BY THE QUEEN

A PROCLAMATION

FOR DISSOLVING THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT, AND
DECLARING THE CALLING OF ANOTHER

ELIZABETH R.

WHEREAS We have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, to dissolve this present Parliament which stands prorogued to Tuesday, the fifteenth day of April instant: We do, for that End, publish this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby dissolve the said Parliament accordingly: And the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Members of the House of Commons, are discharged from further Attendance thereat: And We being desirous and resolved, as soon as may be, to meet Our People, and to have their Advice in Parliament, do hereby make known to all Our loving Subjects Our Royal Will and Pleasure to call a new Parliament: and do hereby further declare, that, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, We have given Order that Our Chancellor of Great Britain and Our Secretary of State for Northern Ireland do respectively, upon Notice thereof, forthwith issue out Writs, in due Form and according to Law, for calling a new Parliament: And We do hereby also, by this Our Royal Proclamation under Our Great Seal of Our Realm, require Writs forthwith to be issued accordingly by Our said Chancellor and Secretary of State respectively, for causing the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons who are to serve in the said Parliament to be duly returned to, and give their Attendance in, Our said Parliament on Wednesday, the seventh day of May next, which Writs are to be returnable in due course of Law.

Given at Our Court at Windsor Castle, this eighth day of April in the Year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven and in the forty-sixth year of Our Reign.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN
Session 1997–98

The Parliament begun and held at the City of Westminster, on Monday, the seventh day of May in the forty-sixth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady ELIZABETH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith; and in the year of our Lord 1997.

[No. 1.]

Wednesday 7th May 1997.

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

1 The House being met; and it being the first day of the meeting of this Parliament, pursuant to Proclamation, Donald William Limon, Esquire, C.B., Clerk of the House of Commons, William Robert McKay, Esquire, C.B., Clerk Assistant, and George Cubie, Esquire, Principal Clerk of the Table Office, attending in the House, and the other Clerks attending, according to their duty, Sir Thomas Stuart Legg, K.C.B., Q.C., Clerk of the Crown in Chancery in Great Britain, delivered to the said Donald William Limon a book containing a list of the names of the Members returned to serve in this Parliament.

Several of the Members repaired to their seats.

Sir Edward Heath took the Chair, pursuant to Standing Order No. 1 (Election of the Speaker).

2 Message to attend the Lords Commissioners,—A Message was received from the Lords Commissioners, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:

Members of the House of Commons,

The Lords, authorised by virtue of Her Majesty’s Commission, desire the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the House of Peers, to hear the Commission read.

3 Accordingly the House went up to the House of Peers, and a Commission having been read for opening and holding the Parliament, the Lords Commissioners directed the House to proceed to the Election of a Speaker, and to present the Speaker Elect to-morrow, in the House of Peers, for the Royal Approbation.

4 And the House having returned;

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody proposed to the House for its Speaker Miss Betty Boothroyd, and moved, That the Right honourable Betty Boothroyd do take the Chair of this House as Speaker, which Motion was seconded by Mr John MacGregor.
Miss Betty Boothroyd then stood up in her place, and expressed the sense she had of the honour proposed to be conferred upon her, and submitted herself to the House.

Resolved, That Miss Betty Boothroyd do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

Whereupon Sir Edward Heath left the Chair, and Miss Betty Boothroyd was taken out of her place and conducted to the Chair by Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody and Mr John MacGregor, and, standing on the upper step, she expressed her respectful and humble acknowledgement to the House of the great honour which the House had been pleased to confer upon her and sat down in the Chair.

Then the Mace (which before lay under the Table) was placed upon the Table.

Whereupon the Prime Minister, Mr John Major, Mr Paddy Ashdown, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr David Trimble and the Reverend Ian Paisley congratulated Madam Speaker Elect, and Mr Thomas McAvoy moved, That this House do now adjourn.

The House having agreed to the said Motion, the House adjourned accordingly at twenty-eight minutes to Four o'clock, till to-morrow, and Madam Speaker Elect went away without the Mace before her.

[Adjourned at 3.32 p.m.]

Thursday 8th May 1997.

1 The House met at half-past Two o'clock; and Madam Speaker Elect having taken the Chair;

2 Message to attend the Lords Commissioners.—A Message was received from the Lords Commissioners, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:

Madam Speaker Elect,

The Lords, authorised by virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, desire the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the House of Peers.

3 Accordingly Madam Speaker Elect, with the House, went up to the House of Peers, where she was presented to the said Lords Commissioners for Her Majesty's Royal Approbation.

Then the Lord Chancellor, one of the said Lords Commissioners, signified Her Majesty's Approbation of Madam Speaker Elect.

4 The House having returned;

5 Madam Speaker reported, That the House had been in the House of Peers, where Her Majesty was pleased by Her Majesty's Commissioners to approve the choice the House had made of her to be its Speaker, and that she had in its name and on its behalf by humble Petition to Her Majesty made claim to all its ancient and undoubted Rights and Privileges, particularly to freedom of speech in debate, freedom from arrest, freedom of access to Her Majesty whenever occasion may require, and that the most favourable construction should be placed upon all its proceedings; which she said Her Majesty, by Her said Commissioners, had been pleased to allow and confirm to it in as ample a manner as they have ever been granted or confirmed by Her Majesty or any of Her Majesty's Royal Predecessors.

And then Madam Speaker repeated her very respectful acknowledgments and grateful thanks to the House for the great honour it had conferred upon her.

Madam Speaker then put the House in mind that the first thing to be done was to take and subscribe the Oath required by law.

6 Madam Speaker takes the Oath,—Thereupon Madam Speaker first, alone, standing upon the upper step of the Chair, took and subscribed the Oath.

7 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 Sir Michael Shersby, Member for Uxbridge. 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 friends.

8 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation,—Then the following Members took and subscribed the Oath, or made and subscribed the Affirmation required by law:

Right honourable Sir Edward Richard for Old Bexley and Sidcup
George Heath, K.G., M.B.E.
Right honourable Anthony Charles Sedgefield.
Lynton Blair

Right honourable John Major Huntingdon.

Right honourable John Leslie Prescott Kingston upon Hull East.
Winifred Ann, Mrs Dewsbury.
Taylor

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Dunfermline East.
James Gordon Brown Blackburn.

Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Derby South.
Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.
David George Clark Redcar.

Right honourable Marjorie Mowlam Hamilton South.
Winifred Ann, Mrs Taylor

Right honourable John Leslie Prescott Kingston upon Hull East.

Right honourable Winifred Ann, Mrs Taylor

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Livingston.

Right honourable James Gordon Brown Dunfermline East.

Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Blackburn.

Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Livingston.

Right honourable James Gordon Brown Dunfermline East.

Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Blackburn.

Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Livingston.

Right honourable James Gordon Brown Dunfermline East.

Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Blackburn.

Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Livingston.

Right honourable James Gordon Brown Dunfermline East.

Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Blackburn.

Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Livingston.

Right honourable James Gordon Brown Dunfermline East.

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Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

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Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Blackburn.

Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.

Right honourable Robert Finlayson Cook Livingston.

Right honourable James Gordon Brown Dunfermline East.

Right honourable John Whitaker Straw Blackburn.

Right honourable Margaret Mary Beckett Edinburgh East and Musselburgh.

Right honourable Dr Gavin Steel Strang South Shields.
Right honourable Michael Andrew Foster
Jude Kerr, commonly called Earl of Ancram and known as Right honourable Michael Ancram

Right honourable Francis Anthony
Lidderdale

Right honourable Peter Leonard Brooke, C.H.

Right honourable Sir John Paul Stanley
Reverend Ian Richard Kyle Paisley
Daffyd Wigley, Esquire
Margaret Anne, Mrs Ewing
Winifred James Griffiths, Esquire
Samuel Laird Galbraith, Esquire
Peter Kilfoyle, Esquire
John Hume, Esquire
John McFall, Esquire
Jon Owen Jones, Esquire
Peter Gerald Hain, Esquire
George Foulkes, Esquire
Alan Thomas Howarth, Esquire, C.B.E.
Paul Yaw Boateng, Esquire

Malcolm George Richardson Chisholm, Esquire

Geoffrey William Hoon, Esquire
Kevin Michael Hughes, Esquire
John Francis Spellar, Esquire
Anthony Worthington, Esquire
Estelle Morris
Thomas McLaughlin McAvoy, Esquire
Clive James Charles Betts, Esquire
Elliot Anthony Morley, Esquire
James Patrick Dowd, Esquire
Jane Elizabeth, Mrs Kennedy
Gregory James Pope, Esquire
Bridget Theresa, Mrs Prentice
Dr Kim Scott Howells

Right honourable Thomas Jeremy King, C.H.

Graham William Allen, Esquire
Keith John Charles Bradley, Esquire
Robert William Ainsworth, Esquire
Sir Peter Hannay Bailey Tapsell
Robert Adam Ross Maclellan, Esquire
Sir Richard Bernard Frank Stewart Body
Stephen Barry Jones, Esquire
Dennis Edward Skinner, Esquire
Thomas Michael Cox, Esquire
Sir William David Madel
Sir Patrick Thomas Cormack
Nicholas Raymond Winterton, Esquire
Roger Stott, Esquire, C.B.E.
Sir Michael William Hardy Spicer
Bruce Thomas George, Esquire
Andrew Francis Bennett, Esquire
Dennis Andrew Canavan, Esquire
William Ross, Esquire

Devises.
Horsham.
Maidstone and The Weald.
Cities of London and Westminster.
Tonbridge and Malling.
North Antrim.
Caernarfon.
Moray.
Bridgend.
Strathkelvin and Bearsden.
Liverpool, Walton.
Foyle.
Dumbarton.
Cardiff Central.
Neath.
Carrick, Cumnock, and Doon Valley.
Newport East.
Brent South.
Edinburgh North and Leith.
Ashfield.
Doncaster North.
Warley.
Clydebank and Milngavie.
Birmingham, Yardley.
Glasgow, Rutherglen.
Sheffield, Attercliffe.
Scunthorpe.
Lewisham West.
Liverpool, Wavertree.
Hyndburn.
Lewisham East.
Pontypridd.
Bridgewater.
Nottingham North.
Manchester, Withington.
Coventry North East.
Louth and Horncastle.
Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross.
Boston and Skegness.
Alyn and Deeside.
Bolsover.
Tooting.
South West Bedfordshire.
South Staffordshire.
Macclesfield.
Wigan.
West Worcestershire.
Walsall South.
Denton and Reddish.
Falkirk West.
East Londonderry.
Right honourable Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith
Sir Raymond William Whitney, O.B.E.
John David Home Robertson, Esquire
Brian Charles John Sedgemore, Esquire
Sir Alan Gordon Barracough Haselhurst
Richard Lewis Page, Esquire
Giles Heneage Radice, Esquire
Dale Norman Campbell-Savours, Esquire
David Marshall, Esquire
Ernest Ross, Esquire
John Alston Maxton, Esquire
Lawrence Francis Cunliffe, Esquire
Sir Sydney Brookes Chapman
Martin John O’Neill, Esquire
Sir Raymond Powell
Angus Paton Welsh, Esquire
David Julian Winnick, Esquire
Michael John Martin, Esquire
Sir Edward MacMillan Taylor
Michael Keith Beale Colvin, Esquire
James Marshall, Esquire
Clive Stafford Soley, Esquire
Richard Charles Scrimgeour Shepherd, Esquire
John Arbuthnot Du Cane Wilkinson, Esquire
John David McWilliam, Esquire
Frank Field, Esquire
Reverend William Martin Smyth
Right honourable Stephen James Dorrell
Marion Audrey, Mrs Roe
Archibald Johnstone Kirkwood, Esquire
Simon Robert Key, Esquire
Roger James Gale, Esquire
Charles Frederick Wardle, Esquire
Jane Ann, Mrs Winterton
Clifford Forsythe, Esquire
Cecil Walker, Esquire
William Michie, Esquire
Roy Beggs, Esquire
Andrew James MacKay, Esquire
John Valentine Butterfill, Esquire
Francis Cook, Esquire
Dr Norman Anthony Godman
John Mark Taylor, Esquire
Michael Nicholson Lord, Esquire
Peter Leslie Pike, Esquire
James Robert Wallace, Esquire
Charles Peter Kennedy, Esquire
Robert Nelson Wareing, Esquire
Terence Anthony Gordon Davis, Esquire
Robin Corbett, Esquire
Malcolm Gray Bruce, Esquire
Ann Clwyd
William O’Brien, Esquire
Patrick Allen McLoughlin, Esquire

