottinghamshire for tightening of legislation relating to fireworks was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

16 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Sebastian Coe);

Wednesday 4th December 1996

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock on Tuesday evening and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then three minutes past Twelve o’clock on Wednesday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.3 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Education (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Insurance,—Insurance (Lloyd’s) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3011), dated 2nd December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

4 Weights and Measures,—Measuring Equipment (Measures of Length) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3020), dated 2nd December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

5 Science and Technology,—Report of the Medical Research Council for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees


2 European Legislation,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 3rd December; to be printed [No. 136-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Statutory Instruments,—Fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-v] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 3rd December; to be printed [No. 129-ii] [Mr Matthew Carrington].
Wednesday 4th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Roger Knapman);

And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 European Standing Committee A,—Sir James Hill reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 5231/96, relating to air carrier liability in case of accidents, and endorses the Government’s proposed approach to negotiations on the draft Regulation in the Council.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

6 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Allan Stewart reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 9573/96, relating to the protection of Community interests against third country legislation, and endorses the Government’s decision to agree at the General Affairs Council on 28th October to the adoption of a European Community Regulation providing such protection.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

7 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Roger Sims reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scottish Enterprise (Aggregate Amount Outstanding) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Lords Message [yesterday] relating to the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] be now considered.

Lords Message considered accordingly.

Resolved, That this House doth concur with the Lords in their Resolution.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

9 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Consolidation, &c., Bills,—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of eleven Lords to join with a Committee of this House as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Committee of this House in the appointment of a Chairman; and they propose that the Joint Committee do meet on Tuesday 10th December at half-past Four o'clock in Committee Room 3.

10 Partial-birth Abortion,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit partial-birth abortions—(Mrs Elizabeth Peacock);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 19 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit partial-birth abortions: And that Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Sir Andrew Bowden, Mrs Ann Winterton, Mr Thomas Mclvor, Mr A. J. Beith, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Toby Jessel, Mr Keith Vaz, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Joe Benton, Sir Michael Grylls and The Reverend Martin Smyth do prepare and bring it in.
11 Partial-birth Abortion Bill.—Mrs Elizabeth Peacock accordingly presented a Bill to prohibit partial-birth abortions: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 48].

12 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 80 (Business Committee), That the Report [yesterday] from the Business Committee be now considered.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

And the Question being put forthwith, That this House doth agree with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

13 Firearms Amendment Bill [Allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, as amended in the Committee and not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Firearms powered by compressed carbon dioxide)—(Ann Widdecombe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Extension of power of Secretary of State to require a certificate for air weapons)—(Mr Jack Straw)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Dennis Turner: 213.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 270.

Another Clause (Payments in respect of firearms rendered unlawful)—(Sir Jerry Wiggin)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr John Carlisle: 113.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Richard Ottaway: 299.

Another Clause (Coterminous pistol club licences and rifle club approvals)—(Ann Widdecombe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Extension of Firearms Act 1968 to prohibit small firearms in Scotland)—(Mr Alex Salmond)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Andrew Welsh: 25.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 202.

Amendments (Nos. 80, 81 and 90 to 95) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 58) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 18, at the end, to insert the words 'or

(d) the slide assembly or cylinder has been removed and stored according to the conditions specified in subsection (2A) below.

(2A) Except as permitted by virtue of any provision of this Act, a small-calibre pistol shall be held under the following conditions—

(a) the slide assembly or cylinder shall be held on the premises of a licensed pistol club, and

(b) the remainder of the weapon shall be stored at different premises which shall be specified on the certificate granted for that pistol.’.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 59) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 15, after the word 'exceptional', to insert the words 'or subsection (2A) below applies'.—(Sir Jerry Wiggin.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Other Amendments (Nos. 84 to 86, 115, 69 to 74, 96, 97, 112 to 114, 87, 88, 98, 99, 117 to 120 and 116) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 18) proposed to the Bill, in page 14, line 6, at the end, to insert the words—

'Provided that a chief officer of police shall not grant a certificate for a small-calibre pistol where, by doing so, he would thereby increase the number of small-calibre pistols.
for which certificates continued in force in a police authority area above the number of certificates for small-calibre pistols which were in force in that area on 16th October 1996.'—(Mr Alex Salmond.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Eleven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [18th November and this day]—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Questions on remaining Amendments standing on the Order Paper and moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Other Amendments (Nos. 100 to 103, 89, 104, 82, 105, 75, 106, 76, 77, 107 to 110, 78, 79, 83 and 111) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time.

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And it being Midnight, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

14 Estimates.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 131 (Liaison Committee), That this House agrees with the Report [28th November] of the Liaison Committee.—(Mr Sebastian Coe) It was agreed to.

15 Overseas Development and Co-operation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft African Development Fund (Seventh Replenishment) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 11th November, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

16 Overseas Development and Co-operation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft International Development Association (Interim Trust Fund) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 11th November, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

17 Overseas Development and Co-operation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Caribbean Development Bank (Further Payments) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 13th November, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

18 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951 (Repeal)) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 4th November, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

19 Water for Human Consumption.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 7208/95, relating to drinking water; and endorses the Government's objective of amending the proposal so that it is more in line with the best scientific and medical advice on the appropriate standards for drinking water and to ensure that the benefits resulting from the proposal are more proportional to the costs it would impose.—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

20 Former Yugoslavia.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 7312/96, on aid for reconstruction and rehabilitation in the former Yugoslavia, and endorses the Government's view that it provides a necessary and appropriate base for EU expenditure in the former Yugoslavia, and for the transparency of the EU's actions; and takes note of European Community Document No. 10602/96, relating to common principles for future contractual relations with certain countries in south-eastern Europe, and endorses the Government's view that it provides a sensible broad approach for the development of EU relations with the countries concerned.—(Mr Sebastian Coe) It was agreed to.

21 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Gerald and Eva Adshead for redress of grievance was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table.
22 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Twelve o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.23 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland.—Draft Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Social Security.—Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 6) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3031), dated 4th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

4 Town and Country Planning (Scotland).—Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3023), dated 28th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

5 Water Resources.—Control of Pollution (Applications, Appeals and Registers) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2971), dated 26th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

6 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—Statute made by the Governing Body of Robinson College, Cambridge, on 15th July 1996, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].

Other Papers:

7 Development of Tourism.—Statement of extension of appointment and salary of a member of the English Tourist Board [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

8 Fire Services.—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Fire Services for 1995–96 [by Command] [Cm. 3493] [Mr Secretary Howard].

9 Macedonia (No. 1, 1996).—Agreement, done at Skopje on 18th June 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Macedonian Government on international road transport [by Command] [Cm. 3484] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

10 Miscellaneous (No. 25, 1996).—South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, with Protocols 1, 2 and 3, done at Rarotonga on 6th August 1985 [by Command] [Cm. 3481] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

11 Oil Industry.—Department of Transport Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnities offered to certain oil companies in respect of third party claims relating to the clean-up operation following the Sea Empress oil-spill [by Command] [Secretary Sir George Young].

12 Science and Technology.—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

13 Treaty Series (No. 95, 1996).—Agreement, done at Vientiane on 1st June 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic for the promotion and protection of investments [by Command] [Cm. 3473] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

14 Treaty Series (No. 101, 1996).—Amendments, done at Singapore on 4th to 7th April 1995, to the Operating Agreement, done at Washington on 20th August 1971, relating to the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (INTELSAT) [by Command] [Cm. 3478] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

15 Treaty Series (No. 103, 1996).—Agreement, done at Marrakesh on 15th April 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco on the international carriage of passengers by road [by Command] [Cm. 3488] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1996, viz.: Mr David Ashby, Mr Spencer Batiste, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Alex Carlile, Sir John Cope, Mr Andrew Faulds, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Jerry Hayes, Mr Peter Luff, Sir Michael Neubert, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Joan Roodock, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr Gary Streeter, Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Keith Vaz and Mr David Young.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland Consequential Amendments) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Sir Rhodes Boyson, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Harold Elletson, Maria Fyfe, Mr George Galloway, Mr Mike Gapes, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr William Ross, Mr Tim Smith, Mr Richard Spring, Sir Gerard Vaughan, Sir John Wheeler, Mr David Winnick, Mr Timothy Wood and Mr Tony Worthington.

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Jonathan Aitken, Mr Michael Bates, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Barry Field, Sir Peter Hordern, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Phillip Oppenheim, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Tim Renton, Sir Wyn Roberts, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Don Touhig, Dr Ian Twinn and Audrey Wise.

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1996, and the draft Social Security (Child Maintenance Bonus) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Sir Andrew Bowden, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr Iain Duncan-Smith, Mr Bill Etherington, Dame Peggy Fenner, Sir John Gorst, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Alan Howarth, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr Tim Rathbone, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr A. Cecil Walker and Mr Malcolm Wicks.

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member states and the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) Orders 1996, viz.: Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Sir Kenneth Carlisle, Mr Churchill, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Frank Cook, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Roger Godsiff, Sir Anthony Grant, Mr Bernie Grant, Sir Archie Hamilton, Mr Andrew Hargreaves, Sir Ralph Howell, Mr David Hunt, Mr Ken Purchase, Ms Joyce Quin, Mr Giles Radice, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Mr Bowen Wells.

6 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Magistrates' Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Robert Atkins, Mr Michael Brown, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Alex Carlile, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Bob Dunn, Mr John Fraser, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr George Howarth, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr Tony Marlow, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Andrew Miller, Sir David Mitchell, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr William Powell and Mr Charles Wardle.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 4th December; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee;

to be printed [No. 142-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].
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2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 4th December; to be printed [Nos. 25-iv and 131-i]; [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 4th December; to be printed [No. 124-ii][Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Legislation,—(1) Fifth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-vi];

(2) Sixth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-vi]; and

(3) First Special Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 140]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Home Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Home Affairs Committee [The Operation of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 146];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 4th December; to be printed [No. 57-vi]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Home Affairs Committee

[Sir Ivan Lawrence].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 4th December; to be printed [No. 79-iv][Mr Clive Soley].

7 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration on 4th December; to be printed [No. 93-iv][Mr James Pawsey].

8 Procedure,—First Report from the Procedure Committee [Standing Orders Revision], together with Appendices and an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 95][Sir Peter Emery].

9 Public Accounts,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 4th December; to be printed [No. 144-i]; and

(2) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 4th December; to be printed [No. 145-i]

[Mr Robert Sheldon].

10 Public Service,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 4th December; to be printed [No. 141][Mr Giles Radice].

11 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 4th December; to be printed [No. 143-i][Mr Frank Field].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the draft High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(2) the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland Consequential Amendments) Order 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(3) the Financial Services Act 1986 (Extension of Scope of Act) Order 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(4) the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1996 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(5) the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 and the draft Social Security (Child Maintenance Bonus) Regulations 1996 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(6) the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States
and the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) Orders 1996 to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(7) the draft Magistrates' Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997 to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1996;

(2) Sir Giles Shaw Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland Consequential Amendments) Order 1997;

(3) Sir David Knox Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Financial Services Act 1986 (Extension of Scope of Act) Order 1996;

(4) Sir David Knox Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1996;

(5) Sir Roger Sims Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 and the draft Social Security (Child Maintenance Bonus) Regulations 1996;

(6) Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) Orders 1996;

(7) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Magistrates' Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997;

(8) Sir James Hill Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 10003/95, relating to Community railway policy, and 9654/96, relating to the Community’s railways; and

(9) Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 10305/96, relating to the development of the social dialogue.

3 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by HM Treasury on 29th November, relating to amendments to the draft general budget 1997, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

[No. 30.]

Thursday 5th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Ordered, That the Lords Message [yesterday] relating to the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills be now considered.

Lords Message considered accordingly.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed by this House do meet the Lords Committee as proposed by their Lordships.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

4 Protection from Harassment Bill,—Mr Secretary Howard, supported by the Prime Minister, Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew, Mr Secretary Portillo, Mr Secretary Forsyth, Mr Secretary Hague and Mr David Maclean presented a Bill to make provision for
protecting persons from harassment and similar conduct: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 49].

5 Agriculture.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Home Grown Cereals Authority Levy (Variation) Scheme (Approval) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2843), dated 12th November 1996, a copy of which was laid before this House on 13th November, be approved—(Mr Roger Knapman):—It was agreed to.

6 International Immunities and Privileges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Police Office (Legal Capacities) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 13th November, be approved—(Mr Roger Knapman):—It was agreed to.

7 Industrial Development.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scottish Enterprise (Aggregate Amount Oustanding) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 11th November, be approved—(Mr Roger Knapman):—It was agreed to.

8 Waste Management.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 9651/96, relating to waste management strategy; and endorses the Government’s objective of broadly supporting the review so that future waste management strategy balances the need for a high level of environmental protection with the need for an appropriate level of regulation to ensure the functioning of the internal market—(Mr Roger Knapman):—It was agreed to.

9 Harbours, Docks, Piers and Ferries.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the draft Port of Tyne Authority (Transfer of Undertaking) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 6th November, be approved—(Secretary Sir George Young);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Sebastian Coe: 234.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 222.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Port of Tyne Authority (Transfer of Undertaking) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 6th November, be approved.

10 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Social Security (Disability Living Allowance and Claims and Payments) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 1436), dated 4th June 1996, a copy of which was laid before this House on 7th June, in the last Session of Parliament, be revoked—(Mr Henry McLeish);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr Clive Betts: 225.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Timothy Wood: 233.

So the Question was negatived.

11 Fees and Charges.—Resolved, That the draft Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act Fees (No. 1) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 12th November, be approved.—(Mr Tom Sackville.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Twenty-seven minutes to Nine o’clock, adjourned till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 8.33 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Environmental Protection,—(1) Code of Practice on Environmental Procedures for Flood Defense Operating Authorities (Environment Agency) Approval Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3061), and
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 5th December; to be printed [No. 148-i] [Mr Peter Shore].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 5th December; to be printed [No. 128-ii] [Mrs Marion Roe].

3 National Heritage.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 5th December; to be printed [No. 147-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

4 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 4th December; to be printed [No. 50-vi] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

5 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 5th December; to be printed [No. 129-iii] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

[No. 31.]

Friday 6th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Derek Conway);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

4 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Order of the House [15th November] be amended, by leaving out paragraph (2) and inserting—

‘(2) at the meeting of the Committee on Monday 9th December—

(a) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 94D(2)(b) (Scottish Grand Committee (ministerial statements)), proceedings on any ministerial statement which may be made relating to E. coli in Scotland shall be brought to a conclusion not later than three-quarters of an hour after their commencement and proceedings on any ministerial statement which may be made relating to public expenditure in Scotland shall be brought to a conclusion not later than half an hour after their commencement;

(b) proceedings on the substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee shall lapse at a quarter past Two o’clock; and

(c) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion which may then be made in relation to the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill at a quarter past Three o’clock, if not previously concluded’.—(Mr Bowen Wells.)
5 Protection from Harassment Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Protection from
Harassment Bill, notices of Amendments, new Clauses and new Schedules to be moved
in Committee may be accepted by the Clerks at the Table before the Bill has been read
a second time.—(Mr Bowen Wells.)

6 Consolidated Fund Bill,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 10th December, any
Consolidated Fund Bill ordered to be brought in and read the first time shall be
proceeded with as if the Second Reading thereof stood as an Order of the Day, and
Standing Order No. 54 (Consolidated Fund Bills) shall apply.—(Mr Bowen Wells.)

7 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do
now adjourn.—(Mr Bowen Wells);
And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House
lapsed, without Question put.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Bowen Wells.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock,
adjourned till Monday 9th December.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Broadcasting (Channel 3 Transmission and Shared Distribution Costs)
Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3067), dated 6th December 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary
Bottomley].

2 Police,—(1) Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) (Appointment and Conditions
of Service) Regulations 1996 (S.R.(N.I.), 1996, No. 564), and
(2) Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Part-time) (Appointment and Conditions of
dated 4th December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

3 Road Traffic and Vehicles,—Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 8) Order (Northern Ireland) 1996
(S.R.(N.I.), 1996, No. 536), dated 19th November 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick
Mayhew].

4 Water Resources,—Surface Waters (Abstraction for Drinking Water) (Classification)
Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3001), dated 28th November 1996 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Ministry of
Defence: Financial Management of the Military Operation in the Former Yugoslavia [by
Act]; to be printed [No. 132] [Clerk of the House].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [24th
July] from residents of Manchester against the proposed relocation of the North West
Traffic Area Office [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Treaty Series (No. 102, 1996),—Agreement, done at London on 27th May 1993, between the
Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Government of the Republic of Armenia for the promotion and protection of
investments [by Command] [Cm. 3479] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II
Committee of Selection

Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported
from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on
the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Financial
Services Act 1986 (Extension of Scope of Act) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Michael Bates, Mr
Richard Burden, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Michael Fabricant, Sir John Hannam, Mr Nick
Harvey, Margaret Hodge, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Alan Keen, Mrs Angela Knight, Mr
Mike O’Brien, Mr Barry Sheerman, Sir Trevor Skeet, Dr Robert Spink, Mr George
Stevenson, Mr Roy Thompson, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Neville Trotter and Mr George
Walden.
Monday 9th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill.—Mr John Maxton reported from the Scottish Grand Committee, That it had considered the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill in relation to the principle of the Bill and had directed him to make a report thereof to the House: And the Report was brought up and read. Bill to be read a second time to-morrow.

5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Western Isles (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Bill, without Amendment.

6 Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill.—The Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill [Money],—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State—

(a) in connection with a scheme for the decommissioning of firearms, ammunition and explosives, or

(b) in making payments to or in connection with a Commission established to facilitate decommissioning.—(Mr Michael Bates):—It was agreed to.

8 Contract (Scotland) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Contract (Scotland) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the Bill be committed to a Scottish Standing Committee—(Mr Michael Bates):—It was agreed to.

9 Air Carrier Liability,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 5231/96, relating to air carrier liability in case of accidents, and endorses the Government's proposed approach to negotiations on the draft Regulation in the Council—(Mr Michael Bates):—It was agreed to.

10 Protection against Third Country Legislation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 9573/96, relating to the protection of Community interests against third country legislation, and endorses the Government's decision to agree at the General Affairs Council on 28th October to the adoption of a European Community Regulation providing such protection—(Mr Michael Bates):—It was agreed to.
11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Michael Bates.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes to Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.35 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Rating and Valuation,—Draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditament(s) Regulations 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—(1) Habitats (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3035),
   (2) Heather Moorland (Livestock Extensification) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3036), and
   (3) Set-Aside Access (Scotland) Amendment and Revocation Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3037),
   dated 2nd December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

3 Environmental Protection,—Litter (Fixed Penalty) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3055), dated 4th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

4 Friendly Societies,—(1) Friendly Societies (Activities of a Subsidiary) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3009), and
   (2) Friendly Societies (Insurance Business) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3008),
   dated 6th December 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

5 Local Government (Scotland),—Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3070), dated 5th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


   (2) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3015),
   (3) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3014),
   (4) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 6) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3017), and
   (5) Road Vehicles Lighting (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3016),
   dated 2nd December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


Other Papers:

9 Education and Training,—Paper, entitled Learning to Compete: Education and Training for 14-19 Year Olds [by Command] [Cm. 3486] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

10 Science and Technology,—Report and Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].
11 Scottish Affairs.—Government Response to the First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee, Session 1995-96, on The Removal of Tariff Rebate Subsidy on Northern Isles Freight [by Command] [Cm. 3492] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Michael Brown (nominated in respect of the draft Magistrates’ Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Dr Keith Hampson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 9th December; to be printed [No. 148-ii] [Mr David Howell].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 9th December; to be printed [No. 151-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

3 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 9th December; to be printed [No. 150-i] [Mr Paul Channon].

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 9th December; to be printed [No. 129-iv] [Mr Matthew Carrington].

[No. 33.] Tuesday 10th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King’s College London Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th November, That the Promoters of the King’s College London Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with:

That if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, the Agents for the Bill shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the Lords in the last Session:

That, as soon as a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office, that such a declaration has been so deposited, has been laid upon the Table of the House, the Bill shall be read the first and second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read) and shall be ordered to be read the third time;

That no further Fees shall be charged in respect of any proceedings on the Bill in respect of which Fees have already been incurred during any previous Session;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Tuesday 17th December.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Mr John Whittingdale reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, &c., Bills to which the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords], the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords], the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, were referred, That it had
gone through the Bills, and had made Amendments to the first and fourth of them; and had agreed to a Report, which it had directed him to make to the House; and had directed him to report the Minutes of Evidence taken before it on 10th December.

Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 156-I].
Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 156-II].
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 156-II].

4 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 15th October, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

5 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Michael J. Martin reported from the First Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 54].
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 152].

7 Crime (Sentences) Bill.—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Crime (Sentences) Bill, and made Amendments thereof.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 51].
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 155].

8 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Giles Shaw reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland Consequential Amendments) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

11 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, an Act to confer power on the Horserace Totalisator Board to receive or negotiate bets made otherwise than by way of pool betting, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Theft (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Theft Act 1968 and the Theft Act 1978; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 (Petitions of General Objection).—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of three Lords to join with a Committee of this House as the Joint Committee to which the Petitions of General Objection against the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 stand referred; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Committee of this House in the appointment of a Chairman; and they propose that the Joint Committee do meet on Tuesday 21st January at Eleven o’clock.

12 Government of Wales Bill.—Dr John Marek, supported by Mr Alex Carlile, Ann Clwyd, Mr Paul Flynn, Sir Robert Hicks, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr John
McAllion and Mr Dafydd Wigley presented a Bill to make provision for the future government of Wales and for the establishment of a parliament for Wales, to be known as Senedd; to make provisions as respects Wales concerning public bodies, the protection of the consumer and the environment, the administration of justice, broadcasting and relations with the European Union; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 53].

13 Licensing (Reform).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reform the system of liquor licensing—(Mr Paddy Tipping);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 19 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reform the system of liquor licensing: And that Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Eric Clarke and Mr Alan Meale do prepare and bring it in.

14 Licensing (Reform) Bill.—Mr Paddy Tipping accordingly presented a Bill to reform the system of liquor licensing: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 52].

15 Estimates [1st allotted day, 1st Part].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [4th December], to consider the Estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 52 (Consideration of estimates).

Vote on Account, 1997-98 (Class XVII, Vote 1).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That a sum, not exceeding £78,288,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charges for the year ending on 31st March 1998 for expenditure by the Office of the Minister for Public Service on the central management of the Civil Service; expenditure resulting from the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster’s chairmanship of the BSE Implementation Committee; expenditure on privatisation of executive agencies; and certain other services—(Mr Roger Freeman);

The Debate was concluded, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 52 (Consideration of estimates).

16 Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 185 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 16.

17 Estimates [1st allotted day, 1st Part].—It being Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 52 (Consideration of estimates), put the deferred Question necessary to dispose of proceedings on Vote on Account, 1997-98 (Class XVII, Vote 1).

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £78,288,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charges for the year ending on 31st March 1998 for expenditure by the Office of the Minister for Public Service on the central management of the Civil Service; expenditure resulting from the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster’s chairmanship of the BSE Implementation Committee; expenditure on privatisation of executive agencies; and certain other services.

18 Estimates.—The Deputy Speaker then put the Questions required to be put, pursuant to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 53 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Supplementary Estimates, 1996–97

Resolved, That a supplementary sum, not exceeding £2,424,973,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to defray the charges for defence and civil services which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1997, as set out in HC 18 of Session 1996–97.

Estimates, 1997–98 (Vote on Account)

Resolved, That a further sum, not exceeding £96,783,374,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charges for defence and civil services in Classes I to XVI, Class XVII, Votes 2 to 3, Class XVIII;
and Classes XVIII, A and XVIII, B for the year ending on 31st March 1998, as set out in HC 19, 20 and 21 of Session 1996–97.

Ordered. That a Bill be brought in on the foregoing Resolutions: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr William Waldegrave, Mr Michael Jack, Mrs Angela Knight and Mr Phillip Oppenheim do prepare and bring it in.

19 Consolidated Fund Bill,—Mr Michael Jack accordingly presented a Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending on 31st March 1997 and 1998: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time this day and to be printed [Bill 50].

20 Consolidated Fund Bill,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, pursuant to Order [6th December], That the Consolidated Fund Bill be read a second time;

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 54 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

21 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Draft Broadcasting (Sign Language) Order 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

2 Pesticides,—(1) Draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997, and

(2) draft Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions) Regulations 1997
[by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture,—(1) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Scotland) Orders Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3082), and

(2) Organic Aid (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3083), dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Joint Financing) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3032), dated 2nd December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


6 Consumer Credit,—Consumer Credit (Exempt Agreements) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3081), dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

7 Ecclesiastical Law,—(1) Ecclesiastical Judges and Legal Officers (Fees) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3085),

(2) Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3084), and


8 Education (Scotland),—(1) Grants for Pre-school Education (Prescribed Children) (Scotland) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3079), and
(2) Grants for Pre-School Education (Social Security Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3078), dated 3rd December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

9 Friendly Societies,—Friendly Societies (General Charge and Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3094), dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

10 Local Government,—(1) Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (Sports Councils) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3092), dated 5th December 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley]; and

(2) Passenger Transport Executives (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3058), dated 4th December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

11 Marine Pollution,—Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) Regulations 1996, (S.I., 1996, No. 3010), dated 29th November 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


15 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—(1) European Nursing and Midwifery Qualifications Designation Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3102), and

(2) Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979 (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3101), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


17 Road Traffic,—(1) Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No 3038), and

(2) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 7) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3033), dated 3rd December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

18 Appropriation Accounts, 1995–96,—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for Class XII (Department of Health and the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys) and Class XIII (Department of Social Security) for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-IX] [Mr Michael Jack].

19 Courts and Legal Services,—Report and Accounts of the Lord Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 113] [Mr Gary Streeter].

20 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on—

(1) 5th December 1996 to Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust, and

(2) 9th December 1996 to Glenfield Hospital NHS Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

21 National Health Service (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Hospital Endowments Research Trust for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].
22 National Insurance,—Account of Securities held for the National Insurance Fund as at 31st March 1996 [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

23 Reserve Forces,—Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces under section 11 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980 on the call-out of an officer of the Air Force Reserve [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Fifth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997; Proposal for the Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1996]; to be printed [No. 154] [Mr Barry Field]

2 Public Service,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 10th December; to be printed [No. 153] [Mr Giles Radice]

3 Standards and Privileges,—First Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint of alleged improper pressure brought to bear on the Select Committee on Members' Interests in 1994], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 88] [Mr Tony Newton]

4 Statutory Instruments,—Sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-vi] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 10th December; to be printed [No. 129-vi] [Mr Matthew Carrington]

[No. 34.]

Wednesday 11th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Bowen Wells); And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).


Ordered, That a Message sent to the Lords to acquaint them that this House has appointed three Members to serve on the Joint Committee on Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 (Petitions of General Objection); and that the Members so appointed do meet the Lords appointed to serve thereon as proposed by their Lordships.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

7 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Roger Sims reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 and the draft Social Security (Child Maintenance Bonus) Regulations 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 European Standing Committee A,—Sir James Hill reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 10003/95, relating to the development of the Community's railways, and 9654/96, the Commission's White Paper on the revitalisation of the Community's railways; and endorses the Government's position on the actions proposed by the Commission.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

9 Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords].—The Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 57].

10 Theft (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Theft (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 58].

11 War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill,—Mr Simon Hughes presented a Bill to end the differential treatment of war widows and war disablement pensioners by local authorities; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 56].

12 Fire Safety.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make further provision for the protection of persons from fire risks; and for purposes connected therewith—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 19 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Graham Allen: 125.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Devlin, Mr Rupert Allason: 40.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr John Heppell, Sir David Knox, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Diana Maddock, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Stanley Orme, Mr John Austin-Walker, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Hanson and Mr Ian Pearson do prepare and bring in the Bill.

13 Fire Safety Bill,—Mr John Heppell accordingly presented a Bill to make further provision for the protection of persons from fire risks; and for purposes connected therewith: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 55].

14 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Anthony Coombs);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—(1) Countryside Access (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3111), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];


(3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Wales) Designation Orders (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3077), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague];

(4) Fresh Meat (Import Conditions) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3125), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];

(5) Habitat (Broadleaved Woodland) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3075), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague];

(6) Habitat (Coastal Belt) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3074), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague];

(7) Habitat (Former Set-Aside Land) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3107), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];

(8) Habitat (Salt-Marsh) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3108), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];

(9) Habitat (Species-rich Grassland) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3072), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague];

(10) Habitat (Water Fringe) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3106), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];

(11) Habitat (Water Fringe) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3073), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague];

(12) Moorland (Livestock Extensification) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3110), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];

(13) Moorland (Livestock Extensification) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3076), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague];

(14) Nitrate Sensitive Areas (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3105), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg];

(15) Organic Farming (Aid) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3109), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg]; and


2 Animals,—Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (Fees) (No. 2) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3091), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

3 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3089), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


5 County Courts,—(1) Attachment of Debts (Expenses) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3098), and

(2) Contracting Out of Functions (Court Staff) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3096), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].


(2) Education (School Inspection) (No. 2) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996
(S.I., 1996, No. 3099), dated 10th December 1996, and

(3) Nursery Education (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3117), dated
11th December 1996

[by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

8 Housing,—Housing Renewal Grants and Home Repair Assistance (Amendment)
Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3119), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Gummer].

9 Income Tax,—(1) Occupational Pension Schemes (Transitional Provisions) (Amendment)
Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3115),

(2) Retirement Benefit Schemes (Continuation of Rights of Members of Approved
Schemes) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3114), and

(3) Retirement Benefits Schemes (Tax Relief on Contributions) (Disapplication of
Earnings Cap) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3113),
dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

10 Industrial and Provident Societies,—Industrial and Provident Societies (Forms and
[Mrs Angela Knight].

11 Local Government,—(1) Bridgend and The Vale of Glamorgan (Areas) Order 1996 (S.I.,
1996, No. 2915), and

(2) Denbighshire and Wrexham (Areas) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2914),
dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

12 Medicines,—Medicines (Pharmacies) (Applications for Registration and Fees) Amendment
Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3054), dated 4th December 1996 [by Act][Mr Secretary
Dorrell].

13 Public Passenger Transport,—(1) Community Bus (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I.,
1996, No. 3087), and

(2) Minibus and Other Section 19 Permit Buses (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I.,
1996, No. 3088),
dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

14 Road Traffic,—Motorways Traffic (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1996
(S.I., 1996, No. 3053), dated 4th December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

15 Statistics of Trade,—Statistics of Trade (Customs and Excise) (Amendment) Regulations

16 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Statutory Sick Pay (General) Amendment
Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3042), dated 4th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Lilley].

Other Papers:

17 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons,—Statements by the Secretary of State for Health and
the Secretary of State for Wales on—

(1) Residential Care of Handicapped Persons under the age of 65 in England and
Wales, and

(2) Separation of Younger from Older Patients in Hospital
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 110 and 117] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

18 Miscellaneous (No. 26, 1996),—Agreement, done at The Hague on 15th August 1996, on the
conservation of African-Eurasian migratory waterbirds [by Command] [Cm. 3482] [Mr
Secretary Rifkind].

19 Treaty Series (No. 97, 1996),—Notes, exchanged at Freetown on 26th June 1996 and 15th
July 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland and the Government of Sierra Leone concerning certain commercial
20 Treaty Series (No. 98, 1996).—Agreement, done at Tallinn on 18th July 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Estonia on co-operation in the fields of education, science and culture [by Command] [Cm. 3475] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

21 Treaty Series (No. 99, 1996).—Agreement, done at Muscat on 25th November 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Sultanate of Oman for the promotion and protection of investments [by Command] [Cm. 3476] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

22 Treaty Series (No. 100, 1996).—Notes exchanged at Peking (Beijing) on 2nd September 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China, concerning the Establishment of a Consulate-General of each Country in the other at Guangzhou and Edinburgh [by Command] [Cm. 3477] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee B.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill, viz.: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Nicholas Baker, Mr Henry Bellingham, Sir John Cope, Dr Joe Hendron, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Thomas Mccavoy, Mr Robert McCartney, the Reverend William McCrea, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Seamus Mallon, Mr David Martin, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr William Ross, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Sir John Wheeler, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Timothy Wood and Mr Tony Worthington.

2 First Scottish Standing Committee.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Contract (Scotland) Bill, viz.: Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Mr George Foulkes, Maria Fyfe, Mr Phil Gallie, Mr John Home Robertson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr George Kynoch, Mr John McAllion, Mr John McFall, Mr William McKelvey, Sir Hector Monro, Mr Raymond S. Robertson, Mr Alex Salmond, Mr Allan Stewart and Mr Bill Walker.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Michael Alison, Hilary Armstrong, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Prid Armstrong, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Paul Beresford, Mr Chris Davies, Mr John Greenway, Helen Jackson, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Sir Jim Lister, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Graham Riddick, Sir Dudley Smith, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Walter Sweeney, Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Jon Trickett and Joan Walley.

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 and the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Nicholas Budgen, Mr Robert B. Jones, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr John McFall, Mr David Mellor, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr David Porter, Mr David Rendel, Sir Nicholas Scott, Mr Michael Stern, Mr Richard Tracey, Mr Keith Vaz, Mr Mike Watson and Mr Alan W. Williams.

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Allocation of Housing and Homelessness Functions) Order 1996, the Allocation of Housing Regulations 1996 and the Homelessness Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Robert Banks, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr James Clappison, Mr Chris Davies, Mr Hugh Dykes, Mr David Hanson, Margaret Hodge, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Barry Legg, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr William O'Brien, Bridget Prentice, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr David Sumberg, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Stephen Timms and Mr John Townend.
6 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Alistair Burt, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr William Cash, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Nigel Forman, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Alan Howarth, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Mr Michael Lord, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr David Martin, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Terry Rooney, Sir John Stanley and Mr David Young.

7 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of House of Commons Paper No. 31, relating to a Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules, viz.: Mr David Alton, Mr Vivian Bendall, Mr Roger Berry, Judith Church, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mrs Edwina Currie, Mr Alan Duncan, Sir Anthony Durant, Sir Norman Fowler, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr Doug Henderson, Helen Jackson, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Andrew Miller, Sir Cranley Onslow and Sir Geoffrey Pattie.

8 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Peter Butler, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr David Congdon, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Don Dixon, Mr Roger Evans, Mr Dudley Fishburn, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr Douglas French, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Sir Michael Grylls, Mr John Hutton, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Steve Norris and Dr Tony Wright.

9 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mr Frank Cook (nominated in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) Orders 1996).

10 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Dr Keith Hampson (nominated in respect of the draft Magistrates' Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Piers Merchant.

11 Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 (Petitions of General Objection) (Joint Committee),—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, that it had nominated three Members to serve on a Committee to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee to which the Petitions of General Objection against the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 stand referred, pursuant to section 4 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, viz.: Mr William Cash, Mr Quentin Davies and Mr Alan Meale.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 11th December; to be printed [No. 45v]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Defence.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 11th December; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Defence Committee; to be printed [No. 158–ii] [Mr Michael Colvin].

3 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 11th December; to be printed [No. 131–ii] [Sir Malcolm Thornton].
4 Environment,—(1) Second Report from the Environment Committee [Contaminated Land], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 22];
(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Committee; and
(3) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 27th November and 4th December; to be printed [No. 124]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 European Legislation,— Seventh Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-vii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Foreign Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Development of United Kingdom interests and links with Latin America], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, and Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 73]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 11th December; to be printed [No. 157-i]

[Mr David Howell].

7 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 11th December; to be printed [No. 57-vii] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

8 Northern Ireland Affairs,—First Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Illicit Drug Use in Northern Ireland], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 52] [Mr Clive Soley].

9 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration on 11th December; to be printed [No. 93-v] [Mr James Pawsey].

10 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 11th December; to be printed [No. 159-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

11 Science and Technology,—Memoranda laid before the Science and Technology Committee [Sir Giles Shaw].

12 Scottish Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Housing and Anti-Social Behaviour], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 160]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Scottish Affairs Committee

[Mr William McKelvey].

13 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 11th December; to be printed [No. 80-iv] [Mr Frank Field].

14 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 11th December; to be printed [No. 105-iii] [Mr Paul Channon].

15 Welsh Affairs,—Memorandum laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Mr Gareth Wardell].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—
(1) the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill to Standing Committee B;
(2) the Contract (Scotland) Bill to the First Scottish Standing Committee;
(3) the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Regulations 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(4) the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 and the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(5) the draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Housing and Homelessness Functions) Order 1996, the Allocation of Housing Regulations 1996 and the Homelessness Regulations 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(6) the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(7) the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (House of Commons Paper No. 31) to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(8) the Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Sir James Hill Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) Orders 1996 (in place of Mr Frank Cook).

3 European Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), European Community Document COM (96) 641, relating to Fisheries: total allowable catches and quotas 1997, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 35.]

Thursday 12th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir James Hill reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lithuania) Order 1996, the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Latvia) Order 1996, and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement Establishing an Association Between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Estonia) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Magistrates' Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
6 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   Land Registration Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to
   amend the Land Registration Act 1925; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of
   this House.

   National Heritage Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to
   extend the powers of the Trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund; to which the
   Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

7 National Heritage Bill [Lords].—The National Heritage Bill [Lords] was read the first time;
and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 59].

8 Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Consents) Bill. —The Order for reading the Human
Fertilisation and Embryology (Consents) Bill a second time to-morrow was read and
discharged.

   Bill withdrawn.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House do
now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

   And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed,
without Question put.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten
o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Pesticides,—Draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr
Douglas Hogg].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Patents,—Patents (Supplementary Protection Certificate for Plant Protection Products)
Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3120), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Lang].

3 Road Traffic,—(1) Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Redbridge)
(Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3059), dated 5th December 1996, and
(2) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 1996
(S.I., 1996, No. 3133), dated 11th December 1996
[by Act][Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

4 British Library,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the British Library for
1995–96 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

5 Disabled Persons,—Report of the Secretary of State for Health on Development of Services
for People with Learning Disabilities (Mental Handicap) or Mental Illness in England
for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 134] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

6 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the National Gallery for 1995–96, with the Report of
the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 162][Clerk of
the House].

7 Telecommunications,—Paper, entitled Amendments to the Convention and the Operating
Agreement relating to the European Telecommunications Satellite Organisation
(EUTELSAT) [by Command] [Cm. 3494] [Mr Secretary Lang].
Paper withdrawn:

8 Pesticides.—Draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [laid 10th December].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr John McFall (nominated in respect of the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, and the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Malcolm Chisholm.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—(1) First Report from the Health Committee [The London Ambulance Service: Comments on Recent Performance]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 161]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 12th December; to be printed [No. 128-iii]

[Mrs Marion Roe].

2 National Heritage.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 12th December; to be printed [No. 147-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 12th December; to be printed [No. 79-v] [Mr Clive Soley].

4 Treasury.—First Report from the Treasury Committee [Barings Bank and International Regulation], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 65] [Mr Nigel Forman].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir James Molyneaux and Mrs Ann Winterton Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill; (2) Mr Norman Hogg and Sir Roger Sims Chairmen of the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Contract (Scotland) Bill; (3) Sir David Knox Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Regulations 1996; (4) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 and the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997; (5) Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Housing and Homelessness Functions) Order 1996, the Allocation of Housing Regulations 1996, and the Homelessness Regulations 1996; (6) Sir David Knox Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996; (7) Sir James Hill Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (House of Commons Paper No. 31);
(8) Sir Roger Sims Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment Regulations 1996; and

(9) Mr Roy Hughes Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 9795/96 ADD1 and 9795/96 ADD2, relating to the Information Society: Priorities and Implications.

[No. 36.]

Friday 13th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Knives Bill,—The Knives Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill,—The Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Telecommunications (Fraud) Bill,—The Telecommunications (Fraud) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Ian Bruce)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clause Nos. 1 to 3 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

5 Local Government (Gaelic Names) (Scotland) Bill,—The Local Government (Gaelic Names) (Scotland) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Thomas Graham)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords],—The Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Theft (Amendment) Bill [Lords],—The Theft (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Richard Spring)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 agreed to.
Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

8 Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill,—Ordered, That during the proceedings on the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill, Standing Committee B shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

9 European Standing Committees,—Ordered, That European Community Document COM(96)641, relating to Fisheries: total allowable catches and quotas 1997, shall not stand referred to European Standing Committee A.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

10 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 16th December, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to Fisheries not later than Ten o’clock.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

11 Sittings of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 18th December, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 16th December.

[Adjourned at 3.5 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Monopolies and Mergers,—Films (Exhibition Periods) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3140), dated 12th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

2 Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust,—Department of National Heritage Minute, dated 13th December 1996, concerning a contingent liability consequent on the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust's revenue deficit in relation to its application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for capital funding [by Command] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

3 Museums and Galleries,—Financial Statements of the Geffrye Museum Trust Limited for 1995-96 [by Command] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

4 Police and Criminal Evidence,—Codes of Practice (Armed Forces) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

5 Treaty Series (No. 107, 1996).—Agreement, done at London on 3rd September 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Russian Federation on co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy [by Command] [Cm. 3500] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

6 Treaty Series (No. 108, 1996).—Amendment, done at Margarita Island, Venezuela on 26th October 1994 and Copenhagen on 31st August 1995, to the Agreement relating to the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (INTELSAT), done at Washington on 20th August 1971 [by Command] [Cm. 3501] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].
Monday 16th December 1996.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills.—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported, That, in accordance with Standing Order 81 relating to Private Business (Division of bills between this House and the House of Lords), he had conferred with the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords for the purpose of determining in which House of Parliament the respective Private Bills should be first considered, and they had determined that the Bills contained in the following list should originate in the House of Lords, viz.:

   City of Westminster
   Girobank plc (Transfer)
   Hailsham Cattle Market
   Lloyds TSB
   London Local Authorities

   and that the Bills contained in the following list should originate in the House of Commons, viz.:

   Imperial College
   Lever Park
   Southampton International Boat Show
   Tamar Bridge.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir David Knox reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Regulations 1996.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   The Lords have agreed to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Bill, without Amendment.

   Civil Procedure Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the law about civil procedure in England and Wales; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Civil Procedure Bill [Lords].—The Civil Procedure Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 61].

7 New Member sworn.—Jeffrey Ennis, Esquire, Member for Barnsley East, was sworn.

8 Fisheries.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Community Document COM(96)641, relating to the fixing of total allowable catches for 1997 and certain conditions under which they may be fished; and supports the Government's intention to negotiate the best possible fishing opportunities for British fishermen consistent with scientific advice and the need to sustain the stocks for the benefit of future generations of fishermen—(Mr Tony Baldry);

   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'believes that the failure of this Government in its seventeen years of office to tackle the problems facing the fishing industry is an unacceptable threat to the future of fishing communities in England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland; regrets the failure of the United Kingdom Government to implement a decommissioning policy until 1993; recognises that fishing by non-UK vessels against UK quotas is unacceptable to our fishing industry and calls for effective action to tackle quota-hopping; regrets the Government's failure to prevent increased Spanish access to the Irish Box and Western Waters from 1st January 1996; concludes that the United Kingdom Government has not represented effectively in Europe the interests of this country's fishing industry; further recognises that the overriding priority for the Common Fisheries Policy must be the conservation of fish stocks, without which the fishing industry cannot survive; and calls on Her Majesty's
Government to work in Europe to achieve reforms of the Common Fisheries Policy that ensure the conservation and fair allocation of fish stocks with effective enforcement by all European States, instead thereof. (Dr Gavin Strang.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 305.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 316.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 316.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 304.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Document COM(96)641, relating to the fixing of total allowable catches for 1997 and certain conditions under which they may be fished; and supports the Government's intention to negotiate the best possible fishing opportunities for British fishermen consistent with scientific advice and the need to sustain the stocks for the benefit of future generations of fishermen.

9 Adjournment (Christmas).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 22 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Wednesday 18th December, do adjourn till Monday 13th January—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

10 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th November, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

11 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland Consequential Amendments) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th November, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

12 County Courts.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 25th November, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

13 Financial Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Financial Services Act 1986 (Extension of Scope of Act) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2958), a copy of which was laid before this House on 25th November, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

14 Community Railway Policy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 10003/95, relating to the development of the Community's railways, and 9654/96, the Commission's White Paper on the revitalisation of the Community's railways; and endorses the Government's position on the actions proposed by the Commission—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

15 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the Bill be referred to the Scottish Grand Committee—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin): It was agreed to.