Wealden.
Wycombe.
East Lothian.
Hackney South and Shoreditch.
South West Hertfordshire.
North Durham.
Workington.
Glasgow, Shettleston.
Dundee West.
Glasgow, Cathcart.
Leigh.
Chipping Barnet.
Ochil.
Ogmore.
Angus.
Walsall North.
Rochford and Southend East.
Romsey.
Leicester South.
Ealing, Acton and Shepherd’s Bush.
Aldridge-Brownhills.
Ruislip-Northwood.
Blaydon.
Birkenhead.
Belfast South.
Charnwood.
Broxbourne.
South Antrim.
Birkenhead.
Belfast South.
West Derbyshire.
Andrew Robert Frederick Hunter, Esquire Basingstoke.
Robert Victor Jackson, Esquire Wantage.
David Martin Hinchliffe, Esquire Wakefield.
Audrey, Mrs Wise Preston.
Alice, Mrs Mahon Halifax.
Maria, Mrs Fyfe Glasgow, Maryhill.
Simon Henry Ward Hughes, Esquire North Southwark and Bermondsey.
Eric Evelyn Illsley, Esquire Barnsley Central.
Harold Barnes, Esquire North East Derbyshire.
John Scott Cummings, Esquire Eastington.
Ronald Campbell, Esquire Blyth Valley.
Donald Anderson, Esquire Swansea East.
Gerald Neil Steinberg, Esquire City of Durham.
Timothy Eric Boswell, Esquire Daventry.
Simon Hugh McGuigan Burns, Esquire West Chelmsford.
Patrick Charles Martyn Nicholls, Esquire Teignbridge.
James Douglas Cran, Esquire Beverley and Holderness.
Christopher John Fred Gill, Esquire, R.D. Ludlow.
John McAllion, Esquire Dundee East.
James Hood, Esquire Clydesdale.
Matthew Owen John Taylor, Esquire Truro and St Austell.
Ieuan Wyn Jones, Esquire Ymys Môn.
Bernard Alexander Montgomery Grant, Esquire Tottenham.
Alexander Elliot Anderson Salmond, Esquire Banff and Buchan.
James Wray, Esquire Glasgow, Baillieston.
David Arthur Stephen Tredinnick, Esquire Bosworth.
Jean Mary, Mrs Ruddock Lewisham, Deptford.
Frank Doran, Esquire Aberdeen Central.
Christopher John Mullin, Esquire Sunderland South.
Eric Anthony Martlew, Esquire Carlisle.
James Norwich Arbuthnot, Esquire North East Hampshire.
Ian Cameron Bruce, Esquire South Dorset.
Janet Ray, Mrs Michie Argyll and Bute.
Katherine Letitia Hoey Vauxhall.
David Trimble, Esquire Upper Bann.
Right honourable Sir Archibald Gavin Hamilton Epsom and Ewell.
Paul Phillip Flynn, Esquire Newport West.
William John Olner, Esquire Nuneaton.
James Dolan Cunningham, Esquire Coventry South.
Piara Singh Khabra, Esquire Ealing, Southall.
David George Hanson, Esquire Delyn.
Edward Henry Garnier, Esquire, Q.C. Harborough.
Andrew Peter Miller, Esquire Ellesmere Port and Neston.
Rachel Anne Squire Dunfermline West.
Malcolm Douglas Moss, Esquire North East Cambridgeshire.
Gary Nicholas Streeter, Esquire South West Devon.
Jean Ann Corston Bristol East.
George William Stevenson, Esquire Stoke on Trent South.
William James Clappison, Esquire Hertsmere.
Nicholas Richard Ainger, Esquire Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire.
Oliver Heald, Esquire North East Hertfordshire.
Adam Paterson Ingram, Esquire East Kilbride.
Martyn David Jones, Esquire Clwyd South.
Michael Clapham, Esquire ... ... Barnsley West and Penistone.
Jeffrey Ennis, Esquire ... ... Barnsley East and Mexborough.
Angela Frances, Mrs Browning ... ... Tiverton and Honiton.
Peter Landreth Atkinson, Esquire ... ... Hexham.
Katherine, Mrs Adams ... ... Paisley North.
Roger Duncan Godsiff, Esquire ... Birmingham, Sparkbrook and Small Heath.
Dr Lynne Mary Jones ... ... Birmingham, Selly Oak.
Neil Francis Gerrard, Esquire ... ... Walthamstow.
Nigel Keith Anthony Standish Vaz, Esquire ... Leicester East.
Margaret Eve, Mrs Hodge, M.B.E. ... ... Barking.
Thomas Pendry, Esquire ... ... Stalybridge and Hyde.
Dr John Marek ... ... ... Wrexham.
Bruce Joseph Grocott, Esquire ... ... Telford.
John Matthew Patrick Hutton, Esquire ... Barrow and Furness.
Donald Michael Ellison Foster, Esquire ... Bath.
Helen Margaret, Mrs Jackson ... ... Sheffield, Hillsborough.
David William George Chidgey, Esquire ... Eastleigh.
Michael St. John Trend, Esquire, commonly called the honourable Michael St. John Trend
James Keith Chapman, Esquire ... ... Wirral South.
Huw William Edmund Edwards, Esquire ... Monmouth.
William John Gunnell, Esquire ... ... Morley and Rothwell.
James Donnelly Touhig, Esquire ... ... Islwyn.
Hugh Bayley, Esquire ... ... City of York.
George Iain Duncan Smith, Esquire ... Chingford and Woodford Green.
Nicholas John Hawkins, Esquire ... ... Surrey Heath.
Tessa Jane Helen Douglas Jowell ... ... Dulwich and West Norwood.
Joyce Gwendolen Quin ... ... Gateshead East and Washington West.
Alan Milburn, Esquire ... ... Darlington.
William Etherington, Esquire ... ... Sunderland North.
Gwyneth Patricia, Mrs Dunwoody, commonly called the honourable Mrs Gwyneth Patricia Dunwoody ... ... Crewe and Nantwich.
Brian David Henderson Wilson, Esquire ... Cunninghame North.
Cheryl Elise Kendall, Mrs Gillan ... ... Chesham and Amersham.
John Flashby Lawrence Whittingdale, Esquire ... Maldon and East Chelmsford.
Geoffrey Robert Clifton-Brown, Esquire ... Cotswold.
Roseanna Cunningham ... ... Perth.
Peter James Bottomley, Esquire ... ... Worthing West.
Gerry Sutcliffe, Esquire ... ... Bradford South.
Richard Haines Burden, Esquire ... ... Birmingham, Northfield.
Joan Lorraine Walley ... ... Stoke on Trent North.
Ian Phares Pearson, Esquire ... ... Dudley South.
James Edward Thornton Paice, Esquire ... South East Cambridgeshire.
Denis MacShane, Esquire ... ... Rotherham.
Michael Connarty, Esquire ... ... Falkirk East.
Richard John Grenville Spring, Esquire ... West Suffolk.
John Heppell, Esquire ... ... Nottingham East.
Michael Louis David Fabricant, Esquire ... Lichfield.
David Digby Rendel, Esquire ... ... Newbury.
Jon Hedley Trickett, Esquire ... ... Hemsworth.
Simon Patrick Tipping, Esquire ... ... Sherwood.
Arthur Nicholas Winston Soames, Esquire, commonly called the honourable Arthur Nicholas Winston Soames ... ... Mid Sussex.
Bernard Christison Jenkin, Esquire, commonly called the honourable Bernard Christison Jenkin
Dr Anthony Wayland Wright ..... Cannock Chase.
Gordon Prentice, Esquire ..... Pendle.
Anne Caroline Ballingall McIntosh ..... Vale of York.
Christopher James Fraser, Esquire ..... Mid Dorset and North Poole.
Keith Robert Simpson, Esquire ..... Mid Norfolk.
Julian Murray Lewis, Esquire ..... New Forest East.
Owen William Paterson, Esquire ..... North Shropshire.
Howard Emerson Flight, Esquire ..... Arundel and South Downs.
Barbara Maureen, Mrs Roche ..... Hornsey and Wood Green.
Laurence Anthony Robertson, Esquire ..... Tewkesbury.
Right honourable Sir George Samuel Knatchbull Young, Baronet ..... North West Hampshire.
Robert Andrew Raymond Symes, Esquire ..... Poole.
Iain Coleman, Esquire ..... Hammersmith and Fulham.
Benjamin Peter James Bradshaw, Esquire ..... Exeter.
Fraser Kemp, Esquire ..... Houghton and Washington East.
Ian Arthur Caswely, Esquire ..... Brigg and Goole.
Rudolf Jan Vis, Esquire ..... Finchley and Golders Green.
Andrew David Lansley, Esquire ..... South Cambridgeshire.
Michael Thomas Hancock, Esquire ..... Portsmouth South.
Richard Arthur Lloyd Livsey, Esquire ..... Brecon and Radnorshire.
Lembit Opik, Esquire ..... Montgomeryshire.
Dr Jennifer Louise Tonge ..... Richmond Park.
Edward Jonathon Davey, Esquire ..... Kingston and Surbiton.
Paul Kenneth Burstow, Esquire ..... Sutton and Cheam.
Denis Murphy, Esquire ..... Wansbeck.
Paul Archer Tyler, Esquire, C.B.E. ..... North Cornwall.
Malcolm Hunt Wicks, Esquire ..... Croydon North.
Desmond Stanley Turner, Esquire ..... Brighton, Kemptown.
Peter Michael Ainsworth, Esquire ..... East Surrey.
Christine Margaret Butler ..... Castle Point.
Helen Mary Jones ..... Warrington North.
Jovanka, Mrs Humble ..... Blackpool North and Fleetwood.
Andrew Hartley Dismore, Esquire ..... Hendon.
Anthony James McNulty, Esquire ..... Harrow East.
James Fitzpatrick, Esquire ..... Poplar and Canning Town.
Llewellyn Thomas Smith, Esquire ..... Blaenau Gwent.
Clare Judith Mallaber ..... Amber Valley.
Linda, Mrs Gilroy ..... Plymouth, Sutton.
Christine Margaret Russell ..... City of Chester.
Jennifer Grace Jones ..... Wolverhampton South West.
Right honourable John Roddick Russell MacGregor, O.B.E. ..... South Norfolk.
Roger Leslie Berry, Esquire ..... Kingswood.
Jeffery Mark Donaldson, Esquire ..... Lagan Valley.
John Martin McDonnell, Esquire ..... Hayes and Harlington.
Gareth Richard Thomas, Esquire ..... Harrow West.
Mark Wainwright Todd, Esquire ..... South Derbyshire.
Ann Lloyd, Mrs Keen ..... Brentford and Isleworth.
Colin Burgon, Esquire ..... Elmet.
David Anthony Lock, Esquire ..... Wyre Forest.
John Cradock Maples, Esquire ..... Stratford on Avon.
Eleanor Fulton, Mrs Laing ..... Epping Forest.
Andrew Stunell, Esquire ..... Hazel Grove.
Melanie Jane Johnson ... ... ... Welwyn Hatfield.
Phyllis Margaret, Mrs Starkey ... ... Milton Keynes South West.
Jacqueline Jill Smith ... ... ... Redditch.
Paul Stuart Keetch, Esquire ... ... Hereford.
William John Thompson, Esquire ... ... West Tyrone.
Thomas Hilton Dawson, Esquire ... ... Lancaster and Wyre.
Ann Coffey ... ... ... Stockport.
Ian Graham Davidson, Esquire ... ... Glasgow, Pollok.
Anne Campbell ... ... ... Cambridge.
Harold Best, Esquire ... ... ... Leeds North West.
Anthony Richard Clarke, Esquire ... ... Northampton South.
Stephen Creswell Timms, Esquire ... ... East Ham.
Donald Cameron Easterbrook Gorrie, Esquire ... ... Edinburgh West.
Paul Gerard Goggins, Esquire ... ... Wythenshawe and Sale East.
Hazel Anne Blears ... ... ... Salford.
Stephen Pelham Pound, Esquire ... ... Ealing North.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to Five o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.58 p.m.

[No. 3]

Friday 9th May 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation,—The following Members took and subscribed the Oath, or made and subscribed the Affirmation required by law:

Glenda May Jackson, C.B.E. ... ... for Hampstead and Highgate.
Terence Lewis, Esquire ... ... ... Worsley.
Right honourable John Alan Redwood ... ... ... Wokingham.
Richard Geoffrey James Ottaway, Esquire ... ... Croydon South.
John Quentin Davies, Esquire ... ... ... Grantham and Stamford.
Peter David Robinson, Esquire ... ... ... Belfast East.
Peter James Luff, Esquire ... ... ... Mid Worcestershire.
Nigel Martin Evans, Esquire ... ... ... Ribble Valley.
John Rhodes Horam, Esquire ... ... ... Orpington.
Sir Alexander Paul Beresford ... ... ... Mole Valley.
Derek John Fatchett, Esquire ... ... ... Leeds Central.
Paul Peter Murphy, Esquire ... ... ... Torfaen.
Ian McCartney, Esquire ... ... ... ... Makerfield.
David Anthony Atkinson, Esquire ... ... Bournemouth East.
Edward Julian Egerton Leigh, Esquire ... ... Gainsborough.
John Dominic Battle, Esquire ... ... ... Leeds West.
Joseph Alan Meale, Esquire ... ... ... Mansfield.
David Anthony Andrew Amess, Esquire ... ... Southend West.
Ian Stewart, Esquire ... ... ... Eccles.
Lindsay Harvey Hoyle, Esquire ... ... ... Chorley.
Howard Geoffrey Alvin Stoate, Esquire ... ... Dartford.
Beverley June Hughes ... ... ... ... ... Stretford and Urmston.
Linda Perham ... ... ... ... ... Ilford North.
John Healey, Esquire ... ... Wentworth.
Ronald Cyril Fearn, Esquire ... ... Southport.
Louise Joyce Ellman ... ... Liverpool, Riverside.
Jacqueline Rita, Mrs Lawrence ... ... Preseli, Pembrokeshire.
Philip Hammond, Esquire ... ... Runnymede and Weybridge.
Timothy Paul Loughton, Esquire ... ... East Worthing and Shoreham.
Candice Kathleen Atherton ... ... Falmouth and Camborne.
Shaun Anthony Woodward, Esquire ... ... Witney.
James Andrew Plaskitt, Esquire ... ... Warwick and Leamington.
Dr John Vincent Cable ... ... Twickenham.
Brian Joseph Cotter, Esquire ... ... Weston-Super-Mare.
Adrian Mark Sanders, Esquire ... ... Torbay.
Sydney Norman John Rapson, Esquire ... ... Portsmouth North.
David William St. John Heath, Esquire ... ... Somerton and Frome.
Timothy William George Collins, Esquire ... ... Westmorland and Lonsdale.
William Ernest Rammell, Esquire ... ... Harlow.
Mark Osten, Esquire ... ... Winchester.
Thomas Anthony Brake, Esquire ... ... Carshalton and Wallington.
Fiona Margaret MacTaggart ... ... Slough.
Ivor Keith Caplin, Esquire ... ... Hove.
Christopher Richard Pond, Esquire ... ... Gravesend.
Gillian Joanna Merron ... ... Lincoln.
Kelvin Peter Hopkins, Esquire ... ... Luton North.
Theresa Mary, Mrs May ... ... Maidenhead.
Graham Brady, Esquire ... ... Altrincham and Sale West.
Martin Philip Caton, Esquire ... ... Gower.
John Simon Bercow, Esquire ... ... Buckingham.
Stuart Bell, Esquire ... ... Middlesbrough.
Right honourable Derek Foster ... ... Bishop Auckland.
Nicolas John Gibb, Esquire ... ... Bognor Regis and Littlehampton.
Christopher Nigel Beard, Esquire ... ... Bexleyheath and Crayford.
Stephen John Ladyman, Esquire ... ... South Thanet.
Stephen Hepburn, Esquire ... ... Jarrow.
Nicholas Francis St Aubyn, Esquire ... ... Guildford.
Alan Patrick Vincent Whitehead, Esquire ... ... Southampton, Test.
Daphne Barbara Follett ... ... Stevenage.
Gisela Gschaider, Mrs Stuart ... ... Birmingham, Edgbaston.
Brian David Jenkins, Esquire ... ... Tamworth.
Patricia Hope Hewitt ... ... Leicester West.
Jonathan Sayeed, Esquire ... ... Mid Bedfordshire.
Brian Arthur Robert White, Esquire ... ... North East Milton Keynes.
Nicholas Douglas Palmer, Esquire ... ... Broxtowe.
Ivan John Henderson, Esquire ... ... Harwich.
Paul Gordon Clark, Esquire ... ... Gillingham.
Lawrence William Quinn, Esquire ... ... Scarborough and Whitby.
Alan Arthur Johnson, Esquire ... ... Kingston upon Hull West and Hessle.
Hywel Rhodri Morgan, Esquire ... ... Cardiff West.
Julie Morgan ... ... Cardiff North.
Paul David Stinchcombe, Esquire ... ... Wellingborough.
Stephen John Byers, Esquire ... ... North Tyneside.
Charles Rodway Clarke, Esquire ... ... Norwich South.
Claire Margaret Ward ... ... Watford.
Debra Ann Shipley ... ... ... Stourbridge.
Michael David Wills, Esquire ... ... North Swindon.
Gwynfor Mathews Prosser, Esquire ... Dover.
Charlotte Atkins ... ... ... Staffordshire Moorlands.
Eric Jack Pickles, Esquire ... ... Brentwood and Ongar.
Barry Strachan Gardiner, Esquire ... Brent North.
Iain Coleman, Esquire ... ... Hammersmith and Fulham.
Right honourable Alan Kenneth McKenzie Clark
Margaret Moran ... ... ... Luton South.
Oona Tamsyn King ... ... ... Bethnal Green and Bow.
Caroline Louise Flint ... ... ... Don Valley.
Andrew Guy Tyrie, Esquire ... ... Chichester.
Philip James Woolas, Esquire ... ... Oldham East and Saddleworth
Stephen Twigg, Esquire ... ... ... Enfield, Southgate.
Dominic Charles Roberts Grieve, Esquire Beaconsfield.
David Roy Lidington, Esquire ... ... Aylesbury.
David Anthony Crasby, Esquire ... Bolton North East.
Philip Andrew Sawford, Esquire ... Kettering.
Eileen, Mrs Gordon ... ... ... Romford.
Andrew Love, Esquire ... ... ... Edmonton.
Geraint Richard Davies, Esquire ... ... ... Croydon Central.
David Lepper, Esquire ... ... ... Brighton, Pavilion.
Dr John Reid ... ... ... Hamilton North and Bellshill.
Right honourable Sir Peter Norman Fowler Sutton Coldfield.
John Martin Linton, Esquire ... ... Battersea
Paul William Barry Marsden, Esquire Shrewsbury and Atcham.
David Laurie Ruffley, Esquire ... ... Bury St. Edmunds.
Piers Rolf Garfield Merchant, Esquire Beckenham.
Right honourable Andrew David Smith Oxford East.
Anthony Joseph Lloyd, Esquire ... ... Manchester Central.
Judith Ann Church... ... ... Dagenham.
John Eric Austin-Walker, Esquire ... ... Erith and Thamesmead.
Norman John Baker, Esquire ... ... Lewes.
Desmond Angus Swayne, Esquire ... New Forest West.
Trevor Keith Hill, Esquire... ... ... Streatham.
Fiona Elizabeth Ann Jones ... ... ... Newark.
Alun Edward Michael, Equire ... ... Cardiff South and Penarth.
Joan Marie Ryan ... ... ... Enfield North.

2 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday 13th May.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Twelve o’clock, adjourned till Tuesday 13th May.

[Adjourned at 12 noon.]
Tuesday 13th May 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation.—The following Members took and subscribed the Oath, or made and subscribed the Affirmation required by law:

- Anne Begg
- Right honourable John Morris, Q.C.
- David Gordon Clelland, Esquire
- Right honourable Michael Ray Dibden Heseltine
- Joseph Kevin McNamara, Esquire
- Jeffrey William Rooker, Esquire
- Joseph William Ashton, Esquire
- Allan Ralph Rogers, Esquire
- George Edward Howarth, Esquire
- Peter Benjamin Mandelson, Esquire
- Right honourable Sir Nicholas Walter Heseltine
- Right honourable Michael Ray Dibden Heseltine
- Angela Eagle
- Edward Rowlands, Esquire
- Michael John Mates, Esquire
- Anthony David Steen, Esquire
- Dr Michael Clark
- Jeremy Bernard Corbyn, Esquire
- Menzies Campbell, Esquire, C.B.E., Q.C.
- Dr Lewis George Moonie
- Diane Julie Abbott
- David Charles Jamieson, Esquire
- Helen Lawrie, Mrs Liddell
- Ian Colin Taylor, Esquire, M.B.E.
- David Wilshire, Esquire
- Edward O’Hara, Esquire
- Brian Harold Donohoe, Esquire
- Janet, Mrs Anderson
- Robert John Blizzard, Esquire
- Andrew Stuart Mackinlay, Esquire
- Kevin John Barron, Esquire
- Llinos, Mrs Golding
- Tony McWalter, Esquire
- Terence Henry Rooney, Esquire
- Christine McCafferty
- Mohammad Sarwar, Esquire
- Robert Laxton, Esquire
- Seamus Mallon, Esquire
- Edward Kevin McGrady, Esquire
- Dr Alan Wynne Williams
- Nigel Christopher Waterson, Esquire
- Andrew John Bernard Rowe, Esquire
- John Ernest Townend, Esquire
- Paul Anthony Truswell, Esquire
- John Timothy Grogan, Esquire
- Dr Liam Fox

For their constituencies:

- for Aberdeen South: Angela Eagle
- for Aberavon: David Charles Jamieson, Esquire
- for Tyne Bridge: Jeffrey William Rooker, Esquire
- for Henley: Andrew Stuart Mackinlay, Esquire
- for Kingston-upon-Hull North: Menzies Campbell, Esquire, C.B.E., Q.C.
- for Wallasey: Angela Eagle
- for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney: Edward Rowlands, Esquire
- for East Hampshire: Michael John Mates, Esquire
- for Totnes: Anthony David Steen, Esquire
- for Rayleigh: Dr Michael Clark
- for Islington North: Jeremy Bernard Corbyn, Esquire
- for North East Fife: Dr Lewis George Moonie
- for Hackney North and Stoke Newington: Diane Julie Abbott
- for Plymouth, Devonport: David Charles Jamieson, Esquire
- for Airdrie and Shotts: Helen Lawrie, Mrs Liddell
- for North West Durham: Ian Colin Taylor, Esquire, M.B.E.
- for Spelthorne: David Wilshire, Esquire
- for Knowsley South: Edward O’Hara, Esquire
- for Cunninghame South: Brian Harold Donohoe, Esquire
- for Rossendale and Darwen: Janet, Mrs Anderson
- for Waveney: Robert John Blizzard, Esquire
- for Thurrock: Andrew Stuart Mackinlay, Esquire
- for Rother Valley: Kevin John Barron, Esquire
- for Newcastle-under-Lyme: Llinos, Mrs Golding
- for Hemel Hempstead: Tony McWalter, Esquire
- for Bradford North: Terence Henry Rooney, Esquire
- for Calder Valley: Christine McCafferty
- for Glasow, Govan: Mohammad Sarwar, Esquire
- for Derby North: Robert Laxton, Esquire
- for Newry and Armagh: Seamus Mallon, Esquire
- for South Down: Edward Kevin McGrady, Esquire
- for Carmarthen East and Dinefwr: Dr Alan Wynne Williams
- for Eastbourne: Nigel Christopher Waterson, Esquire
- for Faversham and Mid Kent: Andrew John Bernard Rowe, Esquire
- for East Yorkshire: John Ernest Townend, Esquire
- for Pudsey: Paul Anthony Truswell, Esquire
- for Selby: John Timothy Grogan, Esquire
- for Woodspring: Dr Liam Fox
Christopher Michael Leslie, Esquire  
Timothy Stephen Kenneth Yeo, Esquire  
David James Christian Faber, Esquire  
William Nigel Paul Cash, Esquire  
Fabian Hamilton, Esquire  
Kenneth Robert Livingstone, Esquire  
Marsha Singh, Esquire  
Colin Pickthall, Esquire  
Richard Beecroft Allan, Esquire  
Kerry Patrick Pollard, Esquire  
Caroline Alice, Mrs Spelman  
Kenneth Robert Livingstone, Esquire  
Christopher Shaun Ruane, Esquire  
Michael Cathel Fallon, Esquire  
Michael Roy Wood, Esquire  
James Charles Cann, Esquire  
George Philip Willis, Esquire  
Gerald Edward Bermingham, Esquire  
Colin Edward Breed, Esquire  
Damian Howard Green, Esquire  
James Whiteside Gray, Esquire  
Anthony Brian Baldry, Esquire  
Dr Evan Harris  
Claire Curtis-Tansley  
George Turner, Esquire  
Cynog Glyndwr Dafis, Esquire  
Right honourable Michael Hugh Meacher  
Christopher Shaun Ruane, Esquire  
Alan Campbell, Esquire  
John Patrick Aubone Burnett, Esquire  
Steven John Webb, Esquire  
Maria Eagle...  
Rosalie Winterton...  
Kali Carol Jean Mountford  
Brian Iddon, Esquire  
Gareth Thomas, Esquire  
Ivan Lewis, Esquire  
Gordon Marsden, Esquire  
Alan Keen, Esquire  
David Neil Kidney, Esquire  
Dr Ian Gibson  
Geraldine Smith  
Michael Kevin Moore, Esquire  
Jacqueline Margaret, Mrs Ballard  
Sir Robert Hill Smith, Baronet  
Teresa Jane Kingham  
Diana Mary Organ...  
Anthony David Wright, Esquire  
Angela Evans Smith  
Clive Stanley Efford, Esquire  
David Elliott Drew, Esquire  
Roger Mark Casale, Esquire  
Helen Rosemary Brinton  
Shipley.  
South Suffolk.  
Westbury.  
Stone.  
Leeds North East.  
Brent East.  
Bradford West.  
West Lancashire.  
Sheffield, Hallam.  
St Albans.  
Meriden.  
Aldershot.  
Woking.  
Hornchurch.  
Sevenoaks.  
Batley and Spen.  
Ipswich.  
Harrogate and Knaresborough.  
St Helens South.  
South East Cornwall.  
Ashford.  
North Wiltshire.  
Greenwich and Woolwich.  
Banbury.  
Oxford West and Abingdon.  
Crosby.  
North West Norfolk.  
Ceredigion.  
Oldham West and Royton.  
Vale of Clwyd.  
Tynemouth.  
Torrridge and West Devon.  
Northavon.  
Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland.  
Liverpool, Garston.  
Doncaster Central.  
Colne Valley.  
Bolton South East.  
Clwyd West.  
Bury South.  
Blackpool South.  
Feltham and Heston.  
Stafford.  
Norwich North.  
Morecambe and Lunesdale.  
Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale.  
Taunton.  
West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine.  
Gloucester.  
Forest of Dean.  
Great Yarmouth.  
Basildon.  
Elyham.  
Stroud.  
Wimbledon.  
Peterborough.
Andrew King, Esquire ... ... Rugby and Kenilworth.
Betty Helena, Mrs Williams ... ... Conwy.
Henry Baird McLeish, Esquire ... ... Central Fife.
Constance Ann, Mrs Cryer ... ... Keighley.
Dawn Primarolo ... ... Bristol South.
Stephen Hesford, Esquire ... ... Wirral West.
Michael Iabez Foster, Esquire ... ... Hastings and Rye.
Michael John Foster, Esquire ... ... Worcester.
Janet Elizabeth Ann Dean... ... Burton.
Michael Thomas Hall, Esquire ... ... Weaver Vale.
Geoffrey Robinson, Esquire ... ... Coventry North West.
Karen Patricia Buck ... ... Regent's Park and Kensington North.
Peter Charles Stephen Bradley, Esquire ... The Wrekin.
Stephen James McCabe, Esquire ... ... Birmingham, Hall Green.
James Dobbin, Esquire ... ... Heywood and Middleton.
Graham Eric Stringer, Esquire ... ... Manchester, Blackley.
Keith Ernest Darvill, Esquire ... ... Upminster.
Patrick Hall, Esquire ... ... Bedford.
Derek Murray Wyatt, Esquire ... ... Sittingbourne and Sheppey.
Alan Arthur Hurst, Esquire ... ... Braintree.
Andrew Henry George, Esquire ... ... St Ives.
John Ramsay Swinney, Esquire ... ... North Tayside.
Alastair Neil Morgan, Esquire ... ... Galloway and Upper Nithsdale.
Barry John Sheerman, Esquire ... ... Huddersfield.
Mark Fisher, Esquire ... ... Stoke-on-Trent Central.
Eric Lionel Clarke, Esquire ... ... Midlothian.
John Henry Hayes, Esquire ... ... South Holland and The Deepings.
David Leslie Taylor, Esquire ... ... North West Leicestershire.
Andrew John Reed, Esquire ... ... Loughborough.
Dari Jean Taylor ... ... Stockton South.
Philip Ian Hope, Esquire ... ... Corby.
David Leonard Watts, Esquire ... ... St. Helens North.
Joseph Edward Benton, Esquire ... ... Bootle.
Helen Mary Southworth ... ... Warrington South.
Martin Bell, Esquire ... ... Tatton.
Nigel David Jones, Esquire ... ... Cheltenham.
Oliver Letwin, Esquire ... ... West Dorset.
Peter Temple-Morris, Esquire ... ... Leominster.
Elizabeth Marion Blackman ... ... Erewash.
Laura Jean, Mrs Moffatt ... ... Crawley.
John Yorke Denham, Esquire ... ... Southampton, Itchen.
Julia Kate Drown ... ... South Swindon.
Yvette Cooper ... ... Pontefract and Castleford.
John William Patrick Smith, Esquire ... Vale of Glamorgan.
Michael John Gapes, Esquire ... ... Ilford South.
David Gifford Leathes Prior, Esquire, ... North Norfolk.
commonly called the honourable David Gifford Leathes Prior
Nigel Griffiths, Esquire ... ... Edinburgh South.
Jonathan Rowland Shaw, Esquire ... ... Chatham and Aylesford.
Vernon Rodney Coaker, Esquire ... ... Gedling.
James Murphy, Esquire ... ... Eastwood.
David John Stewart, Esquire ... ... Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber.
Sandra Currie Osborne ... ... Ayr.
Harry Michael Cohen, Esquire ... ... Leyton and Wanstead.
Russell Leslie Brown, Esquire ... ... Dumfries.
Malcolm Kemp Savidge, Esquire ... ... Aberdeen North.
Dr Peter Brand ... ... Isle of Wight.
Robert Edward Russell, Esquire  ...  Colchester.
Peter Charles Snape, Esquire  ...  West Bromwich East.
Crispin Jeremy Rupert Blunt, Esquire  ...  Reigate.
Elfyn Llwyd, Esquire  ...  Meirionnydd Nant Conwy.
Tom Levitt, Esquire  ...  High Peak.
Desmond Browne, Esquire  ...  Kilmarnock and Loudoun.
Lynda Margaret Clark, Q.C.  ...  Edinburgh, Pentlands.
Rosemary McKenna  ...  Cumbernauld and Kilsyth.
Andrew Robert George Robathan, Esquire  ...  Blaby.
Right honourable David Philip Heathcoat-Amory  ...  Wells.
Archibald John Norman, Esquire  ...  Tunbridge Wells.
David Stanley Borrow, Esquire  ...  South Ribble.
Robert John Walter, Esquire  ...  North Dorset.
Sally Curtis Keeble...  ...  Northampton North.
George Galloway, Esquire  ...  Glasgow, Kelvin.
Jane Patricia Griffiths  ...  Reading East.
Martin John Salter, Esquire  ...  Reading West.
Julie Kirkbride  ...  Bromsgrove.
Valerie Davey  ...  Bristol West.
John Derek Twigg, Esquire  ...  Halton.
Dennis Turner, Esquire  ...  Wolverhampton South East.
Kenneth Purchase, Esquire  ...  Wolverhampton North East.
Bowen Wells, Esquire  ...  Hertford and Stortford.
Anthony Louis Banks, Esquire  ...  West Ham.
Siobhain Ann McDonagh...  ...  Mitcham and Morden.
Right honourable Virginia Hilda Brunette Maxwell, Mrs Bottomley  ...  South West Surrey.
George Edward Mudie, Esquire  ...  Leeds East.
Alan James Carter Duncan, Esquire  ...  Rutland and Melton.
Christopher Robert Chope, Esquire  ...  Christchurch.
Richard George Cabor, Esquire  ...  Sheffield Central.
Peter John Viggers, Esquire  ...  Gosport.
David Lindsay Willetts, Esquire  ...  Havant.
Shona Mcisaac  ...  Cleethorpes.
Ruth Maria Kelly  ...  Bolton West.
Frank Roy, Esquire  ...  Motherwell and Wishaw.
Ross Frederick Cranston, Esquire  ...  Dudley North.
David Michael Chaytor, Esquire  ...  Bury North.
Anne, Mrs McGuire  ...  Stirling.

2 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn till to-morrow at twenty-five minutes past Eleven o'clock.—(Mr George Mudie.)

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

[Adjourned at 4.36 p.m.

MEMORANDUM

Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 69 relating to Private Business (Appointment of Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills), the Speaker appointed William Angus Proctor, Esquire, to be an Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills.
The House met at twenty-five minutes past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message to attend Her Majesty,—A Message from Her Majesty was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

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 a quarter-past Two o'clock.

2 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation,—The following Members took and subscribed the Oath, or made and subscribed the Affirmation required by law:

John Robert Greenway, Esquire ... ... for Ryedale.
Tam Dalyell, Esquire ... ... Linlithgow.
Kenneth Maginnis, Esquire ... ... Fermanagh and South Tyrone.
Robert Law McCartney, Esquire, Q.C. ... ... North Down.
Nicholas Barton Harvey, Esquire ... ... North Devon.
Douglas John Henderson, Esquire ... ... Newcastle upon Tyne North.
Calum Alasdair Macdonald, Esquire ... ... Western Isles.
James Mackay Cousins, Esquire ... ... Newcastle upon Tyne Central.
Austin Vernon Mitchell, Esquire ... ... Great Grimsby.
Alan John Simpson, Esquire ... ... Nottingham South.
Sylvia Lloyd, Mrs Heal ... ... Halesowen and Rowley Regis.
Michael O’Brien, Esquire ... ... North Warwickshire.
Lorna Fitzsimons ... ... Rochdale.
Dr John Douglas Naysmith ... ... Bristol North West.
Dan Norris, Esquire ... ... Wansdyke.

3 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 hath been elected or returned a Member of this 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.

4 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 misdemeanour, 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.

5 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.

6 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.

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

8 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.

9 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

10 Chairman of Ways and Means and First and Second Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means,—Ordered, That Sir Alan Haselhurst be Chairman of Ways and Means and that Mr Michael Martin and Mr Michael Lord be First and Second Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

11 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 State Visits by His Excellency the President of Brazil in December and by Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan next year. We also look forward to our visit to Canada and to our State Visits to Pakistan and India.