16 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That, at the Meeting of the Scottish Grand Committee on Monday 13th January, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion
which may be made in relation to the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill at half-past Two o'clock, if not previously concluded.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

17 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Stockport for improved hospital facilities for children in Greater Manchester was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.55 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Employment in Bars) Order 1997, together with a statement from the Secretary of State for the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education,—The Berkshire College of Art and Design, Maidenhead (Dissolution) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3136), dated 10th December 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

3 Water (Scotland),—Surface Waters (Abstraction for Drinking Water) (Classification) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3047), dated 3rd December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1995–96,—Appropriation Accounts of sums granted by Parliament for Classes V, X and XI (Employment, Education and National Heritage) for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-VIII] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 10th December 1996 on borrowing by the Land Authority for Wales [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

6 National Health Service,—Paper, entitled Primary Care: Delivering the Future [by Command] [Cm. 3512] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

7 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 137] [Mr Secretary Hague].

8 Science and Technology,—Report of the Natural Environment Research Council for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—(1) Ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Resource Accounting and Proposals for a Resource-Based System of Supply] with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 167]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 16th December; to be printed [No. 168-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 16th December; to be printed [No. 165] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

3 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 16th December; to be printed [No. 166-i] [Mr Gareth Wardell].
1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th November, That the Promoters of the King's College London Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with:

That if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, the Agents for the Bill shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration signed by them stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the Lords in the last Session:

That, as soon as a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office, that such a declaration has been so deposited, has been laid upon the Table of the House, the Bill shall be read the first and second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read) and shall be ordered to be read the third time;

That no further Fees shall be charged in respect of any proceedings on the Bill in respect of which Fees have already been incurred during any previous Session;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

4 Contract (Scotland) Bill,—Mr Norman Hogg reported from the First Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Contract (Scotland) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 169].

5 Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill, and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 185].

6 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 and the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Maxton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Housing and Homelessness Functions) Order 1996, the Allocation of Housing Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2753), referred to a Committee on 25th November, and the Homelessness Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2754), referred to a Committee on 25th November.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir David Knox reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Roy Hughes reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 9795/96 ADD1, Commission Communications on The Information Society: from Corfu to Dublin—the new emerging priorities and The Implications of the Information Society for European Union Policies—Preparing the Next Steps, and 9795/96 ADD2, the Commission Green Paper Living and Working in the Information Society: People First; shares the Commission’s assessment of the importance of the development of the Information Society; welcomes the Commission’s recognition that the development of new technologies provides substantial opportunities for new employment; and endorses the Government’s view that the Information Society should be allowed to develop flexibly and without unnecessary and potentially burdensome legislation, believing that Government has a positive role in providing vision, direction and leadership to unlock the full potential of the Information Society.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

10 Land Registration Bill [Lords],—The Land Registration Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 17th January and to be printed [Bill 60].

11 Sale of Medicines (Young People) Bill,—Mr Paul Flynn presented a Bill to make it unlawful to sell medicinal products to people under the age of sixteen: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 63].

12 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill,—Mr Alfred Morris, supported by Ms Liz Lynne, Sir Richard Body, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mrs Margaret Ewing, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Peter Thurnham, Mr John Heppell, Mr Ken Eastham, Mr Harry Barnes and Mr Tom Cox, presented a Bill to provide for assessments of health and social needs of disabled persons to include assessments of the needs for short-term breaks for the disabled person and any carer: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 62].

13 Abortion (Amendment).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend section 1(1) of the Abortion Act 1967 in relation to the grounds on which a pregnancy may be terminated—(Mr David Amess);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 19 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend section 1(1) of the Abortion Act 1967 in relation to the grounds on which a pregnancy may be terminated: And that Mr David Amess, Mr David Alton, Mr Joe Benton, Sir Graham Bright, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Thomas Mcavoy, Mr John McFall, Mr Robert Parry, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, the Reverend Martin Smyth, Dr Robert Spink and Mrs Ann Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

14 Abortion (Amendment) Bill,—Mr David Amess accordingly presented a Bill to amend section 1(1) of the Abortion Act 1967 in relation to the grounds on which a pregnancy may be terminated: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 64].

15 Protection from Harassment Bill,—The Protection from Harassment Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)
Clause No. 1 (Prohibition of harassment).

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 8, to leave out the words ‘or ought to know’.—(Mr Andrew F. Bennett.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 30) proposed, in page 1, line 15, to leave out from the word 'shows' to the word 'under' in line 17 and insert the words—

'that in the particular circumstances the pursuit of the course of conduct was reasonable—

(a) for the purpose of preventing and detecting crime, or', instead thereof.—(Diana Maddock.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 2 (Offence of harassment).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 24, to leave out the word 'summary'.—

(Mr Andrew F. Bennett.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 42) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Civil remedy).

Amendment (No. 33) proposed, in page 2, line 6, after the word 'claim' to insert the words 'for an actual breach'.—(Diana Maddock.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 13) proposed, in page 2, line 8, at the end to insert the words—

'(2A) In proceedings under this section a court may, if it appears just and appropriate to do so, order that the person who has been found to have pursued the course of conduct amounting to harassment, to attend a course of counselling with a named person or organisation for the purpose of persuading him not to harass the victim or any other person in the future.'—(Mr George Howarth.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr Greg Pope: 179.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Bowen Wells: 172.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 2, line 8, at the end to insert the words—

'(2B) In considering whether to order an injunction in proceedings under this section, a court shall have primary regard to whether such an order is necessary for the protection of what the court considers are the victim's legitimate interests.'—(Ms Janet Anderson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Peter Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

16 Insurance Premium Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2955), dated 26th November 1996, a copy of which was laid before this House on 26th November, be approved—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

17 Family Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 25th November, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.
18 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Child Maintenance Bonus) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 25th November, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

19 Magistrates' Courts,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Magistrates' Courts (Remands in Custody) (Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th November, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

20 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lithuania) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 26th November, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

21 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Latvia) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 26th November, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

22 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Estonia) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 26th November, be approved—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

23 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 121A (Committee on Standards and Privileges) be amended by inserting at the end of line 50 the words: "(6A) The committee, or any sub-committee, shall have power to refer to unreported evidence of former Committees of Privileges or of former Select Committees on Members' Interests and to any documents circulated to any such committee."—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

24 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.27 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Health and Safety,—Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3138), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

2 Housing,—Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Review Procedures and Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3122), dated 9th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Local Government,—(1) Local Government (Changes for the Registration Service in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Derbyshire, Dorset, Durham, East Sussex, Hampshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire and Wiltshire) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3118), dated 5th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer]; and

(2) Local Government Reorganisation (Wales) (Consequential Amendments No. 3) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3071), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

4 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages etc.,—Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3152), dated 16th December 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].
5 Social Security, Disability Working Allowance and Family Credit (General) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3137), dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

6 Telecommunications, Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3151), dated 17th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

7 Terms and Conditions of Employment, Employment Protection (Continuity of Employment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3147), dated 16th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

8 Appropriation Accounts, 1995-96, Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for Class IV (Trade and Industry and Export Credits Guarantee Department) for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-IV] [Mr Michael Jack].

9 Chelsea Hospital, Account of the Royal Chelsea Hospital: Army Prize Money and Legacy Funds, &c. for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 172] [Clerk of the House].

10 Deer (Scotland), Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Red Deer Commission for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

11 Environmental Protection, Report and Summary Financial Statement of English Nature for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

12 Forensic Services, Paper, entitled Assessment and implications of centrifuge contamination in the trace explosive section of the Forensic Explosives Laboratory at Fort Halstead [by Command] [Cm. 3491] [Mr Secretary Howard].

13 Friendly Societies, Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1995-96 [by Act] [Clerk of the House].


15 Local Government Finance, Account of the Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in Wales for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 176] [Clerk of the House].

16 Museums and Galleries, Accounts for 1995-96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, of the—

(1) British Museum [by Act];

(2) National Library of Wales [by Act];

(3) National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside [by Statutory Instrument];

(4) Natural History Museum [by Act];

(5) Tate Gallery [by Act]; and

(6) Wallace Collection [by Act];

to be printed [Nos. 183, 178, 173, 184, 174 and 171] [Clerk of the House].

17 National Heritage, Account of the Board of Trustees of the Armories for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 175] [Clerk of the House].

18 National Heritage (Scotland), Accounts for 1995-96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon,—

(1) of the National Library of Scotland, and

(2) of the National Museums of Scotland

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 179 and 180] [Clerk of the House].

19 Natural Heritage (Scotland), (1) Accounts of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 170] [Clerk of the House]; and
(2) Report and Summary Financial Statements of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

20 Policyholders Protection.—Statement by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry pursuant to the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 concerning assistance given by the Policyholders Protection Board to Paramount Insurance Company Limited [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

21 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the—
   (1) Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, and
   (2) Economic and Social Research Council
for 1995–96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 182 and 181] [Clerk of the House].

22 Telecommunications,—Class licence for the running of telecommunication systems for the provision of conditional access services granted by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

23 Tribunals and Inquiries,—(1) Report of the Council on Tribunals for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 114] [Mr Gary Streeter]; and
   (2) Welsh Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the indemnification of the Honourable Sir Ronald Waterhouse, Mr Morris Le Flemming and Miss Margaret Clough in relation to any claim arising out of any statement made or opinion expressed by them in the course of the inquiry into the abuse of children in care in the former county council areas of Gwynedd and Clwyd [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hague].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 European Legislation,—Eighth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-viii] [Sir Robert Hicks].

2 Statutory Instruments,—Seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-vii] [Mr Richard Alexander].

[No. 39.]

Wednesday 18th December 1996.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—[Mr Derek Conway];
   And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Private Bill Petitions,—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the Petitions for the following Bills, the Standing Orders have been complied with, viz.:
   City of Westminster
   Girobank plc (Transfer)
   Hailsham Cattle Market
   Imperial College
   Lever Park
   Lloyds TSB
   London Local Authorities
Southampton International Boat Show
Tamar Bridge.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir James Hill reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (House of Commons Paper No. 31), referred to a Committee on 25th November.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Roger Sims reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2544), referred to a Committee on 25th November.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Donald Anderson reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 10305/96, relating to the development of the social dialogue at Community level; supports the Government’s view that the dialogue must remain a voluntary process which does not in any way bind those who do not participate; and considers that the provisions in the Agreement on Social Policy which give the social dialogue a role in the legislative process for other Member States would be entirely inappropriate for the United Kingdom.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

8 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund Bill, without Amendment.

9 Royal Assent,—The Speaker notified the House in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified Her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Act 1996
Channel Tunnel Rail Link Act 1996
Theft (Amendment) Act 1996
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Act 1996
City of Edinburgh Council Order Confirmation Act 1996
Edinburgh Merchant Company Order Confirmation Act 1996
Scottish Borders Council (Jim Clark Memorial Rally) Order Confirmation Act 1996
Western Isles Council (Berneray Causeway) Order Confirmation Act 1996.

10 Sex Offenders Bill,—Mr Secretary Howard, supported by Mr Secretary Rifkind, Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew, Mr Secretary Forsyth and Mr David Maclean, presented a Bill to require the notification of information to the police by persons who have committed certain sexual offences; to make provision with respect to the commission of certain sexual acts outside the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 13th January and to be printed [Bill 66].

11 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require companies to conduct an audit of the capacity of their computer systems to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999 and to report both on those audits and on the actions their directors propose to take in consequence: And that Mr David Atkinson, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Paul Channon, Sir John Cope, Mr Tam Dalyell, Sir Anthony Durant, Sir Russell Johnston, Sir Dudley Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr John Townend and Mr Dafydd Wigley do prepare and bring it in.

12 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—Mr David Atkinson accordingly presented a Bill to require companies to conduct an audit of the capacity of their computer systems to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999 and to report both on those audits and on the actions their directors propose to take in consequence: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th January and to be printed [Bill 67].
Protection from Harassment Bill.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Protection from Harassment Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 3 (Civil remedy).

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 2 line 8, at the end to insert the words—

'(2B) In considering whether to order an injunction in proceedings under this section, a court shall have primary regard to whether such an order is necessary for the protection of what the court considers are the victim's legitimate interests.'.

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 4 agreed to.

Clause No. 5 (Restraining orders).

Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 3, line 17, to leave out the words 'or any other person mentioned in the order'. (Mr Andrew F. Bennett.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 6 and 7 agreed to.

Clause No. 8 (Harassment (Scotland)).

Amendments (Nos. 40 and 41) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 9 to 12 agreed to.

Clause No. 13 (Extent).

Amendment (No. 27) proposed, in page 7, to leave out line 10 and insert the words—

'(1) Sections 1 and 2 extend to England and Wales and Scotland.

(1A) Sections 3 to 7 extend to England and Wales only'. (Mrs Helen Liddell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Cummings, Mr Kevin Hughes: 121.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Bowen Wells: 210.

Amendment (No. 43) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 14 and 15 agreed to.

A Clause (Corresponding provision for Northern Ireland) (Mr Timothy Kirkhope) brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

A Clause (Powers of court to protect victims during trials) (Ms Janet Anderson) brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Patrick McLoughlin reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

The House proceeded to consider the Bill, as amended in the Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

National Heritage Bill [Lords].—The National Heritage Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.
15 Contracting Out,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), that the draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Allocation of Housing and Homelessness Functions) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 28th November, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

16 Town and Country Planning,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 2nd December, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

17 Town and Country Planning (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 2nd December, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

18 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 2nd December, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

19 Rating and Valuation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Regulations 1996, which were laid before this House on 9th December, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

20 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That Sir David Mitchell be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Mr John MacGregor be added to the Committee.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

21 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Monklands for improved maternity and childcare services in the area was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

22 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes past Eight o'clock, adjourned till Monday 13th January, pursuant to Resolution [16th December].

[Adjourned at 8.12 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—(1) Arable Area Payments Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3142), dated 10th December 1996, and

(2) Selective Cull (Enforcement of Community Compensation Conditions) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3186), dated 18th December 1996

[by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].


3 Children and Young Persons,—Child Minding and Day Care (Registration and Inspection Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3180), dated 18th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

4 Council Tax,—Council Tax (Discount Disregards) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3143), dated 12th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

5 European Communities,—European Communities (Iron and Steel Employees Re-adaptation Benefits Scheme) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3182), dated 17th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

6 Income Tax,—Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 4) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3187), dated 17th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].
7 Medicines.—Medicines (Products Other Than Veterinary Drugs) (Prescription Only) Amendment (No. 2) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3193), dated 18th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

8 Pensions.—(1) Occupational Pension Schemes (Deficiency on Winding-up etc.) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3128),
(2) Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3127), and
(3) Occupational Pension Schemes (Winding-up) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3126),
dated 11th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Other Papers:

9 Animals.—Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals in Great Britain for 1995 [by Command] [Cm. 3516] [Mr Secretary Howard].

10 Armed Forces.—Army Act 1955 (Part I) (Regular Army) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

11 Biological Standards.—Accounts of the National Biological Standards Board for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 187] [Clerk of the House].

12 County Courts.—County Court Fees (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3189), dated 16th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

13 Criminal Injuries Compensation.—Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3515] [Mr Secretary Howard].

14 Criminal Procedure and Investigations.—Code of Practice under Part II of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

15 Human Fertilisation and Embryology.—Accounts of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 189] [Clerk of the House].

16 Moldova (No. 2, 1996), Agreement, done at London on 15th October 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Moldova concerning international road transport [by Command] [Cm. 3488] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

17 Museums and Galleries.—(1) Accounts of the Imperial War Museum for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 188]; and
(2) Triennial Report of the British Museum for 1993–96 [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

18 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Ministry of Defence: Management of Utilities [by Act]; to be printed [No. 177] [Clerk of the House].

19 National Loans.—(1) Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 111] [Clerk of the House]; and
(2) Supplementary Statements of Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 112] [Mr Michael Jack].

20 Police.—Metropolitan Police Fund Estimate for 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3517] [Mr Secretary Howard].

21 Public Petitions.—Observations by—
(1) the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education and Employment on the Petition [21st November] from residents of Wakefield against nursery vouchers, and
(2) the Minister of State for Education and Employment on the Petition [18th November] from students of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne for improvements in higher education
[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].
22 Reserve Forces,—Statement by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Armed Forces under section 11 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980 on the call-out of Air Force Reserve personnel [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

23 Slovenia (No. 1, 1996),—Agreement, done at Ljubljana on 3rd July 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the promotion and protection of investments [by Command] [Cm. 3496] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

24 Sports Councils,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council, including Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council Trust Company and the Scottish Sports Council National Lottery Fund, for 1995–96 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

25 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Supreme Court Fees (Amendment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3191), dated 16th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

26 Transport Series (No. 17, 1996),—Amendments to Article 18 and Annexes I (Appendix 2), 2 and 3 of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage (ATP) 1970 [by Command] [Cm. 3490] [Secretary Sir George Young].


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Foreign Affairs,—First Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Informal meetings undertaken by the Committee in Session 1995–96]; to be printed [No. 190] [Mr David Howell].

2 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 18th December; to be printed [No. 192-i] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

3 Public Service,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 18th December; to be printed [No. 191] [Mr Giles Radice].

4 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 18th December; to be printed [No. 35-vi] [Mr William McKelvey].

5 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 18th December; to be printed [No. 143-ii] [Mr Frank Field].

6 Treasury,—Second Report from the Treasury Committee [Resource Accounting and Budgeting], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 186] [Mr Nigel Forman].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 18th December; to be printed [No. 166-ii] [Mr Gareth Wardell].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of Standing Committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mr Michael J. Martin and Mr Allan Stewart Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Edinburgh on Monday 13th January; and

(2) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community documents relating to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill,—Mr Michael J. Martin reported from the Scottish Grand Committee, That it had considered the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill in relation to the principle of the Bill and had directed him to make a Report thereof to the House: and the Report was brought up and read.

Bill to be read a second time to-morrow.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Lords communicate that they have considered the Message from the Commons [17th December] relating to the King's College London Bill [Lords] and that they have come to the following Resolutions in respect of the said Bill, viz.:

That, notwithstanding anything in the Private Business Standing Orders, or practice of the Lords, the promoters of the Bill, which originated in the Lords in Session 1994-95, and which has passed all its stages in the Lords but not in the Commons, may proceed with the Bill in the present Session;

That the petition for the Bill be deemed to have been deposited;

That all Standing Orders applicable be deemed to have been complied with;

That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than 3 p.m. on Tuesday 14th January next with a declaration annexed, signed by the agent, stating that it is the same in every respect as the Bill passed by the Lords;

That the proceedings on the Bill in the present Session be pro forma and that no new fees be charged.

5 Crime (Sentences) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Crime (Sentences) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Extended periods of supervision for violent offenders sentenced to four years or more)—(Mr Alan Michael)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Joe Benton, Jane Kennedy: 220.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 279.

Another Clause (Requirement upon the Secretary of State to establish court psychiatric assessment schemes)—(Mr Alan Michael)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr Joe Benton: 246.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Roger Knapman: 297.

Another Clause (Requirement upon the Court of Appeal to issue sentencing guidelines)—(Mr Jack Straw)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr David Clelland: 240.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Richard Ottaway: 283.

Another Clause (Testing and treatment order)—(Mr George Howarth)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

6 Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the Bill be committed to a Scottish Standing Committee.—(Mr Anthony Coombs)—It was agreed to.

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the Adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 137 (Presentation of command papers):

1 European Communities (No. 24, 1996).—Agreement, done at San Sebastian on 26th May 1989, between the Member States of the European Communities on the simplification and modernisation of methods of transmitting extradition requests [Cm. 3489] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

2 Miscellaneous (No. 28, 1996).—The Antarctic Treaty: Measures adopted at the Nineteenth Consultative Meeting held at Seoul from 8th to 19th May 1995 [Cm. 3483] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

3 Miscellaneous (No. 29, 1996).—The African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty (The Treaty of Pelindaba), done at Cairo on 11th April 1996, with Protocols I, II and III [Cm. 3498] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

4 Miscellaneous (No. 1, 1997).—International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of 2nd December 1961, as revised at Geneva on 10th November 1972, 23rd October 1978 and 19th March 1991 [Cm. 3506] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

5 Monopolies and Mergers.—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on—

   (1) the proposed merger between Robert Wiseman Dairies plc and Scottish Pride Holdings plc [Cm. 3504], and

   (2) the merger situation between the National Express Group PLC and Midland Main Line Limited [Cm. 3493]

   [Mr Secretary Lang].

6 Reserve Forces.—Report by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces on the call-out into actual service of an officer of the Royal Naval Reserve [Mr Secretary Portillo].

7 Social Security.—Government Reply to the First Report from the Social Security Committee, Session 1996–97, on Unfunded Pension Liabilities in the European Union [Cm. 3519] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

8 Treaty Series (No. 105, 1996).—Convention (and Protocols), concluded at Geneva on 10th October 1980, on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects [Cm. 3497] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

9 Treaty Series (No. 3, 1997).—Protocol, adopted at Madrid on 27th June 1989, relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks with Common Regulations [Cm. 3505] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the Adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

19th December 1996


12 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Road Works (Permission under Section 109) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3199), dated 13th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

13 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3198), dated 18th December 1996 [Secretary Sir George Young].


20th December 1996


17 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3208), dated 18th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Howard].


21 Supreme Court,—Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment No. 2) 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3219), dated 19th December 1996 [Mr Gary Streeter].


23rd December 1996


25 Electricity,—Electricity (Scottish Nuclear Limited) (Target Investment Limit) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3221), dated 17th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

26 Housing,—Homelessness (Suitability of Accommodation) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3204), dated 19th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

27 Immigration,—Immigration (Restrictions on Employment) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3225), dated 18th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Howard].

28 Income Tax,—(1) Occupational Pension Schemes (Transitional Provisions) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3234), and

(2) Retirement Benefits Schemes (Continuation of Rights of Members of Approved Schemes) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3233),
dated 20th December 1996 [Mr Michael Jack].


31 Sea Fisheries,—(1) Haddock, Saithe, etc (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3236), dated 18th December 1996, and

[Mr Douglas Hogg].

24th December 1996

32 Police,—Police (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3232), dated 19th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

30th December 1996

33 Plant Health,—Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3242), dated 20th December 1996 [Mr Douglas Hogg].

31st December 1996

34 Children and Young Persons.—(1) Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3266), dated 24th December 1996,
(2) Adoption Allowance (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3257), dated 18th December 1996,
(3) Arrangements to Look After Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3262), dated 20th December 1996,
(4) Children (Reciprocal Enforcement of Prescribed Orders etc. (England and Wales and Northern Ireland)) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3267), dated 24th December 1996,
(5) Children’s Hearings (Scotland) Rules 1996 (S.I., 1997, No. 3261), dated 18th December 1996,
(6) Children’s Hearings (Transmission of Information etc.) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3260), dated 18th December 1996,
(8) Refuges for Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3259), dated 18th December 1996, and
(9) Secure Accommodation (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3255), dated 18th December 1996
[Mr Secretary Forsyth].


36 Residential and Other Establishments (Scotland).—Residential Establishments – Child Care (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3256), dated 18th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

37 Social Work (Scotland).—Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3263), dated 20th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

2nd January 1997


6th January 1997

39 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—(1) Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits) (Scotland) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3273), dated 24th December 1996 [Mr Secretary Forsyth]; and
(2) Gaming and Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order (Northern Ireland) 1996 (S.R.(N.I.), 1996, No. 572), dated 10th December 1996 [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].


42 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 3) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3155), dated 19th December 1996 [Mr Tony Newton].


45 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation Authority (Hovercraft) (Revocation) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3231), dated 19th December 1996 [Secretary Sir George Young].

46 Health and Safety,—Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 11), dated 6th January 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer].


(4) Rules of Procedure (Air Force) (Amendment No. 2) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 14), and


50 Insolvency,—(1) Insolvency Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 (S.R.(N.I.), 1996, No. 574), and

(2) Insolvency (Fees) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1996 (S.R.(N.I.), 1996, No. 576), dated 10th December 1996 [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

51 Merchant Shipping,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3243),

and

(2) Merchant Shipping (High-Speed Craft) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3188), dated 19th December 1996 [Secretary Sir George Young].
54 Legal Profession,—(1) Draft Executive Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1997, and
(2) draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1997
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

55 Professions Supplementary to Medicine,—Draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine
(Prosthetists and Orthotists Board) Order of Council 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Dorrell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

56 Charities,—Draft Charities (Iveagh Bequest, Kenwood) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary
Bottomley].

57 Housing (Northern Ireland),—Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons Subject
to Immigration Control) Order (Northern Ireland) 1996 (S.1., 1996, No. 3274), dated
20th December 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

58 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statutes made by the Governing Bodies of—
(i) Christ Church, Oxford, dated 1st July 1996,
(ii) Keble College, Oxford, dated 3rd July 1996, and
(iii) Wadham College, Oxford, dated 17th May 1996,
amending the Statutes of the Colleges, and
(2) Statute made by the University of Oxford, dated 31st May 1996, amending the
Statutes of the University
[by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].

Other Papers:

59 Agriculture,—Report and Accounts of the Meat and Livestock Commission for 1995–96 [by
Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

60 Animals,—Code of Practice relating to the humane killing of animals under Schedule 1 to the
Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 193] [Mr Secretary
Howard].

61 Covent Garden,—Report and Accounts of the Covent Garden Market Authority for 1995–96
[by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

62 Deregulation,—Proposals under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994, with
accompanying explanatory memoranda—
(1) by the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Deregulation (Football
Pools) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard]; and
(2) by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for the Deregulation (Non-Fossil
Fuel) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

63 Food,—Accounts of the Home Grown Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Fund for
1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to
be printed [No. 201] [Clerk of the House].

64 Gas,—Account of the Gas Levy for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor
General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 199] [Clerk of the House].

65 Health and Safety,—Accounts of the Health and Safety Commission and Health and Safety
Executive for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon
[by Act]; to be printed [No. 200] [Clerk of the House].

66 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—(1) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Hong Kong
Locally Engaged Ratings' Service Gratuities and Attributable Disablement and Death
Awards) Order 1996, and
(2) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Hong Kong Locally Engaged Ratings' Service
Pensions Increases) (No. 2) Order 1996
[by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].

67 Post Office,—Report of the Post Office Users' Council for Wales for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Lang].
68 Probation Board.—Accounts of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland for 1995-96, with
the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument];
to be printed [No. 198] [Clerk of the House].

69 Public Petitions.—Observations by the President of the Board of Trade on the Petition [3rd
December] from residents of Nottingham for the tightening of legislation relating to
fireworks [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

70 Science and Technology.—Accounts of the Natural Environment Research Council for
1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
be printed [No. 197] [Clerk of the House].

71 United Nations.—(1) United Nations Arms Embargoes (Somalia, Liberia and Rwanda)
(Channel Islands) Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3154), and
(2) United Nations Arms Embargoes (Somalia, Liberia and Rwanda) (Isle of Man)
Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3153),
dated 19th December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

Treasury.—Third Report from the Treasury Committee [The 1996 Budget], together with
Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with
the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 129] [Mr Nigel
Forman].

MEMORANDUM
Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.—In pursuance of Standing Order 69 relating to
Private Business (Appointment of Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills), the Speaker
appointed Doctor Fiona Philippa Tudor to be an Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills.

[No. 41.]

Tuesday 14th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act
to unite the United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy’s and St. Thomas’s Hospitals and
King’s College London; to transfer all rights, properties and liabilities from the Schools
to the College, and for connected and other purposes; to which the Lords desire the
concurrence of this House.

4 King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Certificate by one
of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office that, in respect of the following Bill brought from
the House of Lords, the Agents for the Bill have deposited in the Private Bill Office a
declaration signed by them, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill
which was brought from the House of Lords in the last Session, viz.:

   King’s College London Bill [Lords].

5 King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The Order [17th December 1996] relating to the King’s
College London Bill [Lords] being read;

   King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The King’s College London Bill [Lords] was read
the first and second time and ordered to be read the third time.

6 Delegated Legislation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith,
pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation),
That the Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I.,
1996, No. 1808), the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2925), and the Joint Consultative Committees Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2820) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—(Mr Richard Ottaway):—It was agreed to.

7 Bull Bars (Prohibition).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the prohibition of the use on roads of motor vehicles fitted with bull bars; and for related purposes: And that Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Richard Spring, Jean Corston, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr John Home Robertson, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Andrew Miller and Mr David Hanson do prepare and bring it in.

8 Bull Bars (Prohibition) Bill,—Mr Paul Flynn accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the prohibition of the use on roads of motor vehicles fitted with bull bars; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 68].

9 Finance Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Finance Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and add the words 'this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Finance Bill because it fails to adequately address the needs of the country, namely high levels of investment and employment, providing opportunities for all, economic stability and a long-term commitment to low inflation; in particular it does not provide for a new welfare to work strategy which will tackle the scandal of youth and long-term unemployment, nor new measures to improve the skills level of the country, and further fails to provide for effective action to close tax loopholes, to adequately reform the Private Finance Initiative or address the causes of the increasing tax burden and as a consequence fails to equip the country for the future', instead thereof.—(Mr Alistair Darling.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Dennis Turner: 287.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Gyles Brandreth: 322.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Gyles Brandreth: 314.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mr Cynog Dafis: 30.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made and the Question being put, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13 be committed to a Committee of the whole House.

That the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee.

That when the provisions of the Bill considered, respectively, by the Committee of the whole House and by the Standing Committee have been reported to the House, the Bill be proceeded with as if the Bill had been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee—(Mr Michael Jack):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

10 The Information Society: Priorities and Implications.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 9795/96 ADD1 relating to Commission Communications on The Information Society: from Corfu to Dublin—the new emerging priorities and The Implications of the Information Society for European Union Policies—Preparing the Next Steps, and 9795/96 ADD2, the Commission Green Paper, Living and Working in the Information Society: People First; shares the Commission's assessment of the importance of the development of the Information Society; welcomes the Commission's recognition that the development of new technologies provides substantial opportunities for new employment; and endorses the Government's view that the Information Society should be allowed to develop flexibly and without unnecessary and potentially burdensome legislation, believing that Government has a positive role in providing vision, direction
and leadership to unlock the full potential of the Information Society—(Mr Bowen Wells):—It was agreed to.

11 Development of the Social Dialogue,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 10305/96, relating to the development of the social dialogue at Community level; supports the Government's view that the dialogue must remain a voluntary process which does not in any way bind those who do not participate; and considers that the provisions in the Agreement on Social Policy which give the social dialogue a role in the legislative process for other Member States would be entirely inappropriate for the United Kingdom—(Mr Bowen Wells):—It was agreed to.

12 Scottish Grand Committee,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94H (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Order of the House [6th November] shall be amended in paragraph (5), by leaving out the word 'Scotland' and inserting the words 'the Victoria Hall, Selkirk'—(Mr Bowen Wells):—It was agreed to.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Bowen Wells.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow. [Adjourned at 10.52 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Employment and Training,—(1) Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997, and
   (2) draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997
   [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

3 Urban Development,—Sheffield Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1997, dated 6th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


5 Fair Trading,—(1) Trading Schemes (Exclusion) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 31), and
   (2) Trading Schemes Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 30),
   dated 13th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].


7 Urban Development,—Sheffield Development Corporation (Planning Functions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 13), dated 6th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:

8 Appropriation Accounts, 1995-96,—Appropriation Accounts of sums granted by Parliament for Classes XV and XVI (Wales and Northern Ireland) for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-XI] [Mr Michael Jack].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 National Heritage,—(1) Second Report from the National Heritage Committee [Press activity affecting court cases], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 86]; and

(2) First Special Report from the National Heritage Committee [Structure and Remit of the Department of National Heritage: Government Response to the Third Report from the National Heritage Committee, Session 1995-96]; to be printed [No. 206]

[Mr Gerald Kaufman]

2 Standards and Privileges,—Second Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Peter Atkinson]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 209] [Mr Tony Newton].

3 Statutory Instruments,—Eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-viii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

MEMORANDUM

Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the National Heritage Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee A;

(2) the Knives Bill, the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, and the Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee C;

(3) the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill to the First Scottish Standing Committee;

(4) the draft Broadcasting (Sign Language) Order 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(5) the draft Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(6) the Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(7) the Social Security Benefit (Computation of Earnings) Regulations 1996 and the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1996 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(8) the draft Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions) Regulations 1997 and the draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(9) the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996 to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

[No. 42.]

Wednesday 15th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Bowen Wells);

And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).
5 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Barry Jones reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 9372/96, the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997, SEC(96)1677, the Letter of Amendment No. 1 to the preliminary draft budget of the European Communities for 1997, 11689/96 and 11690/96 on the Council’s Decisions on the European Parliament’s proposed amendments and modifications to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997, and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by HM Treasury on 15th November relating to the Letter of Amendment No. 2 to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

6 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980: And that Mr Hugh Bayley, Joan Lestor, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Sir David Steel, Mr Mike Watson, Mr Cynog Dafis, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mrs Anne Campbell, Dr Joe Hendron and Emma Nicholson do prepare and bring it in.

7 Overseas Development and Co-operation Bill,—Mr Hugh Bayley accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 70].

8 Crime (Sentences) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 13th January, on consideration of the Crime (Sentences) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Clause (Testing and treatment order) be read a second time.

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 253.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Sebastian Coe: 296.

Another Clause (Corporal punishment)—(Mr Tony Marlow)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 6) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 17, to leave out from the word ‘that’ to the end of line 18 and insert the words ‘it would be in the interests of justice to impose another sentence’, instead thereof.—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 11 to 14 and 2) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 25, to leave out from the word ‘things’ to the end of line 26.—(Mr Jack Straw.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 36) proposed to the Bill, in page 26, line 13, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2A) Where a court orders a person to be disqualified for holding or obtaining a driving licence under this section, the degree of punishment inflicted by the order, or by the combination of the order and any other order or orders made in respect of the offence, shall be such as in the opinion of the court are commensurate with the seriousness of the offence.'—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 10) proposed to the Bill, in page 28, to leave out line 26 and insert the words 'for the word “sixteen” there shall be substituted the word “fifteen”', instead thereof.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed to the Bill, in page 29, line 16, to leave out the words 'child or young person' and insert the words 'person over the age of sixteen years', instead thereof.—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Other Amendments (Nos. 43 to 60, 15 to 20, 42, 21, 22, 61, 62, 23 to 27, 40, 41, 28, 63 to 67, 29 and 30) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 229.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Elfyn Llwyd: 21.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

9 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Inverness against the imposition of car parking charges at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seventeen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.43 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Value Added Tax,—Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 51), dated 14th January 1997 (by Act) [Mr Phillip Oppenheim].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Value Added Tax,—Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No. 1) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 50), dated 14th January 1997 (by Act) [Mr Phillip Oppenheim].

Other Papers:

4 Gift of Public Property,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 15th January 1997, concerning the gift of a Spitfire aircraft to the City of Glasgow Museums (by Command) [Mr Secretary Portillo].

5 Local Government (Wales),—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon (by Command) [Mr Secretary Hague].
6 Miscellaneous (No. 2, 1997).—Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as Amended at Geneva on 3rd May 1996 (Protocol II as amended) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects [by Command] [Cm. 3507] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Transport.—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Transport Group for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

8 Treaty Series (No. 4, 1997).—Notes exchanged at Bonn on 12th September 1994, between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Governments of the Kingdom of Belgium, Canada, the French Republic, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America concerning the Amendment of the Agreement by Exchange of Notes of 25th September 1990 concerning the Agreement of 19th June 1951 between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces, the Agreement of 3rd August 1959 to Supplement that Agreement with respect to the Foreign Forces stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany and the Agreements related thereto [by Command] [Cm. 3508] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

9 Treaty Series (No. 5, 1997).—Notes exchanged at London on 4th July and 5th November 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Czech Republic regarding the interpretation of the Consular Convention between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, done at Prague on 3rd April 1975 for the purposes of paragraph 3, Article 31 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, concerning Honorary Consuls and Honorary Consular Posts of the Czech Republic in the United Kingdom [by Command] [Cm. 3509] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Paper withdrawn:

10 Deregulation.—Draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997 [laid 13th January].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee C.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Knives Bill, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Terry Dicks, Mr Don Dixon, Mr Hugh Dykes, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Phil Gallic, Mr Peter Luff, Mr John McAllion, Mr David Maclean, Diana Maddock, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr David Mellor, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Jimmy Wray.

2 Standing Committee C.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mr Michael Brown, Mr David Congdon, Mr Frank Field, Mr Nick Hawkins, Kate Hoey, Mr George Howarth, Mr John Hutton, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Bill Oiner and Mr Michael Stephen.

3 Standing Committee C.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Nicholas Budgen, Sir John Cope, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Alan Duncan, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr John Greenway, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr Denis MacShane, Alice Mahon, Mr Alan Meale, Mr William Powell, Mr David Rendel, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mr Richard Spring.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Broadcasting (Sign Language) Order 1996, viz.: Judith Church, Mr David Faber, Mr Andrew Faulds, Sir Anthony Grant, Dr Keith Hampson, Mr Warren Hawkesley, Mr David Jameson, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Ms Liz Lynne, Sir David Madel, Mr Keith Mans, Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr Chris Mallin, Mr Robert Parry, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Iain Sproat, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Timothy Wood.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Rupert Allason, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Den Dover, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr George Galloway, Mr Mike Gapes, Margaret Hodge, Mr David Lidington, Mr Ken
Livingstone, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Rod Richards, Mr John Sykes, Sir Donald Thompson, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr David Winnick and Mr Timothy Wood.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Kenneth Baker, Mr John Biffen, Mr John Carlisle, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr James Cran, Mr Nij Joseph Deva, Mr Tim Eggar, Maria Fyfe, Mr Sam Galbraith, Sir George Gardiner, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Robert Jackson, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Raymond S. Robertson and Rachel Squire.

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Security Benefit (Computation of Earnings) Regulations 1996 and the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr David Congdon, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Roger Evans, Mr Peter Griffiths, Mr Neil Hamilton, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Douglas Hurd, Mr Brian Jenkins, Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Henry McLeish, Sir Patrick McNair-Wilson, Mr Bill Michie, Mr John Redwood, Mr Terry Rooney, Sir Peter Tapsell and Mr Jimmy Wray.

8 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions) Regulations 1997 and the draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Richard Alexander, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Roger Berry, Sir Richard Body, Sir Graham Bright, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr D. N. Campbell-Savours, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Charles Hendry, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Michael Stephen, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Charles Wardle, Mr Alan W. Williams, Mr David Wilshire and Mr Mark Wolfson.

9 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr John Butcher, Dr Michael Clark, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr Terry Diesk, Mr David Evans, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr John Gunnell, Mr John Hutton, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Norman Lamont, Sir Michael Marshall, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr George Stevenson, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Tim Yeo.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 45-vi]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee
[Mr Richard Alexander].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 211-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 25-v]
[Sir Malcolm Thornton].

4 Environment.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 210-i]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Committee
[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].
5 European Legislation,—Ninth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-ix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 15th January; to be printed [No. 214-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 81-iv] [Sir Giles Shaw].

8 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 35-vii] [Mr William McKelvey].

9 Social Security,—(1) Second Report from the Social Security Committee [Child Benefit Fraud], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 56]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 15th January; to be printed [No. 80-v] [Mr Frank Field].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 15th January, to be printed [No. 50-vii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

11 Transport,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 15th January; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Transport Committee; to be printed [No. 213-i] [Mr Paul Channon].

12 Welsh Affairs,—Memorandum laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Mr Gareth Wardell].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13) to Standing Committee B.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mr Donald Anderson and Sir Robert Hicks Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the National Heritage Bill [Lords];

(2) Sir James Hill and Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13);

(3) Mr Michael J. Martin Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Knives Bill;

(4) Mr Norman Hogg and Mr Michael Lord Chairmen of the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill;

(5) Mr John Maxton Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Broadcasting (Sign Language) Order 1996;

(6) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1996;

(7) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996;

(8) Sir Robert Hicks Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Security Benefit (Computation of Earnings) Regulations 1996 and the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1996;

(9) Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions)
Regulations 1997 and the draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997; and

(10) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996.

[No. 43.]

Thursday 16th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Education Bill,—Sir Michael Shersby reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Education Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 69].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 216].

5 Government of Wales Bill,—The Order for reading the Government of Wales Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 14th February.

6 Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Commencement)—(Mr David Wilshire)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out line 10.—(Mr David Wilshire.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 10, to leave out from the word 'state' to the word 'may' in line 11.—(Mr David Wilshire.)

Question proposed, that the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

7 Liaison,—Ordered, That Mr Matthew Carrington be discharged from the Liaison Committee and Mr Barry Legg be added to the Committee.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

8 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the locality against the proposed merger of the Pontefract and Pinderfields National Health Service Trusts was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes to Nine o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.37 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

5. Disabled Persons, Report on care in Wales for people with a mental illness and people with a mental handicap [by Act]; to be printed [No. 196] [Mr Secretary Hague].


7. Public Libraries and Museums, Report on Library Services in Wales [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

8. Public Petitions, Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment on the Petition [26th November] from residents of Worcestershire objecting to the granting of planning permission and a waste management licence to Norchem Environmental Services [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1. Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr John D. Taylor (nominated in respect of the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996); and had appointed in substitution Mr John M. Taylor.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Health, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 16th January; to be printed [No. 128-iv] [Mrs Marion Roe].

[No. 44.]

Friday 17th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1. Death of a Member, The Speaker made the following communication to the House:

I regret to have to report to the House the death of Iain Campbell Mills, Esquire, Member for Meriden. I am sure that Members on all sides of the House will join me in mourning the loss of a colleague and in extending our sympathy to the honourable Member’s family and to his friends.

2. Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3. Selection (see Appendix II).
4 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in favour of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

Audrey Wise rose in her place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put; but the Deputy Speaker withheld his Assent and declined then to put that Question.

Audrey Wise rose in her place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put; but the Deputy Speaker withheld his Assent and declined then to put that Question.

Audrey Wise rose in her place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put; but the Deputy Speaker withheld his Assent and declined then to put that Question.

And the Question being put: It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Barry Legg)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 3 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

Mr Michael Connarty rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Bill be now read a second time; but the Deputy Speaker withheld his Assent and declined then to put that Question.

Mr David Winnick rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put; but the Deputy Speaker withheld his Assent and declined then to put that Question.

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

7 United Nations Personnel Bill.—The United Nations Personnel Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr John Marshall)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 10 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.
8 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th February.

9 Pharmacists (Fitness to Practice) Bill.—The Pharmacists (Fitness to Practice) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Sir Michael Shersby)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 3 agreed to.
Schedule agreed to.
Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

10 Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th February.

11 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 21st January, Standing Orders Nos. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) and 15 (Delegated legislation (negative procedure)) shall not apply to the Motions in the name of Mr Tony Blair relating to Agriculture and to Animals; the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of both Motions not later than one and a half hours after the start of proceedings on the first of them; and those Motions may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o'clock.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 20th January.

[Adjourned at 2.55 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Patents,—Patents (Supplementary Protection Certificates) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 64), dated 16th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

2 Secure Training Centres,—Home Office Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon contract to design, construct, manage and finance a new secure training centre in England and Wales [by Command] [Mr Secretary Howard].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee on Selection, That it had discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Simon Coombs (nominated in respect of the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996); and had appointed in substitution Mr Tim Devlin.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Death of a Member,—The Speaker made the following communication to the House:
   I regret to have to report to the House the death of Martin Redmond, Esquire, Member for Don Valley. I am sure that Members on all sides of the House will join me in mourning the loss of a colleague and in extending our sympathy to the honourable Member's family and to his friends.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 Land Registration Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Land Registration Bill [Lords] be read a second time on Friday.

6 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991; and for connected purposes, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
   Education (Special Educational Needs) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, an Act to confer rights on children with special educational needs and to make supplementary provision in relation to appeals to the Special Educational Needs Tribunal and from that Tribunal to the High Court; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 31st January and to be printed [Bill 71].