My Government intends to govern for the benefit of the whole nation.

The education of young people will be my Government’s first priority. They will work to raise standards in schools, colleges and universities and to promote lifelong learning at the workplace. They will cut class sizes using money saved as a result of legislation phasing out the assisted places scheme. A further Bill will contain measures to raise educational standards, develop a new role for local education authorities and parents, establish a new framework for the decentralised and equitable organisation of schools, propose reforms to the teaching profession, and respond positively to recommendations from the National Committee of Inquiry into the future of higher education.

The central economic objectives of my Government are high and stable levels of economic growth and employment, to be achieved by ensuring opportunity for all. The essential platform for achieving these objectives is economic stability.

To that end a Bill will be introduced to give the Bank of England operational responsibility for setting interest rates, in order to deliver price stability and support the Government’s overall economic policy, within a framework of enhanced accountability. My Government will also ensure that public borrowing is controlled through tough fiscal rules and that the burden of public debt is kept at a stable and prudent level. They will aim to deliver high and sustainable levels of growth and employment by encouraging investment in industry, skills, infrastructure and new technologies; by reducing long-term unemployment, especially among young people; by promoting competition; and by helping to create successful and profitable business. These policies will enhance Britain’s position as a leading industrial nation.

My Government has pledged to mount a fundamental attack upon youth and long-term unemployment and will take early steps to implement a welfare-to-work programme to tackle unemployment, financed by a levy on the excess profits of the privatised utilities which will be brought forward in an early Budget.

A new partnership with business will be at the heart of my Government’s plans to build a modern and dynamic economy to improve the competitiveness of British industry. They will bring forward legislation to reform and strengthen competition law and introduce a statutory right to interest on late payment of debts. My Government is committed to fairness at work and will introduce a national minimum wage.

Legislation will be brought forward to amend criminal law and to combat crime, including reform of the youth justice system and measures against anti-social behaviour. A Bill will be introduced to prohibit the private possession of handguns.
My Government will improve the National Health Service, as a service providing care on the basis of need to the whole population. They will bring forward new arrangements for decentralisation and co-operation within the service and for ending the internal market. Legislation will be introduced to clarify the existing powers of NHS Trusts to enter into partnerships with the private sector. A White Paper will be published on measures to reduce tobacco consumption, including legislation to ban tobacco advertising.

My Government will contribute to the achievement of high standards of food safety and protection of public health throughout the food chain, will ensure openness and transparency of information to consumers, and will consult widely on recommendations for a Food Standards Agency.

A Bill will be introduced to ensure that as many people as possible have access to the benefits of the National Lottery including for health and education projects.

Measures will be introduced to enable capital receipts from the sale of council houses to be invested in housebuilding and renovation as part of my Government's determination to deal with homelessness and unemployment.

My Government is committed to open and transparent government. They will introduce a Bill to strengthen data protection controls. They will enhance people's aspirations for better, more accessible and accountable public services, using Information Technology to the full. A White Paper will be published on proposals for a Freedom of Information Bill.

A Bill will be introduced to incorporate into United Kingdom law the main provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Decentralisation is essential to my Government's vision of a modern nation. Legislation will be introduced to allow the people of Scotland and Wales to vote in referendums on my Government's proposals for a devolved Scottish Parliament and the establishment of a Welsh Assembly. If these proposals are approved in the referendums, my Government will bring forward legislation to implement them. Legislation will be introduced to provide for a referendum on a directly elected strategic authority and a directly elected mayor for London. A Bill will be brought forward to establish Regional Development Agencies in England outside London.

In Northern Ireland my Government will seek reconciliation and a political settlement which has broad support, working in co-operation with the Irish Government. They will work to build trust and confidence in Northern Ireland by bringing forward legislation to deal with terrorism and to reduce tension over parades, and other measures to protect human rights, combat discrimination in the workplace, increase confidence in policing and foster economic development.

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,

In the European Union, my Government will take a leading role. They will seek to promote employment, improve competitiveness, complete the Single Market and opt into the Social Chapter. They will seek further reform of the Common Agricultural Policy to secure lower food prices for consumers and save money, support the rural economy and enhance the environment. They will seek changes to the Common Fisheries Policy to conserve fish stocks in the long-term interest of the UK fishing industry. They will play a full part in the debate about Economic and Monetary Union.

My Government will work for the early and successful enlargement of the European Union. They will pursue an outcome to the Intergovernmental Conference and use their Presidency in the first half of 1998 to strengthen European co-operation while advancing the United Kingdom's interests and to make the Union more open, democratic and efficient. A Bill will be introduced to amend the European Communities Act if necessary.

My Government will ensure a strong defence based on the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and promote international peace and security. They will play a major role in decisions to shape NATO's future, including enlargement, and to include Russia in a wider security framework. To ensure that the United Kingdom's defence capabilities are matched to the changing strategic setting, my Government will reassess our essential security interests and defence needs.

My Government will retain strong armed forces, including the nuclear deterrent. Preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction will be a priority.

My Government will work for reforms to make the United Nations more effective and for an early resolution of its funding crisis. My Government will continue to support
peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They will work for a settlement in Cyprus. They will promote efforts for a durable peace in the Middle East.

My Government will work on behalf of Hong Kong's people to achieve a successful transition which preserves their way of life and promotes their continued stability and prosperity.

Preparations will continue for the G7 Summit to be held in Birmingham and the second Asia-Europe Meeting in London in 1998. My Government will host the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in October 1997 and seize the opportunity to increase co-operation between the United Kingdom and other members of the Commonwealth.

My Government has established a Department for International Development. They will publish a White Paper setting out how, through more coherent policies, they will tackle global poverty and promote sustainable development. They will rejoin the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

My Government will promote open markets around the world, while ensuring that the interests of developing countries and the global environment are fairly reflected.

The promotion of human rights worldwide will be a priority, as will the fight against terrorism, organised crime, money laundering and drug misuse and trafficking at home and abroad.

My Government will seek to restore confidence in the integrity of the nation's political system by upholding the highest standards of honesty and propriety in public life. They will consider how the funding of political parties should be regulated and reformed.

They will programme House of Commons business to ensure more effective scrutiny of Bills and better use of the time of Members of the House of Commons. During the course of the session, my Government will also publish in draft for public consultation a number of Bills, which it intends to introduce in subsequent sessions of this Parliament. They will propose the establishment of a new Select Committee of the House of Commons to look at ways of making Parliamentary procedure more effective and efficient.

Other measures will be laid before you.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons,
I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the Prorogation of the last Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Aid and Trade Provision,—Overseas Development Administration Minute concerning a contingent liability relating to a tax indemnity given by the ODA to Barclays Bank in respect of arrangements under the Soft Loan Facility for the financing of the Jiangyin Suspension Bridge Project.

3 European Community.—Paper, entitled Developments in the European Union, July to December 1996 [Cm. 3597].

4 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute concerning the agreement to an exception to the European Union embargo on Croatia, and
   (2) Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1996-97, on the organisation and the funding of the BBC World Service.

5 Miscellaneous (No. 5, 1997),—International Convention, done at London on 3rd May 1996 on Liability and Compensation for Damage in connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996 [Cm. 3580].


7 Treaty Series (No. 20, 1997),—Amendments, Adopted by the Standing Committee at Strasbourg on 6th December 1996, to Appendices I and II to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, done at Berne on 19th September 1979 [Cm. 3583].


Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the Prorogation of the last Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 21st March 1997


15 Education,—(1) Education (Grant-maintained and Grant-maintained Special Schools) (Finance) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 996), and
   (2) Education (New Grant-maintained Schools) (Finance) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 956),
   dated 20th March 1997.


18 National Health Service (Scotland).—(1) National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1014),
(2) National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1013), and
(3) National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1012),

Monday 24th March 1997


(3) Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Preparatory Hearings) (Interlocutory Appeals) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1053), and

Tuesday 25th March 1997

24 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—(1) Gaming (Records of Cheques and Debit Card Payments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1072), and
(2) Licensed Betting Offices (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1071),
dated 22nd March 1997.


28 Legal Aid and Advice.—(1) Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1079), and
(2) Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1078),


Wednesday 26th March 1997

30 Agriculture.—(1) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Cambrian Mountains) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 970),
(2) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Cambrian Mountains—Extension) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 971),
22 14th May 1997 Vol. 254

(3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Clywdian Range) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 973),


(6) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Radnor) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 976), and

(7) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Ynys Môn) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 975),


33 Local Government,—(1) Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 999), dated 20th March 1997, and


Thursday 27th March 1997


Tuesday 1st April 1997


Thursday 3rd April 1997


40 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1118), dated 27th March 1997.


Friday 4th April 1997


Monday 7th April 1997


49 Income Tax,—(1) Exchange Gains and Losses (Insurance Companies) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1155), and


50 National Health Service,—(1) South and West Devon Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1173),

(2) Southampton Community Health Services National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1172), and

(3) Southampton University Hospitals National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1171),
dated 7th April 1997.


Tuesday 8th April 1997


Paper withdrawn:

53 National Health Service,—Southampton University Hospitals National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1171), dated 7th April 1997 [laid Monday 7th April].

Other Papers:


Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates on, or after, Wednesday 7th May, the day on which Parliament was appointed to meet, pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Tuesday 13th May 1997


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Wednesday 14th May 1997:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

56 European Communities,—European Communities Designation Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1174), dated 8th April 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

57 Hong Kong,—Hong Kong (Extradition) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1178), dated 8th April 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].
58 Northern Ireland.—(1) Health Services (Primary Care) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1177),
(2) Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1180),
(3) Security Industry (Fraud) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1182), and
dated 8th April 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

59 Road Traffic and Vehicles.—Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 4) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997
(S.R.(N.I.), 1997, 206), dated 7th April 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

60 Sheriff Courts (Scotland).—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court)
(Amendment No. 2) 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1265), dated 25th April 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]

61 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—(1) Statute made by the Governing Body of
Hertford College, Oxford, on 6th December 1996 amending the Statutes of the College,
(2) Statute made by the Governing Body of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, on 6th
December 1996 amending the Statutes of the Hall,
(3) Statute made by the Governing Body of Merton College, Oxford, on 8th November
1996 amending the Statutes of the College,
(4) Statute made by the Governing Body of New College, Oxford, on 8th October 1996
amending the Statutes of the College, and
(5) Statute made by the University of Oxford on 8th November 1996 amending the
Statutes of the University
[by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

62 Census.—1991 Census: Key Statistics for New Health Areas, England and Wales [by Act]
[Clerk of the House].

63 Criminal Statistics (Scotland).—(1) Costs, Sentencing Profiles and the Scottish Criminal
Justice System in 1995,
(2) Criminal Proceedings in Scottish Courts in 1995,
(3) Gender, Race and the Scottish Criminal Justice System in 1995,
(4) Recorded Crime in Scotland in 1996, and
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

64 Crown Agents.—Report and Accounts of the Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and
Administrations for 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

65 Extradition.—Brazil (Extradition) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1176), dated 8th April 1997 [by
Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

66 General Medical Council.—Accounts of the General Medical Council for 1996 [by Act][Mrs
Ann Taylor].

67 Local Government Planning and Land.—Accounts of the Bristol Development Corporation
for the period 17th to 31st March 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

68 Local Government (Scotland).—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for
Scotland on 26th March 1997 on borrowing by:
(1) The East of Scotland Water Authority,
(2) The North of Scotland Water Authority, and
(3) The West of Scotland Water Authority
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
69 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Charity Commission: Regulation and Support of Charities [by Act]; to be printed [No. 2] [Clerk of the House].

70 Reserve Forces.—(1) Amendment No. 17 to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978, and
(2) Statement by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces under section 54 of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 on the call-out of members of the Royal Fleet Reserve, Royal Naval Reserve, Royal Marines Reserve, Army Reserve, Territorial Army, Royal Air Force Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

71 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communications declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instruments had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instruments come into operation:
Act of Sederunt (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment No. 2) 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1265), and
[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

72 Training and Enterprise Councils.—Accounts of the Training and Enterprise Councils in England for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

73 Treaty Series (No. 26, 1997).—Notes exchanged at San José on 18th November 1993, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica concerning the United Kingdom/Costa Rica Debt Rescheduling Agreement 1993 [by Command] [Cm. 3651] [Mr Secretary Cook].


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

PRAYERS.

1 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation.—The following Members took and subscribed the Oath, or made and subscribed the Affirmation required by law:
Right honourable Thomas Clarke, CBE for Coatbridge and Chryston.
Teresa Ellen, Mrs Gorman ... ... Billericay.
Right honourable John Selwyn Gummer Suffolk Coastal.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

3 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.—The Prime Minister, supported by Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Davies, Mr Secretary Straw, Mrs Ann Taylor and Mr Henry McLeish, presented a Bill to make provision for the holding of a referendum in Scotland on the establishment and tax-varying powers of a Scottish Parliament and a referendum in Wales on the establishment of a Welsh Assembly; and for expenditure in preparation for the establishment of a Scottish Parliament or a Welsh Assembly: 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 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.—(Bridget Prentice.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

5 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.14 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996 (Revival of Section 3) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

2 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Managing the Millennium Threat [by Act]; to be printed [No. 3] [Clerk of the House].

3 National Health Service (Scotland),—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on loans proposed to be raised by:—

(1) Dumfries & Galloway Acute and Maternity Hospitals National Health Service Trust,

(2) Dundee Healthcare National Health Service Trust,

(3) Hairmyres & Stonehouse Hospitals National Health Service Trust,

(4) Monklands & Bellshill Hospital National Health Service Trust,

(5) Moray Health Services National Health Service Trust,

(6) Raigmore Hospital National Health Service Trust, and

(7) Stirling Royal Infirmary National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Paymaster Agency,—Treasury Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon privatisation of the Paymaster Agency [by Command] [Mr Geoffrey Robinson].

5 Port of London Authority,—Report and Accounts of the Port of London Authority for 1996 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Ministry of Defence on the Petition [17th March] from residents of Anglesey regarding UFOs [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Registration Services,—Mortality Statistics for England and Wales by Cause for 1995 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].
Friday 16th May 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [14th May], 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 Clive Betts.)

Debate to be resumed on Monday 19th May.

3 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 19th May.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 House of Commons Members’ Fund.—Accounts of the House of Commons Members’ Fund for 1994-95, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 15] [Clerk of the House].

2 Treaty Series (No. 27, 1997).—Amendments, adopted at Washington on 12th July 1995, to the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank, the Regulations of the Board of Governors and The General Rules Governing Admission of Non-Regional Countries to Membership in the Bank [by Command] [Cm. 3652] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 28, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 27th June 1996, on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic concerning Montserrat and Guadeloupe [by Command] [Cm. 3653] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Treaty Series (No. 29, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 27th June 1996, on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic concerning Anguilla, on the one hand, and Saint Barthelemy, on the other [by Command] [Cm. 3654] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Monday 19th May 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation.—The following Member took and subscribed the Oath required by law:

Gordon McMaster, Esquire ... ... for Paisley South.

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

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

The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolutions in respect of the City of Westminster Bill [Lords], the Girobank plc (Transfer) Bill [Lords], the Hailsham Cattle Market Bill [Lords], the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] and the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords], viz:

That the promoters of the bills which originated in the House of Lords in the last Parliament but had not received the Royal Assent shall notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of the House of Lords have leave to introduce the said bills in the present Session and the petitions for the bills shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That every such bill shall be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than 3 o'clock on Wednesday 21st May next with a declaration annexed thereto signed by the agent concerned, stating that the bill is the same in every respect as the bill at the last stage of the proceedings thereon in the House of Lords in the last Parliament;

That the proceedings on such bills shall in the present Session of Parliament be pro forma only in regard to every stage through which the same shall have passed in the last Parliament, and that no new fees be charged to such stages.

4 Business of the House,—Ordered, That Private Members' Bills shall have precedence over Government business on 28th November, 12th December 1997 and 16th, 23rd and 30th January, 6th and 13th February, 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th March, 24th April and 3rd July 1998. (Mrs Ann Taylor.)

5 Non-sitting Fridays.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 12 (House not to sit on certain Fridays), That this House shall not sit on the following Fridays: 13th June, 4th July, 31st October 1997 and 20th February, 3rd April, 1st and 15th May, 12th and 26th June and 10th July 1998.—(Mrs Ann Taylor):—It was agreed to.

6 Adjournment (Spring).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 22nd May, do adjourn till Monday 2nd June.—(Mrs Ann Taylor):—It was agreed to.

7 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [14th May], 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 the lack of a firm commitment to implement the provisions of the Crime (Sentences) Bill 1997 to give second time serious violent and sexual offenders automatic life sentences from October 1997; seek the reinstatement of the original provisions of that Bill to give third time burglars and dealers in hard drugs mandatory minimum sentences of three and seven years respectively, save in exceptional circumstances; congratulate the previous Government on its achievements in tackling crime and protecting the public; and believe that the implications of the Government's proposal to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into British law should be carefully examined'.—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 151.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jim Dowd: 422.

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.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.53 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 British Museum,—Triennial Report of the Natural History Museum for 1993–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Broadcasting,—Report and Financial Statements of the Channel Four Television Corporation for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) University of Portsmouth, and

(2) The Skye Bridge

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 4 and 5] [Clerk of the House].

5 Northern Ireland,—Northern Ireland Trading and Other Accounts for 1995–96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 8] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 War Pensions,—List of exceptional awards for 1995–96 [by Statutory Instrument] [Ms Secretary Harman].
Tuesday 20th May 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Members take the Oath or make Affirmation,—The following Member took and subscribed the Oath required by law:
   Thomas Graham, Esquire...for West Renfrewshire

2 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee),—The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolution, viz.: That it is desirable that a Joint Committee of both Houses be appointed to scrutinise delegated legislation; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Queen's Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [14th May], 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 humbly regret that there is no mention in the Gracious Speech of the healthy economic climate in the country with rising living standards, low inflation, public finances moving towards balance and further falls in unemployment, deplore the Government's granting of operational independence to the Bank of England without any Parliamentary debate or statement; and urge the Government not to sign the Social Chapter, introduce a minimum wage, or to damage the United Kingdom's flexible labour market in any way by adopting European labour and social legislation'. (Mr Kenneth Clarke.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Bowen Wells: 156.
   Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Clelland: 446.
   So the Question was negatived.

Another Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words 'but, while welcoming the inclusion in the Gracious Speech of reforming measures such as the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into United Kingdom law, the granting of autonomy in setting interest rates to the Bank of England, the introduction of regional development agencies and the proposals to grant devolution for Scotland and Wales, humbly regret the absence of any commitment to provide sufficient resources to raise standards in education and resolve the funding crisis in the National Health Service; further regret the absence of any stated timetable for the introduction of electoral reform for elections to the European Parliament and a Freedom of Information Act; are concerned by the absence of measures which will protect the environment, and the lack of urgency in the introduction of measures to redress the reduction of responsibility which has been suffered by local authorities; and believe that the retrospective and regressive windfall tax is an inadequate means of funding the necessary programmes to get the young unemployed back to work'. (Mr Malcolm Bruce.)

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 33 (Calling of amendments at end of debate), That the Amendment be made;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunnell: 54.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 380.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 421.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Richard Ottaway: 151.

So the Question 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 Her Majesty's Household.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Twelve o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Listed Events (Prescribed Multiplier) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1333), dated 19th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 National Debt,—Draft Government Stock (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

3 Securities,—Stock Transfer (Gilt-Edged Securities) (CGO Service) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1329), dated 19th May 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

Other Papers:

4 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Industrial Research and Technology Unit [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 9] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

5 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Independent Television Commission for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Commonwealth Development Corporation,—Statement of guarantee given by the Treasury on 19th May 1997 on borrowing by the Commonwealth Development Corporation [by Act] [Ms Dawn Primarolo].

7 Industrial Development (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3600] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

8 Treaty Series (No. 109, 1996),—Fourth supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3650] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Wednesday 21st May 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 David Jamieson);

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).

3 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) 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 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill because it would ask voters to give blanket approval to proposals in advance of legislation being published, debated, amended or agreed; and believes that such referendums should only be held after full and detailed scrutiny of the legislation in question on the floor of the House of Commons', instead thereof.—(Mr Michael Howard.)

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

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

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

4 Adjournment, Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

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

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Defence,—Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute made by the Governing Body of Magdalene College, Cambridge, on 29th November 1996 amending the Statutes of the College, and

(2) Statute made by the Governing Body of St. John Baptist College, Oxford, on 8th November 1996 amending the Statutes of the College

[by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

4 Bank of England,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Bank of England for the period 1st March 1996 to 28th February 1997 [by Command]; and
(2) Report by the Bank of England on the exercise of its functions under the Banking Act 1987 for the period 1st March 1996 to 28th February 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

5 Charities.—Report and Financial Statements of the Charity Commission for England and Wales for 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Commonwealth Scholarship.—Report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission for the year ending 30th September 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

7 European Communities (No. 7, 1997).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 29th November 1996, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty of European Union, on the interpretation, by way of preliminary rulings, by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on the Use of Information Technology for Customs Purposes, with Declaration [by Command] [Cm. 3657] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland).—Report of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 7] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 National Health Service.—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 19th March 1997 on borrowing by the following National Health Service Trusts:
   (1) Ashford Hospital,
   (2) Brighton Healthcare,
   (3) Epsom Healthcare,
   (4) Heatherwood & Wexham Park Hospitals,
   (5) Isle of Wight Healthcare,
   (6) James Paget Hospital,
   (7) North Tees Health,
   (8) Plymouth Community Services,
   (9) Queen Mary's Sidcup,
   (10) Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospitals,
   (11) Royal Surrey County Hospital,
   (12) St James and Seacroft University Hospitals,
   (13) St Peters Hospital,
   (14) United Bristol Healthcare, and
   (15) Wiltshire Health Care
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

10 Reserve Forces.—(1) Regulations for the Royal Marines Reserve, and
    (2) Regulations for the Royal Naval Reserve
    [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Treaty Series (No. 30, 1997).—Convention, done at La Paz on 3rd November 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Bolivia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, with Exchange of Notes [by Command] [Cm. 3656] [Mr Secretary Cook].

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Speaker appointed The Stationery Office Limited to print the Votes and Proceedings of this House.
22nd May 1997

[No. 11.]

Thursday 22nd May 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill,—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by The Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Davis, Mr Hill, Mr Armstrong, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Win Griffiths, presented a Bill to permit account to be taken of the reserved part of capital receipts in determining the amount of a supplementary credit approval to be issued to a local authority; and to substitute a power for the existing duty to specify an amortisation period when issuing a supplementary credit approval to a local authority in respect of expenditure treated by the authority as expenditure for capital purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 2nd June and to be printed [Bill 2].

3 Education (Schools) Bill,—Mr Secretary Blunkett, supported by The Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Davies, Mr Stephen Byers and Ms Estelle Morris, presented a Bill to make provision for and in connection with the ending of the assisted places schemes in England and Wales and in Scotland: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 2nd June and to be printed [Bill 4].

4 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Secretary Straw, supported by The Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Robertson, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr Alun Michael, presented a Bill to extend the class of prohibited weapons under the Firearms Act 1968 to include small-calibre pistols: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 2nd June and to be printed [Bill 3].

5 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Amendment proposed to be made to the Question proposed yesterday, That the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill be now read a second time; Which Amendment was 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 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill because it would ask voters to give blanket approval to proposals in advance of legislation being published, debated, amended or agreed; and believes that such referendums should only be held after full and detailed scrutiny of the legislation in question on the floor of the House of Commons’, instead thereof; 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 Richard Ottaway, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 155.


So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (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. 63 (Comittal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Secretary Davies):—It was agreed to.

Committee on Monday 2nd June.

6 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill [Money].

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—
(1) the charging on and payment out of the Consolidated Fund of any expenditure which is to be charged on and paid out of that Fund by virtue of any enactment applied by an Order in Council under the Act; and

(2) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure of the Secretary of State—

(a) in connection with a referendum held by virtue of the Act, or

(b) in preparation for the establishment of a Scottish Parliament or a Welsh Assembly—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

7 Adjournment (Modernisation of House of Commons Procedure).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);

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 Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o'clock, adjourned till Monday 2nd June, pursuant to Resolution [19th May].

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Firearms,—Draft Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 British Nationality,—British Nationality (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1328), dated 19th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 National Health Service,—Wiltshire Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1308), dated 15th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Water Resources,—(1) Surface Waters (Fishlife) (Classification) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1331), and

(2) Surface Waters (Shellfish) (Classification) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1332), dated 19th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

5 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Radio Authority for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Coal Industry Nationalisation,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 26th March 1997 on borrowing by the British Coal Corporation [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

7 Electricity,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 21st May 1997 on borrowing by Magnox Electric plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Government Annuities,—Account of Government Annuities and Insurances for 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

9 Local Government Finance,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 21st May 1997 on borrowing by the Audit Commission [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

10 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on:—

(1) Contingent Liabilities in the Dependent Territories,

(2) Contract to Develop and Operate the Replacement National Insurance Recording System, and

(3) Sales of Scottish New Towns' Commercial and Industrial Properties [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 13, 12 and 14] [Clerk of the House].

11 National Health Service (Scotland),—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 20th May 1997 on borrowing by Glasgow Dental Hospital and School National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
Monday 2nd June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Education (Schools) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Education (Schools) Bill;

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Graham Allen: 413.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Bowen Wells: 153.

So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Stephen Byers)—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

3 Education (Schools) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Education (Schools) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Education (Schools) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State under the Act—(Mr David Jamieson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Graham Allen: 398.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Bowen Wells: 152.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Education (Schools) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State under the Act.

4 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996 (Revival of Section 3) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 15th May, be approved—(Secretary Marjorie Mowlam);

Tuesday 3rd June 1997

And the Question being put—It was agreed to.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past One o’clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.28 a.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the Adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Environment,—Department of the Environment Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the revocation of planning permission on a site forming part of the Medway Estuary and Marshes Special Protection Area [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [Cm. 3669] [Mr Secretary Straw].
3 Miscellaneous (No. 7, 1997),—Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at New York on 10th September 1996, with Annexes and Protocol [Cm. 3665] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Treaty Series (No. 31, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Dakar on 30th January 1997 and Bamako on 14th February 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Mali concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Mali Debt Agreement No. 4 (1996)) [Cm. 3659] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Treaty Series (No. 32, 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 [Cm. 3666] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the Adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

23rd May 1997


(2) Novel Foods and Novel Food Ingredients (Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1336), dated 22nd May 1997
[by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

28th May 1997

7 National Health Service,—Gloucestershire Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1326), dated 20th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

29th May 1997

8 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Safe Manning, Hours of Work and Watchkeeping) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1320), dated 19th May 1997 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

30th May 1997


(2) Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 (Enforcement of Overseas Forfeiture Orders) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1317), and

dated 20th May [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

10 Education,—Education (Individual Pupils' Achievements) (Information) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1368), dated 29th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Wildlife,—Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1372), dated 29th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

30th May 1997

12 Companies,—Companies Overseas Branch Registers (Hong Kong) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1313), dated 20th May 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 2nd June 1997

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


14 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1340), dated 14th May 1997 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].
Other Papers:

15 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on loans proposed to be raised by Hereford Hospitals National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

16 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Wales on loans proposed to be raised by—

(1) Bridgend & District National Health Service Trust,
(2) Carmarthen and District Health Service Trust,
(3) Glan Clwyd National Health Service Trust,
(4) Llanelli/Dinefwr National Health Service Trust, and
(5) North Glamorgan National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

17 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on—

(1) the Petition [18th March, in the last Session of Parliament] from the National Local Government Forum Against Poverty and the North Wales Anti-Poverty Forum concerning the use of pre-payment devices as a means of payment for water and sewerage services, and

(2) the Petition [19th March, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Cambridgeshire concerning Cambridgeshire's standard spending assessment [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

18 Firearms,—Draft Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme [laid on 22nd May].

[No. 13.]

Tuesday 3rd June 1997.

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 20th May, 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 Sessional Returns,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Returns for Session 1996-97 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;
(8) Select Committees; and
(9) Delegated Legislation and Deregulation Proposals, &c.

in the same terms as the Orders made on 29th October 1996.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

3 Contingencies Fund 1995–96,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Accounts of the Contingencies Fund, 1995–96, showing:—
(1) The Receipts and Payments in connection with the Fund in the year ended the 31st day of March 1996.

(2) The Distribution of the Capital of the Fund at the commencement and close of the year, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

4 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

5 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill (Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill:—

Committee

1.—(1) Proceedings in Committee shall be completed at the sittings this day and tomorrow.

(2) At the sitting this day, proceedings on any amendments to Clause 1—

(a) which may be selected, and

(b) which would amend that Clause at any place before the word ‘Scotland’ at line 6 of page 1 of the Bill,

shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at half past Seven o’clock.

(3) At the sitting this day, proceedings on any amendment to Clause 1—

(a) which may be selected, and

(b) which would leave out the word ‘Scotland’ at line 6 of page 1 of the Bill and insert other words in its place,

shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at half past Eight o’clock.

(4) At the sitting tomorrow, proceedings on any amendment to Clause 1—

(a) which may be selected, and

(b) which would leave out the words ‘and tax-varying powers of a Scottish Parliament’ at lines 6 and 7 of page 1 of the Bill and insert other words in their place,

shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at half past Four o’clock.

(5) At the sitting tomorrow, proceedings on any amendment to Clause 1—

(a) which may be selected, and

(b) which would leave out only the words ‘tax-varying powers’ at line 6 of page 1 of the Bill and insert other words in their place,

shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at Six o’clock.

(6) At the sitting tomorrow, the remaining proceedings on Clause 1 and proceedings on any amendments to Clause 2—

(a) which may be selected, and

(b) which would amend the Bill at any place before the word ‘propositions’ at line 7 of page 2 of the Bill,

shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at a quarter past Six o’clock.

(7) At the sitting tomorrow, proceedings on any amendment to Clause 2—

(a) which may be selected, and

(b) which would leave out the word ‘propositions’ at line 7 of page 2 of the Bill,

shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at Eight o’clock.

(8) At the sitting tomorrow, the remaining proceedings in Committee shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at half past Eight o’clock.

(9) On the conclusion of the proceedings in Committee the Chairman shall report the Bill to the House without putting any Question and, if he reports the Bill with amendments, the House shall proceed to consider the Bill as amended without any Question being put.

Report and Third Reading

2. The proceedings on Consideration and on Third Reading shall be completed at the sitting tomorrow and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at Ten o’clock.
Conclusion of proceedings

3.—(1) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 or 2, the Chairman or 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;
(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion 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 a new Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(2) If, apart from this sub-paragraph, two or more Questions would fall to be put by the Chairman under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to successive Clauses and Schedules, the Chairman shall instead put a single Question in relation to those Clauses and Schedules.

(3) If at the sitting tomorrow

(a) a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) stands over to Seven o’clock, and
(b) proceedings to which this Order applies have begun before that time,

the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings at that sitting in accordance with paragraph 1 or 2 shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion; and paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to remaining proceedings that day on the Bill then being considered.

Order of proceedings

4. No Motion shall be made to alter the order in which any proceedings on the Bill are taken.

Dilatory motions

5. No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, proceedings on the Bill shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown; and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

Extra time

6. The following business shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour—

(a) proceedings under paragraph 3(1) or (2);
(b) proceedings to which paragraph 3(3) applies;
(c) proceedings under paragraph 8(1).

Business Committee

7. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to this Order.

Supplemental orders

8.—(1) The proceedings on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one hour after they have been commenced.

(2) If at the sitting this day or tomorrow the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the time at which any proceedings are to be brought to a conclusion under paragraph 1 or 2, 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.

Recommittal

9.—(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) 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—(Mr Secretary Dewar);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ms Bridget Prentice, Mr Greg Pope: 420.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr Bowen Wells: 154.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.