8 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.
   A Clause (Information concerning jurors)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   Another Clause (Precognitions)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   Another Clause (Suspension of certain sentences pending determination of appeal)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   Another Clause (Powers of the court on remand or committal of children and young persons)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   Another Clause (Increased rights of appeal of prosecutor)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   Another Clause (Evidence of vulnerable persons: special provisions)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Bowen Wells: 269.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Joe Benton, Jane Kennedy: 228.
   Clause added to the Bill.
   A Clause (Release licences)—(Mr John McFall)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Bridget Prentice: 233.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Richard Ottaway: 281.
Another Clause (Women offenders)—(Mr John McFall)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Ms Angela Eagle: 291.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Sebastian Coe: 292.

Amendment (No. 243) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 16, to leave out from the word 'that' to the word 'may' in line 20 and insert the words 'it would be in the interest of justice to impose a sentence other than the sentence required by subsection (2) above, it', instead thereof.—(Mr James Wallace.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr James Wallace: 24.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Gyles Brandreth: 278.

Another Amendment (No. 148) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 17, after the word 'circumstances' to insert the words 'whether relating to the offence or to the offender.'—(Mr John McFall.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr George Mudie: 148.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Gyles Brandreth: 280.

Amendments (Nos. 1, 125, 91, 92 and 2 to 4) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 137) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 17, to leave out '245' and insert '229', instead thereof.—(Mr John McFall.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 105) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 245) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 20, to leave out the words 'of 16 years of age or more'.—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

9 Environment,—Ordered, That Mr Michael Stephen be discharged from the Environment Committee and Mr Nigel Evans be added to the Committee.—(Mr Andrew MacKay, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 Treasury,—Ordered, That Mr Matthew Carrington be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr Jacques Arnold be added to the Committee.—(Mr Andrew MacKay, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—(1) Draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard];

(2) draft Deregulation (Gaming on Sunday in Scotland) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Scottish Office [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth]; and

(3) Draft Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Treasury [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—(1) Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (Variation of Fees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 42), dated 13th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard];

   (2) Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (Variation of Fees) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 77), dated 15th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth]; and

   (3) Lotteries (Prizes and Expenses: Variation and Prescription of Percentage Limits) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 43), dated 13th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

3 National Health Service,—National Health Service Pension Scheme and Provision of Information and Administrative Expenses etc. (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 80) dated 16th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

4 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Contracting-out) Transitional Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 36), dated 13th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Other Papers:

5 Brazil (No. 1, 1997),—Agreement, done at London on 19th July 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil for the promotion and protection of investments [by Command] [Cm. 3510] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

6 Deregulation,—Proposal by the Secretary of State for Transport under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 for the Deregulation (Civil Aviation Act 1982) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [29th November] from Christians of Heston for curtailment of arms exports [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr John Carlisle and Mr James Cran (nominated in respect of the Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996); and had appointed in substitution Mr Michael Brown and Mr Bernard Jenkin.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 20th January; to be printed [No. 225-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Standards and Privileges,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Standards and Privileges on 20th January; to be printed [No. 226] [Mr Tony Newton].

3 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 20th January; to be printed [No. 50-viii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 20th January; to be printed [No. 68-ii] [Mr Barry Legg].

[No. 46.]

Tuesday 21st January 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King’s College London Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That the King’s College London Bill [Lords] be read the third time on Tuesday 28th January.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).
4 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Deregulation (Employment in Bars) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 16th December 1996, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

5 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

6 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John Maxton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Broadcasting (Sign Language) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to protect the health and welfare of broiler chickens kept in indoor husbandry systems; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to re-state, with amendments, Part IV of the Social Security Administration Act 1992; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

8 Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords].—The Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 75].

9 Regulation of Diet Industry Bill.—Alice Mahon, supported by Ann Clwyd, Audrey Wise, Dawn Primarolo, Jean Corston, Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Tony Banks, Mr Ken Livingstone, Clare Short, Helen Jackson, Mildred Gordon and Ms Harriet Harman, presented a Bill to regulate the diet industry; to bring all medicines relating to diets under control; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 72].

10 United Kingdom Membership of the European Union (Referendum).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the holding of a referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union—Mrs Teresa Gorman;

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 19 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business);

The House proceeded to a Division.

Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr Bill Walker were appointed Tellers for the Ayes, but no Member being willing to act as Teller for the Noes, the Speaker declared that the Ayes had it.

Ordered, That Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr David Trimble, Mr Tony Benn, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Edward Leigh, Sir Richard Body, Mr Rupert Allason, Mr Graham Riddick, Mr Richard Shepherd and Mr John Wilkinson do prepare and bring in the Bill.

11 United Kingdom Membership of the European Union (Referendum) Bill.—Mrs Teresa Gorman accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the holding of a referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 31st January and to be printed [Bill 73].

12 Opposition Day [3rd allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

The State of the National Health Service.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House expresses its deep concern at the grave situation now evident in the National Health Service in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; believes that anxiety about Her Majesty's Government's policy for this situation now transcends party lines; notes with alarm that throughout the United Kingdom beds have been cut, operations are being cancelled, intensive care beds are unavailable, and emergency services are under intolerable pressure; believes that the spiralling costs of the internal market—now totalling an extra £1.5 billion a year—and its diversion of resources away from front-line patient care have created these problems; salutes staff of all kinds and at all levels in the NHS who have worked hard to keep the service going; believes that government policy has left many people in urban and rural communities without the
access to health care they need, especially in relation to services for the elderly and for those being discharged from hospital after surgery at an increasingly early stage; deplores the way in which many NHS decisions, especially on the future of hospitals and casualty services, are being taken in a manner that does not give due weight to the views of local people; and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to set about restoring the NHS as a public service that puts patients first—(Mr Chris Smith);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'notes that the National Health Service is providing high quality care to more patients than ever before; congratulates the dedication and professionalism of the National Health Service's staff during the recent cold weather which has placed exceptional demands upon them; believes that the National Health Service requires a growing budget for patient care and therefore welcomes the Health Service Guarantee given by the Prime Minister to increase spending on the National Health Service in real terms in each of the next five years, including an extra £1.6 billion for patient care in 1997-98; and believes that this guarantee reinforces the Government's consistent record of investment in the National Health Service and its professional staff', instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Dorrell.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Kevin Hughes rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Joe Benton: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Timothy Wood: 319.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 30 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Timothy Wood: 319.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Joe Benton: 312.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House notes that the National Health Service is providing high quality care to more patients than ever before; congratulates the dedication and professionalism of the National Health Service's staff during the recent cold weather which has placed exceptional demands upon them; believes that the National Health Service requires a growing budget for patient care and therefore welcomes the Health Service Guarantee given by the Prime Minister to increase spending on the National Health Service in real terms in each of the next five years, including an extra £1.6 billion for patient care in 1997-98; and believes that this guarantee reinforces the Government's consistent record of investment in the National Health Service and its professional staff.

13 Agriculture.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Selective Cull (Enforcement of Community Compensation Conditions) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3186), dated 18th December 1996, a copy of which was laid before this House on 18th December, be annulled—(Dr Gavin Strang);

Wednesday 22nd January 1997

Question put and negatived.

14 Scottish Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94H (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Order of the House [6th November] shall be amended in paragraph (6) by leaving out the word 'Scotland' and inserting the words 'the Town Hall, Montrose'—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

15 Draft Budget for 1997.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 9372/96, the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997, SEC(96)1677, the Letter of Amendment No. 1 to the preliminary draft budget of the European Communities for 1997, PE252.724, the European Parliament's resolution on amendments and proposed modifications to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997, 11689/96 and 11680/96, on the Council's Decisions on the European Parliament's proposed amendments and
modifications to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997, and the unnumbered explanatory Memorandum submitted by HM Treasury on 15th November relating to the Letter of Amendment No. 2 to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1997; and supports the Government's efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

16 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock on Tuesday evening and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-eight minutes to One o'clock on Wednesday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.32 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Paper subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Community Charges.—Local Government Changes for England (Valuation and Community Charge Tribunals) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 75), dated 16th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

2 National Health Service.—(1) Bethlem and Maudsley National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 40), and

(2) Severn National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 41),

dated 14th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


Other Papers:


5 Monopolies and Mergers.—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed merger between Mid Kent Holdings plc and General Utilities PLC and SAUR Water Services plc [by Command] [Cm. 3514] [Mr Secretary Lang].


7 Railtrack plc.—Department of Transport Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the proposed indemnification of Railtrack plc against any liability for environmental contamination before 1st January 1992 at the Dolland’s Moor rail freight site [by Command] [Secretary Sir George Young].

8 Telecommunications.—Licence granted under Section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to Videotron Southampton & Eastleigh Limited [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee C.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee C Mr Timothy Kirkhope (nominated in respect of the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill); and had appointed in substitution Ann Widdecombe.

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Norman Lamont (nominated in respect of the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2925)); and had appointed in substitution Mr Nirj Joseph Deva.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation. — (1) Sixth Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Employment in Bars) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 227]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Deregulation Committee on 21st January; to be printed [No. 228]
   [Mr Barry Field].

2 Education and Employment. — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 21st January; to be printed [No. 224-ij] [Mr Ernie Ross].

3 Statutory Instruments. — Ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-ix] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

MEMORANDUM

Constitution of Standing Committees. — In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—
   (1) the draft Potato Industry Development Council Order 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
   (2) the Sheffield Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
   (3) the draft Executory Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
   (4) the Joint Consultative Committees Order 1996 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
   (5) the Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No. 2) Order 1997 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
   (6) the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Prosthetists and Orthotists Board) Order of Council 1997 to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (7) the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997 to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

[No. 47.]

Wednesday 22nd January 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment. — A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);
   And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Imperial College Bill. — A Bill to unite the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School with the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine; to transfer all rights, properties, assets and liabilities from those medical schools to the said College; and for connected and other purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

3 Lever Park Bill. — A Bill to provide for the extension and adjustment of the boundaries of Lever Park in the boroughs of Bolton and Chorley; to provide for the better management of Lever Park; to authorise the grant to the North West Water Heritage Trust of a lease of Lever Park; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.
4 Southampton International Boat Show Bill,—A Bill to amend section 60 of the Hampshire Act 1983 to permit closure of Mayflower Park in Southampton or the restriction of public access to it for 10 rather than 9 consecutive days each year for the purposes of the Southampton International Boat Show; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

5 Tamar Bridge Bill,—A Bill to empower the Cornwall County Council and the Plymouth City Council ("the Authorities") to strengthen, widen and improve the bridge across the river Tamar authorised by the Tamar Bridge Act 1957 and to acquire land; to confer further powers on the Authorities, to make further provision with respect to the undertaking of the Authorities established under that Act and to amend that Act; and for other purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

6 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

7 Selection (see Appendix II).

8 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

9 Knives Bill,—Mr Michael J. Martin reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Knives Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday; and to be printed [Bill 74].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 230].

10 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir James Molyneaux reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

11 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 1808), referred to a Committee on 14th January.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

13 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill,—The Order for Reading the Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill a second time on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 31st January.

14 Police (Property) Bill,—Ordered, That the Police (Property) Bill be read a second time on Friday.

15 Government Communications Headquarters (Restoration of Trade Union Rights) Bill,—Mr David Winnick presented a Bill to provide for persons employed at the Government Communications Headquarters to have the right to belong to an independent trade union of their choice; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 1st May and to be printed [Bill 76].

16 Building Societies (Distributions),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law in respect of distribution of assets on the take-over or conversion of a building society: And that Mr Douglas French, Sir Andrew Bowden, Mr John Butterfill, Mr David Evennett, Mr John Greenway, Sir John Hannam, Mr Hartley Booth, Mr David Hunt, Mr Peter Luff, Sir Geoffrey Pattie, Mr James Pawsey and Mr Michael Stephen do prepare and bring it in.

17 Building Societies (Distributions) Bill,—Mr Douglas French accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law in respect of distribution of assets on the take-over or conversion of a building society: And the same was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 77].
18 Finance Bill (Clauses No. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13),—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13).

(In the Committee)

Ordered, That the order in which proceedings in Committee of the whole House on the Finance Bill are to be taken shall be Clause No. 82, Schedule No. 13, Clause No. 62, Clause No. 92, Clause No. 40, Clause No. 68 and Schedule No. 7.—(Mr Bowen Wells).

Clause No. 82 agreed to.

Schedule No. 13 agreed to.

Clause No. 62 (Phasing out of relief for profit-related pay).

Amendment No. 4 proposed, in page 56, line 19, at the end, to add the words—

'(4) The Treasury shall produce a report each year on the companies which had schemes registered under that Chapter.

(5) The report mentioned in (4) above shall analyse the actions taken by companies in relation to profit related pay after 1st January 1998.

(6) The report mentioned in (4) above shall also describe separately the impact of the removal of tax relief for profit related pay on employees paying income tax at both higher rate and basic rate.'—(Dawn Primarolo.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 92 (Agricultural property relief (Inheritance Tax)).

Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 81, line 19, at the end, to insert the words 'and (c) the public are allowed reasonable access thereto'.—(Mr Paddy Tipping.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 81, line 46, at the end, to add the words—

'(7) This section shall only apply to land which has been acquired for bona fide reasons and shall not apply to land which has been acquired as part of a scheme or arrangement of which the main purpose, or one of the main purposes, is the obtaining of a tax advantage.'—(Mr Alan Milburn.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Ms Angela Eagle: 263.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Bowen Wells: 300.

Clause agreed to.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Gyles Brandreth reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

19 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till fourteen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.46 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Housing (Scotland),—Draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth]

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Housing,—(1) Housing Act 1996 (Consequential Amendments) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 74),
   (2) Introductory Tenants (Review) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 72), and
   (3) Secure Tenants of Local Housing Authorities (Right to Repair) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 73),
   dated 16th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 National Health Service,—(1) Greenwich Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 52), and
   (2) Oxleas National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 53),
   dated 15th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

Other Papers:

4 Health and Social Services (Northern Ireland),—Summary of Health and Personal Social Services and Northern Ireland Health Promotion Agency Accounts 1994–95, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3518] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

5 Honours, Decorations and Medals,—Papers, entitled:
   (2) The George Cross: Royal Warrant, and
   (3) The Northern Ireland Home Service Medal: Royal Warrant
   [by Command] [Cm. 3524, 3525 and 3526] [The Prime Minister].

6 Housing (Scotland),—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland on Housing Support Grants for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 215] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

7 Public Lending Right,—Report by the Secretary of State for National Heritage on the Public Lending Right Scheme 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 194] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the National Heritage Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Peter Brooke, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Peter Griffiths, Mr Nick Hawkins, Kate Hoey, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Andrew Robathan, Sir Wyn Roberts, Mr Iain Sproat, Mr Jon Trickett and Mr Timothy Wood.

2 Standing Committee B,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated thirty-two Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Finance Bill (Except Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82, 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13), viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Peter Butler, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Quintin Davies, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Douglas French, Mr John Home Robertson, Mr David Hunt, Mr Michael Jack, Mrs Angela Knight, Mr Barry Legg, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Alan Milburn, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mr Phillip Oppenheim, Mr Ian Pearson, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Mark Robinson, Mr Tim Smith, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Jon Trickett.

3 First Scottish Standing Committee,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for
Local Administration in Scotland Bill, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr M. A. Cranavon, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Eric Chisholm, Mr N. J. John Deva, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Mr Phil Gallie, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr George Kyohn, Mr John McAlion, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Sir Hector Monro, Mr Raymond S. Robertson, Mr Allan Stewart, Mr Bill Walker and Mr Jimmy Wray.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Potato Industry Development Council Order 1997, viz.: Mr Spencer Batiste, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Robin Corbett, Dame Peggy Fennar, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Christopher Gill, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Roger Knappman, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Tim Rathbone, Mr Tim Renton, Mr George Stevenson, Mr David Tredinnick, Mr Paul Tyler and Mr Alan W. Williams.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Sheffield Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1997, viz.: Hilary Armstrong, Mr Matthew Banks, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Chris Davies, Mr Jeff Ennis, Sir Marcus Fox, Helen Jackson, Mr James Lait, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr John Marshall, Mr Bill Michie, Sir Irene Patrick, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Mr Eric Pickles and Mr John Wilkinson.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Executy Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr David Ashby, Dr Jeremy Bray, Mr Menzies Campbell, Sir Kenneth Carlisle, Mr N. J. Joseph Deva, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Mr David Evennett, Mr George Galloway, Mr Robert Key, Mr Calum MacDonald, Mr John McFall, Mr John MacGregor, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Gordon McMaster, Mr Richard Ryder, Rachel Squire, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr Jimmy Wray.

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Joint Consultative Committees Order 1996, viz.: Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Richard Burden, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Matthew Carrington, Ann Coffey, Mr David Faber, Sir Peter Fry, Mildred Gordon, Mr John Gunnell, Margaret Hodge, Mr Simon Hughes, Sir Mark Lennox-Boyd, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Andrew Miller, Sir Fergus Montgomery, Mr Michael Neubert, Sir Wyn Roberts, Sir Trevor Skeet and Sir Gerard Vaughan.

8 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No. 2) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Kevin Barron, Sir Andrew Bowden, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Churchill, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr Iain Duncan-Smith, Mr David Faber, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr John Gunnell, Mr John Horam, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Llew Smith, Reverend Martin Smyth, Rachel Squire, Mr Anthony Steen and Audrey Wise.

9 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Prosthetists and Orthotists Board) Order of Council 1997, viz.: Mr Kevin Barron, Sir Andrew Bowden, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Churchill, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr Iain Duncan-Smith, Mr David Faber, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr John Gunnell, Mr John Horam, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Llew Smith, Reverend Martin Smyth, Rachel Squire, Mr Anthony Steen and Audrey Wise.

10 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Hartley Booth, Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mr James Couchman, Mr Bob Dunn, Mr Don Foster, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Bill Olner, Mr James Paice, Mr Ian Pearson,
Mr Greg Pope, Mr Nigel Spearing, Sir Keith Speed, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr Roy Thomason, Mr Mike Watson, Sir Ray Whitney and Audrey Wise.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) First Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Reply to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97, (MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1996)]; to be printed [No. 232]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 45-vii]
   [Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 233-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No.25-vi]; [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

4 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 210-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 European Legislation,—Tenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-x] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Foreign Affairs,—Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [The Organisation and Funding of the BBC World Service (Follow-up Evidence Sessions)], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 46] [Mr David Howell].

7 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 192-ii] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

8 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 235-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Public Service,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 234] [Mr Giles Radice].

10 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 35-viii] [Mr William McKelvey].

11 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 22nd January; to be printed [No. 50-ix] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir James Hill Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill;

(2) Mr John Maxton Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Potato Industry Development Council Order 1997;

(3) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Sheffield Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1997;

(4) Sir Michael Shersby Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Executry Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1997;

(5) Sir Giles Shaw Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Joint Consultative Committees Order 1996;

(6) Mr John Butterfill Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No. 2) Order 1997;

(7) Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Prosthetists and Orthotists Board) Order of Council 1997;
(8) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997;

(9) Mr John Maxton and Mr Michael J. Martin Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Selkirk on Monday 3rd February; and

(10) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 7050/96, relating to artists' resale rights.

[No. 48.]


The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions) Regulations 1997 and the draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Cosmetic Products (Safety) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2925), referred to a Committee on 14th January.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Act 1995; to extend the powers of fire authorities to use fire brigades and equipment at sea; to make further provision about the protection of wrecks; to amend Part III of the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990; to make provision about piracy; to provide for the continuing application to the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund of section 1 of the International Organisations Act 1968; to make provision about the International Tribunal for the law of the Sea; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords].—The Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 79].

8 Abortion (Amendment) Bill.—The Order for reading the Abortion (Amendment) Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 31st January.

9 Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill.—Mr Secretary Howard, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Gummer, Mr Secretary Lilley, Mr Secretary Forsyth and Mr David Maclean presented a Bill to amend the Police Pensions Act 1976 and the Fire Services Act 1947 so as to make provision in respect of transfer values and other lump sum payments and permit police and fire authorities to provide information relating to pension schemes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 78].

10 Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13).
(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 40 and 68 agreed to.

Schedule No. 7 (Special treatment for certain distributions).

An Amendment (No. 10) made.

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 141, line 25, at the end, to insert the words—

'13. Paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 10 above shall not apply to any distribution unless the transaction in securities is carried out for bona fide commercial reasons and does not form part of a scheme or arrangement of which the main purpose, or one of the main purposes, is the obtaining of a tax advantage.'—(Mr Mike O'Brien.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Jane Kennedy: 222.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 280.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Bill (Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13), as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Gyles Brandreth reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13) and made amendments thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13), as amended in the Committee, do lie upon the Table.

11 Local Government and Rating Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Local Government and Rating Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill be considered in the following order, namely, New Clauses, amendments relating to Clause No. 1, Schedule No. 1, Clause No. 5, Schedule No. 2, Clauses Nos. 2 and 3, Clause No. 6, Clause No. 4, Clauses Nos. 7 to 33, Schedules Nos. 3 and 4, Clauses Nos. 34 and 35, New Schedules.—(Mr David Curry.)

A Clause (Parish councils: additional powers)—(Mr David Rendel)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Exempting showhouses from non-domestic rating)—(Mrs Elizabeth Peacock)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Exemption for sport and recreation clubs)—(Mr Calum Macdonald)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 38) proposed to the Bill, in page 20, to leave out lines 21 to 23 and insert the words—

'(a) on the day concerned the hereditament is

(i) within a settlement identified in the billing authority's rural settlement list for the chargeable financial year, or

(ii) is designated by the billing authority as being used for purposes which are of benefit to the local community', instead thereof.—(Hilary Armstrong.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 29) proposed to the Bill, in page 20, line 29, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 5 on page 21 and insert the words 'any conditions prescribed by the Secretary of State by order are satisfied', instead thereof.—(Mr David Rendel.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Chris Davies: 10.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Bowen Wells: 97.
Amendments (Nos. 32, 33, 24, 35 and 36) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr David Curry, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Mr David Curry, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his consent, as far as the Prince of Wales's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed.

12 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.12 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Merchant Shipping,—Draft Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Survivability) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Charities,—Draft Charities (The Peabody Donation Fund) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

3 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Buckinghamshire) (High Wycombe Town Centre) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 56), dated 15th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

4 Social Security,—Income-related Benefits and Jobseeker's Allowance (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 65), dated 16th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

5 Trade Descriptions,—Motor Vehicles (Designation of Approval Marks) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 58), dated 15th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

6 Transport,—Railway Heritage Scheme Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 39), dated 10th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust: Progress in Regenerating Housing Estates [by Act]; to be printed [No. 207] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated a further Member to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the National Heritage Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Jerry Hayes.

2 Standing Committee B,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated two further Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13), viz.: Mr Malcolm Bruce and Mr Nigel Jones.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 23rd January; to be printed [No. 128-v] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 National Heritage, Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 23rd January; to be printed [No. 147-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

[No. 49.]

Friday 24th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill,—The Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Road Traffic (Reduction) Bill,—The Road Traffic (Reduction) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Criminal Evidence (Amendment) Bill,—The Criminal Evidence (Amendment) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Nigel Evans)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 6 agreed to.

Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

5 Policyholders Protection Bill,—The Policyholders Protection Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Douglas French)—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 23 agreed to.

Schedules Nos. 1 to 5 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Richard Ottaway reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—The Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.
7 Knives Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Knives Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

8 Police (Property) Bill,—The Police (Property) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr David Evennett):—It was agreed to.

Committee on Friday 7th February.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 27th January.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Companies,—Draft Companies Act 1985 (Directors' Report) (Statement of Payment Practice) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

2 Social Security,—Draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—Cumbria College of Art and Design Further Education Corporation (Transfer to the Higher Education Sector) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 91), dated 10th January 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

4 Education (Scotland),—Education (Fees and Awards) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 93), dated 16th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


Other Papers:

6 European Communities (No. 1, 1997),—Framework Co-operation Agreement, done at Florence on 21st June 1996, leading ultimately to the Establishment of a Political and Economic Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Chile, of the other part, with Minutes of Signing [by Command] [Cm. 3511] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Lithuania (No. 1, 1997),—Agreement, done at Vilnius on 8th November 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on Co-operation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science [by Command] [Cm. 3513] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

8 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between Firstbus plc and S B Holdings Limited [by Command] [Cm. 3531] [Mr Secretary Lang].

9 National Insurance Fund,—Account of the National Insurance Fund for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 221] [Clerk of the House].

10 Treaty Series (No. 9, 1997),—Agreement, done at Georgetown on 17th July 1991, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana concerning co-operation in the investigation of drug-trafficking offences, the forfeiture of instruments used for or in connection with such offences and the deprivation of drug traffickers of financial benefits from their criminal activities [by Command] [Cm. 3523] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Selection (see Appendix II).
3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).
4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Obscenity Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the
   law relating to obscene publications and obscene performances of plays; to which the
   Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
5 Sex Offenders Bill,—The Sex Offenders Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and
   stood committed to a Standing Committee.
6 Education Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Education Bill,
   as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered. That the Bill, as amended, be considered in the following order, namely, New
Clauses Nos. 3 and 4, New Clauses Nos. 5 to 11, New Clauses Nos. 1 and 2, New Clauses
Nos. 12 to 13, other New Clauses, Amendments relating to Clause No. 1, Schedule No.
1, Clauses Nos. 2 to 12, Schedule No. 2, Clauses Nos. 13 to 24, Schedule No. 3, Clauses
25 to 28, Schedule No. 4, Clauses Nos. 29 and 30, Schedule No. 5, Clauses Nos. 31 to
36, Schedule No. 6, Clauses Nos. 37 to 42, Schedule No. 7, Clauses Nos. 43 to 57,
Schedule No. 8, Clauses Nos. 58 to 71, Schedules Nos. 9 and 10, Clause No. 72, New
Schedules. (Mr Richard Ottaway.)

A Clause (Relaxation of controls on enlargement of premises)—(Mr Eric Forth)—brought
up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Anthony Coombs: 272.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Greg Pope: 273.

Another Clause (Power of members of staff to restrain pupils)—(Mr Eric Forth)—brought
up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Local public inquiries)—(Mr Peter Kilfoyle)—brought up, and read
the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave,
withdrawn.

Another Clause (Exclusion of baseline assessment scheme from selection)—(Estelle
Morris)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr John Cummings: 257.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Anthony Coombs: 303.

And it being after Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Bill be further considered to-morrow.

7 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for
the Second Reading of the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the
Bill be committed to a Scottish Standing Committee—(Mr Matthew Carrington)—It was
agreed to.

8 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s
Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Flood
Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other enactment.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.

9 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), that the draft Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 4th December, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.

10 Broadcasting,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), that the draft Broadcasting (Sign Language) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 10th December, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.

11 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Liverpool against the use of 5 Derby Lane for rehabilitation of convicted sex offenders was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Timothy Wood.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till fourteen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.46 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Companies,—Draft Companies Act 1985 (Directors' Report) (Statement of Payment Practice) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

2 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Betting Licensing) Order 1997, together with a statement from the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

3 Local Government Finance,—(1) Local Government Finance Report (England) 1997-98, (2) Special Grant Report (No. 23), and (3) Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (England) 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 203, 204 and 205] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

4 Police,—Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 208] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Other Papers:

5 Deregulation,—Proposal by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 for the Deregulation (Consumer Credit) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Governance and the Management of Overseas Courses at the Swansea Institute of Higher Education [by Act]; to be printed [No. 222] [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

7 Companies,—Draft Companies Act 1985 (Directors' Report) (Statement of Payment Practice) Regulations 1997 [laid 24th January].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee C,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee C Ann Widdecombe (nominated in respect of the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill); and had appointed in substitution Mr David Maclean.

2 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation—Sir Ray Whitney (nominated in respect of the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr John Greenway.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 27th January; to be printed [No. 242-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

MEMORANDUM

Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill, the Road Traffic Reduction Bill and the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill to Standing Committee C.

[No. 51.]

Tuesday 28th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Imperial College Bill.—The Imperial College Bill was read a second time and committed.

2 Tamar Bridge Bill.—The Tamar Bridge Bill was read a second time and committed.

3 King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the King’s College London Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 4th February.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th November, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs: Debit Cards) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th November, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

That the draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

6 Liaison.—Sir Terence Higgins reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 131 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report that it had chosen the First Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 1996–97, on The Prior Options Reviews of Public Sector Research Establishments, and the Second Report from the Public Service Committee, Session 1995–96, on Ministerial Accountability and Responsibility, to be debated on Wednesday 12th February, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

7 Selection (see Appendix II).

8 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

9 National Heritage Bill [Lords].—Mr Donald Anderson reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the National Heritage Bill [Lords] and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 81].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 245].
10 Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill,—Mr John McWilliam reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 80].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 246].

11 Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill,—Mr Norman Hogg reported from the First Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 82].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 244].

12 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Maxton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Potato Industry Development Council Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

13 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Sheffield Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

14 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Michael Shersby reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Executry Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

15 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Giles Shaw reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Joint Consultative Committees Order 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2820), referred to a Committee on 14th January.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

16 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows—

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to town and country planning in Scotland with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Scottish Law Commission; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Scottish Law Commission; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of hazardous substances with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Scottish Law Commission; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision for repeals, consequential amendments, transitional matters and savings in connection with the consolidation of enactments in the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 and the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Act 1997 (including provisions to give effect to recommendations of the Scottish Law Commission); to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Police Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision for the National Criminal Intelligence Service and the National Crime Squad, to make provision about entry on and interference with property and with wireless telegraphy in the course of the prevention or detection of serious crime; to make provision for the Police Information Technology Organisation; to provide for the issue of certificates about criminal records; to make provision about the administration and organisation of the police; to repeal certain enactments about rehabilitation of offenders; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
17 Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 86].

18 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 84].

19 Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 85].

20 Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 87].

21 Police Bill [Lords].—The Police Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 88].

22 Land Registration Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Land Registration Bill [Lords] be read a second time on Friday 7th February.

23 Airports and Aerodromes (Noise).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to control the level of aircraft noise at airports and aerodromes; and for connected purposes; And that Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Brian David Jenkins, Mr James Pawsey, Mr Bill Olner, Mr John Butcher, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Jimmy Wray, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Geoffrey Robinson and Sir Dudley Smith do prepare and bring it in.

24 Airports and Aerodromes (Noise) Bill.—Mr Jim Cunningham accordingly presented a Bill to control the level of aircraft noise at airports and aerodromes; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 83].

25 Education Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Education Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (General Teaching Council)—(Mr Peter Kilfoyle)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Cummings, Mr Eric Clarke: 252.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Roger Knapman: 298.

Another Clause (School performance targets in literacy)—(Estelle Morris)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Siblings)—(Mr Don Foster)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (School premises and surplus places)—(Mr Don Foster)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Simon Hughes: 263.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Roger Knapman: 304.

Another Clause (Reduction in class sizes)—(Mr Peter Kilfoyle)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Kevin Hughes: 257.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Bowen Wells: 295.

Another Clause (Licensing of teacher agencies)—(Mr Peter Kilfoyle)—brought up and read the first time.
Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Another Clause (Corporal punishment lawful with parental consent)—(Mr James Pawsey)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Walter Sweeney, Mr Warren Hawksley: 101.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 376.

Another Clause (Promotion of marriage and parenthood in maintained schools)—(Mr Edward Leigh)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 36, 5 to 15, 65 and 17 to 20) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 62) proposed to the Bill, in page 32, line 19, to leave out subsection (3) and insert the words—

'(3) The Secretaries of State may by regulation make such provision as they consider appropriate for the Qualifications and National Curriculum Authority in England and the Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales to co-operate in the exercise of their functions as set out in subsection (2)(a)-(g) above and section 45(2)(a)-(g) below respectively', instead thereof.—(Mr Win Griffiths.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Other Amendments (Nos. 21 to 35 and 37 to 42) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

26 Pesticides.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 10th December, be approved—(Mr Peter Ainsworth): It was agreed to.

27 Pesticides.—A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 12th December, be approved—(Mr Peter Ainsworth): It was agreed to.

28 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Peter Ainsworth), And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

29 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.25 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Pensions,—Draft Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

2 Social Security,—Draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Public Passenger Transport,—Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness, Equipment, Use and Certification) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 84), dated 20th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

(2) Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 81), and
(3) Road Vehicles (Prohibition) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 83),
dated 20th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

5 Appropriation Accounts, 1995-96,—Appropriation Account of the sums granted by
Parliament for Classes XVII to XIX (Departments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer,
Cabinet Office: Other Services, Privy Council Office, Parliament etc., House of
Commons and National Audit Office) for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-XII]
[Mr Michael Jack].

6 British Council,—Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute, dated 27th January 1997,
concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the indemnification, undertaken by
the British Council in conjunction with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, of works
of art lent to the Council for new exhibitions in the first half of 1997-98 [by Command]
[Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Churches Conservation,—Report and Accounts of the Churches Conservation Trust for
1995-96 [by Measure] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

8 Parliamentary Commissioner,—First Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for
Administration, Session 1996-97, Selected Cases 1997: Volume 1, Access to Official
Information [by Act]; to be printed [No. 231] [Clerk of the House].

9 Race Relations,—Account of the Commission for Racial Equality for 1995-96, with the
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 240]
[Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

10 Social Security,—Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997
[laid 24th January].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported
from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Seventh Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Roy Thomason (nominated in respect of the
draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997 and the draft Industrial
Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997); and had appointed in
substitution Mr Graham Riddick.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Seventh Report from the Deregulation Committee, [Proposal for the
Deregulation ( Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997; Proposal for the
Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs; Debit Cards) Order 1997; The draft
Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 247] [Mr Barry Field].

2 Statutory Instruments,—Tenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments,
together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-x] [Mr
Andrew F. Bennett].

MEMORANDUM

Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84
(Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the Sex Offenders Bill to Standing Committee D;
(2) the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill to the First Scottish
Standing Committee; and
(3) the draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to the Seventh Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation.
Wednesday 29th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Richard Ottaway);

   And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Lever Park Bill,—Ordered, That the Lever Park Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 4th February.

3 Southampton International Boat Show Bill,—The Southampton International Boat Show Bill was read a second time and committed.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Mr Peter Luff reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, &c., Bills, to which the Architects Bill [Lords], the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill [Lords] and the Lieutenancies Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, were referred, That it had gone through the Bills; and had agreed to a Report which it had directed him to make to the House; and had directed him to report the Minutes of Evidence taken before it on 29th January.

   Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 251-I].

   Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 251-II].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 251-II].

6 Selection (see Appendix II).

7 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

8 Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill,—Sir James Hill reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

   Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 7th February.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 249].

9 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 51).

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Prosthetists and Orthotists Board) Order of Council 1997.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

11 European Standing Committee B,—Sir James Molyneaux reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

   That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 7050/96, relating to the resale right for the benefit of the author of an original work of art, and supports the Government which is not persuaded that there is a case for the introduction of this proposal into the United Kingdom.

   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

12 Message from the Lords, a Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for the acquisition of British citizenship by certain nationals in Hong Kong; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
13 British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords].—The British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 7th February and to be printed [Bill 90].

14 Holocaust Denial.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make it a criminal offence to claim, whether in writing or orally, that the policy of genocide against the Jewish people committed by Nazi Germany did not occur: And that Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Doug Hoyle, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr David Hunt, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Norman Hogg, Mr Greville Janner, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr John Marshall, Mr John Hutton, Mr Michael Fabricant and Mr Paul Flynn do prepare and bring it in.

15 Holocaust Denial Bill,—Mr Mike Gapes accordingly presented a Bill to make it a criminal offence to claim, whether in writing or orally, that the policy of genocide against the Jewish people committed by Nazi Germany did not occur: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 89].

16 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 20th January on consideration of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Amendment (No. 245) be made.

Which Amendment was, in page 6, line 20, to leave out the words 'of 16 years of age or more'.

And the Question being again proposed, That the Amendment be made:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 301.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Cummings, Bridget Prentice: 291.

Another Amendment (No. 136) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 23, after the word 'an', to insert the words 'additional requirement of a probation'.—(Mr John McFall.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Cummings, Bridget Prentice: 284.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 296.

Other Amendments (Nos. 106, 246, 107, 5, 108, 6, 247, 109, 110, 248 to 250, 7 and 251) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 221) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 47, at the end, to insert the words—

'(9A) No regulations under subsection (9) above shall be made after the first regulations have been made under that subsection until the Secretary of State shall have laid before both Houses of Parliament a statement assessing the effectiveness of the first regulations made under that subsection.'—(Roseanna Cunningham.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Roseanna Cunningham: 164.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 287.

Other Amendments (Nos. 8, 252, 9 to 12, 223, 112, 13, 113, 14 to 16, 253, 17, 114, 18 to 20, 115, 21, 116, 22 to 24, 254 and 25) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 142) proposed to the Bill, in page 12, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

'(aa) A patient shall not be remitted to prison in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) above until and unless—

(i) the case has been referred back to the court that imposed the hospital direction; and

(ii) the court is satisfied that the remittance to prison would not be injurious to the patient's mental health.

(ab) In order to determine the impact of the remittance to prison on the patient's mental health, the court shall consider the written or oral evidence of two medical practitioners (complying with section 61 of this Act).
(ac) Where a court is satisfied under (aa)(ii) above that the remittance to prison would be injurious to the patient’s mental health, the court may revoke the hospital direction and—

(i) impose a hospital order (with or without a restriction order); or
(ii) impose no further penalty.”.—(Mr George Robertson.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr John Cummings: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 289.

Other Amendments (Nos. 26, 117, 118, 224 to 226, 29 to 31, 255, 32 to 36 and 227) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 132) proposed to the Bill, in page 28, to leave out lines 6 and 7 and insert the words ‘'“prescribed minimum standard” means an absence of proved misconduct reports’, instead thereof.—(Mr John McFall.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Other Amendments (Nos. 228 to 231, 37 to 39, 241, 233, 40, 102, 256, 42, 43, 235, 257 to 261, 44, 262 to 264, 93, 265 to 268, 94, 269, 270, 95, 271, 96, 272 to 276, 45 to 70, 242, 71 to 74, 243 and 75 to 78) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 140) proposed to the Bill, in page 57, line 42, after the word ‘shall’, to insert the words ‘where there is no byelaw in force prohibiting the public consumption of alcohol.’.—(Mr John McFall.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Other Amendments (Nos. 98 and 104) made to the Bill.

A Schedule (Transitional provisions with respect to early release)—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton) brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 79, 277, 126, 278, 279, 121, 236 to 238, 99, 80 to 85, 119, 86, 103, 87, 240, 100, 101 and 88 to 90) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Sebastian Coe: 287.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Paul Tyler: 20.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

17 Police,—Resolved, That the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 208), which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved.—(Ann Widdecombe.)

18 Legal Profession,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Executy Practitioners (Scotland) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

19 Legal Profession,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Independent Qualified Conveyancers (Scotland) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

20 Industrial Organisation and Development,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Potato Industry Development Council Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

21 Police (Property) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Police (Property) Bill [Money],

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Police (Property) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the provisions of the Act in the sums which under any other enactment are paid out of money so provided.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)
22 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Dewsbury for better safety of bridges over the River Calder was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

23 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Birmingham against misuse by itinerants of the Heddings and Lingfield Gardens was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

24 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 County Courts,—Court Funds (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 177), dated 28th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

4 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 101), dated 17th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:

5 Aviation, Maritime and Channel Tunnel Security,—Reports by the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to—

(1) Section 44 of the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990,
(2) Section 23 of the Aviation Security Act 1982 as amended by the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990, and
(3) Article 35 of the Channel Tunnel (Security) Order 1994 for 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

6 Greenwich Hospital,—Accounts of the Greenwich Hospital and Travers Foundation for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 248] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

7 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Second Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner For Administration, Session 1996–97, Selected Cases 1997: Volume 2 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 243] [Clerk of the House].

8 Reserve Forces,—Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces under section 11 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980 on the call-out of members of the Air Force Reserve [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

9 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales: Review of Education Provision in Wales, 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 229] [Mr Secretary Hague].

10 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Radiocommunications Agency for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 236] [Mr Secretary Lang].

11 Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment),—Cabinet Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the contracting out of certain services for its office in Basingstoke [by Command] [Mr Roger Freeman].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee C,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mr Peter Atkinson, Judith Church, Dr Michael Clark, Ann Clwyd, Mr Tom Cox, Mr Chris Davies, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr David Faber, Mr George Howarth, Mr John Hutton, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Dr Robert Spink, Mr Michael Stern and Mr Walter Sweeney.

2 Standing Committee C,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill, viz.: Mr David Atkinson, Mr Spencer Batiste, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Simon Coombs, Sir John Cope, Mr Tom Cox, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr Tam Dalyell, Sir Anthony Durant, Dr John Gilbert, Sir Michael Grylls, Dr Calum Macdonald, Dr John Marek, Sir Geoffrey Pattie, Mr David Shaw, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Stephen Timms and Mr John Townend.

3 Standing Committee D,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the Sex Offenders Bill, viz.: Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Michael Clapham, Ann Coffey, Mr Nigel Evans, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr John Greenway, Mr John Hutton, Jase Kennedy, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr David Lidington, Mr John McFall, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Eric Pickles, Sir Wyn Roberts and Mr Peter Thornham.

4 First Scottish Standing Committee,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Roseannna Cunningham, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Mr Sam Galbraith, Mr Phil Gallie, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr George Kynoch, Mr William McKelvey, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Sir Hector Monro, Mr Raymond S. Robertson, Mr Allan Stewart and Mr Bill Walker.

5 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Fergus Montgomery reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Michael Ancram, Mr Robert Banks, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Bernie Grant, Kate Hoey, Mr Parpa S. Khabra, Lady Olga Maitland, Sir David Mitchell, Sir Roger Moate, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr Richard Tracey, Mr Peter Viggers, Mr Timothy Wood and Mr Tony Worthington.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 29th January; to be printed [No. 45-viii] [Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 29th January; to be printed [No. 131-iii] [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 European Legislation,—Eleventh Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 29th January; to be printed [No. 192-iii] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 29th January, to be printed [No. 252-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

6 Public Service,—(1) First Report from the Public Service Committee [Ministerial Accountability and Responsibility], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 234]; and
MEMORANDA

1 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir Michael Shersby Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords];
(2) Sir Roger Sims and Sir James Molyneaux Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Sex Offenders Bill;
(3) Mr John Maxton and Mrs Ann Winterton Chairmen of the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill; and
(4) Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

2 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), the following referrals have been made:

(1) European Community Documents Nos. 11419/96, relating to future noise policy, and 5217/97, relating to the Commission Report on raw tobacco, to European Standing Committee A; and
(2) European Community Documents Nos. 11382/96, relating to structural funds, and 12614/96, relating to cohesion policy, to European Standing Committee B.

3 Public Bills (Scotland),—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Speaker certified that in her opinion, the provisions of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] relate exclusively to Scotland.

[No. 53.]

Thursday 30th January 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Selection,—Ordered, That Sir Fergus Montgomery be discharged from the Committee of Selection and Sir Irvine Patnick be added to the Committee.—(Mr Timothy Wood.)

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
3 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

4 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Home Energy Rating Surveys Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision for home energy rating surveys; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for new arrangements in relation to the provision within the National Health Service of medical, dental, ophthalmic, pharmaceutical and other services; to make provision about medical lists and vacancies and the sale of medical practices; to make provision about the expenditure of health authorities; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords].—The National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 91].

7 Civil Procedure Bill [Lords].—The Civil Procedure Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

8 Civil Procedure Bill [Lords][Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Civil Procedure Bill [Lords][Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Civil Procedure Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any administrative expenses incurred by the Lord Chancellor in consequence of the Act, and

(b) any sums required by the Lord Chancellor for reimbursing expenses of members of the Civil Justice Council or the Civil Procedure Rule Committee—(Mr Gary Streeter):—It was agreed to.

9 Professions Supplementary to Medicine.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Prosthetists and Orthotists Board) Order of Council 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

10 Urban Development.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Sheffield Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 1997, dated 6th January 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 14th January, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

11 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Registered Social Landlords) (No.2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 51), dated 14th January 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.59 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, and
   (2) draft Legal Aid (Functions) Order 1997
   [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

4. Administration of Justice,—Accounts of the Funds in Court in England and Wales for 1994–95, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 256] [Clerk of the House].

5. Appropriation Accounts, 1995–96,—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for Classes:
   (1) I (Ministry of Defence),
   (2) VI (Transport),
   (3) VII and VIII (Environment, Home Office and Charity Commission), and
   (4) IX (Lord Chancellor's and Law Officer's Departments)
   for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 11-I, 11-V, 11-VI, and 11-VII] [Mr Michael Jack].

6. Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency: Evaluation of Performance [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 217] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

7. Local Government (Wales),—Welsh Local Government Financial Statistics for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

8. National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Further Education Funding Council for England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 223] [Clerk of the House].

9. Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 163] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

10. Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Land Purchase Account of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Northern Ireland, for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 255] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1. National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 30th January; to be printed [No. 147-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2. Procedure,—Second Report from the Procedure Committee [Legislative Procedure for Tax Simplification Bills], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 126] [Sir Peter Emery].

3. Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 29th January; to be printed [No.254-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].
Friday 31st January 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill.—The Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Witness Protection Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Witness Protection Bill;

   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

   And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

   Debate to be resumed on Friday 7th February.

4 Police (Health and Safety) Bill,—The Police (Health and Safety) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

5 Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill,—The Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th February.

7 United Kingdom Membership of the European Union (Referendum) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the United Kingdom Membership of the European Union (Referendum) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th February.

8 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th February.

9 Abortion (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Abortion (Amendment) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 28th February.

10 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall—

   (1) at the sitting on Monday 3rd February put the Questions on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Gummer relating to Local Government Finance not later than Ten o'clock; and

   (2) at the sitting on Tuesday 4th February put the Questions on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Hague relating to Local Government Finance (Wales) not later than three hours after the start of proceedings on the first such Motion or Ten o'clock, whichever is the earlier.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

11 Sex Offenders Bill,—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Sex Offenders Bill, Standing Committee D shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 3rd February.

[Adjourned at 3.01 p.m]
APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Pensions,—Draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

2 Social Security,—(1) Draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 1997,
(2) draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Fund Payments) Order 1997, and
(3) draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Amendment Regulations 1997
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Local Government,—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (England) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 175), and

(2) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Financial Services) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 130),
(6) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Supervision of Parking, Management of Vehicles and Security Work) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 128), and

Other Papers:

5 Education (Scotland).—Paper, entitled Raising the Standard: Education and Skills Development in Scotland [by Command] [Cm. 3542] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

6 National Audit.—Financial Auditing and Reporting: General Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for 1995-96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11-XIII] [Mr Michael Jack].

7 Scottish Affairs.—Government reply to the Third Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee, Session 1995-96: Scottish Affairs Committee Inquiry into the Future for Scottish Agriculture [by Command] [Cm. 3548] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

8 Social Security,—Report by the Government Actuary on the drafts of the Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 1997 and the Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Fund Payments) Order 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3547] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

9 Treaty Series (No. 96, 1996).—Third supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3528] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

10 Treaty Series (No. 1, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 15th October 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Russian Federation concerning the leases of new embassy premises in London and Moscow with annexes [by Command][Cm. 3502][Mr Secretary Rifkind].


The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Wirral South Writ,—Ordered, That the Speaker do issue her Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the County Constituency of Wirral South in the room of George Barrington Porter, Esquire, deceased.—(Mr Alastair Goodlad.)

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords].—The Order for reading the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] a second time on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 14th February.

6 Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill [Lords].—The Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 92].

7 Local Government Finance,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 203), which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Gummer);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Matthew Carrington: 311.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Ms Angela Eagle: 269.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 203), which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved.

8 Local Government Finance,—Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (No. 23) (House of Commons Paper No. 204), which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

9 Local Government Finance,—Resolved, That the Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (England) 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 205), which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

10 Employment and Training,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 14th January, be approved.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

11 Employment and Training,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 14th January, be approved.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

12 Education and Employment,—Ordered, That Mr Michael Brown be added to the Education and Employment Committee.—(Mr Ken Eastham, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

13 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Ipswich for a comprehensive investigation into the draft Local Plan relating to Ipswich Municipal Airport and for protection of listed buildings, structures and fortifications thereon was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.44 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance (Wales).—(1) Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1997-98,
(2) Special Grant Report (Wales) 1997, and
(3) Limitation of Council Tax ( Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (Wales) 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 218, 219 and 220] [Mr Secretary Hague].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Housing (Scotland).—Housing Revenue Account General Fund Contribution Limits (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 199), dated 28th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Local Government.—Local Government Reorganisation (Representation of the People) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 138), dated 23rd January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

5 Local Government (Scotland).—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 197), and

Other Papers:

6 Deregulation.—Proposals under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by—
(1) the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard]; and
(2) the Chief Secretary to the Treasury for
(i) the Deregulation (Trustee Investments) Order 1997, and
(ii) the Deregulation (Industrial Assurance Acts 1923 to 1948) Order 1997, together with explanatory memoranda [by Act] [Mr William Waldegrave].

7 Employment Protection.—Accounts of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, Certification Officer, and Central Arbitration Committee for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 262] [Clerk of the House].

8 Environmental Protection.—Report and Accounts of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

9 Members' Interests.—Register of Members' Interests as at 31st January 1997 [pursuant to the Resolutions of 22nd May 1974, 28th June 1993 and 6th November 1995]; to be printed [No. 259] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Loans.—Accounts relating to issues from the National Loans Fund for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 241] [Clerk of the House].

12 Sex Discrimination,—Accounts of the Equal Opportunities Commission for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 261] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
Committee of Selection
Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Ken Eastham reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr John Butterfill (nominated in respect of the draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997), and had appointed in substitution Mr Stephen Day.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees
1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 3rd February; to be printed [No. 269-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].
2 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 3rd February; to be printed [No. 50-a] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 56.]
Tuesday 4th February 1997.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.
1 King's College London Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King's College London Bill [Lords];
Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 11th February.

2 Lever Park Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 11th February.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
4 Selection (see Appendix II).
5 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:
That the draft Deregulation (Gaming on Sunday in Scotland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, should be approved.
The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.
That the draft Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, should be approved.
The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.
6 Select Committees (see Appendix III).
7 Education (Special Educational Needs) Bill [Lords],—The Education (Special Educational Needs) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 94].
8 Delegated Legislation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Occupational Pension Schemes (Winding Up) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3126) and the Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3151) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—(Mrs Jacqui Lait)—It was agreed to.
9 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 99 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee), That the Matter of the Public Expenditure Plans for Northern Ireland for 1997–98—
1999-2000, being a Matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mrs Jacqui Lait):—It was agreed to.

10 Statute Law Balancing (Limit on Maximum Quantity).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to oblige Ministers of the Crown, when proposing either to implement any proposal under the European Community Treaties for legislation by the Council of Ministers or to introduce any bill or statutory instrument simultaneously to propose the repeal of at least a similar quantity of existing legislation to that which they propose to implement or to introduce; And that Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Michael Alison, Sir John Cope, Sir Peter Emery, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Sir Sydney Chapman, Sir Anthony Durant, Sir Anthony Grant, Sir Michael Neubert, Sir Donald Thompson, Sir Gerard Vaughan and Mr David Heathcoat-Amory do prepare and bring it in.

11 Statute Law Balancing (Limit on Maximum Quantity) Bill.—Mr Anthony Steen accordingly presented a Bill to oblige Ministers of the Crown, when proposing either to implement any proposal under the European Community Treaties for legislation by the Council of Ministers or to introduce any bill or statutory instrument simultaneously to propose the repeal of at least a similar quantity of existing legislation to that which they propose to implement or to introduce: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 93].

12 Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Aggravated offence of landlord fraud)—(Mr Henry McLeish)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr John Cummings: 244.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Sebastian Coe: 297.

Another Clause (Code of practice on privacy)—(Mr Henry McLeish)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Eric Clarke: 258.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Sebastian Coe: 300.

Another Clause (Supply of information and identification of entitlement to benefit)—(Mr John Denham)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Clive Betts: 245.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Sebastian Coe: 297.

Amendments (Nos. 1 to 7) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

13 Local Government Finance (Wales).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 218), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved—(Mr Secretary Hague);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Anthony Coombs: 304.

Tellers for the Noes, Ms Angela Eagle, Mr Thomas McAvoy: 251.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 218), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);

14 Local Government Finance (Wales).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Special Grant Report (Wales) 1997 (House of Commons Paper No. 219), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Anthony Coombs: 254.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Martyn Jones: 124.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (Wales) (House of Commons Paper No. 219), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved.

15 Local Government Finance (Wales),—Resolved, That the Limitation of Council Tax (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (Wales) 1997–98 (House of Commons Paper No. 220), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

16 Artists' Resale Rights,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 7050/96, relating to the resale right for the benefit of the author of an original work of art; and supports the Government which is not persuaded that there is a case for the introduction of this proposal into the United Kingdom.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth): It was agreed to.

17 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Birmingham for a statutory right to short term respite breaks for disabled people and their carers was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Adjournment,—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then three minutes to Eleven o'clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 10.57 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Credit,—Consumer Credit (Quotations) (Revocation) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 211), dated 4th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].


3 Harbours, Docks, etc,—Ports (Levy on Disposals of Land, etc.) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R. (N.I.), 1997, No. 12), dated 17th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].


(2) Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 214), and


Other Papers:

5 Mental Health,—Paper, entitled Developing Partnerships in Mental Health [by Command] [Cm. 3555] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

6 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools for 1995-96 [by Act], to be printed [No. 202] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Standing Committee C.—Mr Ken Eastham reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee C Mr Jim Cunningham (nominated in respect of the Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords]); and had appointed in substitution Mr George Howarth.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation.—Eighth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuels) Order 1997; Proposal for the Deregulation (Football Pools) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Gaming on Sunday in Scotland) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 274] [Mr Barry Field].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th February; to be printed [No. 130-i] [Mr Ernie Ross].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 4th February and Appendices thereto; to be printed [No. 270-i] [Mr Clive Soley].

4 Statutory Instruments.—(1) Eleventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-xi]; and

   (2) Second Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 30-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

MEMORANDUM

Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

   (1) the Civil Procedure Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee A;

   (2) the Police (Health and Safety) Bill and the Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill to Standing Committee C;

   (3) the Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill to Standing Committee E;

   (4) the draft Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Survivability) Regulations 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

   (5) the draft Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Regulations 1997 and the Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding-Up) Regulations 1996 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

   (6) the Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

[No. 57.]

Wednesday 5th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Richard Ottaway);

   And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).
4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords].—Sir Michael Shersby reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords], and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 278].

6 Obscenity Bill [Lords].—The Obscenity Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 95].

7 Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill,—The Order for considering the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be considered on Friday 14th February.

8 Mental Health (Joint Commissioning Consortia) Bill,—Mr Peter Thurnham, supported by Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Archy Kirkwood and Mr Charles Kennedy, presented a Bill to enable health and local authorities to form consortia to commission health and social care for mentally ill people and to jointly disburse the funds voted them by Parliament to provide mental health services: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday 5th March and to be printed [Bill 97].

9 Town Centres (Insurance and Restoration) Bill,—Mr Dafydd Wigley, supported by Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones and Mr Elwyn Llwyd, presented a Bill to provide a requirement on the owners of properties in urban areas to maintain adequate insurance cover to enable them to restore to its previous condition a building damaged by fire or other accident; to require money paid by insurance companies arising from such a claim to be used primarily for that purpose unless granted a specific derogation by the local planning authority; to authorise local authorities to make claims against the assets of the owners of such properties in the event of their failure to restore damaged buildings; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 98].

10 Constitutional Change,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the holding of a referendum on any constitutional change approved by Parliament: And that Mr Bill Walker, Mr Allan Stewart, Mr Iain Duncan Smith, Mr William Cash, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Andrew Hargreaves, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Barry Field, Sir George Gardiner and Mr David Shaw do prepare and bring it in.

11 Constitutional Change Bill,—Mr Bill Walker accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the holding of a referendum on any constitutional change approved by Parliament: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 96].

12 Opposition day [4th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Priorities for the NHS,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that, of the many improvements the NHS needs, immediate priorities should include the reinstatement of free dental and eye checks, a freeze on all finance-driven bed, hospital and service closures which represent a reduction of service to patients pending the first report of an open and independent assessment of national health demand and provision, a move to three year contracts between health authorities and boards and health providers and the immediate scrapping of local NHS pay bargaining.—(Mr Simon Hughes);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘is committed to the National Health Service as a public service, promoting health and offering increasing volumes of high-quality health care on the basis of need regardless of the ability to pay; and welcomes the Government’s continuing commitment to real terms increases in NHS spending year by year’, instead thereof.—(Mr Gerald Malone).

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Paul Tyler: 44.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 309.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 30 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 308.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Paul Tyler: 246.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House is committed to the National Health Service as a public service, promoting health and offering increasing volumes of high-quality health care on the basis of need regardless of the ability to pay; and welcomes the Government’s continuing commitment to real terms increases in NHS spending year by year.

Education.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that the Government has consistently failed to invest sufficient resources in schools to ensure a high-quality education service; and believes that any incoming Government should make a commitment to increase spending on education—if necessary by increased taxation—to pay for high-quality early-years education for all three and four year olds whose parents want it, extra resources for schools to invest in books and equipment and continuing professional development for teachers, a reduction in class sizes and extra support for pupils with special educational needs and to tackle the backlog of repairs to school buildings—(Mr Don Foster);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the substantial extra investment which the Government has made, and continues to make, in early years, primary and secondary education, the reforms that the Government has introduced to allow that investment to be used to maximum effect and the improvement in standards in schools which has been the result’, instead thereof—(Mr Robin Squire).

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Don Foster, Mr James Wallace: 31.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Roger Knapman: 300.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 30 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Roger Knapman: 299.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Diana Maddock: 253.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the substantial extra investment which the Government has made, and continues to make, in early years, primary and secondary education, the reforms that the Government has introduced to allow that investment to be used to maximum effect and the improvement in standards in schools which has been the result.

13 Police (Health and Safety) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Police (Health and Safety) Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Police (Health and Safety) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure attributable to the Act incurred by the Secretary of State, and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other Act.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth).

14 Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth).
15 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill,—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill, the First Scottish Standing Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth).

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth).

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.57 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—(1) Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997, and
(2) draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6 Road Traffic,—International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 158), dated 23rd January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

7 Treaty Series (No. 6, 1997),—Protocol 1990 amending the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF), signed at Berne on 9th May 1980, adopted by the 2nd General Assembly of the International Organisation for International Carriage by Rail held at Berne from 17th to 20th December 1990 [by Command] [Cm. 3520] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

8 Treaty Series (No. 7, 1997),—Protocol of Decisions amending the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF), signed at Berne on 9th May 1980, adopted by the Revision Committee in the course of the first session held at Berne from 14th to 21st December 1989 [by Command] [Cm. 3521] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

9 Treaty Series (No. 8, 1997),—Protocol of Decisions amending the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF), signed at Berne on 9th May 1980, adopted by the Revision Committee in the course of the second session held at Berne from 28th to 31st May 1990 [by Command] [Cm. 3522] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Civil Procedure Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Michael Brown, Mr Alex Carlile, Jean Corston, Mr Tim DAVLIN, Mr David Faber, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Warren Hawksley, Jane Kennedy, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr David Nicholson, Mr Gary Streeter, Mr Paddy Tipping and Joan Walley.
2 Standing Committee C.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Road Traffic Reduction Bill, viz.: Mr John Austin-Walker, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Julian Brazier, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr David Congdon, Jean Corston, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Don Foster, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr John Marshall, Mr Alan Simpson, Dr Robert Spink, Mr Gary Waller, Joan Walley and Mr John Watts.

3 Standing Committee E.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill, viz.: Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Alex Carlile, Mr Bob Dunn, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Greville Janner, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Sir Ivan Lawrence, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr David Lidington, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Nigel Waterson.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Survivability) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr John Bowis, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr David Chidgey, Sir John Gorst, Mr Mike Hall, Sir Archie Hamilton, Mr Keith Hill, Glenda Jackson, Helen Jackson, Mr Toby Jessel, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Richard Needham, Mr William O’Brien, Mr John Patten, Mr David Shaw and Dr Robert Spink.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Regulations 1997 and the Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding-Up) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Sebastian Cee, Mr John Denham, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, Mildred Gordon, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Tom King, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Paul Marland, Mr Tony Marlow, Mr David Martin, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Walter Sweeney, Audrey Wise and Mr Jimmy Wray.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996, viz.: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Simon Coombs, Mr Tristan Garel-Jones, Mr Jerry Hayes, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Sir Peter Hordern, Mr John Hutton, Mr Robert Maclennan, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Ken Purchase, Mr David Sumberg, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr John Townend, Mr Michael Trend and Dr Ian Twinn.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 5th February; to be printed [No. 45-ix] [Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 5th February; to be printed [No. 131-iv] [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 Environment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 5th February; to be printed [No. 277-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Legislation.—(1) Twelfth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xii]; and

(2) Thirteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xiii]

[Sir Robert Hicks].

5 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 5th February; to be printed [No. 192-iv] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

6 Public Accounts.—(1) Tenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Excess Vote (Northern Ireland)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 283]; and
MEMORANDA

1 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir Giles Shaw and Mr Barry Jones Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Civil Procedure Bill [Lords];

(2) Sir James Hill Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill;

(3) Sir David Knox Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill;

(4) Sir Robert Hicks Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Survivability) Regulations 1997;

(5) Mr Patrick Thompson Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Regulations 1997 and the Occupational Pension Schemes (Winding-Up) Regulations 1996;

(6) Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996;

(7) Mr Allan Stewart and Mr Norman Hogg Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Montrose on Monday 17th February;

(8) Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 5217/97, relating to the Commission Report on Raw Tobacco; and

(9) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 5147/96, relating to takeover bids.

2 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), Official Journal No. OJ C340 of 12th November 1996, relating to the Court of Auditors' Report for 1995, and Official Journal No. OJ C395 of 31st December 1996, relating to the Court of Auditors' Statement of Assurance for 1995; have been referred to European Standing Committee B.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Sex Offenders Bill.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Sex Offenders Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 99].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 288].

4 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Edward O'Hara reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision for fisheries for lobsters and other crustaceans; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th February and to be printed [Bill 100].

7 Local Authorities (Youth Expenditure) Bill.—The Order for reading the Local Authorities (Youth Expenditure) Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

8 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Matthew Carrington);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Jacqui Lait);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nineteen minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.19 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Companies.—Draft Company Accounts (Disclosure of Directors' Emoluments) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

2 Professions Supplementary to Medicine.—Draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Defence.—Royal Air Force Terms of Service (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 231), dated 5th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

4 Electricity.—Electricity (Non-Fossil Fuel Sources) (England and Wales) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 248), dated 5th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].
5 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (Trunk Roads) (No. 1) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 204), dated 28th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

6 National Health Service,—Leeds Teaching Hospitals Special Trustees (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 190), dated 30th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

7 National Health Service (Scotland),—Scottish Dental Practice Board Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 174), dated 27th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


9 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 191), dated 28th January 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

10 Telecommunications,—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Lichfield Cable Communications Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 235), and

(2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Telewest Communications (Southport) Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 234),

dated 5th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

11 Armed Forces Pay,—Twenty-sixth Report of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay [by Command] [Cm. 3537] [The Prime Minister].

12 Defence (Royal Air Force),—Amendment List No. 26 to the Major Revision 1985 to the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

13 Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration,—Twenty-sixth Report of the Review Body on Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration [by Command] [Cm. 3533] [The Prime Minister].

14 Insolvency,—Accounts prepared pursuant to the Insolvency Act 1986 of the sums received and paid by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under the Act and of the sums credited and debited to the Investment Account by the National Debt Commissioners for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 287] [Clerk of the House].


16 Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine,—Fourteenth Reports of the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine on:

(1) Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors, and

(2) Professions Allied to Medicine

[by Command] [Cm. 3538 and 3539] [The Prime Minister].

17 School Teachers,—Sixth Report of the School Teachers’ Review Body [by Command] [Cm. 3536] [The Prime Minister].

18 Senior Salaries,—Nineteenth Report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries

(1) Volume 1: Report, and

(2) Volume 2: Report on a fundamental review of the judicial salary structure by the Review Body’s Judicial Sub-committee

[by Command] [Cm. 3540 and 3541] [The Prime Minister].

19 Telecommunications,—Licences granted by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to:

(1) Lichfield Cable Communications Limited, and

(2) Telewest Communications (Southport) Limited

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 6th February; to be printed [No. 286-i] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 National Heritage,—(1) Third Report from the National Heritage Committee [Tourism: The Government’s Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 285]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 6th February; to be printed [No. 147-v]

[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

[No. 59.]

Friday 7th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Horserace Totalisator Board Bill [Lords], not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 9, to leave out from the word “betting” to the end of line 12.—(Mr John Greenway.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

3 Police (Property) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Police (Property) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Power of police authority to retain unclaimed property).

Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 1, line 10, to leave out the words “a year” and insert the words “18 months”, instead thereof.—(Mr Piers Merchant.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 2 to 5 agreed to.

Clause No. 6 (Property in possession etc. of person taken into police custody in Scotland).

Amendments (Nos. 1 to 5) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 7 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Sebastian Coe reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

The House proceeded to consider the Bill, as amended in the Committee.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr David Maclean, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed.
4 Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill;
And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
Debate to be resumed on Friday 14th February.

5 Dogs (Electric Shock Collars) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Dogs (Electric Shock Collars) Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 18th April.

6 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 18th April.

7 Land Registration Bill [Lords],—The Land Registration Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Michael Stephen):—It was agreed to.
Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—
The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.
(In the Committee)
Clauses Nos. 1 to 5 agreed to.
Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.
Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Matthew Carrington reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.
A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;
Sir John Wheeler, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.
Sir John Wheeler, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his consent, as far as the Prince of Wales's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.
And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, without Amendment.

8 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks) Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th February.

9 Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill [Lords];
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th February.

10 Police (Health and Safety) Bill,—Ordered. That Standing Committee C be discharged from considering the Police (Health and Safety) Bill and that the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House.—(Mr Robert G. Hughes.)
Committee on Friday 14th February.

11 Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill,—Ordered. That Standing Committee C be discharged from considering the Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill and that the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House.—(Mr Robert G. Hughes.)
Committee on Friday 14th February.

12 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 17th February, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents), the Speaker shall not later than Ten o'clock put the Questions
on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Lilley relating to Pensions and to Social Security.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

13 Welsh Development Agency Bill,—Ordered, That the proviso in paragraph (2)(ii) of Standing Order No. 86 (Nomination of Standing Committees) shall not apply to the Welsh Development Agency Bill.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 10th February.

[Adjourned at 2.55 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—(1) Draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, and

(2) draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Education (Scotland),—General Teaching Council for Scotland (Amendment of Constitution) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 207), dated 29th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Environmental Protection,—(1) Special Waste (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 251), dated 6th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer]; and

(2) Special Waste (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 257), dated 7th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


6 National Health Service,—Wolverhampton Health Care National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 196), dated 31st January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

7 Pensions,—Local Government Pension Scheme (London Boroughs Children’s Regional Planning Committee) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 218), dated 3rd February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

8 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rate (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 120), dated 14th January 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

9 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 256), dated 7th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


Other Papers:

11 National Health Service (Scotland),—Paper, entitled The Scottish Health Service: Ready for the Future [by Command] [Cm. 3551] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

12 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 239), dated 6th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

13 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the Research Councils’ Pension Schemes for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 289] [Clerk of the House].
[No. 60.]

Monday 10th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Dignity at Work Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for a right of dignity at work for employees; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees), That the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill be referred to a Second Reading Committee—(Mrs Jacqui Lait)—It was agreed to.

5 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords],—The Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] [Money],—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any sums required by the Secretary of State for making any payment in respect of an indemnity given by virtue of the Act to a person taking measures with respect to marine pollution;

(b) any other expenses of a Minister of the Crown attributable to the provisions of the Act; and

(c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other enactment are payable out of money so provided; and

(2) the making of payments out of money provided by Parliament into the General Lighthouse Fund—(Mr Bowen Wells)—It was agreed to.

7 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means],—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the imposition in accordance with the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea 1996 (or any revision of that Convention) of obligations to contribute to the International Hazardous and Noxious Substances Fund established under the Convention:

(2) the imposition of charges for the purposes of recovering costs incurred—

(a) by the Secretary of State, in connection with his maritime functions, or

(b) by general lighthouse authorities, within the meaning of Part VIII of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, in respect of their functions under that Part;

(3) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of sums which would otherwise be payable into the General Lighthouse Fund; and

(4) the payment of other sums into the Consolidation Fund—(Mr Bowen Wells)—It was agreed to.
8 Welsh Development Agency Bill,—The Welsh Development Agency Bill was, according to Order read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

9 Welsh Development Agency Bill [Money],—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Welsh Development Agency Bill [Money], A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills),—That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Welsh Development Agency Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) any increase in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament or out of the National Loans Fund or charged on and issued out of the Consolidated Fund; and

(b) any increase in the sums payable into either of those Funds, which is attributable to provisions of the Act increasing to £1,350 million, with power to increase further by order, the limit in section 18(3) of the Welsh Development Agency Act 1975—(Mr Anthony Coombs):—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Anthony Coombs);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 European Communities,—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

2 Social Security,—(1) Draft Social Security (Contributions) Amendment Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley]; and

(2) draft Social Security (Jobseeker's Allowance and Mariners' Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(2) Houses in Multiple Occupation (Fees for Registration Schemes) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 229), dated 4th February 1997,

(3) Housing (Enforcement Procedures for Houses in Multiple Occupation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 227), dated 4th February 1997,

(4) Housing (Recovery of Expenses for Section 352 Notices) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 228), dated 4th February 1997, and

(5) Housing (Fire Safety in Houses in Multiple Occupation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 230), dated 4th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].


6 Road Traffic,—Passenger and Goods Vehicles (Recording Equipment) (Approval of Fitters and Workshops) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 219), dated 3rd February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Paper subject to Special Parliamentary Procedure:

7 Civil Aviation,—Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997, together with a Certificate by the Secretary of State for Transport under section 2 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

8 Agricultural Marketing,—Report on Agricultural Marketing Schemes for 1994-95 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

9 Housing Corporations,—(1) Department of the Environment Minute, dated 10th February 1997, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the purchase of the Housing Corporation's loans to Housing Associations by NatWest Markets [by Command] [Mr Secretary Gummer]; and

   (2) Welsh Office Minute, dated 10th February 1997, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the purchase of Housing for Wales's loans to Housing Associations by NatWest Markets [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hague].

10 Merchant Shipping,—Report by the Department of Transport of exemptions granted under section 294 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 during 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

11 Post Office,—Report of the Post Office Users' National Council for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

12 Statutory Instruments (Notification),—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instrument came into operation:

   Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 239)

   [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Second Report from the Health Committee [The Specific Health Needs of Children and Young People], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 307] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) Eleventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Excess Votes, 1995-96], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 293]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th February; to be printed [No. 294-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

3 Science and Technology,—Second Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Government's Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996-97, The Prior Options Reviews of Public Sector Research Establishments]; to be printed [No. 291] [Sir Giles Shaw].

4 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 10th February; to be printed [No. 35-x] [Mr William McKelvey].

5 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 10th February; to be printed [No. 254-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].
Tuesday 11th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King's College London Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 18th February.

2 Lever Park Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 18th February.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 2nd December, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 25th November, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That the draft Deregulation (Betting Licensing) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 27th January, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

5 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6 Civil Procedure Bill [Lords].—Sir Giles Shaw reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Civil Procedure Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 296].

7 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill,—Mr John Maxton reported from the First Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 102].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 295].

8 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Patrick Thompson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Regulations 1997 and the Occupational Pension Schemes (Winding-up) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3126), referred to a Committee on 4th February.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to enable the Secretary of State to dispose of his crofting estates and certain other property of his in the crofting counties to approved crofting bodies; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords have agreed to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 103].

10 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 104].
12 Obscenity Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Obscenity Bill [Lords] be read a second time on Friday 18th April.

13 Delegated Legislation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Grants for Pre-School Education (Social Security Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3078) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—(Mr Richard Ottaway);—It was agreed to.

14 Adoptive Mothers (Maternity Leave).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for maternity leave for adoptive mothers and for connected persons; And that Margaret Hodge, Helen Jackson, Ms Janet Anderson, Alice Mahon, Mrs Anne Campbell, Estelle Morris, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr David Clelland, Bridget Prentice, Jean Corston and Mr Paddy Tipping do prepare and bring it in.

15 Adoptive Mothers (Maternity Leave) Bill.—Margaret Hodge accordingly presented a Bill to provide for maternity leave for adoptive mothers and for connected persons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 101].

16 National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and add the words 'this House declines to give a Second Reading to the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords] because, while making some welcome provisions for the development of National Health Service primary care, it fails to require health authorities to consult with patients and professional groups on pilot projects before submitting proposals to the Secretary of State; fails to provide for nurses and other primary care professionals to participate fully in pilot projects where appropriate; fails to establish criteria by which the success of pilot projects can be evaluated and fails to provide for health authorities to consult with patients and professional groups on pilot projects before submitting proposals to the Secretary of State; fails to make provisions to allow private companies to employ general practitioners to provide patient care, thereby undermining the doctor-patient relationship and damaging one of the most abiding strengths of British general practice, which provisions will lead to even wider variation in the quality of general practice services available to different patients in different areas of the country and which will pave the way for the further privatisation of the National Health Service and the destruction of the principle of health care being available according to need and free at the point of delivery', instead thereof.(Mr Chris Smith.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Clarke, Ms Angela Eagle: 253.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Timothy Wood: 314.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a special standing committee—(Mr Chris Smith);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Dennis Turner: 271.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Sebastian Coe: 312.

So the Question was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker declared that the Bill stood committed to a Standing Committee.

17 National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation have been signified to the proposed Motion relating to National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the National Health Service
(Primary Care) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by Health Authorities or Health Boards in consequence of any provision of the Act about the making of payments of financial assistance for preparatory work, and

(b) any other increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other enactment—(Mr Bowen Wells)—It was agreed to.

18 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 14th January, be approved—(Mr Bowen Wells)—It was agreed to.

19 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for resumption of United Kingdom membership of UNESCO was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

20 Adjournment,—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.01 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out.—Draft Contracting Out (functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

2 Local Government Finance.—Special Grant Report (No. 24); Asylum Seekers' Accommodation [by Act]; to be printed [No. 257] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

3 Rating and Valuation.—Draft British Gas plc. (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Representation of the People.—Draft Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Road Traffic.—Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 263), dated 6th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Other Papers:

6 Medicines Control Agency.—Report by the Secretary of State for Health on consultation undertaken concerning the proposal to vary the Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund Order so as to extend the remit of the Agency to include the work of the Good Laboratory Practice Monitoring Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

7 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Minister of State for Roads and Railways on the Petition [5th March, in the last Session of Parliament] by residents of Worthing and other places for abandonment of the Government's preferred route for the A27 in Worthing in favour of a by-pass north of Cissbury Ring [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation.—Ninth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997; Proposal for the Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Betting Licensing) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 298] [Mr Barry Field].

2 National Heritage.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 11th February; to be printed [Nos. 147-vi and 147-vii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Standards and Privileges.—Third Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint of alleged improper pressure brought to bear on the Select Committee on Members' Interests in 1994 [Further Report]], together with Appendices thereto; to be
printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 226] [Mr Tony Newton].

4 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 11th February; to be printed [No. 279-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

MEMORANDA

1 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Sir John Hunt an additional Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 5217/97, relating to the European Commission Report on Raw Tobacco.

2 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee A;
(2) the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee D;
(3) the Welsh Development Agency Bill to Standing Committee E;
(4) the Grants for Pre-School Education (Social Security Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(5) the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel) Order 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

[No. 62.]

Wednesday 12th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Bowen Wells).

And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Mr Nick Hawkins reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, &c., Bills, to which the Justices of the Peace Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, was referred, That it had gone through the Bill; and had agreed to a Report which it had directed him to make to the House; and had directed him to report the Minutes of Evidence taken before it on 12th February.

Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 312-I].

Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 312-II].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 312-II].

4 Selection (see Appendix II).

5 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

6 Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill,—Sir David Knox reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill, and had directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 299].

7 Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill,—Sir James Hill reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday and to be printed [Bill 106].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 304].

8 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Robert Hicks reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Survivability) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3151), referred to a Committee on 4th February.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Donald Anderson reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 5217/97, relating to the organisation of the market in raw tobacco, and supports the Government's policy, in the face of opposition from certain other Member States, to seek the removal of support from the tobacco sector.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

11 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Barry Jones reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 5147/96, relating to company law on takeover bids, and agrees with the Government's view that a Directive would put at risk the advantages offered by the United Kingdom's present non-statutory system of takeover control without bringing compensating advantages and should therefore be opposed.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

12 Government of Wales Bill.—The Order for reading the Government of Wales Bill a second time on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 28th February.

13 Dignity at Work Bill [Lords].—The Dignity at Work Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 107].

14 Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill.—The Order for considering the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be considered on Friday 28th February.

15 Political Fundraising.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in respect of the funding of political parties at general elections and other times—(Mr David Winnick);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 19 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in respect of the funding of political parties at general elections and other times: And that Mr David Winnick, Mr Tony Banks, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr John Spellar, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Robert Hughes, Mr Doug Hoyle, Mr Michael Clapham, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Ken Eastham, Mr Andrew Mackinlay and Mrs Anne Campbell do prepare and bring it in.

16 Political Fundraising Bill.—Mr David Winnick accordingly presented a Bill to make provision in respect of the funding of political parties at general elections and other times: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 1st May and to be printed [Bill 105].

17 Police Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Police Bill [Lords]:

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
46 ELIZ. II 12th February 1997 221

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and add the words 'this House believes that the Police Bill [Lords] is not an acceptable and effective measure unless the bugging of private places by the police is made fully subject to prior judicial authorisation; unless the power to require job applicants to produce a criminal conviction certificate is limited to posts for which there is a reasonable justification for such a certificate; and unless the service authorities for the National Criminal Intelligence Service and the National Crime Squad are made up primarily of members of local police authorities', instead thereof.——(Mr A. J. Beith.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Liz Lynne, Mr Simon Hughes: 41.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 264.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 60 (Amendment on second or third reading)—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House——(The Reverend Ian Paisley)—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker declared that the Bill stood committed to a Standing Committee.

18 Police Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Police Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Police Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise——

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of——

(a) any expenses of the Secretary of State attributable to the provisions of the Act,
(b) any compensation payable, by virtue of the provisions of the Act, by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, and
(c) any increase attributable to the provisions of the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other enactment; and

(2) the payment of any sums into the Consolidated Fund——(Mrs Jacqui Lait)—It was agreed to.

19 Pensions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 28th January, be approved——(Mrs Jacqui Lait)—It was agreed to.

20 Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the Bill be referred to the Scottish Grand Committee——(Mrs Jacqui Lait)—It was agreed to.

21 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That, at the meeting of the Scottish Grand Committee on Monday 17th February, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion which may be made in relation to the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] at half-past Two o'clock, if not previously concluded.——(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

22 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Pembrokeshire against the proposed merger of the Pembrokeshire Ambulance Service and the West Wales Ambulance Trust was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

23 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.——(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eighteen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.42 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—(1) Draft Farm Woodland (Amendment) Scheme 1997, and
(2) draft Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 1997
[by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

2 Government Trading Funds,—Draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

3 Northern Ireland,—Draft Local Elections (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

4 Rating and Valuation,—(1) Draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1997, and
(2) draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Amendment Regulations 1997
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Independent Trustee) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 252), dated 6th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

6 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Television Licence Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 290), dated 11th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].


Other Papers:

8 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment and salary of a new member of the English Tourist Board [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

9 Football Spectators,—Report and Accounts of the Football Licensing Authority for 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

10 Governance of Public Bodies,—Paper, entitled The Governance of Public Bodies: A Progress Report [by Command] [Cm. 3557] [Mr Roger Freeman].

11 Housing,—Accounts of the Housing Action Trusts for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 303] [Clerk of the House].

12 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Accounts prepared pursuant to the Industrial Organisation and Development Act 1947 of the sums recovered by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 300] [Clerk of the House].

13 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Accounts of the Urban Development Corporations for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 301] [Clerk of the House].

14 Miscellaneous (No. 3, 1997),—Agreement, concluded at Stockholm in February 1996, concerning Specific Stability Requirement for Ro-Ro Passenger Ships undertaking Regular Scheduled International Voyages between or to or from Designated Ports in North West Europe and the Baltic Sea [by Command] [Cm. 3553] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

15 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the First to Eighth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3559] [Mr Michael Jack].

16 Reserve Forces,—Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces on the call-out of members of the Territorial Army, the Army Reserve and the Regular Army Reserve of Officers [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

17 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the Medical Research Council for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 302] [Clerk of the House].
18 Treaty Series (No. 15, 1997),—1995 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (Resolution MSC 46(65)) [by Command] [Cm. 3552] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee D,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr David Atkinson, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Tim Devlin, Mr David Faber, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Charles Hendry, Mr John Heppell, Mr John Horam, Mr Kevin Hughes, Tessa Jowell, Mr Gerald Malone, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr David Nicholson, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Peter Thurham and Dr Tony Wright.

2 Standing Committee E,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Welsh Development Agency Bill, viz.: Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Michael Brown, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Denzi Davies, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Warren Hawksey, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Gwylwm Jones, Mr Jon Owen Litt, Mr Jacqui Lait, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Rod Richards, Sir Wyn Roberts, Mr Ted Rowlands, Mr Walter Sweeney and Sir Donald Thompson.

3 Second Reading Committee,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on a Second Reading Committee on the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill, viz.: Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr James Clapinson, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Colin Pickthall, Bridget Prentice, Joan Ruddock, Mr Michael Stern, Mr John Sykes, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Roy Thomason, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Alan Williams.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Grants for Pre-School Education (Social Security Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1996, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Jonathan Aitken, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr George Galloway, Dr Keith Hampson, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Michael Jopling, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Sir Michael Marshall, Mrs Ray Mitchie, Mr Raymond S. Robertson, Sir Michael Spence, Rachel Squire and Mr Mike Watson.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Michael Alison, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Menzies Campbell, Mrs Edwina Currie, Mr Derek Fatchett, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Jeremy Hanley, Mr Andrew Hargreaves, Mr Greville Janner, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Mr John Marshall, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Ernie Ross, Sir Nicholas Scott, Mr Mike Watson and Mr Bowen Wells.

6 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee Mr Malcolm Moss; and had appointed in substitution Sir Patrick Mayhew.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) First Report from the Defence Committee [Sale of the Married Quarters Estate], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 94].

(2) Second Report from the Defence Committee [Army Terms of Service (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2973)], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 211] to be printed; and

(3) Memorandum (Disposal of Nuclear Submarines) laid before the Defence Committee

[Mr Michael Colvin].
2 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 12th February; to be printed [No. 277-ii] [Mr Roy Thomason].

3 European Legislation,—Fourteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xiv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 12th February; to be printed [No. 313-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

5 Public Service,—(1) Second Report from the Public Service Committee [The Work of the Commissioner for Public Appointments]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 141]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Service Committee on 12th February; to be printed [No. 78-v]
   [Mr Giles Radice].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 12th February; to be printed [No. 309] [Sir Giles Shaw].

7 Treasury,—(1) First Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996-97 (Barings Bank and International Regulation)]; to be printed [No. 310]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 12th February; to be printed [No. 311-i]
   [Mr Barry Legg].

8 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 12th February; to be printed [No. 306-i] [Mr Gareth Wardell].

MEMORANDA

1 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—
   (1) Mr Edward O'Hara and Mr Michael Lord Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords];
   (2) Sir James Hill Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Road Traffic Reduction Bill;
   (3) Sir Alan Haselhurst and Mr Donald Anderson Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords];
   (4) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Welsh Development Agency Bill;
   (5) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Second Reading Committee in respect of the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill;
   (6) Sir James Hill Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Grants for Pre-School Education (Social Security Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1996;
   (7) Mr Michael Lord Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel) Order 1997;
   (8) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 11419/96, relating to Future Noise Policy; and
   (9) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Tuesday 18th February.

2 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), Official Journal No. OJC 395 of 31st December 1996 relating to the Court of Auditors' Statement of Assurance for 1995: European Development Funds, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

3 Public Bills (Scotland),—In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)) the Speaker certified that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] relate exclusively to Scotland.
Thursday 13th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Message from the Lords—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Overseas Domestic Workers (Protection) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Immigration Act 1971 to confer protection on overseas domestic workers who are witnesses or plaintiffs in proceedings before a court or tribunal; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill.—The Order for considering the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be considered on Friday 28th February.

5 Companies.—Resolved, That the draft Companies Act 1985 (Directors' Report) (Statement of Payment Practice) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 27th January, be approved.—(Mr Richard Page.)

6 House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That Schedule 1 to the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 be amended as follows:

PART I OF SCHEDULE 1

Amendment

1. For the entry ‘Judge of the Court of Session’ there shall be substituted the following entry:—

Judge of the Court of Session, or Temporary Judge appointed under the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990.

PART II OF SCHEDULE 1

Additional entries

2. The following entries shall be inserted at the appropriate places:—

The Antarctic Act Tribunal established under regulations made under the Antarctic Act 1994.

The East of Scotland Water Authority.

The Land Authority for Wales.

The Local Government Staff Commission (England).

The North of Scotland Water Authority.

The Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration.

The Scottish Legal Aid Board.

The Scottish Water and Sewerage Customers Council or any committee established by that council under paragraph 10(1) of Schedule 9 to the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.

The Training and Employment Agency Advisory Board in Northern Ireland.

The West of Scotland Water Authority.

Entry omitted

3. The following entry shall be omitted:—

The Scottish Development Agency.
PART III of Schedule 1

Additional entries

4. The following entries shall be inserted at the appropriate places:

- Adjudicator appointed under section 5 of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1995.
- Adjudicator for the Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise and the Contributions Agency.
- Chairman of an Agricultural Land Tribunal or member of a panel appointed under paragraph 14 or 15 of Schedule 9 to the Agriculture Act 1947.
- Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.
- Chairman, Deputy Chairman or Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.
- Chairman or Chief Executive of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils.
- Chairman, Deputy Chairman or Chief Executive of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.
- Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the English Sports Council.
- Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Financial Reporting Council.
- Chairman or any director of the Further Education Development Agency.
- Chairman of Investors in People UK.
- Chairman, Deputy Chairman or Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council.
- Chairman or Director of the National Forest Company.
- Chairman of the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council.
- Chairman of the Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment.
- Chairman, Deputy Chairman or Chief Executive of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council.
- Chairman of the Rural Development Council for Northern Ireland.
- Chairman or any member, not also being an employee, of the State Hospitals Board for Scotland.
- Chairman of the United Kingdom Sports Council.
- Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Youth Council for Northern Ireland.
- Civil Service Commissioner.
- Civil Service Commissioner for Northern Ireland.
- Commissioner for Public Appointments.
- Commissioner for Public Appointments for Northern Ireland.
- Any director of Horticulture Research International in receipt of remuneration.
- Director General of Gas for Northern Ireland.
- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland.
- Member of the staff of the Forestry Commissioners.
- Member of the legal panel of persons available to act as chairmen of Registered Homes Tribunals.
- Member of the legal panel of persons available to act as chairmen of Registered Homes Tribunals in Northern Ireland.
- Any member of the property commission established by virtue of section 19 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.
Any member of a residuary body established by virtue of section 18 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 who is in receipt of remuneration.

Any member of the staff commission established by virtue of section 12 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.

Northern Ireland Commissioner for Protection Against Unlawful Industrial Action.

Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards.

President of the Industrial Tribunals (England and Wales), President of the Industrial Tribunals (Scotland) or member of a panel of persons appointed to act as chairmen or other members of industrial tribunals.

President of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal, or member of a panel of persons appointed to act as chairmen or other members of that tribunal.

Entries omitted

5. The following entries shall be omitted:—

Chairman, or Director General and Deputy Chairman, of the Agricultural and Food Research Council.

Chairman or member of a panel of deputy-chairmen of an Agricultural Land Tribunal.

Chairman of the Business & Technology Council.

Paid Chairman of the Central Transport Consultative Committee for Great Britain established under section 56 of the Transport Act 1962.

Chairman of the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Chairman of the Land Authority for Wales.

Chairman of the Letchworth Garden City Corporation.

Chairman of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council.

Any Chairman of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal.

Chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council.

Chairman of the Scottish Legal Aid Board.

Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Sports Council.

Chairman of the Training and Employment Agency Advisory Board in Northern Ireland.

Delegate for Her Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom to the Central Rhine Commission.