(In the Committee.)

Clause No. 1 (Referendum in Scotland).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 6, to leave out the word 'Scotland' and insert the words 'the United Kingdom', instead thereof.—(Mr William Cash.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being half past Eight o'clock, the Chairman proceeded, pursuant to Order this day, to put forthwith the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Christopher Gill: 80.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Jim Dowd: 411.

Another Amendment (No. 87) proposed, in page 1, line 6, to leave out the words 'and tax-varying powers of a Scottish Parliament' and insert the words 'of a Scottish Parliament with tax-raising powers', instead thereof.—(Mr James Wallace.)

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 Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

7 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 20th May relating to a Joint Committee of both Houses to scrutinise delegated legislation be now considered.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

Lords Message considered accordingly.

Resolved, That this House doth concur with the Lords in their Resolution relating to the said Joint Committee.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

Ordered, That the said Committee do meet with any committee appointed by the Lords on Thursday 5th June at half-past Four o'clock.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.31 pm.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Firearms,—Draft Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3rd—4th June 1997


5 Road Traffic. — Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Croydon) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1342), dated 27th May 1997 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

Other Papers:

6 Armed Forces Pay. — Supplement to the Twenty-Sixth Report of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay: Service Medical and Dental Officers [by Command] [Cm. 3655] [The Prime Minister].

7 Audit (Northern Ireland). — Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland, entitled Towards Better Practice in the Management of Education and Library Board Transport Services [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 10] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

8 Contingencies Fund, 1995–96. — Accounts of the Contingencies Fund for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 27] [Dawn Primarolo].


10 Insolvency. — Report to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Bank of Credit and Commerce International SA (In Liquidation) for 16th January 1996 to 15th January 1997 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 National Audit. — Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Vacant Office Property [by Act]; to be printed [No. 17] [Clerk of the House].

12 New Towns (Scotland). — (1) Cumbernauld Development Corporation Dissolution Accounts for 1st January 1997 to 21st March 1997,

(2) Irvine Development Corporation Dissolution Accounts for 1st January to 21st March 1997, and

(3) Livingston Development Corporation Realisation Statement for 1st January 1997 to 21st March 1997

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Treaty Series (No. 110, 1996). — Index to Treaty Series 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3660] [Mr Secretary Cook].

[No. 14.]

Wednesday 4th June 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 Clive Betts);

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

2 Selection. — Ordered, That Ms Charlotte Atkins, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Andrew Mackay, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr John McWilliam, Mr George Mudie and Mr Paul Tyler be members of the Committee of Selection.

That the members of the Committee of Selection nominated this day shall continue to be members of the Committee for the remainder of this Parliament.

That this Order be a Standing Order of the House.—(Mr David Clelland.)

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

4 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill. — The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.
(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Referendum in Scotland):

Another Amendment (No. 87), proposed, in page 1, line 6, to leave out the words 'and tax varying powers of a Scottish Parliament' and insert the words 'of a Scottish Parliament with tax-raising powers', instead thereof;

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being half-past Four o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order yesterday, put forthwith the Question already proposed from the Chair

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Donald Gorrie: 70.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr John McFall: 344.

Another Amendment (No. 71) proposed, in page 1, line 6, to leave out the words 'tax-varying powers' and insert the words 'constitutional status', instead thereof.—(Mr Alex Salmond.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Six o'clock, the Chairman put forthwith the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Andrew Welsh: 45.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Ms Bridget Prentice: 405.

Clause No. 2 (Referendum in Wales).

Amendment (No. 68) proposed, in page 2, line 7, to leave out the word 'propositions' and insert the word 'options', instead thereof.—(Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Dafydd Wigley: 20.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Jane Kennedy: 330.

Clause agreed to.

It being half-past Eight o'clock, the Chairman put forthwith the Question necessary to bring to a conclusion the remaining proceedings in Committee.

Clauses Nos. 3 to 6 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

And it being after half-past Eight o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill to the House.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, without Amendment.

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 Graham Allen, Mr Clive Betts: 339.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 148.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

5 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the Motion relating to Modernisation of the House of Commons may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.
6 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Ordered, That a Select Committee of fifteen Members be appointed to consider how the practices and procedures of the House should be modernised, and to make recommendations thereon;

That the Committee shall seek to make a first Report to the House before the summer adjournment with its initial conclusions on ways in which the procedure for examining legislative proposals could be improved;

That five be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records; to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House; to report from time to time; and to appoint specialist advisers;

That Mr Joe Ashton, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr Huw Edwards, Sir Peter Emery, Mr Alastair Goodlad, Mr Mike Hall, Helen Jackson, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Clive Soley, Rachel Squire, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mrs Ann Taylor, Mr Paul Tyler and Mr Nicholas Winterton be members of the Committee;

That this Order be Standing Order of the House until the end of the present Parliament.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

7 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Dominic Grieve, Ms Rosemary McKenna, Ms Diana Organ, Mr William Ross and Mr David Tredinnick be members of the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments.—(Janet Anderson.)

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

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 Twelve o'clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 11.58 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland).—(1) Crown Court (Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996) (Tainted Acquittals) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 266), and

(2) Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment No. 2) 1997 (S.R. (N.I.), 1997, No. 265),

dated 2nd June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoff Hoon].

Other Papers:

3 Electricity,—Report of the Director General of Electricity Supply for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 16] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

Chairmen’s Panel.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Donald Anderson, Mr John Butterfill, Dr Michael Clark, Mr Frank Cook, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Barry Jones, Mr John McWilliam, Sir David Madel, Mr John Maxton, Mr Edward O’Hara, Mrs Ann Winterton and Mr Nicholas Winterton to be members of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.
Thursday 5th June 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:

Statutory Instruments.—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of seven Lords to join with the Committee appointed by the Commons to consider—

(1) Every instrument which is laid before each House of Parliament and upon which proceedings may be or might have been taken in either House of Parliament, in pursuance of an Act of Parliament; being

(a) a statutory instrument, or a draft of a statutory instrument;

(b) a scheme, or an amendment of a scheme, or a draft thereof, requiring approval by statutory instrument;

(c) any other instrument (whether or not in draft), where the proceedings in pursuance of an Act of Parliament are proceedings by way of an affirmative resolution; or

(d) an order subject to special parliamentary procedure;

but excluding any Order in Council or draft Order in Council made or proposed to be made under paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Act 1974 and any draft order proposed to be made under section 1 of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994.

(2) Every general statutory instrument not within the foregoing classes, and not required to be laid before or to be subject to proceedings in the Commons only, but not including Measures under the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919 and instruments made under such Measures;

with a view to determining whether the special attention of the House should be drawn to it on any of the following grounds—

(i) that it imposes a charge on the public revenues or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to the Exchequer or any government department or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payments;

(ii) that it is made in pursuance of any enactment containing specific provisions excluding it from challenge in the courts, either at all times or after the expiration of a specific period;

(iii) that it purports to have retrospective effect where the parent statute confers no express authority so to provide;

(iv) that there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in the publication or in the laying of it before Parliament;

(v) that there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in sending a notification under the proviso to subsection (1) of section 4 of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946, where an instrument has come into operation before it has been laid before Parliament;

(vi) that there appears to be a doubt whether it is intra vires or that it appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the statute under which it is made;

(vii) that for any special reasons its form or purport call for elucidation;

(viii) that its drafting appears to be defective;

or on any other ground which does not impinge on its merits or on the policy behind it, and to report their decision with the reasons thereof in any particular case;

The Lords have come to the following Resolutions, viz:

That two be the quorum of the Committee.
That the Committee have power to agree with any Committee appointed by the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman.

That the Committee have power to appoint one or more Sub-Committees severally to join with any Sub-Committee or Sub-Committees appointed by any Committee appointed by the Commons; and to refer to such Sub-Committee or Sub-Committees any of the matters referred to the Committee.

That it be an instruction to the Committee that they do not consider any instrument which is directed by Act of Parliament to be laid before and to be subject to proceedings in the Commons only; and that the Committee do not join with any Committee appointed by the Commons in considering any such instrument.

That it be a further instruction to the Committee that, before reporting that the special attention of the House be drawn to any instrument, the Committee do afford to any government department concerned therewith an opportunity of furnishing orally or in writing to them or to any Sub-Committee of the Committee such explanations as the department think fit.

That the Joint Committee have leave to report from time to time.

That the Committee do meet this day at half-past Four o'clock.

4 Education (Schools) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Education (Schools) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Abolition of assisted places scheme in England and Wales).

Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 1, line 20, to leave out '1996-97' and insert '1999-2000', instead thereof.—(Mrs Cheryl Gillan.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 138.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Jane Kennedy: 353.

Question proposed, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

Mr David Jamieson 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;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Graham Allen: 306.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 52.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Greg Pope: 306.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 39.

Clause No. 2 (Transitional arrangements for existing assisted pupils).

Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 1, line 24, after the word 'school', to insert the words 'and their siblings'.—(Mrs Cheryl Gillan.)

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 David Jamieson reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

5 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the Education (Schools) Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr David Jamieson);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Jane Kennedy: 302.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Lidington, Mr David Wilshire: 39.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 Education (Schools) Bill.—The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the Education (Schools) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 2 (Transitional arrangements for existing assisted pupils).

Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 1, line 24, after the word 'school', to insert the words 'and their siblings'.

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Friday 6th June 1997

Ms Bridget Prentice rose in her place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Clive Betts: 246.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr David Lidington: 32.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr David Lidington: 29.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Clive Betts: 245.

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 2, line 1, to leave out subsection (2).—(Mr Eric Forth.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.——(Mr Nicholas Brown.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr David Jamieson 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 this day.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till fifteen minutes to Two o’clock, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.45 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Food,—(1) Eggs (Marketing Standards) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1414), and

(2) Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1413),

dated 4th June 1997 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

3 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 26] [Mr Secretary Straw].
4 Local Government,—Local Government (General Grant) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 747), dated 16th May 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

(2) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1367),
(3) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1365), and
(4) Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (City of Westminster) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1369),
dated 28th May 1997 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

Other Papers:

6 Crown Agents,—(1) Accounts of the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board for 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 32] [Clerk of the House]; and
(2) Report of the Chairman of the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board for 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

7 Education and Employment,—Department of Education and Employment Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the indemnification of the administrative receiver of South Thames Training and Enterprise Council Ltd [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on loans proposed to be raised by the Northern General Hospital National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments,—First Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-i] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 16.

Friday 6th June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Adjournment (Governance of London).—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Ms Bridget Prentice);
And it being Eleven o’clock, the Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).
And the Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;
The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

3 Business of the House. — Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 9th June, Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to the European Union, and the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on that Motion not later than Ten o’clock.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

4 House of Commons Commission. — Resolved, That Mr Alastair Goodlad and Mr Archy Kirkwood be appointed members of the House of Commons Commission under the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

5 Public Accounts Commission. — Resolved, That Mr Denzil Davies and Dr Lewis Moonie be discharged from the Public Accounts Commission and that Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown,
Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr William O’Brien, Mr Robert Sheldon, Mr Andrew Tyrie, and Mr Alan Williams be appointed other members of the Public Accounts Commission under Section 2(1)(c) of the National Audit Act 1983.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

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 9th June.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out,—Draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education,—Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1399), dated 29th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blankett].


4 Seeds,—Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1415), dated 4th June 1997 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

Other Papers:

5 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 6th June 1997, concerning the gift of the property known as The Mount from the Ministry of Defence to the Government of Gibraltar [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Education and Employment,—Government Response to the Fifth Report of the Education and Employment Committee, Session 1996-97, on The Employment Effects of the Proposed Closure of the Gallaher Factory at Hyde [by Command] [Cm. 3671] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

7 Environment,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Clyde River Purification Board for 1995-96,
(2) Report and Accounts of the Forth River Purification Board for 1995-96,
(3) Report and Accounts of the Highland River Purification Board for 1995-96,
(4) Report and Accounts of the North East River Purification Board for 1995-96,
(5) Report and Accounts of the Solway River Purification Board for 1995-96,
(6) Report and Accounts of the Tay River Purification Board for 1995-96, and
(7) Report and Accounts of the Tweed River Purification Board for 1995-96
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Treaty Series (No. 33, 1997),—Agreement, done at Budapest on 25th March 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Hungary concerning the Extension and Refurbishment of the Pető Institute Building at Villányi Út 67 [by Command] [Cm. 3668] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Treaty Series (No. 34, 1997),—Notes, exchanged at Washington on 27th March 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America concerning an Amendment to the Air Services Agreement done at Bermuda on 23rd July 1977, as amended [by Command] [Cm. 3673] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Monday 9th June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 European Union,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. SN600/97 (C101), consolidated draft Treaty texts; 6946/97, on the strengthening of the surveillance and co-ordination of budgetary policies; 6947/97, on speeding up and clarifying the implementation of the excessive deficit procedure; 10867/96, on the legal framework for the introduction of the euro; 7766/97, on the Commission's recommendation for the broad guidelines of the economic policies of the member States and the Community; 7767/97, on a progress report on the implementation of the 1996 broad economic policy guidelines; the draft Resolution of the European Council on the stability and growth pact; and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by HM Treasury on 30th May on a draft Resolution of the European Council on the establishment of an exchange rate mechanism in the third stage of economic and monetary union; and welcomes the determination of Her Majesty's Government to focus the agenda of the European Union on policies of direct benefit to the peoples of Europe through its initiatives on employment and competitiveness, and to obtain the best deal for Britain at the Amsterdam Summit through constructive negotiations in the Intergovernmental Conference—(Mr Secretary Cook);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 12, to leave out from the word 'union' to the end of the Question and add the words 'and warns Her Majesty's Government against signing up to the third stage of economic and monetary union based on fudged criteria and against proposals at the forthcoming Amsterdam summit which threaten British national interests, namely: surrendering the United Kingdom's veto in social policy, industry policy, environment policy and regional policy; signing the Social Chapter and supporting a new Treaty Chapter on Employment; and, instead, recommends that the Government adhere to the approach outlined in the White Paper "A Partnership of Nations" (Cm 3181), instead thereof.-(Mr John Major.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 151.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Janet Anderson: 404.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Janet Anderson: 397.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 145.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. SN 600/97 (C101), consolidated draft Treaty texts; 6946/97, on the strengthening of the surveillance and co-ordination of budgetary policies; 6947/97, on speeding up and clarifying the implementation of the excessive deficit procedure; 10867/96, on the legal framework for the introduction of the euro; 7766/97, on the Commission's recommendation for the broad guidelines of the economic policies of the Member States and the Community; 7767/97, on a progress report on the implementation of the 1996 broad economic policy guidelines; the draft Resolution of the European Council on the stability and growth pact; and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by HM Treasury on 30th May on a draft Resolution of the European Council on the establishment of an exchange rate mechanism in the third stage of economic and monetary union; and welcomes the determination of Her Majesty's Government to focus
the agenda of the European Union on policies of direct benefit to the peoples of Europe through its initiatives on employment and competitiveness, and to obtain the best deal for Britain at the Amsterdam Summit through constructive negotiations in the Intergovernmental Conference.

3 Firearms,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme, which was laid before this House on 3rd June, be approved—(Mr Alan Michael);

Tuesday 10th June 1997

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. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme, which was laid before this House on 3rd June, be approved.

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to One o'clock, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.31 a.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Fees and Charges,—Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1421), dated 5th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Fire Services,—Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1437), dated 5th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Government Trading Funds,—Hydrographic Office Trading Fund (Variation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1428), dated 4th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Local Government (Scotland),—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1436),

(2) Local Government (Exemption from Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1438), and


8 National Health Service,—(1) Portsmouth Health Care National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1401), dated 3rd June 1997, and

(2) Solihull Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997, (S.I., 1997, No. 1375), dated 30th May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
9 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1434), dated 2nd June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

10 Pensions.—(1) Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1373), dated 27th May 1997, and

   (2) Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1435), dated 3rd June 1997

   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

11 Police.—(1) Police Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1429), dated 2nd June [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and


   (3) Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 260), and


   dated 2nd June 1997 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages etc. Abroad.—Registration of Overseas Births and Deaths (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1466), dated 6th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

13 Road Traffic.—(1) Motor Vehicles (Approval Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1459), and

   (2) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1458),

   dated 6th June 1997 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

Other Papers:

14 Defence (Royal Air Force).—Regulations of the Defence Council amending Air Publication 3576 (3rd Edition) Volume 1, relating to the trade structure of the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

15 National Heritage.—Department of National Heritage Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on increased indemnity cover for 'Large Standing Figure: Knife Edge' on loan from the Henry Moore Foundation [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

16 National Lottery.—Accounts of the National Lottery Distribution Fund for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 36] [Clerk of the House].