Director of British Telecommunications p.l.c. nominated or appointed by a Minister of the Crown or government department.

Director of Northern Ireland Airports Limited.

Director of the successor company (within the meaning of the British Steel Act 1988) being a director nominated or appointed by a Minister of the Crown or by a person acting on behalf of the Crown.

Director of the successor company (within the meaning of the British Technology Group Act 1991) being a director nominated or appointed by a Minister of the Crown or by a person acting on behalf of the Crown.

Director of a successor company (within the meaning of Part II of the Electricity Act 1989) being a director nominated or appointed by a Minister of the Crown or by a person acting on behalf of the Crown.

Any member of the Insolvency Practitioners Tribunal in receipt of remuneration.

Member of a Wages Council appointed under paragraph 1(b) of Schedule 2 to the Wages (Northern Ireland) Order 1988.

President, or member of a panel of chairmen, of industrial tribunals established under section 12 of the Industrial Training Act 1964.

Secretary of the Medical Research Council.
Other amendments

6.—(1) In the entry 'Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards', for 'Vice-Chairman' there shall be substituted 'Medical Director'.

(2) In the entry 'Chairman of the Economic and Social Research Council', after 'Chairman' there shall be inserted 'Deputy Chairman or Chief Executive'.

(3) In the entry 'Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland', the words 'or Deputy Chairman' shall be omitted.

(4) In the entry 'Chairman of the Livestock Marketing Commission for Northern Ireland', for 'Marketing' there shall be substituted 'and Meat'.

(5) In the entry 'Chairman of any of the National Boards for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting constituted under section 5 of the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979', there shall be inserted at the end 'or any member of any of those Boards appointed at a salary'.

(6) In the entry 'Chairman or non-executive member of a National Health Service trust established under the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 or the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978', for 'non-executive member' there shall be substituted 'non-executive director'.

(7) In the entry 'Chairman of the Natural Environment Research Council', after 'Chairman' there shall be inserted 'Deputy Chairman or Chief Executive'.

(8) For the entry 'Member of a panel of chairmen of industrial tribunals established under Article 30 of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984' there shall be substituted the following entry:—

Member of a panel of persons appointed to act as chairmen or other members of industrial tribunals in Northern Ireland.

(9) In the entry 'Rent officer or deputy rent officer appointed in pursuance of a scheme under section 63 of the Rent Act 1977', the words 'or deputy rent officer' shall be omitted.

PART IV OF SCHEDULE 1

Entry omitted

7. The entry relating to Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant or Lieutenant for an islands area in Scotland shall be omitted.

Other amendments

8.—(1) In the entry relating to Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant or Lieutenant for a region in Scotland—

(a) for 'a region' there shall be substituted 'an area'; and

(b) for the words from 'such part' to 'Majesty' there shall be substituted 'the area'.

(2) In the entry relating to Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant or Lieutenant for the district of the city of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh or Glasgow—

(a) the words 'the district of' shall be omitted; and

(b) for 'the district in' there shall be substituted 'the city in'—(Mr Michael Bates);

An Amendment (b) was proposed to the Question, in line 8, at the end, to insert the words—

'Additional Entry

1A. The following entry shall be inserted at the appropriate place:—"Recorder and Assistant Recorder"'.—(Mr Nigel Spearing.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

And the Main Question being put:—It was agreed to.

7 Merchant Shipping.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Survivability) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 23rd January, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

8 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft
Deregulation (Employment in Bars) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 16th December, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

9 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

10 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Validity of Civil Preliminaries to Marriage) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

11 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Gaming on Sunday in Scotland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.40 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Government Trading Funds,—Draft Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

2 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—(1) Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1997, and
   (2) Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1997, dated 12th February [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

3 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—Special Grant Reports (Scotland) on—
   (1) Grant in aid of building works at Dunblane Primary School and Grant in aid of Local Authority revenue costs resulting from the Dunblane tragedy, and
   (2) Supplementary Mismatch Scheme Grant for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 273 and 272] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

4 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and
   (2) draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

5 Representation of the People,—(1) Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) Regulations 1997, and
   (2) draft Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard]; and
   (3) draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, and
   (4) draft Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew]; and
   (5) draft Representation of the People (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

6 Road Traffic,—Draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].
7 Social Security.—Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Contract for Work) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

8 Education.—Education (Transfer of Functions Relating to Grant-maintained Schools) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 294), dated 30th January 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].


10 Telecommunications.—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Birmingham Cable Limited) Order 1996 (S.I., 1997, No. 313),
(2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (HSCo Limited) Order 1996 (S.I., 1997, No. 314), and
(3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Telewest Communications Fylde and Wyre Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 315),
dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

11 Appropriations in Aid.—Treasury Minute, dated 13th February 1997, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

12 Defence (Votes A), 1997-98, Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces during 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 253] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

13 Development of Tourism.—Statement of appointment and salary of a new member of the English Tourist Board [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

14 Driving Standards Agency.—Report by the Secretary of State for Transport on consultation undertaken concerning the proposal to establish the Driving Standards Agency as a Trading Fund [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

15 Gas.—Report of the Director General of Gas Supply for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 237] [Mr Secretary Lang].

16 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Reports by the Secretary of State for Scotland on—
(1) the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1997, and
(2) the Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 275 and 276] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

17 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: Tackling Common Agricultural Policy Irregularities [by Act]; to be printed [No. 268] [Clerk of the House].

18 Overseas Development Administration Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Natural Resources Institute for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 260] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

19 Supply Estimates, 1995-96.—Statement of the sums required to be voted in order to make good excesses on certain grants for 1995-96 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 239] [Mr Michael Jack].

20 Supply Estimates, 1996-97.—Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1996–97 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 238] [Mr Michael Jack].

21 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—
(1) Birmingham Cable Limited,
(2) HSCo Limited, and
(3) Telewest Communications Fylde and Wyre Limited
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

(2) United Nations (International Tribunals) (Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda) (Isle of Man) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 282), and
(3) United Nations (International Tribunals) (Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda) (Jersey) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 283),
dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 European Legislation,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 13th February; to be printed [No. 136-ii] [Sir Robert Hicks].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 13th February; to be printed [No. 286-ii] [Mrs Marion Roe].

3 National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 13th February; to be printed [No. 147-viii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Mr John Butterfill an additional Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Welsh Development Agency Bill.

[No. 64.]

Friday 14th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Notice having been taken that strangers were present, the Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 143 (Withdrawal of strangers from House), put forthwith the Question, That strangers do withdraw.

The House proceeded to a Division; but only one Member being willing to act as Teller for the Ayes, the Speaker declared that the Noes had it.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 25, at the end, to insert the words

‘(4A) The fourth condition is that the offence referred to in subsection (4) would be triable on indictment and punishable by imprisonment.’.—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 16, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 24.—(Mr Edward Leigh.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 39, at the end, to insert the words—

'(12A) No prosecution in respect of conspiracy to commit an offence to which subsection (12B) applies shall be instituted by virtue of this section except by or with the consent of the Attorney General.

(12B) This subsection applies to any offence listed in an order made by the Secretary of State by statutory instrument.

(12C) A statutory instrument made under subsection (12B) above shall be subject to approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.'—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Michael Fabricant: 26.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr George Galloway, Mr Dennis Skinner: 0.

And it appearing on the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next sitting of the House.

4 Police (Health and Safety) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Police (Health and Safety) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 9 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

5 Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 10 agreed to.

A Clause (Regulation of disclosures by Criminal Cases Review Commission)—(Mr Robert G. Hughes)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Schedule agreed to.

Title amended as follows: A Bill to make provision for regulating access by defendants and others to certain categories of material disclosed by the prosecution or by the Criminal Cases Review Commission in connection with proceedings relating to certain sexual and other offences.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now considered:—The House accordingly proceeded to consider the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Parking Penalty Charge Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Parking Penalty Charge Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 25th April.
7 Partial-Birth Abortion Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Partial-Birth Abortion Bill;

Order, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 25th April.

8 Overseas Development and Co-operation Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Overseas Development and Co-operation Bill;

Order, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 25th April.

9 Building Societies (Distributions) Bill,—The Building Societies (Distributions) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Douglas French):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

10 Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read for the Second Reading of the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Order, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 28th February.

11 British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords].—The British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

12 Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr James Wallace):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

13 Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 7th February, That the Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;

Order, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 28th February.

14 Dignity at Work Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Dignity at Work Bill [Lords];

Order, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 28th February.

15 Business of the House,—Order, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 19th February, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall not later than Ten o’clock put the Questions
on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Lilley relating to Pensions and to Social Security.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

16 Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] shall be proceeded with as if it was a consolidation bill and Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills) shall apply.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

17 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 17th February.

[Adjourned at 3.08 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Council Tax.—Local Government Reorganisation (Wales) (Council Tax Reduction Scheme) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 261), dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

2 Customs and Excise.—Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 324), dated 13th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

   (3) Courts-Martial (Royal Navy) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 170), and
   (4) Standing Civilian Courts Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 172),
   dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

4 Local Government.—Residuary Body for Wales (9 Swansea Road Llanelli) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 262), dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

Other Papers:

5 European Communities (No. 4, 1997),—Agreement, done at Brussels on 26th July 1995, on provisional application between certain Member States of the European Union of the Convention drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union on the use of information technology for customs purposes [by Command] [Cm. 3549] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

6 Hungary (No. 1, 1997),—Agreement, done at London on 4th November 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on international road passenger transport [by Command] [Cm. 3529] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Jamaica (No. 1, 1997),—Convention, done at London on 12th November 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Jamaica on social security with protocol [by Command] [Cm. 3527] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Standing Committee E,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee E Mr Cynog Dafis (nominated in respect of the Welsh Development Agency Bill); and had appointed in substitution Mr Alex Carlile.
Monday 17th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).
3 Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—Mr Allan Stewart reported from the Scottish Grand Committee, That it had considered the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] in relation to the principle of the Bill and had directed him to make a Report thereof to the House: And the Report was brought up and read.
   Bill to be read a second time to-morrow.
4 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill.—Ordered, That the Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill be read a second time on Friday 28th February.
5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Telecommunications (Fraud) Bill, without Amendment.
6 Opposition Day [5th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.
   BSE Crisis.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House believes that, in view of the Government’s incompetent handling of the BSE and beef crises and its failure to make the promised progress towards lifting the ban on the export of beef and beef products, the salary of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food should be reduced by £1,000—(Dr Gavin Strang);
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 307.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Roger Knapman: 320.
   So the Question was negatived.
7 Raw Tobacco.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 5217/97, relating to the organisation of the market in raw tobacco, and supports the Government’s policy, in the face of opposition from certain other Member States, to seek the removal of support from the tobacco sector—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.
8 Takeover Bids.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 5147/96, relating to company law on takeover bids, and agrees with the Government’s view that a Directive would put at risk the advantages offered by the United Kingdom’s present non-statutory system of takeover control without bringing compensating advantages and should therefore be opposed—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.
9 Road Traffic Reduction Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to the Road Traffic Reduction Bill [Money]:
   Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Road Traffic Reduction Bill, is it expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State under or by virtue of the Act; and
   (b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)
10 British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] [Money]:
   Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any administrative expenses of the Secretary of State under the Act.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)
11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nineteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.41 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Department for Education and Employment [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

2 Government Trading Funds,—Draft The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Trading Fund Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (Jobseeker’s Allowance and Mariners’ Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Agriculture,—Countryside Premium Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 330), dated 11th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


   (2) New Town (Irvine) (Transfer of Property, Rights and Liabilities) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 343), and
   dated 13th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

8 Police,—(1) Royal Ulster Constabulary (Discipline and Disciplinary Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 42), and
   (2) Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Part-time) (Discipline and Disciplinary Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 43),
   dated 4th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Other Papers:

9 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Residuary Body (England) for 1995–96 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

10 Local Government (Scotland),—Scottish Local Government Financial Statistics for 1994–95 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

11 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Contributions Agency’s Customer Charters [by Act]; to be printed [No. 266] [Clerk of the House].

12 Sessional Returns, 1995–96,—Returns to Orders [29th October] for Returns relating to—

   (1) Business of the House,
   (2) Closure of Debate and Allocation of Time,
   (3) Private Bills and Private Business,
   (4) Public Bills,
   (5) Sittings of the House,
   (6) Special Procedure Orders,
   (7) Standing Committees,
(8) Select Committees, and
(9) Delegated Legislation
in Session 1995–96 [by Order]; to be printed [No. 164] [Clerk of the House].

Paper Withdrawn:

13 Social Security.—Draft Social Security (Jobseeker’s Allowance and Mariners’ Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 [laid 10th February].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—Third Report from the Health Committee [Health Services for Children and Young People in the Community: Home and School]; to be printed, with Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 314] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Public Accounts.—(1) Twelfth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Overseas Development Administration: Turkish Universities Equipment Project]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the report [No. 79]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 17th February; to be printed [No. 321-i]
[Mr Robert Sheldon].

(2) Third Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97 (Resource Accounting and Budgeting)]; to be printed [No. 318]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 17th February; to be printed [No. 319-i]
[Mr Barry Legg].

[No. 66.]

Tuesday 18th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King’s College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King’s College London Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 25th February.

2 Lever Park Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 25th February.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Betting and Gaming Advertising) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 2nd December, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

5 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6 Liaison,—Sir Terence Higgins reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 131 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report that it had chosen the First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee, Session 1995–96, on the Removal of Tariff Rebate Subsidy on Northern Isles Freight, and the First Report from the Agriculture Committee, Session 1995–96, on the UK Dairy Industry and the CAP Dairy Regime, to be debated on Wednesday 12th March, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).
7 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Second Reading Committee on the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill, That it had come to the following Resolution, which it had directed him to report to the House: That the Committee recommends that the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill ought to be read a second time. Report to lie upon the Table.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 322].

8 Welsh Development Agency Bill,—Mr Barry Jones reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Welsh Development Agency Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 324].

9 Waste Prevention Bill,—Mr Gary Waller, supported by Sir Teddy Taylor, Diana Maddock, Mr Cynog Dafis, Sir John Hunt, Helen Jackson, Sir David Knox, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Matthew Taylor and Mr Barry Sheerman, presented a Bill to enable certain local authorities to make arrangements to reduce, prevent or avoid waste in their area; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 108].

10 Victims of Crime,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create a new absolute defence to the crime of common assault upon a person engaged in certain offences; to require the prosecution to obtain the leave of the court before a person is tried with an assault against a person engaged in certain offences; to prevent criminal compensation being awarded in certain circumstances; to require the plaintiff in civil proceedings to obtain the leave of the court before proceeding in certain circumstances; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Walter Sweeney, Sir Rhodes Boyson, Mr lain Duncan Smith, Mr David Evans, Mr John Greenway, Sir Ivan Lawrence, Mr Edward Leigh, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr James Paaey, Mr John Redwood, Sir Trevor Skeet and Mr Michael Stephen do prepare and bring it in.

11 Victims of Crime Bill,—Mr Walter Sweeney accordingly presented a Bill to create a new absolute defence to the crime of common assault upon a person engaged in certain offences; to require the prosecution to obtain the leave of the court before a person is tried with an assault against a person engaged in certain offences; to prevent criminal compensation being awarded in certain circumstances; to require the plaintiff in civil proceedings to obtain the leave of the court before proceeding in certain circumstances; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 109].

12 Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Order of the House [18th November], relating to Firearms (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time), as varied by the Order of the House [25th November], be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendments

1.—(1) The proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at this day’s sitting.

(2) The Lords Amendments shall be taken in the order shown in the following Table and, subject to the provisions of the Order [18th November], each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords Amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 8 and 12</td>
<td>6.15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 25, 26, 27 and 93</td>
<td>7.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 40</td>
<td>8.15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining Amendments</td>
<td>9.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.—(1) For the purposes of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 above—

(a) the Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and not yet decided and, if that Question is for the amendment of the Lords Amendment, shall then put forthwith the Question on any further Amendment of the said Lords Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown and on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this
House doth agree or disagree with the Lords in the said Lords Amendment or, as the case may be, in the said Lords Amendment as amended;

(b) the Speaker shall then designate such of the remaining Lords Amendments as appear to her to involve questions of Privilege and shall—

(i) put forthwith the Question on any Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords Amendment and then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House doth agree or disagree with the Lords in their Amendment, or, as the case may be, in their Amendment as amended;

(ii) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in a Lords Amendment;

(iii) put forthwith with respect to the Amendments designated by the Speaker which have not been disposed of the Question, That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendments; and

(iv) put forthwith the Question, That this House doth agree with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments;

(c) as soon as the House has agreed or disagreed with the Lords in any of their Amendments, or disposed of an Amendment relevant to a Lords Amendment which has been disagreed to, the Speaker shall put forthwith a separate Question on any other Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown relevant to that Lords Amendment.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) above shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

Stages subsequent to first Consideration of Lords Amendments

3.—(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for the consideration forthwith of any further Message from the Lords on the Bill.

(2) The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion one hour after the commencement of those proceedings.

(3) For the purpose of bringing those proceedings to a conclusion—

(a) the Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and not yet decided, and shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown which is related to the Question already proposed from the Chair;

(b) the Speaker shall then designate such of the remaining items in the Lords Message as appear to her to involve questions of Privilege and shall—

(i) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown on any item;

(ii) in the case of each remaining item designated by the Speaker, put forthwith the Question, That this House doth agree with the Lords in their Proposal; and

(iii) put forthwith the Question, That this House doth agree with the Lords on all the remaining Lords Proposals.

(4) Proceedings under this paragraph shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

Supplemental

4.—(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for the appointment, nomination and quorum of a Committee to draw up Reasons and the appointment of its Chairman.

(2) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting at which it is appointed.

5.—(1) In this paragraph “the proceedings” means proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments, on any further Message from the Lords on the Bill, on the appointment, nomination and quorum of a Committee to draw up Reasons and the appointment of its chairman and on the Report of such Committee.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings.

(3) No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, the proceedings shall be made except by a member of the Government, and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.
(4) If the proceedings are interrupted by a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 20 at any time (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) the bringing to a conclusion of any part of the proceedings which, under this Order, are to be brought to a conclusion after that time on that day shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion—(Ann Widdecombe);

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [18th November]:—It was agreed to.

13 Firearms (Amendment) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 8.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Secretary Howard);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Matthew Carrington: 394.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tony Marlow, Mr Den Dover: 115.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
And it being after fifteen minutes past Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the remaining Question to be decided at that hour, pursuant to Order this day.
Lords Amendment No. 12 was disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 25.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Secretary Howard);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Richard Ottaway: 319.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Rupert Allason, Mr Robert Banks: 140.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
And it being after half-past Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour, pursuant to Order this day.
Lords Amendment No. 26 was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.
Lords Amendment No. 27.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Richard Ottaway: 305.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Rupert Allason, Mr Robert Banks: 145.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 93 was disagreed to.
Amendment (a) was made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 93 disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 40.
A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Ann Widdecombe);
And it being fifteen minutes past Eight o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order this day.
The Lords Amendment was disagreed to.
Amendments (a) to (g) were made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 40 disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 7, 9 to 11, 13 and 14 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 15.
Amendment (a) was made to the Lords Amendment.
The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to; and a consequential Amendment (b) was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 16 to 24 and 28 to 33 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 34.
Amendment (a) was made to the Lords Amendment.
The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 35 to 39 and 41 to 49 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 50 was agreed to; and a consequential Amendment (a) was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 51 to 78 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 79 was agreed to; and a consequential Amendment (a) was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 80 to 83 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 96 was agreed to; and a consequential Amendment (a) was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendment No. 97 was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 105 was agreed to; and a consequential Amendment (a) was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 106 to 115 were agreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 8, 12, 25, and 27;
That Mr Doug Henderson, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Lidington, Mr Patrick McLoughlin and Ann Widdecombe be members of the Committee;
That three be the Quorum of the Committee;
That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

14 Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords];
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 94E (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), That the Bill be committed to a Scottish Standing Committee—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

15 Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] [Money];
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—
(1) The payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure of the Secretary of State—
(a) in making loans or grants to provide assistance to establish bodies to whom property is to be transferred under that Act and in defraying the legal expenses and other costs of such bodies in connection with the transfer;
(b) in paying compensation in respect of the removal of rights of pre-emption under that Act; and
(2) The payment into the Consolidated Fund of any sums received by the Secretary of State under that Act—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.
Firearms (Amendment) Bill.—Ann Widdecombe reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, that it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed her to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to the Amendments made by the Lords in page 3, line 6, and page 3, line 18, for the following Reason:

Because the disassembly of pistols would not provide adequate safeguards for the protection of the public.

The Commons disagree to the Amendments made by the Lords after Clause No. 11 for the following Reason:

Because they involve a charge on the public revenue and the Commons do not offer any further Reason trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons with the Bill and Amendments.

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of North-West Leicestershire for diplomatic action to end the war in the Sudan was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes to Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance,—Special Grant Report (No. 25) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1997–98) (House of Commons Paper No. 316) [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

2 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Continuance) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Bee Diseases,—The Importation of Bees Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 310), dated 11th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

4 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—Statement of Alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme [by Act]; to be printed [No. 308] [Mr Secretary Howard].

5 Housing,—Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 328), dated 11th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

6 Income Tax,—Income Tax (Charge to Tax) (Payments out of Surplus Funds) (Relevant Rate) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 369), dated 17th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

7 Medicines,—(1) Registration of Homoeopathic Veterinary Medicinal Products (Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 321), and

(2) Registration of Homoeopathic Veterinary Medicinal Products Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 322), dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

Other Papers:

8 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Financial Skills in Northern Ireland Departments [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 290] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

9 Environment,—Papers, entitled—

(1) Climate Change, The UK Programme, the UK’s Second Report under the Framework Convention on Climate Change, and
(2) This Common Inheritance, UK Annual Report for 1997, reporting on the UK's Sustainable Strategy of 1994 (including the Environmental Strategy of 1990) [by Command] [Cm. 3558 and 3556] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

10 Gift of Public Property,—Department of National Heritage Minute, dated 18th February 1997, concerning the transfer of part of Wroughton Airfield from Government ownership to the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum [by Command] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

11 Imperial College Bill,—Report by the Attorney General on the Imperial College Bill [by Standing Order] [Mr Attorney General].

12 Statistics of Trade,—Annual Censuses of Production and Construction, Summary Volume for 1993 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

13 Supreme Court,—Civil Courts (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 361), dated 14th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Tenth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Betting and Gaming Advertising) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 228] [Mr Barry Field].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 18th February; to be printed [No. 130-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Mr Ernie Ross].

3 Liaison,—First Report from the Liaison Committee [The Work of Select Committees], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 323] [Sir Terence L. Higgins].

4 Statutory Instruments,—Twelfth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-xii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

[No. 67.]

Wednesday 19th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Sebastian Coe); And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 Road Traffic Reduction Bill,—Sir James Hill reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Road Traffic Reduction Bill, and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows: A Bill to require local authorities to prepare reports relating to the levels of road traffic in their areas; and for related purposes. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 28th February; and to be printed [Bill 110]. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 325].

6 European Standing Committee A,—Sir James Molyneaux reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution: That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 11419/96, the
Commission Green Paper on future noise policy; and endorses the Government's objective of opposing a number of the proposals on noise exposure when presenting the response of the United Kingdom to the Green Paper to the European Commission.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

7 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir James Hill reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Grants for Pre-School Education (Social Security Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 3078), referred to a Committee on 11th February.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Michael Lord reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Right to Work Bill.—Sir Ralph Howell, supported by Mr Frank Field, Mr David Alton, Sir Wyn Roberts, Mr David Howell, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Sir Rhodes Boyson, Mr Michael Alison, Sir Anthony Grant, Mr Hugh Dykes, Mr Bob Dunn and Mr Churchill, presented a Bill to establish the right to work and to impose a duty on the Secretary of State to offer work instead of benefit to persons who would otherwise be without work in the United Kingdom; to establish a system of grants to certain parents; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 113].

10 School Intruders (Criminal Offence).—Ordered, That leave to given to bring in a Bill to create an arrestable offence of unlawful intrusion into designated educational premises; and that Mr Peter Butler, Mr David Jamieson, Sir Jim Lester, Sir Donald Thompson, Mr John Sykes, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Mr Den Dover and Mr Nigel Evans do prepare and bring it in.

11 School Intruders (Criminal Offence) Bill,—Mr Peter Butler accordingly presented a Bill to create an arrestable offence of unlawful intrusion into designated educational premises: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 111].

12 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 31st January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Lilley.)

13 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Fund Payments) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 31st January, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

14 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Contributions) Amendment Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 10th February, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

15 Pensions,—Resolved, That the draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 31st January, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

16 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Amendment Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 31st January, be approved.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

17 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill,—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill, Standing Committee A shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

18 Data Protection,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of Mr Michael Jack relating to the salary of the Data Protection Registrar.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

19 Liaison Committee,—Ordered, That Sir Fergus Montgomery be discharged from the Liaison Committee and Mr Bob Dunn be added to the Committee.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

20 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Anthony Coombs.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Special Grant Report (Scotland) on Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area [by Act]; to be printed [No. 297] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(3) Reserve Forces (Call-out and Recall) (Exemption Etc.) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 307),
(4) Reserve Forces (Call-out and Recall) (Financial Assistance) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 309), and
(5) Reserve Forces (Provision of Information by Persons Liable to be Recalled) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 308), dated 19th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

(2) Teachers (Compensation for Redundancy and Premature Retirement) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 311), dated 19th February 1997, and
(3) Teachers' Superannuation (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 312), dated 19th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

6. Education (Scotland).—Scottish Qualifications Authority (Transfer Date) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 364), dated 10th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


8. Sea Fisheries.—Draft Southern Sea Fisheries District (Constitution of Committee and Expenses) (Variation) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].


10. Water Supply (Scotland).—(1) Domestic Sewerage Charges (Reduction) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 363), and
(2) Water Services Charges (Billing and Collection) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 362), dated 17th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Other Papers:

11. Miscellaneous (No. 4, 1997).—Final Act, done at London between 26th June and 7th July 1995, of the Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 with 1995 Amendments to the Annex [by Command] [Cm. 3554] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

12. National Health Service.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 17th February 1997 on borrowing by City Hospital National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].
13 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland 1995—96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 264] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

14 Scottish Law Commission,—Report by the Scottish Law Commission on Vulnerable Adults [by Act]; to be printed [No. 258] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Paper withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Bowis, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Michael Carttiss, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mr Tam Dalyell, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr David Harris, Glenda Jackson, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Gordon Prentice, Dr Robert Spink, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr David Tredinnick and Mr Nigel Waterson.

2 Standing Committee E,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Police Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr A. J. Beith, Mr Michael Brown, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Doug Henderson, Mr John Hutton, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Jane Kennedy, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr David Lidington, Mr Peter Luft, Mr David Maclean, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Chris Mullin and Mr Don Touhig.

3 Standing Committee F,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee F in respect of the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr David Alton, Mr Donald Anderson, Sir Patrick Cormack, Jean Corston, Mr James Couchman, Mr Hugh Dykes, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, Mr Alan Keen, Jane Kennedy, Sir Ivan Lawrence, Dr John Marek, Mr Tim Renton, Sir Roger Sims, Mr David Tredinnick, Mr Robert N. Wareing and Ann Widdecombe.

4 First Scottish Standing Committee,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Peter Ainworth, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Marta Fyfe, Mr Phil Gallie, Mr George Galloway, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr George Kynoch, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mr Robert Maclellan, Sir Hector Monro, Mr Raymond S. Robertson, Mr Allan Stewart and Mr Bill Walker.

5 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Sir Anthony Grant, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr David Mellor, Mr Martin O’Neill, Sir Cranley Onslow, Mr Andrew Rowe, Sir Dudley Smith, Mr Charles Wardle, Sir Ray Whitney and Mr Jimmy Wray.

6 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997, viz.: Mr Robert Atkins, Mr Donald Anderson, Sir Patrick Cormack, Dr Michael Clark, Ann Coffey, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr David Faber, Mr Andrew Faulds, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Nigel Forman, Sir Norman Fowler, Mr Bernie Grant, Sir John Hannam, Mr John Horam, Mr Brian Jenkins, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Chris Mullin, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr George Walden and Mr Bowen Wells.

7 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project Work
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Pilot Scheme) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, the draft Social Security (Jobseeker’s Allowance and Mariners’ Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 and the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Contract for Work) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Vivian Bendall, Mr Hartley Booth, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Dudley Fishburn, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Helen Jackson, Sir Jim Lester, Mr Ian McCartney, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Steve Norris, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Nigel Spearing, Sir John Stanley, Mr George Stevenson and Mr Neville Trotter.

8 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Contracting Out (functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Rupert Allason, Mr John Biffen, Mr Gyles Brandreth, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Tim Eggar, Mr Michael Fabricant, Dr John Gilbert, Mr Peter Griffiths, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill, Lynne Jones, Mrs Angela Knight, Mr Ken Livingstone, Sir Patrick McNair-Wilson, Mr Alan Millburn, Mr Tim Renton and Sir Peter Tapsell.

9 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Amendment Regulations 1997 and the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1997, viz.: Hilary Armstrong, Mr Matthew Banks, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr John Carlisle, Judith Church, Mr David Ewennett, Margaret Hodge, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Norman Lamont, Mr John McFall, Mr Keith Mans, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr William Powell, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Gareth Wardell, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr David Willetts and Mr Alan W. Williams.

10 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Farm Woodland (Amendment) Scheme 1997 and the draft Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 1997, viz.: Mr Richard Alexander, Mr Tim Boswell, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr John Home Robertson, Sir Ralph Howell, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Edward Leigh, Sir David Madel, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr David Porter, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr George Stevenson and Mr Paul Tyler.

11 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, that it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Education (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, viz.: Mr Michael Ancram, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Den Dover, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Robert Jackson, Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman, Alice Mahon, Lady Olga Maitland, Mr William O’Brien, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Don Touhig, Mr David Wilshire, Audrey Wise, Mr Mark Wolfson, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Tony Worthington and Mr Tim Yeo.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Third Report from the Defence Committee [Defence Medical Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 142];

(2) Fourth Report from the Defence Committee [Defence Expenditure and Procurement], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 127]; and

(3) Fifth Report from the Defence Committee [Heavy Lift], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 253] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Environment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 19th February; to be printed [No. 210-iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 European Legislation,—Fifteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xv] [Sir Robert Hicks].
MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the Police Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee E;
(2) the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee F;
(3) the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords] to the First Scottish Standing Committee;
(4) the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(5) the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(6) the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Worksill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, the draft Social Security (Jobseeker's Allowance and Mariners' Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997, and the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Contract for Work) Regulations 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(7) the draft Contracting Out (functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births) Order 1997 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(8) the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1997, the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, and the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Amendment Regulations 1997 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(9) the draft Farm Woodland (Amendment) Scheme 1997 and the draft Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 1997 to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(10) the draft Education (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.
2 Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of Standing Committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

(2) Sir Patrick Cormack and Mr John Maxton Chairmen of Standing Committee E in respect of the Police Bill [Lords];

(3) Sir John Hunt Chairman of Standing Committee F in respect of the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords];

(4) Mr Norman Hogg and Mr Patrick Thomson Chairmen of the First Scottish Standing Committee in respect of the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords];

(5) Sir David Knox Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997;

(6) Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997;

(7) Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, the draft Social Security (Jobseeker’s Allowance and Mariners’ Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 and the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Contract for Work) Regulations 1997;

(8) Sir Robert Hicks Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Contracting Out (functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births) Order 1997;

(9) Mr Patrick Thompson Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1997, the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, and the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Amendment Regulations 1997;

(10) Sir Michael Shersby Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Farm Woodland (Amendment) Scheme 1997 and the draft Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 1997; and

(11) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Education (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996.

[No. 68.]

Thursday 20th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Sundays (Dancing and Licensing) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to except music and dancing from the Sunday Observance Act 1780; and to amend the Licensing Act 1964 in relation to the permitted hours in premises used to provide entertainment on Sundays; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Geneva Conventions Act 1957 to enable criminal proceedings to be taken in the United Kingdom for breach of article 3 of the Conventions; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to certain of their Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill; they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu of certain of their
Amendments to which this House has disagreed; they agree, without Amendment, to the consequential Amendments made by this House; and they do not insist on their Amendments to which this House has disagreed.

5 Sundays (Dancing and Licensing) Bill [Lords].—The Sundays (Dancing and Licensing) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th February and to be printed [Bill 114].

6 European Communities (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill.—Mr Tony Benn, supported by Mr Peter Shore, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mildred Gordon, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Dennis Skinner and Mrs Teresa Gorman, presented a Bill to amend sections 2 and 3 of the European Communities Act 1972 to return full and unfettered powers to the United Kingdom Parliament over all legislation enacted by the European Communities which has had, has or would otherwise have legal effect in the United Kingdom: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 24th February and to be printed [Bill 112].

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(The Prime Minister);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

8 Consolidation Bills [Money].—Ordered, That, in respect of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords] and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords], if the Bill is committed to a Committee of the whole House, further proceedings on the Bill shall stand postponed; and that as soon as the proceedings on any Money Resolution relating to the Bill have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill.—(Mrs Jacqui Lait.)

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Jacqui Lait);

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until twenty-three minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till Monday 24th February.

[Adjourned at 10.23 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Merchant Shipping.—Draft Merchant Shipping (Safe Manning, Hours of Work and Watchkeeping) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (Disqualification of Holder of Seaman’s Certificates) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 346),

(2) Merchant Shipping (Section 63 Inquiries) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 347), and

(3) Merchant Shipping (Training and Certification) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 348), dated 14th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

4 Pensions.—Local Government Pension Scheme (Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 329), dated 13th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

5 Plant Breeders’ Rights.—Plant Breeders’ Rights (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 382), dated 18th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

6 Sea Fisheries.—Draft Southern Sea Fisheries District (Constitution of Committee and Expenses) (Variation) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].


8 Social Security.—(1) Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 367), dated 14th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard]; and

(2) Social Security (Disability Living Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 349), dated 13th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].
Other Papers:

9 Environment,—Government Response to the First Report of the Environment Committee, Session 1996–97, on Water Conservation and Supply [by Command] [Cm. 3562] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

10 Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance,—Account of the Legal Aid Fund (Northern Ireland) for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 330] [Clerk of the House].

11 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Department for Education and Employment: Remploy Limited [by Act]; to be printed [No. 267] [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

12 Sea Fisheries,—Draft Southern Sea Fisheries District (Constitution of Committee and Expenses) (Variation) Order 1997 [laid 19th February].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee E,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated the Members appointed to serve on Standing Committee F in respect of the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of that Bill (transferred from Standing Committee F).

2 Standing Committee F,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated the Members appointed to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Police Bill [Lords] to serve on Standing Committee F in respect of that Bill (transferred from Standing Committee E).

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Alan Milburn (nominated in respect of the draft Contracting Out (functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Dawn Primarolo.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 20th February; to be printed [No. 286-iii] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 20th February; to be printed [No. 147-ix] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee E (transferred from Standing Committee F); and

(2) the Police Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee F (transferred from Standing Committee E).

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Mr John Butterfill Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill (in place of Mr Barry Jones);

(2) Sir John Hunt Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords] (transferred from Standing Committee F); and

(3) Sir Patrick Cormack and Mr John Maxton Chairmen of Standing Committee F in respect of the Police Bill [Lords] (transferred from Standing Committee E).
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1. Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2. Selection (see Appendix II).
3. Select Committees (see Appendix III).
4. Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Local Government (Gaelic Names) (Scotland) Bill, without Amendment.
   Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for insurance by police authorities and the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District of persons providing voluntary assistance for police purposes, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
5. Opposition Day [6th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.
   National Health Service.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House expresses its deep concern at the continuing deterioration of the National Health Service in the provision of both acute services and community care; notes with alarm the publication of the highest ever figures for people waiting for treatment; condemns Her Majesty's Government's continuing failure to rule out completely the commercialisation of General Practitioner services in its National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords]; believes that the imposition of the internal market system in the health service has fragmented decision-making, has set hospital against hospital and doctor against doctor, and has generated expensive and unnecessary paperwork and bureaucracy; wants to see a transfer of resources from bureaucracy to patient care; salutes the dedication of staff at all levels within the Service who have held it together despite government policies, but expresses grave concern at the damaging impact those policies are having on staff morale; believes that government policy towards disabled people has failed to match the aspirations of disabled people themselves; believes that the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 does not provide effective means for tackling disadvantage and discrimination affecting disabled people; calls for the establishment of a Disability Rights Commission to consider how best to achieve the comprehensive and enforceable civil rights for disabled people; believes that government policy towards disabled people has failed to match the aspirations of disabled people themselves; believes that the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 does not provide effective means for tackling disadvantage and discrimination affecting disabled people; calls for the establishment of a Disability Rights Commission to consider how best to achieve the comprehensive and enforceable civil rights for disabled people; believes that under this Government community care has become a discredited term associated with inadequate care for those in need and inadequate protection for the general public; and confirms that the National Health Service is not safe in this Government's hands.—(Mr Chris Smith.)
   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'is committed to the National Health Service as a public service, promoting health and providing high-quality care more quickly than ever before; expresses its support for the continuing development of primary care and community health services; welcomes the Government's commitment to a growing budget for the National Health Service throughout the next five years; supports the Government's policies to increase independence, choice and opportunities for people with disabilities; and welcomes the introduction of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 as a landmark in legislation for disabled people, of which there is no equal in the European Union', instead thereof. (Mr Secretary Dorrell.)
   And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Chris Smith rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put; And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to. And the Question being accordingly put; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 281.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 311.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 30 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 311.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 279.
So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved. That this House is committed to the National Health Service as a public service, promoting health and providing high-quality care more quickly than ever before; expresses its support for the continuing development of primary care and community health services; welcomes the Government’s commitment to a growing budget for the National Health Service throughout the next five years; supports the Government’s policies to increase independence, choice and opportunities for people with disabilities; and welcomes the introduction of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 as a landmark in legislation for disabled people, of which there is no equal in the European Union.

6 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill;
And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment of any sums received by the Secretary of State into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

8 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 10th February, be approved—(Mr Sebastian Coe):—It was agreed to.

9 Data Protection.—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Data Protection;
Resolved. That the Data Protection Registrar shall, with effect from 1st April 1996, be paid a salary of £60,153 per annum.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

10 Administration.—Ordered, That Mr Ken Purchase be added to the Administration Committee.—(Mr Bob Dunn, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Sebastian Coe);
And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

Adjourned at 11.00 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 21st February 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 137 (Presentation of command papers):

1 European Communities (No. 3, 1997).—Convention, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, done at Dublin on 27th September 1996, relating to Extraterritorial between the Member States of the European Union [Cm. 3533] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

2 Transport (Scotland).—Paper, entitled Keeping Scotland Moving [Cm. 3565] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

3 Treaty Series (No. 10, 1997).—Convention, done at Seoul on 25th October 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Korea for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains, with Exchange of Notes [Cm. 3530] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].
4 Treaty Series (No. 11, 1997),—Notes, exchanged at Zagreb on 1st and 4th April 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Croatia concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Croatia Debt Agreement No. 1 (1995)) [Cm. 3543] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

5 Treaty Series (No. 12, 1997),—Notes, exchanged at Seoul on 11th September 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Korea concerning an Amendment to the Air Services Agreement, done at Seoul on 5th March 1994 [Cm. 3544] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 21st February 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11.A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


8 National Health Service,—(1) Kent and Canterbury Hospitals National Health Service Trust (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 355), and (2) University Hospital Birmingham National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 354), dated 17th February 1997 [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

9 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 70), dated 19th February 1997 [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 24th February 1997:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

10 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

11 Northern Ireland,—Draft Property (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

12 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


16 Harbours, Docks, Piers and Ferries,—Dockyard Services (Rosyth) (Designation and Appointed Day) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 151), dated 20th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].


18 Legal Aid and Advice,—Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 416), dated 18th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].


22 Supreme Court.—Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment) 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 415), dated 24th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

Other Papers:

23 Intelligence Services.—Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3574] [The Prime Minister].

24 National Audit,—Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Sales of the Government’s Residual Shareholdings in BP, BAA and in Other Privatised Companies, and

(2) Wind Up of Leeds and Bristol Urban Development Corporations
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 265 and 292] [Clerk of the House].


26 Reserve Forces,—(1) Regular Reserve Regulations 1997, and

(2) Reserve Forces (Army) Regulations 1997
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

27 Social Security Administration,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee and statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3572] [Mr Secretary Lilley].


(3) United Nations Arms Embargoes (Somalia, Liberia and Rwanda) (Channel Islands) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 279), and


APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr John Horam (nominated in respect of the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Simon Burns.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Second Sale of Shares in National Power and PowerGen]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 151]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 24th February; to be printed [No. 340-i]
[Mr Robert Sheldon].

2 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 24th February; together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 341] [Mr Barry Legg].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King's College London Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 4th March.

2 Lever Park Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 4th March.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 (Petitions of General Objection).—Mr William Cash reported from the Joint Committee to which the Petitions of General Objection against the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley (Oakwell Regeneration Area) Compulsory Purchase Order 1994 stood referred, pursuant to section 4 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, That it had considered the said Petitions; and had directed him to report that the Order be not approved, and had further directed him to report the Order, without Amendment, to the House, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before it; and had agreed to a Special Report, which it had directed him to make to the House: And the Report was brought up and read.

Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 342].

Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Selection (see Appendix II).

6 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

7 Finance Bill.—Sir James Hill reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 40, 62, 68, 82 and 92 and Schedules Nos. 7 and 13) and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Committee and in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 117].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 339].

8 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir David Knox reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill, without Amendment.

11 Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords].—The Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 118].

12 Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill.—The Order for resuming the adjourned debate on Second Reading of the Human Tissue (Amendment) Bill on Friday was read and discharged.

Debate to be resumed on Friday 18th April.

13 Great Apes (Prohibition of Experiments) Bill.—Mr Tony Banks, supported by Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr John McWilliam, Mr Tony Benn, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Phil Gallie, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Harry Greenway and Mr Ken Livingstone presented a Bill to prohibit certain experimental or scientific procedures being conducted on great apes: And the same was
read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed
[Bill 115].

14 Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put
forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees), That the
Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill be referred to a Second Reading Committee—(Mr
Sebastian Coe)—It was agreed to.

15 Local Government (Conduct of Officers).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill
to enhance the independence and professional status of senior local government officers by
providing for a statutory code of conduct requiring that their advice and actions be
politically impartial, and to establish an independent tribunal with authority to
investigate complaints made by the public and enforce the code as required, and related
matters: And that Mr Chris Davies, Mr David Rendel, Mr Don Foster, Mr Peter
Thurnham, Mr David Chidgey, Mr David Alton, Ms Liz Lynne and Mr Simon Hughes
do prepare and bring it in.

16 Local Government (Conduct of Officers) Bill,—Mr Chris Davies accordingly presented a Bill
to enhance the independence and professional status of senior local government officers
by providing for a statutory code of conduct requiring that their advice and actions be
politically impartial, and to establish an independent tribunal with authority to
investigate complaints made by the public and enforce the code as required, and related
matters: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on
Thursday 1st May and to be printed [Bill 116].

17 Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords].—The Social Security (Recovery of
Benefits) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed
to a Standing Committee.

18 Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty’s
Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Social
Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with
bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Social Security (Recovery of
Benefits) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary
of State incurred in consequence of the Act, and

(2) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of sums paid to the Secretary of State
under the Act and estimated by him to relate to payments out of money provided by
Parliament—(Mr Peter Ainsworth)—It was agreed to.

19 Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for
the Second Reading of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was
agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the
whole House—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed, pursuant to Order [20th February].

20 Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty’s
Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Town and
Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with
bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Town and Country Planning
(Scotland) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided
by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any
other enactment—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

21 Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The House, pursuant to Order [20th
February], immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Town and Country
Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords].
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(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 277 agreed to.

Clause No. 278 (Citation, commencement and extent).

Amendment (No. 1) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Schedules Nos. 1 to 18 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Peter Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made an Amendment thereunto.

The House proceeded to consider the Bill, as amended in the Committee.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

22 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read for the Second Reading of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61. (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed, pursuant to Order [20th February].

23 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase by or under the Act in the sums so payable—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

24 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The House, pursuant to Order [20th February], immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 82 agreed to.

Clause No. 83 (Short title, commencement and extent.)

Amendment (No. 1) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Schedules Nos. 1 to 3 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Peter Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made an Amendment thereunto.

The House proceeded to consider the Bill, as amended in the Committee.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

25 Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

26 Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [20th February] and Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [20th February] and Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Peter Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [20th February] and Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

27 National Heritage Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the National Heritage Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 10, after the word 'aesthetic' to insert the words 'anthropological, sociological,'. (Roseanna Cunningham.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Andrew Welsh: 99.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Sebastian Coe: 169.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

28 Civil Procedure Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Civil Procedure Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

29 Sex Offenders Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Sex Offenders Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Register of sex offenders)—(Mr Alun Michael)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Use of information on the register of sex offenders)—(Mr Alun Michael)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Kevin Hughes: 96.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Matthew Carrington: 155.

Amendment (No. 13) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 22, to leave out the word 'before' and insert the words 'as soon as is practicable and in any event no later than,' instead thereof. —(Mr Alun Michael.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 40 to 43) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 18, at the end, to insert the words—
'(1A) Subject to subsection (1B) below, this Part does not apply to a person who is under 16 on the relevant date.

(1B) In the case of a person falling within section 1(1)(a) or (b) above who is under 16 on the relevant date, the court may direct that this Part shall have effect.'—(Mr Peter Thurnham.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 1 and 9) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed to the Bill, in page 12, to leave out line 32 and insert the words—

'(a) Where the offender was under 20—

(i) paragraph (a)(v) and (vi) does not apply;

(ii) paragraph (a)(vii) and (viii) does not apply where the act would not have been an offence but for section 14(2) or section 15(2) of the Sexual Offences Act 1956, unless the court has imposed a term of imprisonment for the offence; and

(iii) paragraph (a)(iii) does not apply unless the court, having regard to the circumstances of the offence and the offender, in the interests of child protection, so directs.'—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 32 to 39) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 24) proposed to the Bill, in page 15, line 37, at the end, to insert the words—

'(ia) section 4 (Administering drugs to obtain or facilitate intercourse);'—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 2 to 5) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

30 Future Noise Policy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 11419/96, the Commission Green Paper on future noise policy; and endorses the Government's objective of opposing a number of the proposals on noise exposure when presenting the response of the United Kingdom to the Green Paper to the European Commission—(Mr Gyles Brandreth):—It was agreed to.

31 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) citizens of Oundle and elsewhere for legislation to permit prosecution of United Kingdom citizens for serious sexual offences against children abroad; and

(2) citizens of Bolton and elsewhere against the Lever Park Bill

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

32 Message from the Lords.—A message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree without Amendment to the Amendment made by this House to the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Bill [Lords].

The Lords agree without Amendment to the Amendment made by this House to the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Bill [Lords].

33 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Gyles Brandreth);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

34 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-four minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.24 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Data Protection.—Draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Council Tax.—Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 393), dated 18th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Council Tax and Rating and Valuation.—Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 394), dated 18th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].


5 Legal Aid and Advice.—(1) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 91),
   (2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 92), and
   (3) Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 90),
dated 21st February 1997 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Gary Streeter].

6 Road Traffic.—Road Traffic Offenders (Additional Offences and Prescribed Devices) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 384), dated 17th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

7 Telecommunications.—Public Telecommunications System Designation (Telewest Communications plc) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 409), dated 24th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

8 Erskine Bridge Tolls.—Accounts of the Scottish Office Development Department: Erskine Bridge for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 333] [Clerk of the House].

9 Explosives.—Report of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Explosives for Northern Ireland for 1995 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 271] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

10 Law Commission (Scotland).—Report by the Scottish Law Commission: Fifth Programme of Law Reform [by Act]; to be printed [No. 315] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

11 National Health Service.—Treasury Minute concerning the remission of outstanding debt consequent on dissolution and reconfiguration of certain National Health Service Trusts [by Command] [Mr Michael Jack].

12 Registration Service.—Birth statistics: Review of the Registrar General on births and patterns of family building in England and Wales for 1995 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

13 Telecommunications.—Licence granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to Telewest Communications plc [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Standing Committee E.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee E Sir Ivan Lawrence (nominated in respect of the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords]), and had appointed in substitution Mr Peter Luff.
APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the
Education and Employment Committee on 25th February; to be printed [No. 331-i]
[Mr Ernie Ross].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 25th
February; to be printed [No. 148-iii] [Mr David Howell].

3 Statutory Instruments,—Thirteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory
Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed
[No. 29-xiii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

[No. 71.]

Wednesday 26th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do
now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed,
without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—Mr John Butterfill reported from
Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Companies (Millennium Computer
Compliance) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as
follows: Bill to require companies to conduct an assessment of the capability of their
computer systems to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999 and to report
both on those assessments and on the actions their directors propose to take in
consequence.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday and to be
printed [Bill 122].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 344].

6 British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords],—Sir John Hunt reported from Standing
Committee E, That it had gone through the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords],
and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday and to be
printed [Bill 123].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 345].

7 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported
from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Jobseeker’s
Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance
(Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Project
Work Pilot Scheme) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, the draft Social Security (Jobseeker’s
Allowance and Mariners’ Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 and
the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Contract for Work) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Robert Hicks reported from the
Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out
(Functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births)
Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Patrick Thompson reported from
the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft British Gas Pk
(Rateable Values) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, the draft Non-domestic Rating
(Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Amendment Regulations 1997 and the
draft British Gas Plc (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 Message from the Lords.— A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Amendment made by this House to the Civil Procedure
Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

11 Dartford-Thurrock Crossing (Amendment) Bill.— Mr Andrew Mackinlay presented a Bill to
amend the Dartford-Thurrock Crossing Act 1988 in respect of the tolls levied on vehicles
using the crossing: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second
time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 119].

12 National Lottery (Regionalisation).— Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to
provide that equitable regard shall be had to the interests and needs of the regions of
England in so far as the distribution of monies, decision taking, administration and other
matters affecting the National Lottery are concerned: And that Mr Ian Pearson, Mr
Richard Alexander, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Harold Elletson, Mr
Nick Harvey, Mr John Heddle, Sir Robert Hicks, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Matthew
Taylor, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Nicholas Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

13 National Lottery (Regionalisation) Bill.— Mr Ian Pearson accordingly presented a Bill to
provide that equitable regard shall be had to the interests and needs of the regions of
England in so far as the distribution of monies, decision taking, administration and other
matters affecting the National Lottery are concerned: And the same was read the first
time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 120].

14 Section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.— A Motion was made,
and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note with approval of the
Government’s assessment as set out in the Financial Statement and Budget Report 1997-
98 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993—
(Mr Phillip Oppenheim),

And it being one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the
Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14B
(Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents): — It was agreed to.

15 Contract (Scotland) Bill.— The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the
Contract (Scotland) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

16 Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in
Scotland Bill.— The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Scottish Legal
Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill, as
amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No.1) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 42, to leave out from the word
‘and’ to the word ‘the’ in line 44. — (Mr Malcolm Chisholm.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

17 Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill.— The House, according to Order,
proceeded to consider the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill, as
amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Emergency power of entry)— (Mr Malcolm Chisholm)— brought up, and
read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:— Clause, by leave,
withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 2, at the end, to insert the
words—
Guidelines and consultation. 6B. The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency shall publish guidelines as to the content of reports made pursuant to section 6A(2) above; and in preparing any such report the local authority shall consult the Agency. —(Mr Malcolm Chisholm.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Mr Eric Clarke: 174.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Knapman, Mr Richard Ottaway: 223.
The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

18 Professions Supplementary to Medicine.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Arts Therapists Board) Order of Council 1997, which was laid before this House on 6th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

19 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 7th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

20 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 7th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

21 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Betting Licensing) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)—It was agreed to.

22 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes past Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.12 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Income Tax,—(1) Friendly Societies (Gilt-edged Securities) (Periodic Accounting for Tax on Interest) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 475),
   (4) Friendly Societies (Provisional Repayments for Exempt Business) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 471),
   (5) Friendly Societies (Taxation of Transfers of Business) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 470),
   (6) Insurance Companies (Overseas Life Assurance Business) (Compliance) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 473), and
   (7) Personal Pension Schemes (Transfer Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 472),
dated 25th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 National Health Service,—North and Mid Hampshire Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 395), dated 19th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

3 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute made by the Governing Body of Magdalen College, Oxford, on 30th October 1996, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr Tony Newton].
Other Papers:

4 Dartford-Thurrock Crossing.—Report and Accounts of Dartford River Crossing Limited for the period 1st October 1995 to 30th September 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

5 Development of Tourism.—Statement of the salary of a member of the Wales Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

6 OSCE Lisbon Summit.—Lisbon Documents 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3534] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Pensions.—Paper, entitled Pension rights on Divorce [by Command] [Cm. 3564] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

8 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [4th February] from residents of Birmingham for a statutory right to short term respite breaks for disabled people and their carers [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

9 Treaty Series (No. 13, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 15th March 1991, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 3545] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

10 Treaty Series (No. 14, 1997).—Treaty, done at Washington on 6th January 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters with Exchange of Notes [by Command] [Cm. 3546] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee B.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill, viz.: Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr James Clappison, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Colin Pickthall, Bridget Prentice, Joan Ruddock, Mr Michael Stern, Mr John Sykes, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Roy Thomason, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Alan W. Williams.

2 Standing Committee E.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Robert Banks, Mr Alistair Burt, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr David Clelland, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr David Condon, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Roger Evans, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Rod Richards, Mr Graham Riddick, Mr John Sykes and Mr Jimmy Wray.

3 Second Reading Committee.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated seventeen Members to serve on a Second Reading Committee on the Police and Fireman’s Pensions Bill, viz.: Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Tim Devlin, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Douglas French, Mr George Howarth, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Lidington, Mr David Maclean, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Jon Trickett.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Matthew Banks, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Paul Flynn, Lynne Jones, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Sir Mark Lennox-Boyd, Mr John MacGregor, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Stuart Randall, Mr Tim Rathbone, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr Keith Vaz and Mr Alan W. Williams.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 24) (House of Commons Paper No. 257), viz.: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Alex Carlile, Ann Coffey, Mr David Faber, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr John Gunnell, Mr David Hanson, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Warren Hawksley, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mr
Douglas Hurd, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Ian Pearson, Sir Tim Sainsbury, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Michael Stephen, Mr John Whittingdale and Dr Tony Wright.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund Order 1997, viz.: Mr John Bowis, Sir Rhodes Boyson, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr David Chidgey, Mr James Cran, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr David Evans, Sir Marcus Fox, Sir George Gardiner, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr John Redwood, Dr Robert Spink, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Stephen Timms and Sir Cyril Townsend.

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Trading Fund Order 1997, viz.: Hilary Armstrong, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Sir Paul Beresford, Sir Graham Bright, Judith Church, Mr Mike Hall, Margaret Hodge, Helen Jackson, Mr Robert Key, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Richard Ryder, Sir Keith Speed, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Don Touhig and Mr John Wilkinson.

8 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mr Kenneth Baker, Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Nicholas Budgen, Mr Richard Burden, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr William Cash, Mr Harold Elletson, Mr David Faber, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr John Heppell, Alice Mahon, Mr Gerald Malone, Mr Bill Michie, the Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Roy Thomason, Sir Donald Thompson and Audrey Wise.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 26th February; to be printed [No. 158-ii] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Environment,—(1) Third Report from the Environment Committee [The Environmental Impact of Cement Manufacture], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 124]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Committee [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 26th February; to be printed [No. 343-i] [Mr David Howell].

4 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 26th February 1997; to be printed [No. 286-iv] [Mrs Marion Roe].

5 Home Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Government Reply to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996-97, on the operation of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991]; to be printed [No. 348]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 26th February; to be printed [No. 192-vi] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

6 Public Accounts,—(1) Fourteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department for Education and Employment: Financial Control of Payments made under the Training for Work and Youth Training Programmes in England]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 61]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 26th February; to be printed [No. 349-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 26th February; to be printed [No. 347] [Sir Giles Shaw].

8 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 26th February; to be printed [No. 327-ii] [Mr Paul Channon].
MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—
(1) the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill to Standing Committee B;
(2) the Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee E;
(3) the draft Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) Regulations 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(4) the Special Grant Report (No. 24): Asylum Seekers' Accommodation (House of Commons Paper No. 257) to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(5) the draft Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund Order 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;
(6) the draft The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Trading Fund Order 1997 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(7) the draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—
(1) Sir James Molyneaux and Sir Michael Shersby Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill;
(2) Sir David Knox and Mr Barry Jones Chairmen of Standing Committee E in respect of the Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords];
(3) Mr John McWilliam Chairman of the Second Reading Committee in respect of the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill;
(4) Sir James Hill Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) Regulations 1997;
(5) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 24): Asylum Seekers' Accommodation (House of Commons Paper No. 257);
(6) Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund Order 1997;
(7) Mr John Butterfill Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Trading Fund Order 1997;
(8) Sir Giles Shaw Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997; and

[No. 72.]
Thursday 27th February 1997.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Imperial College Bill.—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the Imperial College Bill and had amended the same so as to make it consistent with the facts as proved by the evidence adduced, and found the same, as amended, to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto; and had amended the Title as follows: A Bill to unite the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School with the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine; to transfer all rights, properties, assets and
liabilities from those medical schools to the said College; to make provision with respect to the merger of the National Heart and Lung Institute with the said College; and for connected purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

3 Southampton International Boat Show Bill.—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the Southampton International Boat Show Bill and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and had directed him to report the same without Amendment.

Bill to be read the third time.

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords],—Sir Alan Haselhurst reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 121].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 351].

6 Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords],—Mr Patrick Thompson reported from the First Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 350].

7 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Michael Shersby reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 1997 and the draft Farm Woodland (Amendment) Scheme 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir James Molyneaux reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Education (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the United Nations Personnel Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Amendment made by this House to the National Heritage Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

10 Dartford-Thurrock Crossing (Amendment) Bill,—Ordered, That the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills do examine the Dartford-Thurrock Crossing (Amendment) Bill with respect to the applicability thereto of the Standing Orders relating to Private Business.

11 Government of Wales Bill,—The Order for reading the Government of Wales Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 18th April.

12 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Sebastian Coe);

13 Royal Assent,—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, that Her Majesty had signified Her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

Horserace Totalisator Board Act 1997
Land Registration Act 1997
Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Fraud) Act 1997
Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997
Local Government (Gaelic Names) (Scotland) Act 1997
Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997
Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997
Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Act 1997
Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1997
Civil Procedure Act 1997
United Nations Personnel Act 1997

14 Adjournment,—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;
The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-one minutes to Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.39 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance,—Special Grant Report (No. 26) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 326] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Civil Aviation,—Economic Regulation of Airports (Expenses of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 403), dated 21st February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

3 Education,—Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 431), dated 19th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

4 Housing,—Allocation of Housing (Procedure) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 483), dated 26th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

5 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 338] [Mr Secretary Howard].


7 Local Government (Scotland),—Local Government (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 318), dated 10th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

8 Marine Pollution,—Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Limits) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 506), dated 17th February 1997 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

9 National Health Service,—(1) Black Country Mental Health National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 404), dated 21st February 1997,
   (2) National Health Service (Clinical Negligence Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 527), dated 27th February 1997, and
   (3) National Health Service (Existing Liabilities Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 526), dated 27th February 1997
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

10 Northern Ireland,—(1) Construction Contracts (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 274), and
   (2) Theft (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 277),
   dated 12th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

11 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 401), dated 20th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

12 Sugar,—Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 484), dated 24th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

27th—28th February 1997

Other Papers:

14 Criminal Procedure and Investigations,—Code of Practice under Part II of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (amended 27th February 1997) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

15 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on The Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors and the Statement of Assurance for 1995 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 332] [Clerk of the House].

16 London Regional Transport,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 26th February 1997 under the London Regional Transport Act 1984 in respect of temporary borrowing by London Regional Transport from Midland Bank plc [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

Paper withdrawn:

17 Merchant Shipping,—Draft Merchant Shipping (Safe Manning, Hours of Work and Watchkeeping) Regulations 1997 [laid 20th February].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 27th February; to be printed [No. 352-i] [Mr Frank Field].

[No. 73.]

Friday 28th February 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Building Societies Bill,—Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, supported by Mr Secretary Heseltine, Mr Secretary Lang, Mr Secretary Gummer, Mr Secretary Lilley, Mr William Waldegrave, Mr Secretary Dorrell, Mr Michael Jack, Mrs Angela Knight and Mr Phillip Oppenheim, presented a Bill to amend the Building Societies Act 1986; to make provision for amalgamating the Building Societies Investor Protection Board and the Deposit Protection Board into a single board and the Building Societies Investor Protection Fund and the Deposit Protection Fund into a single fund; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 3rd March and to be printed [Bill 124].

3 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) citizens of the United Kingdom in favour of the Adoptive Mothers (Maternity Leave) Bill; and

(2) residents of Lewisham for action to improve accident and emergency services at Lewisham Hospital

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Jurisdiction (Conspiracy and Incitement) Bill;

Notice having been taken that strangers were present, the Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 143 (Withdrawal of strangers from House), put forthwith the Question, That strangers do withdraw.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr George Galloway: 0.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 20.

And it appearing on the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next sitting of the House.

5 Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.
6 Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

7 Road Traffic Reduction Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Road Traffic Reduction Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

8 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 11, after the word 'company', to insert the words 'other than small and medium-sized companies as defined in section 247'.

—(Mr Tim Smith.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Debate to be resumed on Monday 10th March.

9 British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

10 Holocaust Denial Bill.—The Holocaust Denial Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

11 Education (Special Educational Needs) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Education (Special Educational Needs) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday 3rd March.

12 Adoptive Mothers (Maternity Leave) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Adoptive Mothers (Maternity Leave) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday 3rd March.

13 Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

14 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday 3rd March.

15 Waste Prevention Bill.—The Waste Prevention Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

16 Sundays (Dancing and Licensing) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Sundays (Dancing and Licensing) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday 3rd March.

17 Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords].—The Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

18 Great Apes (Prohibition of Experiments) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Great Apes (Prohibition of Experiments) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday 3rd March.

19 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall—

(1) at the sitting on Monday 3rd March, put the Questions on the Motions in the names of Mr Secretary Howard relating to the draft Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates’ Election Expenses) Order 1997 and Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew relating to the draft Local Elections (Variations of Limits of Candidates’ Election Expenses) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 not later than one and a half hours after the start of proceedings on the first such Motion, and these Motions may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock;

(2) at the sitting on Tuesday 4th March, put the Questions on the four Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Forsyth relating to Local Government Finance (Scotland) not later than Seven o’clock; and
(3) at the sitting on Wednesday 5th March—

(i) put the Question on the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Howard relating to Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism not later than Seven o'clock; and

(ii) put the Question on the Motion in the name of Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew relating to the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 not later than Ten o'clock.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

20 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);

And the Motion having been made after half-past Two o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then four minutes past Three o'clock, till Monday 3rd March.

[Adjourned at 3.04 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out,—Draft Contracting Out (Functions of Local Authorities in relation to Income-related Benefits) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

2 International Monetary Fund,—Draft International Monetary Fund (Limit on Lending) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Local Government,—(1) Bedfordshire County Council (Borough of Luton) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 478), dated 24th February 1997,

(2) Buckinghamshire County Council (Borough of Milton Keynes) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 479), dated 24th February 1997,

(3) Derbyshire County Council (City of Derby) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 459), dated 24th February 1997,

(4) Dorset County Council (Boroughs of Poole and Bournemouth) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 458), dated 24th February 1997,

(5) Durham County Council (Borough of Darlington) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 460), dated 24th February 1997,

(6) East Sussex County Council (Boroughs of Brighton and Hove) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 461), dated 24th February 1997,

(7) Hampshire County Council (Cities of Portsmouth and Southampton) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 468), dated 24th February 1997,

(8) Leicestershire County Council (City of Leicester and District of Rutland) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 476), dated 24th February 1997,


(10) Staffordshire County Council (City of Stoke-on-Trent) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 469), dated 24th February 1997, and

(11) Wiltshire County Council (Borough of Thamesdown) (Staff Transfer) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 456), dated 24th February 1997

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

4 Road and Railway Transport,—Road Transport Licensing (Fees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 57), dated 11th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].


Other Papers:

6 National Health Service,—Accounts of the Public Health Laboratory Service Board for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 353] [Clerk of the House].

7 Social Services (Training),—Accounts of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 354] [Clerk of the House].

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).
3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Criminal Evidence (Amendment) Bill, without Amendment.
Architects Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to architects; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
Lietuencies Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to lieutenancies in Great Britain; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979 and the enactments amending it; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
4 Architects Bill [Lords].—The Architects Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 125].
5 Lieutenancies Bill [Lords].—The Lieutenancies Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 126].
6 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill [Lords].—The Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 127].
7 Environmental Protection, Resolved, That the draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 29th January, be approved. (Mr Robert B. Jones.)
8 Representation of the People, Resolved, That the draft Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th February, be approved. (Mr Tom Sackville.)
9 Northern Ireland, Resolved, That the draft Local Elections (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 12th February, be approved. (Mr Tom Sackville.)
10 Companies, Resolved, That the draft Company Accounts (Disclosure of Directors' Emoluments) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 6th February, be approved. (Mr John M. Taylor.)
11 Social Security, A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 28th January, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.
12 Social Security, A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.
13 Social Security, A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.
14 Social Security, A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Contract for Work) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington): It was agreed to.
15 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Jobseeker's Allowance and Mariners' Benefits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 17th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

16 Contracting Out.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Functions of the Registrar General in relation to authorising re-registration of births) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

17 Rating and Valuation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

18 Rating and Valuation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts for Small Hereditaments) Amendment Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

19 Rating and Valuation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft British Gas plc (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

20 Agriculture.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Farm Woodland (Amendment) Scheme 1997, which was laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

21 Agriculture.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 1997, which was laid before this House on 12th February be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

22 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Education (No.2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, which was laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

23 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) citizens of the United Kingdom for legislation to ensure that British citizens who commit serious sexual offences against children abroad can be prosecuted in the United Kingdom; and

(2) citizens of the United Kingdom for action to ensure continuation of doorstep milk delivery

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

24 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.01 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Countryside.—Draft Hedgerows Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

2 Criminal Law.—(1) Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (No. 1) Order 1997, dated 14th February 1997, and

(2) Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (No. 2) Order 1997, dated 27th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].
3 Deregulation,—(1) Draft Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs: Debit Cards) Order 1997, together with a statement from the Secretary of State for the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard]; and
   (2) Draft Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997, together with a statement from the Secretary of State for the Environment [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


5 Customs and Excise,—Customs Reviews and Appeals (Tariff and Origin) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 534), dated 27th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Phillip Oppenheim].

6 National Assistance Services,—(1) National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 485), and
   (2) National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 486), dated 26th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

7 National Health Service,—(1) Birmingham Heartlands and Solihull (Teaching) National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 453),
   (2) Northampton Community Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 447), and
   (3) Princess Alexandra Hospital National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 448), dated 24th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

   (2) Town and Country Planning (Development Plan) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 531), dated 26th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:

9 Air Force (Constitution),—Regulations for the Royal Air Force Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

10 British Library,—Accounts of the British Library Board for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 346] [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

11 Charities,—Draft Charities (The Peabody Donation Fund) Order 1997 [laid 23rd January].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 3rd March; to be printed [No.356-d] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

[No. 75.]
Tuesday 4th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King's College London Bill [Lords];
   Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 11th March.

2 Lever Park Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 11th March.
3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That the draft Deregulation (Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th February, should be approved.

*The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.*

That the draft Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 24th February, should be approved.

*The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.*

5 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill,—Sir James Molyneaux reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 364].

7 Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords],—Sir David Knox reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 358].

8 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir James Hill reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 24): Special Grants for Asylum Seekers’ Accommodation, House of Commons Paper No. 257.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 New Member sworn,—James Keith Chapman, Esquire, Member for Wirral South, was sworn.

11 United Kingdom Membership of European Union (Research),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require Her Majesty’s Government to carry out research into alternatives to the United Kingdom’s membership of the European Union: And that Mr Hartley Booth, Mr Bob Dunn, Sir Ralph Howell, Sir Sydney Chapman, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Nicholas Badgen, Mr William Cash, Mr Andrew Robothan, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr David Amess and Mr David Lidington do prepare and bring it in.

12 United Kingdom Membership of European Union (Research) Bill,—Mr Hartley Booth accordingly presented a Bill to require Her Majesty’s Government to carry out research into alternatives to the United Kingdom’s membership of the European Union: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 128].

13 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1997, dated 12th February 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Mr George Kynoch);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [28th February].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Sebastian Coe: 303.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr Joe Benton: 256.

So the Question was agreed to.

*Resolved,* That the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1997, dated 12th February 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions required to be put at that hour.
Local Government (Finance) Scotland,—Resolved, That the Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1997, dated 12th February 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

Local Government (Finance) Scotland,—Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (Scotland) on Supplementary Mismatch Scheme Grant for 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 272), which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

Local Government (Finance) Scotland,—Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (Scotland) on Grant in aid of building works at Dunblane Primary School and Grant in aid of Local Authority revenue costs resulting from the Dunblane tragedy (House of Commons Paper No. 273), which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

14 Housing (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 22nd January, be approved—(Mr Raymond S. Robertson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Matthew Carrington: 293.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Ms Angela Eagle: 246.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 22nd January, be approved.

15 Welsh Development Agency Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Welsh Development Agency Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

16 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That Sir Archibald Hamilton be discharged from the Standards and Privileges Committee and Sir David Mitchell be added to the Committee.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

17 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale and
(2) residents of Roxburgh and Berwickshire
for review of the financial settlement for 1997-98 proposed for Scottish Borders Council, and
(3) residents of Cumbria and Lancashire for changes in railway procedures to prevent overcarrying
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

19 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin);

And the Motion having been made at Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then half-past Ten o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (Grants for Education Support and Training) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 390), dated 18th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

2 National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 559), dated 4th March 1997, and

(2) National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 558), dated 3rd March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 4th March 1997, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Revised Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Judicature (Northern Ireland)—Accounts of Funds in Court in Northern Ireland for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 361] [Clerk of the House].

6 Juvenile Crime,—Paper, entitled Preventing Children Offending: a Consultation Document [by Command] [Cm. 3566] [Mr Secretary Howard].

7 Supply Estimates, 1996–97,—Revised Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1996–97 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 334] [Mr Michael Jack].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Eleventh Report from the Deregulation Committee, [The draft Deregulation (Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 363] [Mr Barry Field].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 4th March; to be printed [No. 357-i] [Mr David Howell].

3 Statutory Instruments,—Fourteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-xiv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

MEMORANDA

1 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997, in place of Sir Giles Shaw.

2 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—

(1) the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee B;

(2) the Holocaust Denial Bill to Standing Committee C;

(3) the Waste Prevention Bill to Standing Committee D;

(4) the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords] to Standing Committee E;

(5) the draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(6) the draft Property (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(7) the Special Grant Report (No. 26) (House of Commons Paper No. 326) to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(8) the Special Grant Report (No. 25): Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1997–98 (House of Commons Paper No. 316) and the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (House of Commons Paper No. 297) to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(9) the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997 to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(10) the draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1997 to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.
Wednesday 5th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Bowen Wells);
And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Second Reading Committee on the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill, That it had come to the following Resolution, which it had directed him to report to the House: That the Committee recommends that the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill ought to be read a second time.
Report to lie upon the Table.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 372].

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund Order 1997.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Trading Fund Order 1997.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 European Standing Committee B,—Sir James Hill reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of Official Journal No. C340 of 12th November 1996, the Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors concerning the financial year 1995, together with the institutions' replies, and Official Journal No. C395 of 31st December 1996, the Court of Auditors Statements of Assurance concerning activities financed from the general budget for the financial year 1995 and of the sixth and seventh European Development Funds for 1995, together with the associated special reports and the institutions' replies; and supports the Government's continuing efforts to improve financial management and control within the European Community.
Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

9 Civil Actions (Limit on Proceedings),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to contain civil actions for compensation: And that Mr Andrew Robathan do prepare and bring it in.

10 Civil Actions (Limit on Proceedings) Bill,—Mr Andrew Robathan accordingly presented a Bill to contain civil actions for compensation: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 1st May and to be printed [Bill 129].

11 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Continuance) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th February, be approved—(Mr Secretary Howard);
And it being Seven o'clock, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [28th February].
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Bowen Wells: 304.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eddie McGrady, Mr John McAllion: 13.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Continuance) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th February, be approved.

12 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Sir John Wheeler);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [28th February]—It was agreed to.

13 Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords] [Money].

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable out of money so provided.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

14 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Sebastian Coe);

And the Motion having been made at Ten o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance.—Special Grant Report (No. 27) (Community Care Special Grants for 1997-98) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 360] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Education.—(1) Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 515), dated 25th February 1997,


(3) The South Park Sixth Form College, Middlesbrough (Dissolution) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 513), dated 24th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

5 Local Government.—(1) Bedfordshire (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 494),

(2) Buckinghamshire (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 495),

(3) Derbyshire (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 496),

(4) Dorset (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 497),


(6) East Sussex (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 488),

(7) Hampshire (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 489),

(8) Leicestershire (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 490),

(9) Staffordshire (Coroners) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 492), and


dated 21st February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

7 Prison and Young Offenders Centres,—Prison and Young Offenders Centre (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 86), dated 20th February 1997 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Other Papers:

8 Civil Aviation,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 4th March 1997 under the Civil Aviation Act 1982 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Civil Aviation Authority from the National Westminster Bank plc [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

9 Environmental Protection,—Local Enforcing Authorities Air Pollution Fees and Charges Scheme (England and Wales) 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].


11 Police and Criminal Evidence,—Draft Code of Practice under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 for the exercise by police officers of statutory powers of stop and search [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

12 Reserve Forces,—Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces on the call-out of Air Force Reserve personnel [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

13 Treaty Series (No. 18, 1997),—Convention, done at Caracas on 11th March 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Venezuela for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains with Exchange of Notes [by Command] [Cm. 3570] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

14 Treaty Series (No. 19, 1997),—Agreement, done at Baku on 4th January 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Azerbaijan Republic for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 3576] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee B,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Alex Carlile, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr David Congdon, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr David Hinchcliffe, Margaret Hodge, Mr Alan Howarth, Jane Kennedy, Mr Para S. Khabra, Mr Peter Luff, Mr David Maclean, Mr Alun Michael, Dr Robert Spink, Sir Donald Thompson, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr John Whittingdale.

2 Standing Committee C,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Holocaust Denial Bill, viz.: Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Vivian Bendall, Mr Hartley Booth, Mr Ian Davidson, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Hugh Dykes, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Norman Hogg, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr David Hunt, Mr John Hutton, Mr Greville Janner, Mr Toby Jessel, Mr Timothy Kirkhope, Mr John Marshall, Mr Ian Pearson and The Reverend Martin Smyth.

3 Standing Committee D,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the Waste Prevention Bill, viz.: Mr John Austin-Walker, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr James Clappson, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Hinchcliffe, Mr John Hutton, Helen Jackson, Joan Ruddock, Mr Barry Sheerman, Dr Robert Spink, Sir Teddy Taylor, Sir Donald Thompson and Mr Gary Waller.

4 Standing Committee E,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords], viz.: Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Tony Banks, Sir Graham Bright, Sir Sydney Chapman, Ann Clwyd, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Terry Lewis, Diana Maddock, Mr Alan Meale, Mr David Mellor, Mr Chris Mulkin, Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Mr Tom Sackville, Sir Colin Shepherd, Mr Stephen Timms and Dr Ian Twinn.
5 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997, viz.: Mr John Bowis, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr David Chidgey, Sir John Cope, Mr Don Dixon, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr John Heppell, Mr Keith Hill, Glenda Jackson, Dame Jill Knight, Mr Paul Marland, Sir David Mitchell, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Peter L. Pike, Dr Robert Spink and Mr Richard Tracey.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Property (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, viz.: Mr David Ashby, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Toby Jessel, Mr Ken Livingstone, Lady Olga Maitland, Sir Roger Moate, Mr John Townend, Mr A. Cecil Walker, Sir John Wheeler and Mr Timothy Wood.

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 26) (House of Commons Paper No. 326), viz.: Hilary Armstrong, Mr David Atkinson, Mr John Austin-Walker, Mr Matthew Banks, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Stephen Day, Helen Jackson, Mr Tom King, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Robert Litherland, Mr Tony Lloyd, Mr David Martin, Mr Andrew Miller and Mr David Sumberg.

8 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 25): Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 316) and the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (House of Commons Paper No. 297), viz.: Mr John Bowis, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Nirj Joseph Deva, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Sir Michael Grylls, Mr John Home Robertson, Mr Terry Lewis, Mrs Helen Liddell, Sir Michael Marshall, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Dr Robert Spink, Rachel Squire, Mr George Stevenson and Joan Walley.

9 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr David Congdon, Mr Iain Duncan Smith, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Sir Peter Fry, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Neil Hamilton, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr John Patten, Mr Terry Rooney, Sir Michael Spicer and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.

10 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Churchill, Mr Jim Cunningham, Dame Peggy Fennier, Mr Neil Gerrard, Sir Archie Hamilton, Mr Doug Henderson, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr David Lidington, Mr Patrick McLaughlin, Mr Chris Mullin, Sir Irvine Patnick, Mr Stuart Randall, Mr Tom Sackville, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Peter Viggers.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th March; to be printed [No. 130-iii] [Mr Ernie Ross].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Second Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Security of Staff in Jobcentres], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 149]; and (2) Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 Environment,—(1) Fourth Report from the Environment Committee [Shopping Centres], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be
printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 210];

(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Committee; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Committee on 5th March; to be printed [No. 277-iii]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Legislation,—Sixteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 5th March; to be printed [No. 343-ii] [Mr David Howell].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Response by the Government to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97, on Illicit Drug Use in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 370]; and

(2) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 26th February; to be printed [No. 270-ii]

[Mr Clive Soley].

7 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration,—(1) First Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration [Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1995–96], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 93];

(2) Second Special Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1995–96]; to be printed [No. 367]; and

(3) Memorandum laid before the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration

[Mr James Pawsey].

8 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Office of Passenger Rail Franchising: The Award of the First Three Passenger Rail Franchises]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 39];

(2) Sixteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Work of the Directors General of Telecommunications, Gas Supply, Water Services and Electricity Supply], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 89];

(3) Seventeenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Health of the Nation: A Progress Report]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 85]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 5th March; to be printed [Nos. 376-i and 377-i]

[Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 5th March; to be printed [Nos. 373-i, 374 and 375] [Sir Giles Shaw].

10 Standards and Privileges,—Fourth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Michael Howard], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 359] [Mr Tony Newton].

11 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 5th March; to be printed [No. 371-i] [Mr Paul Channon].

12 Treasury,—(1) Fourth Report from the Treasury Committee [International Monetary Fund], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 68]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 5th March; to be printed [No. 355]

[Mr Barry Legg].
MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—

(1) Sir James Hill Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords];

(2) Sir James Molyneaux Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Holocaust Denial Bill;

(3) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Waste Prevention Bill;

(4) Mr Norman Hogg Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

(5) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997;

(6) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Property (Northern Ireland) Order 1997;

(7) Sir John Hunt Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 26) (House of Commons Paper No. 326);

(8) Mr Allan Stewart Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 25): Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1997-98 (House of Commons Paper No. 316) and the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (House of Commons Paper No. 297);

(9) Sir David Knox Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997; and

(10) Sir James Hill Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1997.

[No. 77.]


The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Southampton International Boat Show Bill,—The Southampton International Boat Show Bill was read the third time, and passed.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

5 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords].—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 378].

6 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Gyles Brandreth);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.
8 Finance Bill.—Ordered, That, notwithstanding the practice of the House as to the intervals between stages of Bills brought in upon Ways and Means Resolutions, more than one stage of the Finance Bill may be taken at any sitting of the House.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

9 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 12th March, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14B (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions on the Motions in the names of Mr Secretary Howard, Mr Secretary Forsyth and Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew relating to Representation of the People and Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew relating to Northern Ireland (Local Elections) not later than one and a half hours after the start of proceedings on the first such Motion; and those Motions may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o'clock.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

10 Consolidated Fund Bill.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 12th March, any Consolidated Fund Bill ordered to be brought in and read the first time shall be proceeded with as if the Second Reading thereof stood as an Order of the Day, and Standing Order No. 54 (Consolidated Fund Bills) shall apply.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Richard Ottaway); And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

12 Adjournment, Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until seventeen minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till Monday 10th March.

[Adjourned at 10.17 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Charities,—Draft Charities (The Peabody Donation Fund) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

2 Council Tax (Scotland),—(1) Council Tax (Discounts) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 586), and
   (2) Council Tax (Discounts) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 587),
   dated 27th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


4 Disabled Persons,—Disability Discrimination (Abolition of District Advisory Committees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 536), dated 27th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

5 Family Law,—(1) Divorce etc. (Pensions) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 636), and
   (2) Family Proceedings (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 637),
   dated 6th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

6 Fees and Charges,—Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 630), dated 5th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

7 Health and Safety,—Level Crossing Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 487), dated 25th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


(2) Local Government (Direct Labour Organisations) and Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (England) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 561), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer]; and


[by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

12 National Health Service.—(1) Health Promotion Authority for Wales Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1979, No. 327), and

(2) Health Promotion Authority for Wales Constitution (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 326),
dated 26th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague]; and

(3) National Health Service (Injury Benefits) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 646), dated 5th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

13 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (Dental Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 585), dated 2nd March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


15 Public Passenger Transport.—Section 19 Minibus (Designated Bodies) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 535), dated 27th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

16 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 530), dated 26th February 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].


Other Papers:

18 Further and Higher Education (Scotland).—Further Education in Scotland 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

19 Social Security Administration,—Account of the Social Fund for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 365] [Clerk of the House].

20 Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of the British Railways Board [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Standing Committee E,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee E Mr Stephen Timms (nominated in respect of the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords]); and had appointed in substitution Mr Elliot Morley.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 6th March; to be printed [No. 373-ii] [Sir Giles Shaw].
Monday 10th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Policyholders' Protection Bill, without Amendment.

Justices of the Peace Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to consolidate the Justices of the Peace Act 1979 and provisions of Part IV of the Police and Magistrates' Courts Act 1994; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Justices of the Peace Bill [Lords].—The Justices of the Peace Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 131].

6 Opposition day [7th allotted day—first part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 13 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Public responsibility for social justice.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House calls for a concerted effort to eradicate poverty and create full employment; believes in a society free of social injustice and inequality where decent, democratic values ensure that priorities become the defeat of homelessness, the maintenance of free health care and the guarantee of dignity from cradle to grave for all citizens; pledges itself to working against the politics of selfishness and greed and to developing a society where the contribution of the whole community is sought and valued; and, for the above reasons, rejects the Government's proposed spending plans for 1997–98 and 1998–99—(Mrs Margaret Ewing);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mr Elfyn Llwyd: 26.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 281.

So the Question was negatived.

7 Building Societies Bill.—The Building Societies Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mrs Angela Knight): It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

8 Building Societies Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to the Building Societies Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Building Societies Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under the Building Societies Act 1986; and

(b) the payment of any amounts into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Roger Knapman):—It was agreed to.

9 Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

10 Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to the Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 50A (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of such money under any other Act; and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable into the Consolidated Fund under any other Act.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

11 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 24): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers’ Accommodation (HC 257), which was laid before this House on 11th February, be approved.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

12 Government Trading Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

13 Government Trading Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Trading Fund Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th February, be approved.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

14 Town and Country Planning.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 19th February, be approved.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

15 Report of the Court of Auditors.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of Official Journal No. C340 of 12th November 1996, the Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors concerning the financial year 1995, together with the institutions’ replies, and Official Journal No. C395 of 31st December 1996, the Court of Auditors Statements of Assurance concerning activities financed from the general budget for the financial year 1995 and of the sixth and seventh European Development Funds for 1995, together with the associated special reports and the institutions’ replies; and supports the Government’s continuing efforts to improve financial management and control within the European Community.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

16 Government Trading Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Medicines Control Agency Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 12th February, be approved.—(Mr Roger Knapman): It was agreed to.

17 Waste Prevention Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to the Waste Prevention Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Waste Prevention Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other enactment are payable out of money so provided.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)

18 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Huntingdon and Cambridgeshire against the proposed reduction in expenditure on health visitors and school nurses in the area was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
19 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 7th March 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Council Tax,—(1) Council Tax (Additional Provisions for Discount Disregards) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 657), and

(2) Council Tax (Chargeable Dwellings, Exempt Dwellings and Discount Disregards) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 656),
dated 6th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Environmental Protection,—(1) Litter Control Areas (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 633), and

(2) Street Litter Control Notices (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 632),
dated 5th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

4 Health and Safety,—Good Laboratory Practice Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 654), dated 6th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

5 Housing,—(1) Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 631),

(2) Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 628),

(3) Housing Act 1996 (Consequential Amendments) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 627),

(4) Housing (Right to Acquire) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 619),

(5) Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 626),

(6) Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the East) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 623),

(7) Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the North East) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 624),

(8) Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the North West and Merseyside) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 622)

(9) Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the South East) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 625)

(10) Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the South West) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 621),

(11) Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the West Midlands) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 620),
dated 5th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

6 Income Tax,—(1) Capital Allowances (Corresponding Northern Ireland Grants) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 600), and

(2) Vocational Training (Tax Relief) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 661),
dated 6th March 1997 [Mr Michael Jack].

7 Landlord and Tenant,—Leasehold Reform (Notices) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 640),
dated 5th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

(3) Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (London Boroughs of Newham and Southwark) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 532), dated 27th February 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer]; and

(2) Local Government Pension Scheme (Transfers from the National Health Service Pension Scheme for England and Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 598), dated 5th March 1997
[Mr Secretary Gummer].

10 Plant Health,—Plant Health (Fees) (Forestry) (Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 655), dated 5th March 1997 [Mr Douglas Hogg].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 10th March 1997:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

13 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance) Order 1997, and
(2) draft Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996 (Cessation of Section 3) Order 1997
[by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


15 Children and Young Persons,—Adoption Agencies and Children (Arrangements for Placement and Reviews) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 649), dated 6th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

16 Council Tax,—Council Tax (Dwellings) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 673), dated 5th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

17 Customs and Excise,—(1) Cider and Perry (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 659), and

(2) Education (Areas to which Pupils and Students Belong) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 597), dated 28th February 1997, and
(3) Education (Grant) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 678), dated 10th March 1997
[by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

19 Education,—(1) Education (Grant-maintained and Grant-maintained Special Schools) (Finance) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 599), dated 3rd March 1997, and
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

21 European Communities,—Rural Diversification Programme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 722), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

22 Fees and Charges,—Medical Devices Fees (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 694), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


27 Local Government (Scotland),—(1) Local Government Staff Commission (Scotland) (Winding-up) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 672), dated 5th March 1997, and

(2) Local Government (Amendment of Regulations for Compensation on Reorganisation) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 720), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


29 Rates,—(1) Rates (Regional Rates) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 115), and

(2) Valuation (Electricity) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 118), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

30 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rates (Levying) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 452), dated 19th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


(2) Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 669), dated 6th March 1997,

(3) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval and Approval Marks) (Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 564), dated 3rd March 1997, and


(2) Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 575),

(3) Social Security (Industrial Injuries) (Dependency) (Permitted Earnings Limits) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 577), and

(4) Statutory Maternity Pay (Compensation of Employers) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 574), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

33 Trade Unions,—Certification Officer (Amendment of Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 677), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

35 Care in Old Age,—Paper, entitled A New Partnership for Care in Old Age [by Command] [Cm. 3563] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].


37 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—(1) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Pay and Allowances) Order 1997, and 

38 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Wales on the Petition [12th February] from residents of Pembrokeshire against the proposed merger of the Pembrokeshire Ambulance Service and the West Wales Ambulance Trust [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Glenda Jackson (nominated in respect of the draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Jon Owen Jones.

2 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Doug Henderson (nominated in respect of the draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Jane Kennedy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Fourth Report from the Health Committee [Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services], together with Appendices of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 26] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th March; to be printed [No. 384-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

3 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 10th March; to be printed [No. 381] [Mr Barry Legg].

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Imperial College Bill,—The House proceeded to consider the Imperial College Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Bill to be read the third time.