17 Police (Northern Ireland).—Report and Accounts of the Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland for 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 20] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

18 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Petition [20th March, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Newcastle upon Tyne against the Jobseeker's Allowance [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

19 Treaty Series (No. 35, 1997).—Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement, done at Washington on 25th February 1992 [by Command] [Cm. 3674] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Tuesday 10th June 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 Education (Schools) Bill.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Education (Schools) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 2 (Transitional arrangements for existing assisted pupils).

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 2, line 1, to leave out subsection (2).

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Question put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 147.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Ms Bridget Prentice: 400.

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 2, line 5, after the word 'or', to insert the words—

'(b) in the case of a pupil with an assisted place at a school providing education for children up to the age of 13 but not beyond, at the end of the school year in which he attains the age of 13, or'.—(Mr Don Foster.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr David Heath: 181.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Ms Bridget Prentice: 354.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Regulations for purposes of transitional arrangements).

Amendment (No. 35) proposed, in page 3, line 2, to leave out from the word 'to' to the word 'fees' in line 3 and insert the words 'direct a school to refrain from making or postpone or reduce an increase in'.—(Mr David Lidington.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 3, line 25, at the end, to insert the words—

'(g) require local education authorities to provide information to the Secretary of State about the financial and other effects of the abolition of the assisted places scheme.'.—(Mr Don Foster.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Paul Tyler: 38.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Graham Allen: 340.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 4 to 7 agreed to.

A Clause (Power of local authority to continue to assist pupils)—(Mr Nicholas St. Aubyn)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Schedule agreed to.

Bill to be reported.
The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr David Jamieson reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

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 Clive Betts, Mr Graham Allen: 399.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 147.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed.

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.45 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—(1) Agriculture Act 1986 (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1457), dated 4th June 1997,


(3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Breckland) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1445), dated 5th June 1997,

(4) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Clun) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1446), dated 5th June 1997,


(7) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Lake District) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1452), dated 5th June 1997,


(9) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (North Peak) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1447), dated 5th June 1997,


(14) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (South West Peak) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1455), dated 5th June 1997,

(15) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Suffolk River Valleys) Designation (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1448), dated 5th June 1997,


[by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

3 Immigration,—Immigration (Exemption from Control) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1402), dated 31st May 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1484), and (2) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1485), dated 9th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoff Hoon].

5 Medicines,—Medicines (Products for Animal Use—Fees) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1469), dated 9th June 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

6 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1473), dated 6th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Seeds,—Seed Potatoes (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1474), dated 5th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

8 Race Relations,—Report of the Commission for Racial Equality for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments,—Second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-ii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 19.]

Wednesday 11th June 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 Robert 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 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

3 Selection (see Appendix II).

4 Selection (Standing Committees),—Mr John McWilliam 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.

5 Selection (Select Committees),—Mr John McWilliam 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.

6 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 the Firearms (Amendment) Bill since the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 has dealt comprehensively with the problems identified by Lord Cullen; believes that there is no justification for a total ban on all handguns including those of .22 calibre which would elicit from all legitimate target-shooting; and calls on the Government to delay this intemperate Bill until the Firearms (Amendment) Act has been fully implemented and a proper assessment made of its impact', instead thereof.—(Mr Michael Howard.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 173.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 384.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Clelland: 384.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 181.

So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House.—(Mr Alun Michael):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

7 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 put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any increase attributable to that Act in the administrative expenses payable out of money so provided under any other enactment; and

(b) any sums required by the Secretary of State for paying compensation in respect of—

(i) small-calibre pistols the possession of which becomes unlawful as a result of that Act; or

(ii) equipment designed or adapted for use in connection with small-calibre pistols—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

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

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 five minutes past Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.05 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Other Papers:

3 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment and salary of a new member of the British Tourist Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 10th June 1997 on borrowing by Gloucestershire Ambulance National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 National Heritage,—(1) Departmental Minute, dated 11th June 1997, concerning the proposed gifting of the freehold of the British Library building and part of the land on which it stands to the Board of the British Library [by Command]; and (2) Report and Accounts of S4C for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1481), dated 9th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

7 Treaty Series (No. 36, 1997),—Convention, done at Moscow on 15th February 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Russian Federation 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. 3680] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II
Committee of Selection

1 Chairmen’s Panel (Parliament Act 1911),—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That, in pursuance of section 1(3) of the Parliament Act 1911, it had appointed Mr John McWilliam and Mr Nicholas Winterton to be the two Members whom the Speaker shall consult, if practicable, before certifying a Bill to be a Money Bill.

2 Standing Committee C,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had designated Standing Committee C as the Committee on which Government Bills shall not have precedence.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam 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 International Monetary Fund (Limit on Lending) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Anthony Colman, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Howard Flight, Margaret Hodge, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Don Touhig and Mr Jon Trickett.

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr David Clelland, Mr Huw Edwards, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Michael Hancock, Mrs Sylvia Heal, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Bill Olner, Dr John Reid, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr John Smith and Mr Nicholas Soames.

MEMORANDA

1 Constitution of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated—
   (1) the draft International Monetary Fund (Limit on Lending) Order 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1997 to the Second 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 International Monetary Fund (Limit on Lending) Order 1997; and
Mr Edward O'Hara Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1997.

[No. 20.]

Thursday 12th June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Local Government (Contracts) Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Davies, Hilary Armstrong, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Geoffrey Hoon, presented a Bill to make provision about the powers of local authorities (including probation committees and the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District) to enter into contracts; and to enable expenditure of local authorities making administrative arrangements for magistrates' courts to be treated for some purposes as not being capital expenditure: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 16th June and to be printed [Bill 5].

3 Plant Varieties Bill.—Dr John Cunningham, supported by Mrs Secretary Beckett, Mr Secretary Dewar, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr Jeff Rooker, presented a Bill to make provision about rights in relation to plant varieties; to make provision about the Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal; to extend the time limit for institution of proceedings for contravention of seeds regulations; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 16th June and to be printed [Bill 6].

4 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), That the Matter of the Government's programme for Wales, being a Matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mr Graham Allen).—It was agreed to.

5 Channel Tunnel Rail Link (Stratford Station and Subsidiary Works) Order.—Resolved, That this House, pursuant to section 9(4) of the Transport and Works Act 1992 ("the Act") as applied by section 42 of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Act 1996, approves the following proposals, contained in an application for an Order submitted under section 6 of the Act by Eurostar (UK) Limited on 23rd January 1997 and entitled The Channel Tunnel Rail Link (Stratford Station and Subsidiary Works) Order, for

(1) The construction, maintenance and operation of—
   (i) in the London Borough of Hackney and Newham, a station at Stratford for international and domestic services on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link with vehicular parking and other facilities in connection therewith; railways comprising down and up lines to serve international and domestic platforms at that station; and a station access road off Waterden Road, including a bridge over the River Lea;
   (ii) in the London Borough of Hackney, a realignment and improvement of Waterden Road;
   (iii) in the London Borough of Newham, a subway at the existing suburban Stratford station with a pedestrian link to the new station; and
   (iv) in the London Boroughs of Camden and Islington, railways near St. Pancras to provide access between the Channel Tunnel Rail Link and the West Coast Main Line by means of a connection to the North London Line.

(2) The authorisation of works ancillary to the above-mentioned works, including the stopping-up of York Way in the London Boroughs of Camden and Islington, the making of a means of access to and from that road and interference with waterways.

(3) The compulsory acquisition or use of land or rights in land for the intended works; compensation for this and for the injurious affection of land; and the compulsory use of subsoil.—(Glenda Jackson.)

6 Northern Ireland.—Resolved, That the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1403), which was laid before this House on 3rd June, be approved.—(Secretary Marjorie Mowlam.)
7 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Welsh Grand Committee shall meet in County Hall, Mold, on Monday 30th June at Eleven o’clock to take Questions pursuant to Standing Order No. 103 (Welsh Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and to consider a Matter pursuant to Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), proceedings being interrupted at half-past Four o’clock—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

8 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 19th June, Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to the Common Agricultural Policy, and the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on that Motion not later than three hours after their commencement.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 16th June, pursuant to Resolution [19th May].

[Adjourned at 7.27 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Parliament,—Draft Solicitor General’s Salary Order 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

2 Air Force,—Amendments to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

3 Intelligence Services,—Report of the Intelligence Services Commissioner for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3677] [The Prime Minister].

4 Interception of Communications,—Report of the Interception of Communications Commissioner for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3678] [The Prime Minister].

5 Security Service,—Report of the Security Service Commissioner for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3679] [The Prime Minister].

6 Statutory Instruments (Notification),—Communications 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. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1481)

   [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

7 Transport Series (No. 18, 1997),—Amendment to Annex 1 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. 3661] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Monday 16th June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Firearms (Amendment) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Prohibition of small-calibre pistols).

Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 1, line 8, to leave out the words 'the words “a small calibre pistol” shall cease to have effect' and insert the words 'after the words “a small-calibre pistol” the words “which is incapable of holding more than one cartridge and is not derived from a multi-shot design” shall be inserted'.—(Mr Michael Colvin.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Christopher Chope: 123.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr John McFall: 333.

Question proposed, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

And it being Seven o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair, further proceeding standing postponed until after the consideration of Private Business set down by direction of the Chairman of Ways and Means under Standing Order No. 20 (Time for taking private business).

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

3 Private Bills (Procedure).—Ordered, That—

(1) the Promoters of every Private Bill which originated in this House or was brought from the House of Lords in the last Parliament shall have leave to proceed with that Bill, if they think fit, in the present Session;

(2) every such Bill which originated in this House shall be presented to the House not later than the fifth day on which the House sits after this day;

(3) there shall be deposited with every Bill so presented a declaration signed by the Agent for the Bill, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill at the last stage of its proceedings in this House in the last Parliament;

(4) every Bill so presented shall be laid by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office on the Table of the House on the next meeting of the House after the day on which the Bill was presented;

(5) every Bill so laid on the Table shall be deemed to have been read the first time and (if the Bill had been read a second time in the last Parliament) to have been read a second time and—

(i) if such Bill had been referred to the Committee on Unopposed Bills in the last Parliament, it shall stand so referred;

(ii) if such Bill had been referred to a Committee during the last Parliament and not reported by that Committee to the House, the Bill shall stand committed and—

(a) all Petitions against the Bill which stood referred to the Committee on the Bill shall stand referred to the Committee on the Bill in the present
Session, subject to the determination of any outstanding objection to the locus standi of any petitioner; and

(b) any minutes of evidence taken before the Committee on the Bill shall stand referred to the Committee on the Bill in the present Session;

(iii) if such Bill had been reported by any Committee, it shall be ordered to be read the third time unless it had been reported with Amendments in the last Parliament and had not been considered as so amended, in which case it shall be ordered to lie upon the Table;

(iv) if such Bill had been read the third time in the last Parliament, it shall be deemed to have been read the third time;

(6) paragraph (2) of Standing Order 166 relating to Private Business (First reading) shall not apply to any Bill brought from the House of Lords in the present Session and to which this Order relates;

(7) when any Bill which was brought from the House of Lords in the last Parliament and to which this Order relates is brought from the House of Lords in the present Session, the Agent for the Bill shall deposit in the Private Bill Office a declaration, signed by him, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the House of Lords in the last Parliament and, 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—

(i) unless the Examiner had reported pursuant to Standing Order 74 relating to Private Business (Examination of bills brought from the House of Lords, etc.), the Bill shall stand referred to the Examiners;

(ii) if the Examiner had so reported, the Bill shall be ordered to be read a second time, or, if it had been read a second time, it shall be read a second time and committed; but

(iii) if the Bill had been reported by a Committee with Amendments in the last Parliament it shall be committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means who shall make only such Amendments to the Bill as had been made thereto by the Committee in the last Parliament, and shall report the Bill to the House forthwith, and the Bill shall be ordered to lie upon the Table;

(8) any Bill which under the provisions of this Order is deemed to have been read the first time, or the first and second time, or the first, second and third time, shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having been so read;

(9) without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (5) of this Order, only those Petitions against any Bill which stood referred to the Committee on the Bill and which had not been withdrawn or had been deposited pursuant to paragraph (9) of Standing Order 126 relating to Private Business (Reference to committee of petitions against bill) shall stand referred to the Committee on the same Bill in the present Session;

(10) in relation to any Bill to which this Order applies Standing Order 127 relating to Private Business (Right of audience before committees on opposed bills) shall have effect as if the words "under Standing Order 126 (Reference to committee of petitions against bill)" were omitted;

(11) where any Standing Order had been dispensed with in respect of any private Bill in the last Parliament, those Standing Orders shall be deemed to have been ordered to be dispensed with in respect of any such Bill presented or brought from the Lords in pursuance of this Order;

(12) any Standing Orders complied with in respect of any Bill originating in the House of Lords to which this Order relates shall be deemed to have been complied with in respect of such Bill if the same is brought from the House of Lords in the present Session, and any notices published or given and any deposits made in respect of such Bill in the last Parliament shall be held to have been published, given and made, respectively, for the Bill so brought from the House of Lords in the present Session;

(13) no further fees shall be charged in respect of proceedings on a Bill in respect of which fees have been incurred in the last Parliament.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

4 Firearms (Amendment) Bill.—The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.
(In the Committee)

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr David Jamieson 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.

5 Adjournment, Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

Adjourned at 8.35 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 13th June 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Foreign Affairs,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Fourth Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1996–97, on Developments at the Intergovernmental Conference [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between Klaus J Jacobs Holding AG and Société Centrale d'Investissements et Associés [Cm. 3663] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 13th June 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No.12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Food,—Contaminants in Food Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1499), dated 10th June 1997 [Dr John Cunningham].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 16th June 1997:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

5 Social Security,—Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

6 Health and Safety,—Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1460), dated 5th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Road Works (Registers, Notices, Directions and Designations) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1505), dated 6th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

8 Dentists,—Accounts of the General Dental Council for 1996 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

9 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Ministry of Defence: Improving the Efficiency of the Procurement of Routine Items [by Act]; to be printed [No. 31] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 12th June 1997 on borrowing by the Royal Berkshire & Battle Hospitals National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
11 Public Petitions,—Observations by—
   (1) the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petitions [20th March, in the last Session of Parliament] from 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; and
   (2) the Secretary of State for Wales on the Petition [17th March, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Anglesey and elsewhere for the bringing forward of improvements to the A5/A55 across Anglesey and the provision meanwhile of pelican crossings
[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

[No. 22.]
Tuesday 17th June 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 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft International Monetary Fund (Limit on Lending) Order 1997.

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

4 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 852) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—(Mr Graham Allen).—It was agreed to.

5 Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill;

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

   The House divided.

      Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Clive Betts: 409.

      Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Richard Ottaway: 151.

   So the Question was agreed to.

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

6 Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill [Money];

   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) 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 Graham Allen).—It was agreed to.

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Eastleigh against the proposed closure of Rookwood County Infants School was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Graham Allen):

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 twelve minutes to Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.48 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland.—Draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Protection of Wrecks.—Protection of Wrecks (Designation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1528), dated 13th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

4 Law Commission.—Report of the Law Commission on Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Hearsay and Related Topics [by Command] [Cm. 3670] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

5 Trade Union and Labour Relations.—Report of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service for 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Water.—Report of the Director General of Water Services for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 21] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments.—Third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-iii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

MEMORANDUM

The Speaker having, in pursuance of the Recess Elections Act 1975 (1975 c.66), made her appointment of Members of the House of Commons, for the issuing of Warrants to the Clerk of the Crown, in the cases therein mentioned, the same is here entered in pursuance of the directions of the said Act; and is, as follows:

"By virtue of section 4(1) of the Recess Elections Act 1975 I do hereby appoint

The Right honourable Sir Archibald Hamilton

Sir Alan Haselhurst

The Right honourable Sir Edward Heath, K.G., M.B.E.