2 King’s College London Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King’s College London Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 18th March.
3 Lever Park Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;  

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 18th March.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:  

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Civil Aviation Act 1982) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th January, a draft Order should not be laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuels) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th January, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Football Pools) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th January, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That the draft Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs: Debit Cards) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

That the draft Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

6 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

7 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Public Expenditure Plans for Northern Ireland for 1997–98 to 1999–2000, referred to it on 4th February, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Property (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir John Hunt reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 26) (House of Commons Paper No. 326).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

11 Single Homeless Persons (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Andrew Welsh, supported by Mr John McAllion, Mr James Wallace, Roseanna Cunningham, Maria Fyfe and Mr David Marshall presented a Bill to make provision about single homeless persons in Scotland; to make reforms of the laws on homelessness, social security and housing benefits; to set up a National Hostels Inspectorate and national standards for care; to make amendments to the Representation of the People Act; to give additional duties to General Practitioners; to amend the duties and powers of local authorities relating to young people in care; to cede to the European Union competence over specific matters relating to housing and homelessness; to outlaw discrimination on the grounds of homelessness; and related matters: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 2nd May and to be printed [Bill 133].

12 Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Secretary of State to draw up and facilitate the carrying out, over a period of fifteen years, of a programme of action to provide at least 500,000 households per year with a comprehensive package of home insulation and other energy efficiency improvements; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Harry Greenway, Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Llew Smith, Mr Cynog Dafis, Sir Robert Hicks, Mr John McAllion and Sir Andrew Bowden do prepare and bring it in.
13 Warms Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill.—Mr Alan Simpson accordingly presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to draw up and facilitate the carrying out, over a period of fifteen years, of a programme of action to provide at least 500,000 households per year with a comprehensive package of home insulation and other energy efficiency improvements; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday 18th March and to be printed [Bill 132].

14 Ways and Means.—Deductions in respect of annuity payments.—Resolved, That provision may be included in the Finance Bill about payments made in respect of annuities by companies carrying on life assurance business.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

15 Ways and Means.—Transactions in futures and options etc.—Resolved, That provision may be included in the Finance Bill about the taxation of profits and gains arising from a transaction involving the disposal of—

(a) rights and obligations under a commodity or financial futures contract; or
(b) a traded or financial option or an option relating to such a contract.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

16 Finance Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Finance Bill, as amended in the Committee and in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Annuity business of insurance companies)—(Mr Michael Jack)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Consortium claims for group relief)—(Mr Michael Jack)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Futures and options: transactions with guaranteed returns)—(Mrs Angela Knight)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Registration of profit-related pay schemes)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Dennis Turner: 264.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 296.

Another Clause (Distraint etc. of property only under the supervision of a court)—(Mr Mike O'Brien)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Relief from income tax on expenditure on energy saving materials)—(Mr Alan Simpson)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Cynog Dafis, Lynne Jones: 58.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Roger Knapman: 241.

Another Clause (Report on VAT on energy saving materials (No. 2))—(Mr Alistair Darling)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Vehicle excise duty and isles based vehicles)—(Mr James Wallace)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 27) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 30, to leave out “(6)” and insert “(7)” instead thereof.—(Sir Michael Spicer.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, line 38, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 3 on page 9.—(Mr David Trimble.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr William Ross, The Reverend Martin Smyth: 17.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Sebastian Coe, Mr Anthony Coombs: 225.
Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed to the Bill, in page 9, line 3, at the end to add the words—

'(4) Subsections (1)-(3) of this section do not apply for flights to and from airports in areas in receipt of Objective 1 funding from the European Union.'—(Mr Alex Salmond.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Andrew Welsh: 35.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Anthony Coombs, Mr Sebastian Coe: 223.

Amendments (Nos. 8 and 9) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 20, line 16, to leave out from the word "or" to the end of line 17.—(Mr David Shaw.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 11 to 13 and 10) made to the Bill.

A Schedule (Futures and options: taxation of guaranteed returns)—(Mr Phillip Oppenheim)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed to the Bill, in page 159, line 37, at the end to insert the words—

'(bb) under which either—

(i) the lease forms part of a new scheme; or
(ii) if the lease forms part of an existing scheme, the lessee is not a relevant taxpayer;';—(Mr David Shaw.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 23 and 19 to 21) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Anthony Coombs: 202.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Ms Liz Lynne: 21.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

17 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Woolwich to allow the Eruthianathan family to remain in the United Kingdom,
(2) citizens of the United Kingdom for legislation to ensure that United Kingdom citizens who commit serious sexual offences against children abroad can be prosecuted in this country, and
(3) citizens of Leicester for the maintenance of the Uppingham Road police station were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gyles Brandreth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till fourteen minutes past Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.14 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures),—Measure passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, entitled Pensions Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 382][Clerk of the House].
Deregulation.—Draft Deregulation (Betting and Bingo Advertising etc.) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Building Societies.—Building Societies (General Charge and Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 740), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

Children and Young Persons,—(1) Children (Scotland) Act 1995 etc. (Revocations and Savings) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 691),

(2) Children’s Hearings (Scotland) Rules 1986 etc. (Revocations) (Scotland) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 692), and

(3) Reporters (Conduct of proceedings before the Sheriff) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 714),
dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Civil Aviation.—Civil Aviation (Navigation Service Charges) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 667), dated 6th March 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

Council Tax (Scotland).—Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 728), dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Court of Session (Scotland).—Court of Session, etc. Fees Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 688), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


(3) Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Defence Disclosure Time Limits) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 684), dated 8th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard]; and


Education (Scotland).—(1) Grants for Pre-School Education (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 715), dated 4th March 1997,

(2) Teachers (Compensation for Premature Retirement and Redundancy) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 675), dated 5th March 1997, and

(3) Teachers’ Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 676), dated 5th March 1997,

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Environmental Protection.—Financial Assistance for Environmental Purposes Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 651), dated 5th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].


Friendly Societies.—Friendly Societies (General Charge and Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 741), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

Housing.—Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount) (Wales) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 569), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

Insurance.—Insurance (Lloyd’s) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 680), dated 8th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Landlord and Tenant.—Leasehold Reform and Housing (Excluded Tenancies) (Designated Rural Areas) (Wales) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 685), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

Legal Aid and Advice.—(1) Civil Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 753), dated 10th March 1997,
(2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 751), dated 10th March 1997,
(3) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 754), dated 11th March 1997, and
(4) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 752), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

18 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland).—(1) Advice and Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 726), dated 11th March 1997,
(2) Civil Legal Aid (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 727), dated 11th March 1997,
(3) Civil Legal Aid (Scotland) (Fees) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 689), dated 7th March 1997,
(4) Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Fees) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 719), dated 7th March 1997,
(5) Legal Aid (Scotland) (Children) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 690), dated 7th March 1997, and
(6) Legal Aid in Contempt of Court Proceedings (Scotland) (Fees) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 718), dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


20 Local Government (Scotland).—Reporters (Appeals against Dismissal) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 729), dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

(7) Magistrates’ Courts (Notice of Transfer) (Children’s Evidence) (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 709), and

(2) National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 730), dated 10th March 1997, and
(3) National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 748), dated 11th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

23 National Health Service (Scotland).—(1) National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 697), dated 6th March 1997, and
(2) National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 696), dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

24 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting (Electoral Scheme) Variation Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 746), dated 11th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

26 Police,—(1) Common Police Services (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 695), dated 7th March 1997, and
(2) Police Grant (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 721), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


28 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.—(1) Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 717), and
(2) Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces (Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 716), dated 6th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

29 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Sheriff Court Fees Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 687), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

30 Social Security,—Housing Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 584), dated 4th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

31 Social Services,—Community Care (Direct Payments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 734), dated 11th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

32 Social Work (Scotland),—Community Care (Direct Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 693), dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

33 Supreme Court,—(1) Criminal Appeal (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 702),
(3) Crown Court (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 701),
(4) Crown Court (Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996) (Confidentiality) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 699), and

34 Water Resources,—Control of Pollution (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 547), dated 27th February 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:

35 Church of England (General Synod) Measures,—Report by the Ecclesiastical Committee on the Pensions Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 383] [Clerk of the House].

36 Civil List,—List of pensions granted under the Civil List Act 1972 for 1995-96 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

37 Eggs,—Abolition Account of the Eggs Authority for the period 1st October 1986 to 30th September 1996 with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

38 Industrial and Provident Societies,—(1) Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment of Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 743),
(2) Industrial and Provident Societies (Credit Unions) (Amendment of Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 742), dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

39 Special Procedure Orders,—Report by the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, under Section 3 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, That they had taken into consideration the Petition presented by Michael Kingsley, Personal Representative of the Estate of Marques Kingsley Deceased, against the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997; and that they have certified it under the said section as proper.
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Second Report from the Agriculture Committee [Environmentally Sensitive Areas and other schemes under the Agri-environment Regulation], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 45]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee
[Sir Jerry Wiggin].

2 Deregulation.—Twelfth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Civil Aviation Act 1982) Order 1997; Proposal for the Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuel) Order 1997; Proposal for the Deregulation (Football Pools) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs: Debit Cards) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 387] [Mr Barry Field].

3 Education and Employment.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 11th March; to be printed [No. 331-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee
[Mr Ernie Ross].

4 Statutory Instruments.—Fifteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-xv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Trade and Industry.—(1) First Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Energy Regulation], together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 50-I and II]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Trade and Industry Committee
[Mr Martin O’Neill].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords], in place of Mr Norman Hogg.

[No. 80.]

Wednesday 12th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Jacqui Lait),

And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix III).
5 Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords].—Sir James Hill reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 389].

6 Waste Prevention Bill.—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Waste Prevention Bill and made Amendments thereunto; and had amended the Title as follows: A Bill to enable certain local authorities to make arrangements to minimize the generation of waste in their area; and for related purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 135].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 388].

7 Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—Mr Edward O'Hara reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 136].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 390].

8 Holocaust Denial Bill.—Sir James Molyneaux reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Holocaust Denial Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 392].

9 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Allan Stewart reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 25) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1997–98) (House of Commons Paper No. 316) and the Special Grant Report (Scotland) on Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (House of Commons Paper No. 297).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

10 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir David Knox reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Incacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

11 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir James Hill reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption) (Amendment) Order 1997.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

12 Rights at Work and in Retirement.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for rights at work, training opportunities and dignity in retirement: And that Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Don Dixon, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Ian Davidson, Ann Clwyd, Mr Gordon Prentice and Mr Ronnie Campbell do prepare and bring it in.

13 Rights at Work and in Retirement Bill.—Mr Andrew Mackinlay accordingly presented a Bill to provide for rights at work, training opportunities and dignity in retirement: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 1st May and to be printed [Bill 134].

14 Representation of the People.—Resolved, That the draft Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th February, be approved. (Ann Widdecombe.)

15 Representation of the People.—Resolved, That the draft Representation of the People (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th February, be approved. (Ann Widdecombe.)
16 Representation of the People.—Resolved, That the draft Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Ann Widdecombe.)

17 Northern Ireland,—Resolved, That the draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Ann Widdecombe.)

18 Representation of the People.—Resolved, That the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Ann Widdecombe.)

19 Representation of the People,—Resolved, That the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 13th February, be approved.—(Ann Widdecombe.)

20 National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Duty of registered opticians to refer certain persons to registered medical practitioners)—(Mr Gerald Malone) brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Employment of pre-registration house officers in medical practices)—(Mr Gerald Malone) brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Provision of personal medical or personal or dental services under a pilot scheme (disqualified bodies))—(Tessa Jowell) brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Evaluation of pilot schemes)—(Mr Malcolm Chisholm) brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Prior approval of Medical Practices Committee for agreements)—(Mr Malcolm Chisholm) brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Whistleblowers' rights)—(Tessa Jowell) brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Provision of special opthalmic services under a pilot scheme)—(Mr Simon Hughes) brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Thurnham, Mr Simon Hughes: 24.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Roger Knapman: 198.

Amendments (Nos. 10 and 11) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 7, at the end, to insert the words—

"(2A) Before approving any pilot scheme, the Secretary of State shall give consideration to the effect that any proposals might have on the ability of the authority concerned to implement arrangements for the joint commissioning (with any social services authority) of personal medical services in combination with community care services.'.—(Mr Peter Thurnham.)"

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 12, after the word 'practitioners' to insert the words 'or dental practitioners'.—(Mr Peter Thurnham.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Other Amendments (Nos. 37, 12, 59, 13, 14, 60 to 62, 15, 63 to 65, 16 to 21, 38, 39, 22, 36, 66, 40 to 43, 45, 46, 27, 47, 72, 28 to 32, 48 to 51, 73, 74, 33, 75, 52, 34, 76, 35, 53 and 54) made to the Bill.

Title accordingly amended, as follows: An Act to provide for new arrangements in relation to the provision within the national health service of medical, dental, pharmaceutical and other services; to make provision about medical lists and vacancies and the sale of medical practices; to make provision about the expenditure of Health Authorities and Health Boards; to make provision about ophthalmic services; and for connected purposes.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

21 Road Traffic.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

22 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Property (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

23 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 26) (House of Commons Paper No. 326), which was laid before this House on 27th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

24 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Provision of School Action Plans) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

25 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Occasional Permissions) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin):—It was agreed to.

26 Estimates.—It being Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions required to be put by Standing Order No. 53 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Estimates, 1997–98 (Navy) Vote A

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1998 a number not exceeding 51,440 all ranks be maintained for Naval Service, and a number not exceeding 17,195 for Service in the Reserve Naval and Marine Forces.

Estimates, 1997–98 (Army) Vote A

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1998 a number not exceeding 129,950 all ranks be maintained for Army Service, a number not exceeding 112,579 for Service in the Reserve Land Forces, and a number not exceeding 6,000 for Service as Special Members of the Reserve Land Forces under Part V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996.

Estimates, 1997–98 (Air) Vote A

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1998 a number not exceeding 59,100 all ranks be maintained for the Air Force Service, a number not exceeding 23,000 for Service in the Air Reserve Forces, and a number not exceeding 105 for Service as Special Members of the Reserve Air Forces under Part V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996.

Estimates, Excesses, 1995–96

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding £215,096,760.90 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to make good excesses of certain grants for Defence and Civil Services for the year ended on 31st March 1996, as set out in House of Commons Paper No. 239.

Supplementary Estimates, 1996–97

Resolved, That a further supplementary sum not exceeding £1,554,472,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges for Defence and Civil Services for the year ending on 31st March 1997, as set out in House of Commons Papers Nos. 238 and 334.
Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions relating to Estimates, Excesses, 1995-96 and Supplementary Estimates, 1996-97: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr William Waldegrave, Mr Michael Jack, Mrs Angela Knight and Mr Phillip Oppenheim do prepare and bring it in.

27 Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill,—Mr Michael Jack accordingly presented a Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending on 31st March 1996 and 1997: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time this day and to be printed [Bill 130].

28 Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill be read a second time;

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [6th March] and Standing Order No. 54 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

29 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from citizens of the United Kingdom for legislation to ensure that United Kingdom citizens who commit serious sexual offences against children abroad can be prosecuted in this country were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

30 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Geoffrey Roy White for justice was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

31 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.35 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 County Courts,—County Court Fees (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 787), dated 11th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter].

2 Housing,—Rent Officers (Housing Renewal Grants Functions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 778), dated 6th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].


Other Papers:

5 Environment,—Paper, entitled The United Kingdom National Air Quality Strategy [by Command] [Cm. 3587] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

6 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the First Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1996-97 (Development of United Kingdom interests and links in Latin America) [by Command] [Cm. 3573] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

7 Government Executive Agencies,—Paper, entitled Next Steps Review 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3579] [Mr Secretary Heseltine].

8 Housing Executive (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3567] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].
9 Law Commission,—Report of the Law Commission for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 305] [Mr Gary Streeter].

10 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 366] [Clerk of the House].

11 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3577] [Mr Michael Jack].

12 Social Services,—Paper, entitled Social Services: Achievement and Challenge [by Command] [Cm. 3588] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

Paper withdrawn:

13 Medicines,—Registration of Homoeopathic Veterinary Medicinal Products (Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 321), dated 12th February 1997 [laid 18th February].

APPENDIX II
Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill, viz.: Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Tim Devlin, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Douglas French, Mr George Howarth, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Lidington, Mr David Maclean, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Alan Michael, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Jon Trickett.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bob Dunn reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 27) (Community Care Special Grants for 1997–98) (House of Commons Paper No. 360), viz.: Mr Simon Burns, Mr D. N. Campbell-Savours, Sir Kenneth Carlisle, Mr Matthew Carrington, Ann Coffey, Sir Anthony Durant, Mr David Faber, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Roger Godsiff, Helen Jackson, Sir Geoffrey Pattie, Mr Colin Pickthall, Sir Wyn Roberts, Mr Llew Smith, Mr Tim Smith and Mr Peter Thurnham.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 12th March; to be printed [No. 393-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Third Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Operation of the Nursery Education Voucher Scheme], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 25]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 European Legislation,—Seventeenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xviii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Third Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The BSE crisis and the export ban on Northern Ireland beef], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 270] [Mr Clive Soley].

5 Procedure,—(1) Third Report from the Procedure Committee [European Business], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 77];

(2) Fourth Report from the Procedure Committee [The Work of the Procedure Committee During the 1992–1997 Parliament], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 397]; and

(3) Memorandum (Distinction between Allocation of Time and Business of the House Motions) laid before the Procedure Committee [Sir Peter Emery].
6 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 12th March; to be printed [No. 398-ij] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

7 Public Service.—(1) Third Report from the Public Service Committee [The Citizen’s Charter]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 78];
   (2) Second Special Report from the Public Service Committee [The Public Service Committee]; to be printed [No. 395]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Public Service Committee [Mr Giles Radice].

8 Science and Technology.—Third Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Natural Environment Research Council and Research into Climate Change], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 81] [Sir Giles Shaw].

9 Social Security.—(1) Fourth Report from the Social Security Committee [Church Commissioners], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 352];
   (2) Fifth Report from the Social Security Committee [Child Support], together with an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 282];
   (3) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Incapacity Benefit]; to be printed [No. 80];
   (4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Church Commissioners]; and
   (5) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Incapacity Benefit] [Mr Frank Field].

10 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 12th March; to be printed [Nos 394-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

11 Transport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee on 12th March; to be printed [No. 396-i] [Mr Paul Channon].

12 Welsh Affairs.—Second Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Further Education in Wales], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 64] [Mr Gareth Wardell].

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MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—
   (1) the Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill to Standing Committee A; and
   (2) Special Grant Report (No. 27): Community Care Special Grants for 1997–98 (House of Commons Paper No. 360) to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—
   (1) Sir David Knox and Mr Norman Hogg Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill;
   (2) Sir Roger Sims Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 27): Community Care Special Grants for 1997–98 (House of Commons Paper No. 360); and
   (3) Sir James Hill (Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 11382/96, relating to Structural Funds, and European Community Document No. 12614/96, relating to Cohesion Policy.
Thursday 13th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.
1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).
3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.
4 Pensioner Trustees Bill.—Mr Brian David Jenkins presented a Bill to give pensioner members of occupational pension schemes the statutory right to be member-nominated trustees of such schemes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 2nd May and to be printed [Bill 137].
5 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Richard Ottaway):
   The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.
6 Business of the House.—Ordered, That the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Tony Newton relating to Northern Ireland Business not later than one and a half hours after their commencement, such Questions including those on any amendments to the Motion which she may have selected which may then be moved; and the said Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)
7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Roger Knapman):
   And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.
8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Roger Knapman.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till Monday 17th March.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Police.—Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 4) Order 1997, dated 10th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].
2 Treasure.—Treasure Act 1996 draft Code of Practice (England and Wales) [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
5 Defence.—Reserve Forces Appeal Tribunals Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 798), dated 13th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].
6 Electricity.—Electricity (Non-Fossil Fuel Sources) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 799), dated 12th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].
8 Family Law.—(1) Child Support Commissioners (Procedure) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 802), dated 12th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Gary Streeter]; and
   (2) Divorce etc (Pensions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 745), dated 7th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].


10 Housing.—Homelessness (Isles of Scilly) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 797), dated 12th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

11 Mental Health.—Mental Health (Hospital, Guardianship and Consent to Treatment) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 801), dated 13th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

       (2) Occupational Pension Schemes (Prohibition of Trustees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 663), dated 6th March 1997, and
       [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Other Papers:

13 Local Government Finance.—Account of the Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in England for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 385] [Clerk of the House].


15 Public Petitions.—Observations by
   (1) the Secretary of State for the Environment on the Petition [29th January] from residents of Birmingham against the misuse by itinerants of the Heddings and Lingfield Gardens, and
   (2) the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [16th July, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Selby for a bypass for the town of Selby
       [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

16 Reserve Forces.—Regulations for
   (1) the Royal Fleet Reserve and Recall Reserve (Naval and Marine), and
   (2) the Naval and Marine Reserves
       [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

17 Training and Enterprise Councils.—Accounts of income and expenditure of Training and Enterprise Councils in Wales for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 391] [Mr Secretary Hague].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

National Heritage.—(1) Fourth Report from the National Heritage Committee [The BBC and the Future of Broadcasting], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 147]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the National Heritage Committee
       [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill and the Finance Bill are Money Bills within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.
PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Knives Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Protection from Harassment Bill, with Amendments; to
   which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Protection from Harassment Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Protection from Harassment
   Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 138].

5 Accommodation and Works.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the
   Accommodation and Works Committee be printed [No. 369].

6 Administration.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Administration
   Committee be printed [No. 399].

7 Agriculture.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Agriculture Committee be
   printed [No. 402].

8 Catering.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Catering Committee be printed
   [No. 403].

9 Defence.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Defence Committee be printed
   [No. 404].

10 Education and Employment.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Education
   and Employment Committee be printed [No. 405].

11 Environment.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environment Committee be
   printed [No. 406].

12 Finance and Services.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Finance and
   Services Committee be printed [No. 407].

13 Foreign Affairs.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Foreign Affairs
   Committee be printed [No. 408].

14 Health.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Health Committee be printed
   [No. 409].

15 Home Affairs.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Home Affairs Committee
   be printed [No. 410].

16 Information.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Information Committee be
   printed [No. 411].

17 Liaison.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee be printed
   [No. 428].

18 National Heritage.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the National Heritage
   Committee be printed [No. 412].

19 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Northern
   Ireland Affairs Committee be printed [No. 413].

20 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration.—Ordered, That the Minutes of
   Proceedings of the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for
   Administration be printed [No. 414].

21 Procedure.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Procedure Committee be
   printed [No. 415].

22 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee of Public
   Accounts be printed [No. 416].
23 Public Service,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Public Service Committee be printed [No. 417].

24 Science and Technology,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Science and Technology Committee be printed [No. 418].

25 Scottish Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Affairs Committee be printed [No. 419].

26 Social Security,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Social Security Committee be printed [No. 420].

27 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee on Standards and Privileges be printed [No. 421].

28 Statutory Instruments,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Statutory Instruments be printed [No. 422].

29 Statutory Instruments,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments be printed [No. 423].

30 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Trade and Industry Committee be printed [No. 424].

31 Transport,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Transport Committee be printed [No. 425].

32 Treasury,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Treasury Committee be printed [No. 426].

33 Welsh Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Welsh Affairs Committee be printed [No. 427].

34 Building Societies Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Building Societies Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 agreed to.

Clause No. 2 (Membership and liability of members).

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 2, line 20, after the second word 'member' to insert the words 'of two years' standing or more'.—(Mr Peter L. Pike.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 3 to 9 agreed to.

Clause No. 10 (Restrictions on certain transactions).

Amendments (Nos. 6 to 8) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 11 to 40 agreed to.

Clause No. 41 (Protective provisions for specially formed successors).

Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 58, line 5, to leave out paragraph (a) and insert the words—

'(a) the company or a subsidiary undertaking of the company acquires the whole or substantially the whole, of the business of a mutual financial institution;'; instead thereof.—(Mr John Butterfill.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 42 to 47 agreed to.

A Clause (Conditions for transfer of a society's business)—(Mr Austin Mitchell)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Clause (Information to borrowers)—(Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Schedules 1 to 9 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Anthony Coombs reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereto.

The House proceeded to consider the Bill, as amended in the Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

35 Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Assistance for training)—(Glenda Jackson)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Appointment by Secretary by State of advisors on marine salvage)—(Mr Nick Ainger)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 4, to leave out lines 1 to 5.—(Mr James Wallace.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 5, line 6, to leave out the words "whether or not".—(Dr Norman A. Godman.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 6, line 24, after the word 'recovered' to insert the words 'without creating a disincentive to those who are expected to use them'.—(Glenda Jackson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Sir George Young, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Sir George Young, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his consent, as far as the Prince of Wales's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

36 Architects Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Architects Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.
37 Lieutenancies Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lieutenancies Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read and the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

38 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

39 Justices of the Peace Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Justices of the Peace Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58A (Consolidation bills), That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

40 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 25) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1997-98) (HC 316), which was laid before this House on 18th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

41 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (Scotland) on Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (HC 297), which was laid before this House on 19th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

42 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work and Severe Disablement Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Matthew Carrington):—It was agreed to.

43 Data Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Data Protection (Regulation of Financial Services etc.) (Subject Access Exemption)
Church of England (General Synod) (Measures).—Resolved, That the Pensions Measure, passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent in the form in which the said Measure was laid before Parliament.—(Mr Michael Alison.)

Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from residents of Anglesey and elsewhere for
(1) the establishment of a commission on unidentified flying objects and
(2) the bringing forward of improvements to the A5/A55 across Anglesey and the provision meanwhile of pelican crossings were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 14th March 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 137 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Social Security Administration.—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee and statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 793) [Cm. 3586] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

2 Treaty Series (No. 17, 1997).—Agreement, done at New Delhi on 8th January 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in Science and Technology [Cm. 3568] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 14th March 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 11A) pursuant to Standing Order No. 138 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


7 Local Government.—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (Greater London Enterprise Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 809), dated 12th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Gummer].

8 National Health Service.—National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 818), dated 13th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

(5) Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 786), dated 11th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Lilley]; and
(6) Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 674), dated 5th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

10 Sea Fisheries,—Loch Ewe, Isle of Ewe, Wester Ross, Scallops Several Fishery Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 830), dated 10th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

   (2) Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 793), dated 12th March 1997 [Mr Secretary Lilley].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 17th March 1997:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

12 Deregulation,—(1) Draft Deregulation (Football Pools) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard]; and
   (2) draft Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuel) Order 1997, with a Statement from the Department for Trade and Industry [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

13 Northern Ireland,—Draft Public Order (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].

14 Treasure,—Treasure Act 1996 Northern Ireland draft Code of Practice [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


16 Food,—(1) Food Premises (Registration) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 723), dated 10th March 1997, and
   (2) Welfare Food (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 857), dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

17 Gas,—Gas (Extent of Domestic Supply Licences) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 826), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

18 Health and Safety,—Lifts Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 831), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

19 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 848), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

20 Medicines,—Medicines (Bal Jivan Chamcho Prohibition) (No.2) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 856), dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

21 Pensions,—(1) Personal Injuries (Civilians) Amendment Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 812), dated 12th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley]; and
   (2) Superannuation (Admission to Schedule 1 to the Superannuation Act 1972) (No. 3) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 851), dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Roger Freeman].

22 Road Traffic,—(1) M4 Motorway (Heathrow Airport Spur Road) (Bus Lane) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 847), and
   (2) Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 846), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young].

   (4) Workmen’s Compensation (Supplementation) (Amendment) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 721), dated 10th March 1997, and
(5) Workmen’s Compensation (Supplementation) (Amendment) (No. 2) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 823), dated 13th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

(3) Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 858), dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

Other Papers:

25 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on HM Customs and Excise: Checking Large-Traders’ VAT Liability [by Act]; to be printed [No. 368] [Clerk of the House].

26 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Scotland on the Petition [15th January] from residents of Inverness against the imposition of car parking charges at Raigmore Hospital [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

27 Reserve Forces,—Amendments to the Reserve Forces (Army) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

28 Social Security Administration,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee and statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Security (Social Fund and Claims and Payments) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 792) [by Command] [Cm. 3585] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

29 Transport,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 13th March 1997 in respect of temporary borrowing by the British Waterways Board from the National Westminster Bank plc [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

Paper withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Foreign Affairs,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 4th March; to be printed [No. 357-ii] [Mr David Howell].

2 Home Affairs,—Second Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Government Reply to the Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 1995–96, on the possession of handguns]; to be printed [No. 451] [Sir Ivan Lawrence].

3 Public Accounts,—(1) Eighteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [National Savings: Financial Reporting]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 214];
(2) Nineteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Inquiry Commissioned by the NHS Executive into Matters Concerning the former Yorkshire Regional Health Authority], together with Appendices and Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 432];
(3) Twentieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Payments to the National Lottery Distribution Fund]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 99]; and
(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 17th March; to be printed [No. 433-i]
[Mr Robert Sheldon].

4 Trade and Industry,—(1) Second Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Liberalisation of the Electricity Market], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 279–I and II];
(2) Third Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Telecommunications
Regulation], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 254];

(3) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 12th March; to be printed [No. 394–iii];

(4) Memoranda laid before the Trade and Industry Committee; to be printed [No. 430]; and

(5) Memoranda laid before the Trade and Industry Committee

[Mr Martin O'Neill].

5 Treasury,—(1) Fifth Report from the Treasury Committee [The Prospects for the London Stock Exchange], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 311]; and

(2) Fourth Special Report [The Bank of England Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 319]; and

(3) Fifth Special Report [Taxation: Self-Assessment], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed [No. 341]

[Mr Barry Legg].

[No. 83.]

Tuesday 18th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords], as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means, be considered on Tuesday 25th March.

2 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King's College London Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time to-morrow.

3 Lever Park Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lever Park Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 25th March.

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Barry Field reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd February, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Consumer Credit) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 27th January, a draft Order should not be laid before the House.

That the draft Deregulation (Betting and Bingo Advertising etc.) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th March, should be approved.
The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.
That the draft Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuel) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th March, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.
That the draft Deregulation (Football Pools) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th March, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

7 Police Bill [Lords].—Sir Patrick Cormack reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Police Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 139].
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 435].

8 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee be printed [No. 436].

9 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Grand Committee be printed [No. 437].

10 Welsh Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Welsh Grand Committee be printed [No. 438].

11 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill, without Amendment.

12 Road Traffic Speed Limit Reduction Bill.—Mr Chris Davies presented a Bill to amend section 81 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 so as to impose a speed limit of 20 miles per hour in built-up areas: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 141].

13 House Numbering and Home Delivery.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the clear marking of a number or name on every dwelling and to make provision for standard sizes for all new letter boxes: And that Mr Tim Devlin do prepare and bring it in.

14 House Numbering and Home Delivery Bill.—Mr Tim Devlin accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the clear marking of a number or name on every dwelling and to make provision for standard sizes for all new letter boxes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 142].

15 Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.
   A Clause (Burdens on crofting property to be disposed of)—(Mr John McFall)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
   Amendment (No.1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 27, to leave out the word 'may' and insert the word 'shall', instead thereof.—(Mr John McFall.)
   Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
   Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 15, to leave out the word 'persons' and insert the words 'the community', instead thereof.—(Mr John McFall.)
   Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
   A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;
   Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.
   And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.
   The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, with an Amendment.
16 Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 33, to leave out '1 to 24' and insert '1, 3 to 24', instead thereof.—(Dr Norman A. Godman.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:— Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 17, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

'3A. Any payment to the injured person arising out of their contracting mesothelioma.'.—(Dr. Norman A. Godman.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:— Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Secretary Lilley, by her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, with an Amendment.

17 Birds (Registration Charges) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

18 Police,—Resolved, That the draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 4) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th March, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

19 Criminal Law,—Resolved, That the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (No. 2) Order 1997, dated 27th February 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved.—(Mr David Maclean.)

20 Treasure,—Resolved, That the Treasure Act 1996 draft Code of Practice (England and Wales), which was laid before this House on 13th March, be approved.—(Mr lain Sproat.)

21 Treasure,—Resolved, That the Treasure Act 1996 Northern Ireland draft Code of Practice, which was laid before this House on 17th March, be approved.—(Mr lain Sproat.)

22 Legal Aid and Advice,—Resolved, That the draft Legal Aid (Functions) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 30th January, be approved.—(Mr Gary Streeter.)

23 Legal Aid and Advice,—Resolved, That the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 30th January, be approved.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

24 Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill,—Ordered, That Standing Committee A be discharged from considering the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill and that the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

Committee to-morrow.

25 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the National Local Government Forum Against Poverty and the North West and North Wales Anti-Poverty Forum for legislation to make prepayment water devices illegal as a means of payment for water and sewerage services for low income families was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

26 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.00 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Companies, Companies Act 1985 (Audit Exemption) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 936), dated 18th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

2 Education, Education (Inner London Education Authority) (Property Transfer) (Modification and Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 860), dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

3 Gas, Gas (Calculation of Thermal Energy) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 937), dated 18th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

4 Harbours, Docks, Piers and Ferries, Dockyard Services (Devonport) (Designation and Appointed Day) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 152), dated 18th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Portillo].

5 Housing, Housing (Prescribed Forms) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 872), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

6 Local Government, (1) Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Trunk Roads) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 849), and 
   (2) Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Trunk Roads) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 850), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir George Young]; and

7 Northern Ireland, Jobseeker's Allowance (Members of the Forces) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 932), dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew].


9 Sea Fisheries, (1) Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota Measures) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 883), and 

Other Papers:

10 Appropriations in Aid, Treasury Minute, dated 18th March 1997, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the estimates for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

11 Education, Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on National Audit Office examinations of value for money at Grant-Maintained Schools for 1996-97 [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

12 Employment Protection, Report of the Certification Officer, Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations, for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

13 Monopolies and Mergers, Report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation with regard to Cowie Group plc and British Bus Group Limited [by Command] [Cm. 3578] [Mr Secretary Lang].

14 Public Petitions, Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petitions:—
   (1) from citizens of North-West Leicestershire for diplomatic action to end the war in the Sudan [18th February], and
   (2) from citizens of the United Kingdom for the resumption of United Kingdom membership of UNESCO [11th February] [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

15 Social Security, Reply by the Government to the Second Report from the Social Security Committee, Session 1996-97, on Child Benefit Fraud [by Command] [Cm. 3589] [Mr Secretary Lilley].
16 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned
Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament,
and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instrument came into
operation:

Dockyard Services (Rosyth) (Designation and Appointed Day) (Revocation) Order
1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 151)
[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

17 Superannuation,—(1) Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1997, and
(2) Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1997
[by Act] [Mr Roger Freeman].

18 Supply Estimates, 1997–98,—(1) Estimates (Classes I–XVIII) for 1997–98 [by Command]; to
be printed [No. 335] [Mr Michael Jack];
(2) Estimates (Class XVIII, A, House of Commons) for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be
printed [No. 336] [The Speaker]; and
(3) Estimates (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1: National Audit Office) for 1997–98 [by
Command]; to be printed [No. 337] [Sir Terence Higgins].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Deregulation Committee, [Proposal for the
Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997; Proposal for the Deregulation (Consumer
Credit) Order 1997; The draft Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuel) Order 1997 and The draft Deregulation
(Football Pools) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 439]; and
(2) Fourteenth Report from the Deregulation Committee, [Proposal for the
Deregulation (Trustee Investments) Order 1997 and Proposal for the Deregulation
(Industrial Assurance Acts 1923 to 1948) Order 1997]; to be printed [No. 440]
[Mr Barry Field].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Fourth Report from the Education and Employment
Committee [Social Costs and Employment], together with Appendices to the Minutes of
Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of
the Committee relating to the Report [No. 130]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on
18th March; to be printed [No. 429]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee
[Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 Science and Technology,—(1) Fourth Report from the Science and Technology Committee
[The Research Council System: Issues for the Future], together with Appendices to the
Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed [No. 309]; and
(2) Fifth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Cloning of Animals
from Adult Cells], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the
Committee; to be printed [No. 373]
[Sir Giles Shaw].

4 Scottish Affairs,—(1) Second Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [The
Implementation of Community Care in Scotland], together with Appendices to the
Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of
the Committee relating to the Report [No. 35]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Scottish Affairs Committee
[Mr William McKelvey].

5 Statutory Instruments,—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory
Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 29-xvi]; and
(2) Third Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with
Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 30-iii]
[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].
Wednesday 19th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1. Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Derek Conway);

   And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2. Imperial College Bill.—A Motion was made, That the Imperial College Bill be now read the third time;

   The Chairman of Ways and Means, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

   And the Question being put: It was agreed to.

   The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed.

3. King's College London Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the King's College London Bill [Lords];

   Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 25th March.

4. Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

5. Select Committees (see Appendix II).

6. European Standing Committee B.—Sir James Hill reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

   That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 11382/96 on the structural funds, and 12614/96 on cohesion policy; welcomes the Government's continued efforts to simplify and improve the effectiveness of the Funds within the United Kingdom and throughout the European Union; and supports the Government's view that the reform of the funds for the period beyond 1999 needs to ensure that the funds are fair, transparent and efficient, and needs to enable the likely enlargement of the European Union in an affordable and durable manner.

   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

7. First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Sir Roger Sims reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 27) (Community Care Special Grants for 1997-98) (House of Commons Paper No. 360).

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8. Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   The Lords have agreed to the Local Government and Rating Bill, without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Crime (Sentences) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

   The Lords have agreed to the Amendment made by this House to the Transfer of Crofting Estates Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Amendment made by this House to the Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Police (Property) Bill, without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Finance Bill, without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Education Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

   The Lords have agreed to the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

9. Crime (Sentences) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Crime (Sentences) Bill to be printed [Bill 145].
10 Education Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Education Bill to be printed [Bill 146].

11 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 147].

12 European Standing Committee A,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee A be printed [No. 443].

13 European Standing Committee B,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee B be printed [No. 444].

14 Social Security,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Social Security Committee on 19th March be printed [No. 452].

15 Abolition of Pharmaceutical Monopolies in Rural Areas Bill,—Mr William Cash presented a Bill to remedy an ambiguity in the law relating to the dispensing of medicines in rural areas and to abolish the monopoly for the dispensing of medicines within one mile of any pharmacy in rural areas: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 143].

16 Age Discrimination,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in respect of age discrimination: And that Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Spencer Batiste, Mr Nigel Forman, Sir Anthony Grant, Mr Robert G. Hughes, Mr David Hunt, Mr Keith Mans, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Tim Smith, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr Gary Waller and Mr Tim Yeo do prepare and bring it in.

17 Age Discrimination Bill,—Mr Quentin Davies accordingly presented a Bill to make provision in respect of age discrimination: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 144].

18 Business and Sittings of the House,—Ordered, That the following provisions shall have effect—

(1) At the sittings this day and to-morrow the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any messages from the Lords have been received.

(2) At this day’s sitting, in respect of the motion relating to ministerial accountability the Speaker shall forthwith put the questions on the motion and on any amendment which may have been selected and moved, and the questions may be decided, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.

(3) At this day’s sitting—

(a) the Speaker shall, at Ten o’clock, put the question on any motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown relating to estimates, and

(b) any Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill ordered to be brought in and read the first time shall be proceeded with as if its Second Reading stood as an Order of the Day, and Standing Order No. 54 (Consolidated Fund Bills) shall apply.

(4) At the sitting to-morrow, in respect of any motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown which relates to tax simplification or a report from a Select Committee, the Speaker shall forthwith put the questions on the motion and on any amendment which may have been selected and moved.

(5) If any Lords Amendment to the Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill is received at the sitting this day or to-morrow—

(a) it shall be considered forthwith,

(b) the Speaker shall forthwith put the question on any motion which may then be made relating to it, and

(c) the question may be decided, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.

(6) Notwithstanding the Order of 30th October, the House shall meet on Friday 21st March, at Eleven o’clock.—(Mr Tony Newton.)

19 Police Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Police Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 42, at the end to insert the words 'and

(e) the system of justice operating in any country with which it is proposed to offer intelligence or support under subsection (3)(d), and the extent to which it can be assumed that such intelligence or support will be used in accordance with conditions similar to those to which NCIS is subject.'.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 7 to 10, 6 and 11) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 40, line 9, at the end to insert the words—

‘“urgency” means circumstances in which it is not reasonably practicable to apply for an authorisation because to do so would cause such delay as would be likely seriously to prejudice the effectiveness of the operation.’.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 12 to 18) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 48, line 33, at the end to insert the words—

'(5) Any day appointed by an order made under section 135 below for the coming into force of this section shall not be earlier than two years after the coming into force of sections 113 to 127 below.

(6) This section shall not come into force until the Secretary of State has laid before Parliament a report containing an evaluation of the effect of sections 113 to 127 below and his assessment of that evaluation.’.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Diana Maddock: 26.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Matthew Carrington, Mr Timothy Wood: 271.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 55, line 2, to leave out the words 'section 115(4)' and insert the words 'section 112(1), 113(1) or 115(1) or (4)', instead thereof.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made:

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Diana Maddock, Ms Liz Lynne: 38.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Roger Knapman: 267.

Another Amendment [without notice] proposed to the Bill, in page 56, to leave out lines 27 and 28.—(Mr Elliot Morley.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Elliot Morley: 106.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 271.

Other Amendments (Nos. 19 to 21) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

20 Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Police and Firemen’s Pensions Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mrs Jacqui Lait reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

21 Royal Assent,—The Deputy Speaker notified the House in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, that Her Majesty had signified Her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

Consolidated Fund Act 1997
Finance Act 1997
Criminal Evidence (Amendment) Act 1997
Policyholders Protection Act 1997
Pharmacists (Fitness to Practise) Act 1997
British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act 1997
Knives Act 1997
Architects Act 1997
Lieutenancies Act 1997
Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1997
Justices of the Peace Act 1997
Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) Act 1997
Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Act 1997
Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997
Local Government and Rating Act 1997

22 Protection from Harassment Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Protection from Harassment Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 5 were agreed to.

23 Northern Ireland Business,—Ordered.

That—

(1) Standing Order No. 99 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee) shall be repealed and Standing Orders No. 99A to 99H below shall have effect;

(2) Standing Order No. 87 (Attendance of law officers and ministers in standing committees) shall be amended, in line 9, by inserting 'or a motion in the Northern Ireland Grand Committee under Standing Order No. 99A (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (composition and business))' after the words relating to the Welsh Grand Committee which were inserted on 11th March 1996;

(3) Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) shall be amended, in line 21, at the end, by inserting 'or to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee'; and

(4) Other Standing Orders shall have effect subject to the foregoing provisions of this Order.

99 A. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (composition and business)

(1) There shall be a standing committee called the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, which shall consist of all Members representing constituencies in Northern Ireland, together with not more than twenty-five other Members nominated by the Committee of Selection, which shall have power from time to time to discharge the Members so nominated by it and to appoint others in substitution for those discharged.

(2) The quorum of the committee shall be ten, subject to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).

(3) The business of the committee shall include—

(a) questions tabled in accordance with Standing Order No. 99 B (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer));

(b) short debates held in accordance with Standing Order No. 99 C (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (short debates));

(c) ministerial statements proceeded with under Standing Order No. 99 D (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (ministerial statements));

(d) bills referred to it for consideration or further consideration in relation to their principle, in accordance with Standing Order No. 99 E (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle));

(e) such legislative proposals and other specified matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland as may be referred to it in accordance with Standing Order
No. 99 F (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (legislative proposals and other matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland));

(f) instruments (whether or not in draft) referred to it in accordance with Standing Order No. 99 G (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (delegated legislation)); and

(g) motions for the adjournment of the committee, made under paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).

(4) Any Minister of the Crown, being a Member of the House, though not a member of the committee, may take part in the deliberations of the committee and may make a motion, but shall not vote or be counted in the quorum.

99 B. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)

(1) Notices of questions for oral answer in the Northern Ireland Grand Committee by Northern Ireland Office ministers on a day specified in an order made under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)) may be given by members of the committee in the Table Office.

(2) Notices of questions given under this order shall bear an indication that they are for oral answer in the Northern Ireland Grand Committee.

(3) No more than one notice of a question may be given under this order by any member of the committee for each day specified under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)) for the taking of questions.

(4) On any day so specified under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), questions shall be taken at the commencement of the sitting; no such question shall be taken later than half an hour after the commencement of the proceedings thereon; and replies to questions not reached shall be printed with the Official Report of the committee’s debates for that day.

(5) Notices of questions under this order may be given ten sitting days before that on which an answer is desired, save where otherwise provided by a memorandum under paragraph (8) of Standing Order No. 18 (Notices of questions, motions and amendments):

Provided that when it is proposed that the House shall adjourn for a period of fewer than four days, any day during that period (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) shall be counted as a sitting day for the purposes of the calculation made under this paragraph.

99 C. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (short debates)

(1) Notices of subjects to be raised in short debates in the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, on a day specified in an order made under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), may be given by members of the committee in the Table Office.

(2) Subjects of which notice is given under paragraph (1) of this order must relate to Northern Ireland.

(3) Not more than one notice of a subject may be given under this order by any member of the committee for each day specified under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)) for the holding of short debates.

(4) On any day so specified such debates shall be held at the commencement of the sitting or, if the order under paragraph (1) specifies also the taking of questions on that day, immediately after questions.

(5) (a) No Member except the Minister of the Crown replying to the debate shall be called to speak later than half an hour after the commencement of the first such debate.

(b) The Member who gave notice of the subject and the Minister of the Crown replying to the debate may each speak for five minutes. Other Members may speak for three minutes.

(c) The chairman may direct any Member who exceeds the limits in subparagraph (b) to resume his seat forthwith.

(6) Notice of subjects under this order may be given ten sitting days before that on which they are sought to be raised:

Provided that when it is proposed that the House shall adjourn for a period of fewer than four days, any day during that period (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) shall be counted as a sitting day for the purposes of the calculation made under this paragraph.
99 D. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (ministerial statements).

(1) The chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee may permit a Minister of the Crown, whether or not a Member of the House, to make a statement, of which prior notice has been given to him, on a matter relating to Northern Ireland, and to answer questions thereon put by members of the committee.

(2) Ministerial statements may be made—
(a) at the commencement of a sitting; or
(b) if questions are taken, immediately after the conclusion of proceedings thereon; or
(c) if short debates are held, immediately after the conclusion of those proceedings.

(3) Proceedings under this order shall be brought to a conclusion at the discretion of the chairman.

(4) A Minister of the Crown making a statement under paragraph (1) of this order, who is not a Member of the House, may not do so from the body of the committee; and shall not vote, make any motion or be counted in the quorum.

99 E. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)

(1) On the order being read for the second reading of a public bill relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, a motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown (or in the case of a private Member's bill, by the Member in charge of the bill), 'That the bill be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee', and the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed:
Provided that such a motion may be made by a private Member only with the leave of the House.

(2) A bill so referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall be considered on a motion, 'That the Committee has considered the bill in relation to its principle', and, when the committee has considered that question for a total of two and a half hours (whether on one or more than one day), the chairman shall put the question necessary to dispose of the motion, and shall then report accordingly to the House (or shall report that the committee has come to no resolution), without any further question being put thereon:
Provided that a Minister of the Crown may, immediately before the motion 'That the Committee has considered the bill in relation to its principle' is made, make without notice a motion to extend the time-limit specified in this paragraph; and the question on such motion shall be put forthwith.

(3) A bill in respect of which a report has been made under paragraph (2) above shall be ordered to be read a second time on a future day.

(4) When a motion shall have been made for the second reading of a bill to which paragraph (3) above applies, the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed.

(5) At the conclusion of proceedings on consideration on report of a bill in respect of which a report has been made under paragraph (2) above, or on the order being read for the third reading of such a bill, a motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown (or in the case of a private Member's bill by the Member in charge of the bill), 'That the Bill be referred again to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee', and the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed:
Provided that such a motion may be made by a private Member only with the leave of the House.

(6) A bill so referred again to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall be considered on a motion, 'That the Committee has further considered the bill in relation to its principle', and, when the committee has considered that question for a total of one and a half hours (whether on one or more than one day), the chairman shall put the question necessary to dispose of the motion, and shall then report accordingly to the House (or shall report that the committee has come to no resolution), without any further question being put thereon:
Provided that a Minister of the Crown may, immediately before the motion 'That the Committee has further considered the bill in relation to its principle' is made, make without notice a motion to extend the time-limit specified in this paragraph; and the question on such motion shall be put forthwith.

(7) A bill in respect of which a report has been made under paragraph (6) above shall be ordered to be read the third time on a future day.
(8) When a motion shall have been made for the third reading of a bill to which paragraph (7) above applies, the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed.

99 F. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (legislative proposals and other matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland)

(1) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business to the effect that a legislative proposal or other specified matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(2) If such a motion be agreed to, the committee shall consider the legislative proposal or matter referred to it and shall report only that it has considered the said legislative proposal or matter.

(3) In this order and in Standing Orders No. 99 A (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (composition and business)) and No. 99 H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)) 'a legislative proposal' means a proposal for a draft Order in Council relating exclusively to Northern Ireland.

99 G. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (delegated legislation)

(1) Where—

(a) a Member has given notice of a motion for a humble address to Her Majesty praying that a statutory instrument be annulled, or of a motion of a similar character relating to a statutory instrument or to any other instrument (whether or not in draft) which may be subject to proceedings in the House in pursuance of a statute, or of a motion that the House takes note of a statutory instrument, or

(b) a Minister of the Crown has given notice of a motion to the effect that an instrument (whether or not in draft) upon which proceedings may be taken in pursuance of an Act of Parliament (other than a draft deregulation order) be approved,

a motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown, 'That the instrument be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee'; and the question on such motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed.

(2) The Committee shall consider each instrument referred to it on a motion, 'That the Committee has considered the instrument'; and the chairman shall put any question necessary to dispose of the proceedings on the motion, if not previously disposed of, not later than two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings thereon; and shall thereupon report the instrument to the House without any further question being put:

Provided that a Minister of the Crown may, immediately before the motion 'That the Committee has considered the instrument' is made, make without notice a motion to extend to three hours the time-limit specified in this paragraph; and the question on such motion shall be put forthwith.

(3) If any motion is made in the House of the kind specified in paragraph 1(a) or 1(b) of this order, in relation to any instrument in respect of which a report has been made to the House in accordance with paragraph (2) of this order, the Speaker shall put forthwith the question thereon; which may be decided at any hour, though opposed.

99 H. Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)

(1) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown providing (or varying previous provision) for the Northern Ireland Grand Committee—

(a) to sit on not more than two specified days in Northern Ireland (at places to be named by the Member appointed chairman), the sitting commencing, and proceedings being interrupted, at such hours as shall be specified;

(b) to sit on other specified days at Westminster at such hours as shall be specified;

(c) to take questions under Standing Order No. 99 B (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)) on certain of the days specified under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) above;

(d) to hold short debates under Standing Order No. 99 C (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (short debates)) on certain of the days so specified;

(e) to consider specified bills which shall have been referred to it under Standing Order No. 99 E (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)) on certain of the days so specified;

(f) to consider legislative proposals and other specified matters which shall have been referred to it under Standing Order No. 99 F (Northern Ireland Grand
Committee (legislative proposals and other matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland) on certain of the days so specified;

(g) to consider specified instruments (whether or not in draft) which shall have been referred to it under Standing Order No. 99 G (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (delegated legislation)) on certain of the days so specified; and

(h) to consider motions for the adjournment of the committee made under paragraph (5) below on certain of the days so specified;

and the Speaker shall put forthwith the question on such a motion, which may be decided at any hour, though opposed:

Provided that nothing in this order shall prevent the committee from considering further at a sitting at Westminster business adjourned at a previous sitting in Northern Ireland, nor from considering at a sitting in Northern Ireland business adjourned at a sitting at Westminster.

(2) The provisions of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees), so far as they relate to the naming of a day in respect of business by the Member appointed chairman and the committee's appointment of future days in respect of business not completed at a sitting, shall not apply to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee.

(3) The chairman shall interrupt proceedings (other than on a motion made under paragraph (5) below) at the time specified in relation to the sitting by an order made under paragraph (1) above or, in the absence of such provision, at one o'clock, subject to paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees).

(4) At the moment of interruption, proceedings under consideration and not disposed of shall stand adjourned.

(5) On a day specified in an order made under paragraph (1) above, after the interruption of proceedings, or on the completion of the business appointed for consideration at that sitting, whichever is the earlier, a motion for the adjournment of the committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, and, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees) the chairman shall, not later than half an hour after the motion has been made, adjourn the committee without putting any question; and in respect of business taken under this paragraph, the quorum of the committee shall be three.—(Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew.)

24 Crime (Sentences) Bill.—Ordered, That the Lords Amendments to the Crime (Sentences) Bill be considered forthwith.—(Mr Secretary Howard.)

The House accordingly proceeded to consider the said Amendments.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment;

And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

25 Estimates, 1997–98.—It being Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question required to be put by Order (this day).

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £115,536,748,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges for Defence and Civil Services for the year ending on 31st March 1998, as set out in HC 335, 336 and 337.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolution: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr William Waldegrave, Mr Michael Jack, Mrs Angela Knight and Mr Phillip Oppenheim do prepare and bring it in.

26 Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill.—Mr Michael Jack accordingly presented a Bill to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on 31st March 1998; to appropriate the supplies granted in this Session of Parliament; and to repeal certain Consolidated Fund and Appropriation Acts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time this day and to be printed [Bill 140].

27 Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill be read a second time;

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [this day] and Standing Order No. 54 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.
And the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time:—It
was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed.

28 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith,
pursuant to Standing Order No. 14 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the
consideration of any Lords Amendments or proposals relating to bills which may be
received may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Roger
Knapman):—It was agreed to.

29 Crime (Sentences) Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to
the Crime (Sentences) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

The House resumed the adjourned Debate on the Question, That this House doth agree
with the Lords in the said Amendment.

Question put and agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 88 were agreed to.

30 Education Bill.—Ordered, That the Lords Amendments to the Education Bill be considered
forthwith.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

The House accordingly proceeded to consider the said Amendments.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 110 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive
their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 15 and 56.

31 Northern Ireland,—Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc)
Act 1996 (Cessation of Section 3) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 10th
March, be approved.—(Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew.)

32 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft
Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance)
Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Sir John
Wheeler);

Thursday 20th March 1997

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

33 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the draft Public
Order (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House
on 17th March, be approved—(Sir John Wheeler);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Timothy Wood, Mr Richard Ottaway: 59.


So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Public Order (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997,
which was laid before this House on 17th March, be approved.

34 Ministerial Accountability to Parliament.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put
forthwith, pursuant to Order (19th March), That, in the opinion of this House, the
following principles should govern the conduct of Ministers of the Crown in relation to
Parliament:

(1) Ministers have a duty to Parliament to account, and be held to account, for the
policies, decisions and actions of their Departments and Next Steps Agencies;

(2) It is of paramount importance that Ministers give accurate and truthful
information to Parliament, correcting any inadvertent error at the earliest opportunity.
Ministers who knowingly mislead Parliament will be expected to offer their resignation
to the Prime Minister;

(3) Ministers should be as open as possible with Parliament, refusing to provide
information only when disclosure would not be in the public interest, which should be
decided in accordance with relevant statute and the Government's Code of Practice on
Access to Government Information (Second Edition, January 1997);

(4) Similarly, Ministers should require civil servants who give evidence before
Parliamentary Committees on their behalf and under their directions to be as helpful as
possible in providing accurate, truthful and full information in accordance with the duties
and responsibilities of civil servants as set out in the Civil Service Code (January 1996)—
(Mr Matthew Carrington).—It was agreed to.

35 Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time and passed, with an Amendment.

36 Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

37 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Cambridgeshire and elsewhere for calculation of Cambridgeshire’s standard spending assessment to take account of the Elliot Review,

(2) citizens of Nottingham and elsewhere for legislation to ensure that United Kingdom citizens who commit serious sexual offences against children abroad can be prosecuted in this country, and

(3) residents of Golborne and elsewhere for the abolition of standing charges for the provision of utilities

were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

38 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Matthew Carrington.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until twenty-two minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 2.38 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Fire Services,—Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 959), dated 19th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

4 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 943), dated 16th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

5 Open Spaces,—Draft Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

6 Pensions,—Local Government Pension Scheme (Provision of Information, Administrative Expenses and Restitution) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 954), dated 18th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

7 Social Security,—(1) Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 806), dated 12th March 1997,

(2) Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 852), dated 17th March 1997, and

(3) Social Security (Industrial Injuries) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 810), dated 13th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

8 Telecommunications,—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (ACC Long Distance UK Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 886),

(3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (AT&T Communications (UK) Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 887),
(4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (CableTel (UK) Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 888),
(7) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Concert Communications Company) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 891),
(9) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Energis Communications Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 893),
(13) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Facilicom International (UK) Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 897),
(14) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Frontel Newco Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 898),
(15) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Global One Communications Holding Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 899),
(20) Public Telecommunication System Designation (IXNET UK Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 914),
(22) Public Telecommunication System Designation (MCI Telecommunications Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 906),
(23) Public Telecommunication System Designation (MFS Communications Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 908),
(31) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Spacetel International Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 901),
(32) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Star Europe Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 917),
(33) Public Telecommunication System Designation (TeleBermuda International (UK) Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 918),
(37) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Telewest Communications plc) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 923),
(38) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Telia UK Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 924),
(41) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Torch Communications Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 926),
(42) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Unisource Holding (UK) Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 927),
(43) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Videotron No. 2 Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 928),
(44) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Vodafone Ltd) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 929), and
dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

9 Town and Country Planning (Scotland),—Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 749), dated 5th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

10 Tribunals and Inquiries,—(1) Town and Country Planning (Inquiries Procedure) (Scotland) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 796), and
(2) Town and Country Planning Appeals (Determination by Appointed Person) (Inquiries Procedure) (Scotland) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 750),
dated 6th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

Other Papers:

11 European Communities (No. 2, 1997),—Euro-Mediterranean Agreement, done at Brussels on 26th February 1996, establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part, with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3532] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

12 European Communities (No. 5, 1997),—Convention, done at Brussels on 21st December 1995, on the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden, to the Convention on the Elimination of Double Taxation in Connection with the Adjustment of Profits of Associated Enterprises, with Minutes of Signing [by Command] [Cm. 3561] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

13 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute, dated 19th March 1997, concerning further financial objectives for the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].


15 Prisons,—Home Office Minute concerning a non-statutory contingent liability consequent upon contracts to design, construct, manage and finance prisons [by Command] [Mr Secretary Howard].
16 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Minister of State for Planning, Construction and Energy Efficiency on the Petition [3rd February] from residents of Ipswich for a comprehensive investigation into the draft Local Plan relating to Ipswich Municipal Airport and for protection of listed buildings, structures and fortifications thereon [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

17 Social Security Administration,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee and statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 852) [by Command] [Cm. 3598] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

18 Telecommunications,—Report of Oftel for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 379] [Mr Secretary Lang].

19 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under Section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to:—

(1) ACC Long Distance UK Ltd,
(2) Advanced Business Services Ltd,
(3) AT&T Communications (UK) Ltd,
(4) CableTel (UK) Ltd,
(5) Colt Telecommunications,
(6) Communicorp (UK) Ltd,
(7) Concert Communications Company,
(8) Convergence Ventures Ltd,
(9) Energis Communications Ltd,
(10) Esat Telecommunications (UK) Ltd,
(11) Esprit Telecom UK Ltd,
(12) Eurotunnel,
(13) Facilicom International (UK) Ltd,
(14) Frontel Newco Ltd,
(15) Global One Communications Holding Ltd,
(16) Hermes Europe Railtel B.V.,
(17) Incom (UK) Ltd,
(18) Interoute Networks Ltd,
(19) ITG (UK) Ltd,
(20) IXNET UK Ltd,
(21) LDI Communications Ltd,
(22) MCI Telecommunications Ltd,
(23) MFS Communications Ltd,
(24) National Transcommunications Ltd,
(25) Net.Net Ltd,
(26) Pacific Gateway Exchange (UK) Ltd,
(27) Primus Telecommunications Ltd,
(28) Racal Telecommunications Ltd,
(29) RSL Communications Ltd,
(30) ScottishPower Telecommunications Ltd,
(31) Spacetel International Ltd,
(32) Star Europe Ltd,
(33) TeleBermuda International (UK) Ltd,
(34) Telecom New Zealand Ltd,
(35) Teleglobe International (UK) Ltd,
(36) Teleport London International Ltd,
(37) Telewest Communications plc,
(38) Telia UK Ltd,
(39) Telstra (UK) Ltd,
(40) TMI TeleMedia International Ltd,
(41) Torch Communications Ltd,
(42) Unisource Holding (UK) Ltd,
(43) Videotron No. 2 Ltd
(44) Vodafone Ltd, and
(45) Worldcom International Inc,
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

20 Transport,— Statement of salaries of members of the British Waterways Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

21 Treaty Series (No. 16, 1997)— Convention, done at Brussels on 23rd July 1990, on the Elimination of Double Taxation in connection with the Adjustment of Profits of Associated Enterprises, with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3560] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

22 Welsh Church,— Scheme made by the County Council of Denbighshire under the Welsh Church Act 1914 to create the County Council of Denbighshire Welsh Church Act Trust Fund [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Sixth Report from the Defence Committee [Gulf War Illnesses: Recent Developments], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 158] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Fifth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Employment Effects of the Proposed Closure of the Gallaher Factory at Hyde]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 331];

(2) Sixth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Professional Status, Recruitment and Training of Teachers], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 131];

(3) Fourth Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Leak of the Committee’s Report on the Nursery Education Voucher Scheme]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 449]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee [Sir Malcolm Thornton].

3 European Legislation,—Eighteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 36-xviii] [Sir David Knox].

4 Foreign Affairs,—(1) Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Recent work of the Committee], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 447];

(2) Fourth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Developments at the Intergovernmental Conference], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 148];

(3) Second Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Informal Meetings undertaken by the Committee in Session 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 448]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Mr David Howell].

5 Home Affairs,—(1) Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Management of the Prison Service (public and private)], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 57];
(2) Third Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Freemasonry in the Police and the Judiciary], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 192]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Home Affairs Committee

[Sir Ivan Lawrence].

6 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The management of space in Higher Education Institutions in Wales]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 159];

(2) Twenty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [British Rail Maintenance Limited: Sale of Maintenance Depots]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 168];

(3) Twenty-third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: The Financial Management of the Military Operation in the Former Yugoslavia]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 242];

(4) Twenty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of Transport: Freight Facilities Grants in England]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 284];

(5) Twenty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Plymouth Development Corporation: Regularity, Propriety and Control of Expenditure]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 450]; and

(6) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 19th March: to be printed [No. 451-i]

[Mr Robert Sheldon].

7 Social Security.—(1) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [Saving for Retirement]; to be printed [No. 441]; and

(2) Second Special Report from the Social Security Committee [Inquiries not Completed], together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 442]

[Mr Frank Field].

8 Standards and Privileges,—Fifth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges, together with an Appendix, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 362] [Mr Tony Newton].

9 Welsh Affairs.—(1) Third Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Preservation of Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments: follow-up], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 250];

(2) Second Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1996-97, on Morriston Hospital NHS Trust/Iechyd Morgannwg Health]; to be printed [No. 445];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 19th March; to be printed [No. 446]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee

[Mr Gareth Wardell].

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.
Thursday 20th March 1997.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2 Select Committees (see Appendix II).
3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Building Societies Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Contract (Scotland) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Welsh Development Agency Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Building Societies (Distributions) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Police (Health and Safety) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
   The Lords have agreed to the Amendment made by this House to the Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Sex Offenders Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Police and Firemen's Pensions Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Road Traffic Reduction Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Birds (Registration Charges) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the Police Bill [Lords], without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

4 Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill to be Printed [Bill 148].

5 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill [Money] (No. 2),—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill [Money] (No. 2);
   Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State in establishing and maintaining the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission.—(Lord James Douglas-Hamilton.)

6 Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill,—The House, according to the Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 81 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 38, 47, 53, 54, 62 and 65.

7 Countryside.—Resolved. That the draft Hedgerows Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved.—(Mr James Clappison.)

8 Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill,—The House proceeded to consider forthwith the Lords Amendments to the Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill, pursuant to Order [yesterday].

And the Questions on Motions relating to the Lords Amendments being put forthwith:
Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 34 were agreed to.

9 Tax Simplification Bills,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [yesterday], That—

(1) Standing Order (Tax simplification bills) below be made;
(2) Standing Order No. 61 (Committal of bills) be amended, in line 2, after 'Bill', by inserting 'or a tax simplification bill'; and
(3) Standing Order No. 64 (Committee of whole House on bill) be amended, in line 7, at the end, by adding 'or unless the committee is discharged in pursuance of paragraph (8) of Standing Order (Tax simplification bills)'.

**Tax simplification bills**

(1) In this order 'a tax simplification bill' means a bill which has been presented, or brought in upon an order of the House, by a Minister of the Crown and which has been ordered to be proceeded with as such a bill.

(2) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, that a specified bill be so proceeded with, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(3) A tax simplification bill shall, upon the making of an order under paragraph (2) above, stand referred to a second reading committee unless the House otherwise orders.

(4) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, that a tax simplification bill shall no longer stand referred to a second reading committee, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(5) The provisions of paragraphs (3) to (6) of Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees) shall apply to any bill referred to a second reading committee under paragraph (3) above.

(6) A tax simplification bill shall, upon its being read a second time, stand committed to the Joint Committee on Tax Simplification Bills.

(7) A bill which has been reported from the said Joint Committee shall stand re-committed to a committee of the whole House unless the House otherwise orders.

(8) If a motion that the committee of the whole House be discharged from considering a tax simplification bill is made by a Minister of the Crown immediately after the order of the day has been read for the House to resolve itself into a committee on the bill, the motion shall not require notice and the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed; and if such question is agreed to the bill shall be ordered to be read the third time.—(Mr Tony Newton).—It was agreed to.

10 All-Party and Parliamentary Groups,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [yesterday], That this House approves the proposed written undertaking set out in the Annex to the First Report from the Administration Committee of Session 1995–96, on All-Party and Parliamentary Groups (HC 494), with the substitution for paragraph (i) of the following paragraph:

"(i) the group's membership is open to all Members of the House, and its aim and constitution are parliamentary in character; with the exception of those groups receiving funding from Her Majesty's Government, all groups cease to exist two calendar months after the first meeting of the new Parliament after a General Election unless re-registered within that period."—(Mr Tony Newton).—It was agreed to.

11 Standing Orders (Revision).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [yesterday], That the repeals of, and Amendments to, the Standing Orders of this House relating to Public Business, and the new Standing Order, recommended by the Select Committee on Procedure in its First Report (HC 95), as set out in Appendices I (Recommendations: Revision) and III (Proposed re-ordering of select committee Standing Orders) thereto, be made, with effect from the first day of the new Parliament, with the following additions namely—
(a) Standing Order No. 94F (Scottish Grand Committee (delegated legislation)), line 16, leave out ‘member of the government’ and insert ‘Minister of the Crown’; line 20 and line 37, leave out ‘notwithstanding the expiration of the time for opposed business’ and insert ‘at any hour, though opposed’; and

(b) Standing Order No. 126 (Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration), line 5, leave out ‘Commissioner for Administration’ and insert ‘Ombudsman’;

and subject to the following modifications to the recommendations set out in Appendix I, namely—

(1) recommendation 23, leave out lines 5 and 6 and insert ‘No. 98G (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)) and No. 99H (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings))’;

(2) recommendation 24(a), line 8, after ‘business’), insert ‘Standing Order No. 99A (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (composition and business))’;

and

(3) recommendation 27, line 5, after ‘Crown’), insert ‘line 16 and’—(Mr Tony Newton)—It was agreed to.

12 Standing Orders,—Ordered, That the Standing Orders relating to Public Business, as amended, be printed [No. 400].

13 Local Government Finance,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 101 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 27) (Community Care Special Grants for 1997–98) (HC 360), which was laid before this House on 5th March, be approved—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

14 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

15 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Casinos and Bingo Clubs: Debit Cards) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

16 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Football Pools) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th March, be approved—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

17 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Betting and Bingo Advertising etc.) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th March, be approved—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

18 Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 14A (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Non-Fossil Fuel) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 13th March, be approved—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

19 Structural Funds and Cohesion Policy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 11382/96 on the structural funds, and 12614/96 on cohesion policy; welcomes the Government’s continued efforts to simplify and improve the effectiveness of the funds within the United Kingdom and throughout the European Union; and supports the Government’s view that the reform of the funds for the period beyond 1999 needs to ensure that the funds are fair, transparent and efficient, and needs to enable the likely enlargement of the European Union in an affordable and durable manner—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—It was agreed to.

20 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Uxbridge—

(i) against the proposed removal from the Metropolitan Green Belt of land at the rear of Granville Road, Hillingdon, and

(ii) against the proposed theme park and film studio development on Green Belt land at Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge,

(2) the ‘Save Athletics at Crystal Palace’ campaign group in favour of improved athletics facilities at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, and
(3) residents of Newcastle upon Tyne against the Jobseeker’s Allowance
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

21 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Sebastian Coe.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Eight o’clock, 
adjournd till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.01 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Gaming Clubs (Hours and Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 942), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

2 Charities,—(1) Charities (Dormant Accounts) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 964), dated 16th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth]; and
(2) draft Charities (Clergy Orphan Corporation) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

3 Education,—Education (School Inspection) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 995), dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Shephard].

4 Education (Scotland),—Grants for Improvement of School Security (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 965), dated 14th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

5 Electricity,—Electricity (Class Exemptions from the Requirement for a Licence) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 989), dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

6 Housing,—Rent Officers (Additional Functions) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1000), dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

7 Housing (Scotland),—Rent Officers (Additional Functions) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1003), dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

(2) Manufactured Dividends (Tax) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 993),
(3) Manufactured Interest (Tax) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 992), and
(4) Stock Lending and Manufactured Payments (Revocations and Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 987),
dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].


10 Local Government,—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Housing Management) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 935), and
dated 17th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hague].

11 Local Loans,—Public Works Loans (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 985), dated 19th March 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Angela Knight].

12 National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 981), and
(2) National Health Service (Indicative Amounts) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 980),
dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

13 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Age-related Payments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 946), dated 18th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].
14 Social Security.—(1) Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 944), and
   (2) Social Security (Adjudication) and Commissioners Procedure and Child Support Commissioners (Procedure) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 955), dated 18th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lilley].


16 Young Offender Institutions.—Young Offender Institution (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 789), dated 9th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

Other Papers:

17 Animal Health.—Return of Expenditure Incurred and Prosecutions taken under the Animal Health Act 1981, and Incidences of Disease in Imported Animals for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Douglas Hogg].

18 British Broadcasting Corporation World Service.—Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute dated 20th March 1997 concerning a contingent liability consequent on the privatisation of the BBC World Service transmission business [by Command] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

19 Commonwealth Development Corporation.—Report and Accounts of the Commonwealth Development Corporation for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

20 Deregulation.—Compliance Cost Assessments: 1st July to 31st December 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3593] [Mr Roger Freeman].

21 Development of Rural Wales.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 19th March 1997 on borrowing by the Development Board for Rural Wales [by Act] [Mr Michael Jack].

   (1) Cabinet Office, Privy Council Office and Parliament [by Command] [Cm. 3620] [Mr Roger Freeman];
   (2) Chancellor of the Exchequer’s smaller Departments (including Net Payments to the European Community Institutions) [by Command] [Cm. 3617] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer];
   (3) Department for Education and Employment [by Command] [Cm. 3610] [Mrs Secretary Shephard];
   (4) Department of Health [by Command] [Cm. 3612] [Mr Secretary Dorrell];
   (5) Department of National Heritage [by Command] [Cm. 3611] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley];
   (6) Department of the Environment [by Command] [Cm. 3607] [Mr Secretary Gummer];
   (7) Department of Trade and Industry [by Command] [Cm. 3605] [Mr Secretary Lang];
   (8) Department of Transport [by Command] [Cm. 3606] [Secretary Sir George Young];
   (9) Department of Social Security [by Command] [Cm. 3613] [Mr Secretary Lilley];
   (10) Departments of the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Forestry Commission [by Command] [Cm. 3614] [Mr Secretary Forsyth];
   (11) Foreign and Commonwealth Office (including the Overseas Development Administration) [by Command] [Cm. 3603] [Mr Secretary Rifkind];
   (12) HM Customs and Excise [by Command] [Cm. 3618] [Mr Philip Oppenheim];
   (13) Home Office [by Command] [Cm. 3608] [Mr Secretary Howard];
   (14) Inland Revenue [by Command] [Cm. 3619] [Mr Michael Jack];
   (15) Lord Chancellor’s and Law Officer’s Departments [by Command] [Cm. 3609] [Mr Gary Streeter];
   (16) Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food [by Command] [Cm. 3604] [Mr Douglas Hogg];
   (17) Ministry of Defence [by Command] [Cm. 3602] [Mr Secretary Portillo].
(18) Northern Ireland Office [by Command] [Cm. 3616] [Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew]; and
(19) Welsh Office [by Command] [Cm. 3615] [Mr Secretary Hague].

23 Foreign and Commonwealth Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the
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Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 401] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

24 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute dated 20th March 1997 indicating a further
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25 Hong Kong,—Report on Hong Kong for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3569] [Mr Secretary
Rifkind].

26 Independent Living Funds,—Department of Social Security Minute concerning a contingent
liability consequent on the empowerment of the trustees of the Independent Living
Funds to borrow funds in consultation with the Secretary of State for Social Security [by
Command] [Cm. 3590] [Mr Secretary Lilley].

27 Inland Revenue Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Valuation Office Agency
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to be printed [No. 434] [Mrs Angela Knight].

28 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for
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(7) BHB Community Health Care,
(8) Bishop Auckland Hospitals,
(9) Blackburn Hyndburn & Ribble Valley Health Care,
(10) Canterbury & Thanet Community Healthcare,
(11) Carlisle Hospitals,
(12) Central Nottinghamshire Healthcare,
(13) Chase Farm Hospitals,
(14) City Hospital,
(15) Community Health Services, South Derbyshire,
(16) Community Health Care Service, North Derbyshire,
(17) Cornwall Healthcare,
(18) Crawley Horsham,
(19) Darlington Memorial Hospital,
(20) Derby City General Hospital,
(21) Dewsbury Health Care,
(22) Doncaster Health Care,
(23) Dorset Healthcare,
(24) East Anglian Ambulance,
(25) East Berkshire,
(26) East Gloucestershire,
(27) East Suffolk Local Health Services,
(28) East Surrey Healthcare,
(29) East Wiltshire Health Care,
(30) East Yorkshire Community Healthcare,
(31) East Yorkshire Hospitals,
(32) Enfield Community Care,
(33) Exeter & District Community Health Service,
(34) Fosse Health,
(35) Gateshead Hospitals,
(36) Glenfield Hospital,
(37) Gloucestershire Royal,
(38) Harrogate Health Care,
(39) Hastings & Rother,
(40) Havering Hospitals,
(41) Hereford Hospitals,
(42) Hinchingbrooke Health Care,
(43) Horton General Hospital,
(44) Huddersfield Health Care Services,
(45) Kent & Canterbury Hospitals,
(46) Kent Ambulance,
(47) Lancaster Priority Services,
(48) Leicester General Hospital,
(49) Leicester Royal Infirmary,
(50) Leicestershire Ambulance & Paramedics Service,
(51) Leicestershire Mental Health Service,
(52) Lifecare,
(53) Lincolnshire Ambulance & Health Transport Service,
(54) Liverpool Women’s Hospital,
(55) Luton and Dunstable Hospitals,
(56) Mayday Healthcare,
(57) Merton & Sutton Community,
(58) Mid Cheshire Hospitals,
(59) Mid Staffordshire General,
(60) Moorfields Eye Hospital,
(61) Norfolk and Norwich Health Care,
(62) Norfolk Mental Health Care,
(63) North Durham Acute Hospital,
(64) North Hampshire, Loddon Community,
(65) North Hampshire Hospitals,
(66) North West Anglia Healthcare,
(67) Northallerton Health Services,
(68) Northampton General Hospital,
(69) Northern General Hospital,
(70) Nottingham City Hospital,
(71) Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre,
(72) Oxford Radcliffe,
(73) Oxfordshire Ambulances,
(74) Oxfordshire Community Health,
(75) Oxfordshire Mental Healthcare,
(76) Phoenix Trust,
(77) Pilgrim Health,
(78) Pinderfield & Pontefract Hospitals,
(79) Plymouth Hospitals,
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(82) Portsmouth Hospitals,
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(87) Royal Bournemouth & Christchurch Hospital,
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(98) South Tees Acute Hospitals,
(99) South Tees Community & Mental Health,
(100) Southampton Community Health Services,
(101) Southampton University Hospitals,
(102) St. Helier,
(103) Stoke Mandeville Hospital,
(104) Swindon and Marlborough,
(105) Tameside and Glossop Community,
(106) Thanet Healthcare,
(107) The Royal Surrey County & St. Luke's,
(108) Whittington Hospital,
(109) Trecare,
(110) Wakefield & Pontefract Community Health,
(111) Weston Area Health,
(112) Wigan & Leigh Health Services,
(113) Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare, and
(114) York Health Services
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dorrell].

29 New Towns (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of:—
(1) Cumbernauld Development Corporation,
(2) Irvine Development Corporation, and
(3) Livingston Development Corporation,
for 1st April to 31st December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

30 Provisional Orders (Scotland),—Report by the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936 that the Scottish Agricultural Order should be allowed to proceed, subject to any recommendations as they may hereafter make with respect to the said Order 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Forsyth].

31 Public Expenditure,—Paper, entitled Public Expenditure: Statistical Analyses 1997–98 [by Command][Cm. 3601][Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].
32 Public Libraries and Museums.—Report by the Secretary of State for National Heritage on Library and Information Matters during 1995 and 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Secretary Bottomley].

33 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment on the Petition [25th February] from citizens of Bolton and elsewhere against the Lever Park Bill [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

34 Transport.—Department of Transport Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon franchise agreements between franchisees and the Director of Passenger Rail Franchising for the operation of passenger rail services and those in certain associated direct agreements relating to Regional Railways North East [by Command] [Secretary Sir George Young].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—(1) Fifth Report from the Health Committee [Hospital Services for Children and Young People], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 128];

(2) First Special Report from the Health Committee [Children Looked After by Local Authorities]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 454]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Health Committee [Mrs Marion Roe]

2 Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration.—Second Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration [The Channel Tunnel Rail Link and Exceptional Hardship—Government Proposals for Redress], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 453]

[Mr James Pawsey].

3 Science and Technology.—(1) Third Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Government's Response to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1996-97, on the Association of British Insurers' Policy Statement on Life Insurance and Genetics]; to be printed [No. 455]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Science and Technology Committee [Sir Giles Shaw].

[No. 86.]

Friday 21st March 1997.

The House met at Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Message to attend the Lords Commissioners.—A Message from the Lords Commissioners was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

Madam Speaker.

The Lords, authorised by virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, for declaring Her Royal Assent to several Acts and Measures agreed upon by both Houses and for proroguing the present Parliament, desire the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the House of Peers, to hear the Commission read.

Accordingly the Speaker, with the House, went up to the House of Peers, where a Commission was read, giving, declaring and notifying the Royal Assent to several Acts and a Measure, and for proroguing this present Parliament.
The Royal Assent was given to the following Acts:—

Appropriation Act 1997
Building Societies Act 1997
Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997
Contract (Scotland) Act 1997
Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Act 1997
Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Act 1997
Welsh Development Agency Act 1997
Prisons (Alcohol Testing) Act 1997
Sexual Offences (Protected Material) Act 1997
Protection from Harassment Act 1997
Building Societies (Distributions) Act 1997
Police (Health and Safety) Act 1997
Crime (Sentences) Act 1997
Education Act 1997
Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) Act 1997
National Health Service (Primary Care) Act 1997
Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act 1997
Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Act 1997
Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Act 1997
Police Act 1997
Sex Offenders Act 1997
Police and Firemen’s Pensions Act 1997
Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Act 1997
Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997
Birds (Registration Charges) Act 1997
Pensions Measure 1997

And afterwards Her Majesty’s Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty’s Command), as follows:

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

The Duke of Edinburgh and I were very pleased to receive his Excellency the President of Israel on a State Visit in February. We remember with great pleasure our State Visit to Thailand in October.

My Government continued to provide for the defence of the United Kingdom, the Dependent Territories and our allies, and for the protection of international peace and stability.

My Government have continued to support the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and welcomed its decision in December to hold a Summit meeting in Madrid in July this year at which decisions will be taken on the adaptation and enlargement of the Alliance. My Government have supported the work of the Alliance to develop a new partnership with Russia.

In the European Union, my Government have promoted policies aimed at greater competitiveness. They have participated in meetings of the Intergovernmental Conference and on Economic and Monetary Union.

My Government continued strongly to support enlargement of the European Union and the necessary reform of EU policies. They have continued to promote transatlantic relations, both bilaterally and through the Union.


In Bosnia and Herzegovina, my Government have continued to play a leading role in consolidating peace. They held a conference in London in December 1996 to set a
framework for peace implementation in 1997, and have continued to contribute substantially to the country's economic and social regeneration. They are also maintaining 5,000 Service men and women in former Yugoslavia, as part of the NATO-led military stabilisation force.

In the interests of the people of Hong Kong, my Government continued to work for a successful transfer of sovereignty to China on 30 June this year.

My Government have continued to support the work of the United Nations Secretary-General's mission of good offices in the search for a settlement on the divided island of Cyprus.

In the Middle East, my Government worked for and welcomed the agreement between Israel and the Palestinians on redeployment in Hebron, and were closely involved in international efforts to reduce tensions and support the implementation of that and earlier agreements.

My Government launched two campaigns for the promotion of trade and investment, one in respect of Central and Eastern Europe and one in respect of South East Asia. They also held a successful conference in February to help strengthen trade, investment and bilateral links with Latin America.

A large and effective development assistance programme was maintained, aimed at promoting sustainable development and reducing poverty and suffering in the poorer parts of the world. My Government continued to play a full part in promoting democracy and the rule of law throughout Africa and tackling the grave problems of the Great Lakes Region.

Support continued for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia in their transition to democratic market economies, through the Know How Fund and with our European partners.

My Government continued to play an active part in the Commonwealth and to prepare for a successful Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting, to be held in October in Edinburgh.

My Government played a full part in supporting the work of the United Nations and its peacekeeping operations, and participated actively in the debate on the reform of the organisation.

My Government have maintained the fight against terrorism in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. They have pursued a comprehensive strategy to combat drug misuse, by tackling the supply of narcotic drugs at home and abroad and pursuing measures to reduce demand.

Members of the House of Commons

I thank you for the provision you have made for the honour and dignity of the Crown and for the public service.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

My Government have pursued economic policies which have brought about sustained growth in output, rising living standards and falling unemployment, while keeping inflation at its lowest levels for nearly 50 years. Public expenditure has been kept under firm control, income tax has been reduced and measures have been taken to ensure that the public sector borrowing requirement continues to fall.

My Government have continued to promote the nation's competitiveness, following up the policies and initiatives set out in the Third Competitiveness White Paper published in June, and to encourage fewer, better and simpler regulations to reduce unnecessary burdens on business. Over 1,000 regulations have now been repealed or amended.

In Northern Ireland, my Government have continued to work towards a political settlement, through talks open to all elected political parties that demonstrate a commitment to peaceful and democratic methods. Renewed terrorist activity has been dealt with vigorously by the security forces. My Government have maintained close cooperation with the Irish Government. An Act has been passed to provide a framework for the decommissioning of arms.

Legislation was passed to improve discipline and raise standards in education.

An Act has been passed to support the fight against organised crime. Legislation has also been enacted to reform the sentencing and supervision of serious, dangerous and persistent offenders so as to provide greater protection for the public. An Act has been passed to strengthen controls on the ownership of firearms.

Measures have been enacted to impose a requirement on convicted sex offenders to register changes of address with the police, and to give our courts jurisdiction over sex offences committed against children abroad. Legislation has also been passed to provide protection through the criminal and civil law to victims of harassment.
My Government have set a framework for environmental action with new strategies for air quality, water resources, recycling and urban regeneration. With their European partners, they have secured agreement to targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Legislation was enacted to improve maritime safety and strengthen powers to protect the United Kingdom coastline from pollution from merchant shipping. An Act has been passed to authorise the construction and operation of a high speed rail link between London and the Channel Tunnel.

An Act has been passed to improve and develop primary health care services. Legislation has been passed which will reduce social security fraud and improve the scheme to recover benefits from compensation payments.

An Act has been passed to enable reform of the procedures of the civil courts.

Legislation has been enacted to implement proposals to strengthen the role of parish and community councils, to provide rate relief for small village shops and to remove Crown exemption from non-domestic rates.

For Scotland an Act has been passed to make changes in criminal justice to improve public protection. Other Scottish measures which have been enacted include legislation to enable the transfer of publicly owned crofting estates to crofting trusts.

Other important measures have been enacted, including measures of law reform.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may attend you.

After which the Lord Chancellor said:

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons:

By virtue of Her Majesty’s Commission which has been now read, we do, in Her Majesty’s name, and in obedience to Her Majesty’s Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Tuesday the fifteenth day of this instant April to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to the fifteenth day of this instant April.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Dangerous Drugs,—Misure of Drugs (Supply to Addicts) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1001), dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Howard].

2 Housing,—Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 977), dated 20th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Gummer].

3 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1006), dated 19th March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Lang].

Other Papers:

4 Acts of Parliament,—Paper, entitled Bringing Acts of Parliament into Force [by Command] [Cm. 3595] [Mr Roger Freeman].

5 European Communities (No. 6, 1997),—Europe Agreement, done at Luxembourg on 10th June 1996, establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, acting within the Framework of the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Slovenia, of the other part, with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3571] [Mr Secretary Rifkind].

6 Parliamentary Papers,—Alphabetical index to the Bills, House of Commons Papers and Command Papers in the House of Commons set of parliamentary papers with notes on the volume arrangement and summary of legislation, Session 1996–97, Fifty-first Parliament, Fifth Session, 45th and 46th Elizabeth II, 23rd October 1996 to 21st March 1997; to be printed [No. 456] [The Speaker].
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That—

(1) at the meeting of the Scottish Grand Committee on Monday 25th November—

(a) proceedings on the substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee shall lapse at One o’clock; and

(b) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion which may then be made in relation to the Contract (Scotland) Bill at Two o’clock, if not previously concluded;

(2) at the meeting of the Committee on Monday 9th December—

(a) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order (Scottish Grand Committee (ministerial statements)), the proceedings on any ministerial statement which may be made relating to E. Coli in Scotland shall be brought to a conclusion not later than three-quarters of an hour after their commencement and proceedings on any ministerial statement which may be made relating to public expenditure in Scotland shall be brought to a conclusion not later than half an hour after their commencement;

(b) proceedings on the substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee shall lapse at half-past Two o’clock; and

(c) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Chairman shall put any Question necessary to dispose of any Motion which may then be made in relation to the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland Bill at a quarter past Three o’clock, if not previously concluded, 109.

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CRIME AND PUNISHMENT (SCOTLAND) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 10. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 29. First Scottish, 34. Reported, with Amendments, 114. As amended, considered; Question proposed, That Amendment be made; Debate stood adjourned (at Ten o'clock), 163. Debate resumed and Bill further considered; read the third time, and passed, 188. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 320. Lords Amendments agreed to, several with special entries, 335. (Cited as Crime and Punishment Act 1997) Royal Assent, 344.

COPYRIGHT (Statement of Payment Practice) Regulations 1997, approved, 225.

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(3) At this day’s sitting—

(a) the Speaker shall, at Ten o’clock, put the question on any motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown in relating to estimates, and

(b) any Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill ordered to be brought in and read the first time shall be proceeded with as if its Second Reading stood as an Order of the Day, and Standing Order (Consolidated Fund Bills) shall apply.

(4) At the sitting tomorrow, in respect of any motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown which relates to tax simplification or a report from a Select Committee, the Speaker shall forthwith put the questions on the motion and on any amendment which may have been selected and moved.

(5) If any Lords Amendment to the Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill is received at the sitting this day or tomorrow—

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LAND REGISTRATION BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 126. Read the first time, 134. Read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported without Amendment; Queen’s Consent and Prince of Wales’s Consent signified; read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 211. (Cited as Land Registration Act 1997) Royal Assent, 268.


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—Girobank plc, 28.
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