Mr Michael J. Martin, and

Mr Clive Soley

being Members of the House of Commons, or any one or more of them, to exercise the powers given to the Speaker of the House of Commons for the time being by the said Act, at any time when there is no Speaker or the Speaker is out of the United Kingdom.

Given under my hand and seal this seventeenth day of June in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven."
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 Jon Owen Jones);

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 Private Bills.—The Order [16th June] relating to Private Business (Procedure) being read;

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; to make provision with respect to the merger of the National Heart and Lung Institute with the said College; and for connected purposes, was read the first, second and third time, and passed.

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 lie upon the Table.

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, second and third time, and passed.

5 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, Mr Michael Foster, supported by Mr Roger Gale, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Simon Hughes, Angela Smith, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Nigel Jones, Mrs Margaret Ewing and Mr Ian Cawsey, presented a Bill to make provision for the protection of wild mammals from being pursued, killed or injured by the use of dogs; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 7].

6 Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, Dr Julian Lewis, supported by Mrs Gillian Shepherd, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Charles Kennedy, Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Nicholas Winterton, Mr David Marshall, Mr Iain Duncan Smith, Mr Chris Mullin and Mr John Bercow, presented a Bill to amend the Mental Health Act 1983 to provide greater access to hospital accommodation for mentally ill people; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 8].

7 Referendum (English Parliament) Bill, Mrs Teresa Gorman, supported by Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr David Amess, Mrs Ann Winterton, Mr Nicholas Winterton, Mr John Hayes and Mr Peter Luff, presented a Bill to make provision for the holding of a referendum in England on the establishment and tax-varying powers of an English Parliament: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th January and to be printed [Bill 9].

8 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, Sir George Young, supported by Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Alan Clark, Margaret Hodge, Kate Hoey, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Clive Soley and Dr Jenny Tonge, presented a Bill to provide for the licensing and regulation of private hire vehicles, and drivers and operators of such vehicles, within the Metropolitan Police District and the City of London; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd January and to be printed [Bill 10].

9 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill, Mr Cynog Dafis, supported by Ms Joan Walley, Mr Peter Bottomley, Sir Richard Body, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Don Foster, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mr Jim Cousins, Julia Drown, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mr Matthew Taylor presented a Bill to make further provision for road traffic reduction targets; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 11].
10 Energy Efficiency Bill, —Mr John Burnett, supported by Mr Richard Allan, Mr John Austin, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Cynog Dafis, Julia Drown, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Matthew Taylor, Ms Joan Walley and Mr Tim Yeo, presented a Bill to make further provision for energy efficiency: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 12].

11 Employment of Children Bill, —Mr Chris Pond, supported by Ann Clwyd, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mrs Llin Golding, Ms Margaret Hodge, Oona King, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Alice Melton, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Richard Shepherd, Angela Smith and Mr Peter Temple-Morris, presented a Bill to make further provision for the protection of persons in employment under the upper limit of school age, by restricting hours of employment, especially on Sundays, and by other means: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th February and to be printed [Bill 13].

12 Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill, —Mr Nigel Evans, supported by Audrey Wise, Mr David Atkinson, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Donald Anderson, Mrs Margaret Ewing and Mr Menzies Campbell, presented a Bill to provide that wind chill factor is taken into account in the calculation of cold weather payments; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd January and to be printed [Bill 14].

13 Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill, —Ms Linda Perham, supported by Mr David Winnick, Mr Roger Berry, Ms Yvette Cooper, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Angela Smith, Mr Don Foster, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Andrew Rowe and Mr Quentin Davies, presented a Bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of age in the advertising of employment vacancies: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 15].

14 Public Interest Disclosure Bill, —Mr Richard Shepherd, supported by Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Ross Cranston, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Iain Duncan Smith, Mr John Healey, Mr Giles Radice, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Don Touhig and Dr Tony Wright, presented a Bill to protect individuals who make certain disclosures of information in the public interest; to allow such individuals to bring action in respect of victimisation; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 16].

15 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill, —Mr Mike Hall, supported by Mr Nick Ainger, Ms Helen Southworth, Mr Tim Loughton, Angela Smith, Mr Matthew Taylor, Helen M Jones, Mr Colin Pickthall, Laura Molfatt, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Terry Lewis and Mr John Heppell, 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; to establish records of dogs kept at such establishments; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 17].

16 Disability Rights Commission Bill, —Mr Roger Berry, supported by Mr Harry Barnes, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Robin Corbett, Valerie Davey, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Tom Levitt, The Reverend Martin Smyth and Mr Dafoyd Wigley, presented a Bill to establish a Disability Rights Commission to make recommendations on legislation to achieve comprehensive and enforceable civil rights for disabled people; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th January and to be printed [Bill 18].

17 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill, —Mr Michael Trend, supported by Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Nick Harvey, Mr Richard Page, Mr James Paine, Mr Nick St Auby, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mrs Gisela Stuart, presented a Bill to control the use of the title 'Chamber of Commerce' and related titles; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd January and to be printed [Bill 19].

18 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill, —Mr Marsha Singh, supported by Mr Andrew King, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Bob Laxton, Ms Kali Mountford, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr David Borrow, Mr Bernard Jenkins, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mr John Austin and Mr Christopher Leslie, presented a Bill to restrict the amount of a person's capital which may be taken into account by a local authority in determining whether he should be provided with residential accommodation that would be, or would be treated as, provided under Part III of the National Assistance Act 1948: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 20].
19 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—Oona King, supported by Mr Chris Pond, Mrs Ann Keen, Mr Keith Vaz, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Martin Bell, Ms Diana Organ, Caroline Flint and Mr David Lock, presented a Bill to amend the law in respect of non-commercial matters to which local authorities may have regard in awarding contracts; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th January and to be printed [Bill 21].

20 Waste Prevention Bill,—Mr Piers Merchant, supported by Sir Teddy Taylor, Angela Smith, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Nigel Evans and Mr Cynog Dafis presented a Bill to enable certain local authorities to make arrangements to minimise the generation of waste in their areas: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 22].

21 Pesticides Bill,—Mr Ben Bradshaw, supported by Ms Candy Atherton, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Fiona Mactaggart, Oona King, Mrs Gisela Stuart, Mrs Tess Kingham, Mr Matthew Taylor and Mr Simon Hughes, presented a Bill to amend the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 in respect of the powers to make regulations concerning pesticides and in respect of the enforcement of provisions relating to the control of pesticides: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 23].

22 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—Mr Clive Efford, supported by Mr John Austin, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Clive Soley, Ms Joan Walley, Mr Cynog Dafis and Mr Alan Simpson, presented a Bill to make further provision for energy conservation related to housing; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 24].

23 Fireworks Bill,—Mrs Linda Gilroy, supported by Mr Richard Burden, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Patrick Hall, Barbara Follett, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Barry Sheerman, Ms Angela Smith, Kali Mountford, Mr Matthew Taylor and Mr James Wallace, presented a Bill to make provision about fireworks and other explosives: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 25].

24 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill,—Mr Dennis Turner, supported by Ms Jennifer Jones, Mr Ken Purchase, Mr John Cummings, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Gerald Bermingham and Mr Robin Corbett, presented a Bill to amend the law of weights and measures in relation to measures of beer and cider; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 26].

25 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Prohibition of small-calibre pistols).

Question again proposed, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

Question put.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Jim Dowd: 352.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Bowen Wells: 167.

Clause No. 2 (Consequential amendments and repeals).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 11 to 21.(Mr Richard Allan.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Allan, Mr Andrew Stunell: 190.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Greg Pope: 305.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 2, line 21, after the word 'made', to insert the words—

'(3B) Payments made under this scheme relating to small-calibre pistols or equipment designed or adapted for use in connection with such pistols, shall be received within 30 days of agreement of the valuation.'—(Mr David Maclean.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Mr Bowen Wells: 177.

Tellers for the Noes. Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Greg Pope: 301.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Greg Pope: 330.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Tim Boswell: 143.

Clause No. 3 agreed to.

A Clause (Exemption for national competition shooters)—(Mr David Maclean)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Tim Boswell: 159.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Clelland: 328.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

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

26 Business of the House,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Firearms (Amendment) Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Jane Kennedy);—It was agreed to.

27 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—The Question being again proposed, That the Firearms (Amendment) Bill be now read the third time;

And the Question being put:

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Kevin Hughes: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 164.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

28 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

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 a quarter past Eleven o’clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 11.15 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Draft Satellite Television Service Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 24th January 1997, made by the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University,

(2) Statute, dated 13th February 1997, made by the University of Cambridge amending the Statutes of the University, and
3 Courts and Legal Services.—Report of the Legal Services Ombudsman for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 24] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

4 Environment.—Government Response to the Third Report from the Environment Committee, Session 1996–97, on the environmental impact of cement manufacture [by Command] [Cm. 3692] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


6 Trade Union and Labour Relations.—(1) Account of the Commissioner for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action for 1996–97, and (2) Account of the Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 70 and 71] [Clerk of the House].

7 Treaty Series (No. 37, 1997),—Agreement, done at Santiago on 8th January 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Chile for the promotion and protection of investments with Protocol [by Command] [Cm. 3682] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Treaty Series (No. 38, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Tbilisi on 15th April 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Georgia terminating the agreement constituted by an exchange of notes 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. 3683] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Treaty Series (No. 39, 1997),—Agreement, done at London on 28th March 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Romania concerning air services [by Command] [Cm. 3686] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr David Curry, Mr David Drew, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Keith Hill, Ms Siobhain McDonagh, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr David Watts and Ms Rosie Winterton.

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 852), viz.: Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Frank Doran, Barbara Follett, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Ms Gillian Merron, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Paul Truswell and Mr Stephen Twigg.

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Paul Boateng, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Eric Clarke, Ms Yvette Cooper, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Nicholas Gibb, Mr Peter L. Pike, Ms Bridget Prentice, Mrs Caroline A. Spelman, Ms Joan Walley and Mr John Whittingdale.
MEMORANDA

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

(1) the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill to Standing Committee A;

(2) the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 852) to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(3) the draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels) Order 1997 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) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill;

(2) Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 852);

(3) Dr Michael Clark Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels) Order 1997; and

(4) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Mold on Monday 30th June.

[No. 24.]

Thursday 19th June 1997.

The House met at half past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows—

Private Bills.—The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolutions, viz.:

That the promoters of the bills which were brought from the Commons in the last Parliament but had not received the Royal Assent shall, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, have leave to proceed with the said bills in the present session and the petitions for the bills shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the bills are brought from the Commons in the present session, the agents for the bills shall deposit in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments a declaration, signed by the agent concerned, stating that the bill is the same in every respect as the bill brought from the Commons in the last Parliament;

That the proceedings on such bills shall in the present session of Parliament be pro forma only, in regard to every stage through which the same shall have passed in the last Parliament, and that no new fees be charged to such stages.

Private Bills [Lords],—The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolutions, viz.:

That the promoters of the bills which originated in this House in the last Parliament but had not received the Royal Assent shall, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, have leave to introduce the said bills in the present session and the petitions for the bills shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable thereto shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That every such bill shall be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than 3 o’clock on Monday 23rd June next with a declaration annexed thereto signed by the agent concerned, stating that the bill is the same in every respect as the bill at the last stage of the proceedings thereon in this House in the last Parliament;
That the proceedings on such bills shall in the present session of Parliament be pro forma only, in regard to every stage through which the same shall have passed in the last Parliament, and that no new fees be charged to such stages;

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.

King's College London Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to unite the 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.

3 Private Bills [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 Bills brought from the House of Lords, the Agents for each 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].

King's College London Bill [Lords].

4 Private Bills [Lords].—The Order [16th June 1997] relating to Private Bill (Procedure) being read;

Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords] was read the first and second time and committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means.

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.

5 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported, pursuant to the Order of 16th June relating to Private Business (Procedure), That he had gone through the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords] and made Amendments thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords], as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means, do lie upon the Table.

6 Private Bills.—The Order [16th June] relating to Private Business (Procedure) being read;

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 and second time, and committed.

7 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Edward O'Hara reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1997.

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

8 Agricultural Price Proposals, 1997-98.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 6627/97, relating to agricultural prices for 1997-98; welcomes the Government's intention to negotiate an outcome which reflects the interests of United Kingdom consumers, taxpayers and food and farming industries; and welcomes the Government's longer term aim of securing reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy which reduce food prices, save money and provide more targeted support for the rural economy and enhance the rural environment.—(Dr John Cunningham);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 3, to leave out from '1997-98' to the end of the Question and add the words 'but notes that the Government has made no progress in lifting the export ban on United Kingdom beef and beef products; and urges that greater effort be made to speed up the selective cull now to meet the concerns raised by the EU Scientific Veterinary Committee over the implementation of the proposed Export Certified Herd Scheme and to consider alternative schemes which offer a real prospect of EU agreement to commence the lifting of the ban as soon as possible', instead thereof.—(Mr Douglas Hogg.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;
And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [19th June].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Peter Ainsworth: 136.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 357.

So the Question was negatived.

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

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 6627/97, relating to agricultural prices for 1997-98; welcomes the Government's intention to negotiate an outcome which reflects the interests of United Kingdom consumers, taxpayers and food and farming industries; and welcomes the Government's longer term aim of securing reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy which reduce food prices, save money and provide more targeted support for the rural economy and enhance the rural environment.

9 Scottish Grand Committee,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 100 (Scottish Grand Committee (Sittings)), That the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 8th July at half-past Ten o'clock, to take Questions for oral answer and to consider a substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee—(Mr Clive Bets):—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Bets.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.51 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Aid and Advice,—Draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Competition,—Unichem Limited (Allotment of Shares) Revocation Order 1997, (S.I., 1997, No. 1530) dated 17th June 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 University of Oxford,—Statute, dated 16th May 1996, made by the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

5 Ancient Monuments,—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 23] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Budget Projections,—Audit of Assumptions for the July 1997 Budget Projections [by Command] [Cm. 3693] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

7 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment and salary of a new member of the British Tourist Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 Duchy of Cornwall,—Financial Statements of the Duchy of Cornwall from 1st January 1996 to 31st March 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 38] [Dawn Primarolo].

9 Equal Opportunities,—Report of the Equal Opportunities Commission for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Scottish Land Court,—Report as to the proceedings of the Scottish Land Court for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3689] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
Friday 20th June 1997.

The House met at half past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Adjournment (Child Support Agency).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

And it being Eleven o'clock, the Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).

And the Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;

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

3 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 26th June, Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of Secretary Marjorie Mowlam relating to the draft Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and the Speaker shall put the Question not later than three hours after the start of proceedings thereon.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

4 Plant Varieties Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Plant Varieties 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 Kevin Hughes.)

5 Delegated Legislation,—Ordered, That the Order [17th June], That the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, be discharged.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

6 Adjournment,—Revolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 23rd June.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Judicature (Northern Ireland).—Court Funds (Amendment No. 2) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 259), dated 17th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

2 Merchant Shipping.— (1) Merchant Shipping (Cargo Ship Construction) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1509), dated 7th June 1997,

(2) Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1508), dated 9th June 1997,


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1544), dated 20th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Public Records (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Norman Baker, supported by Ann Clwyd and Mr Richard Shepherd, presented a Bill to improve public access to public records, including records relating to the Sovereign and the Sovereign's family; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 27].

4 Police Bill,—Mr Andrew Mackinlay presented a Bill to make provision to regulate the use of the term 'Police' and related terms; to amend the law relating to the powers of certain constables; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th February and to be printed [Bill 28].

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

6 International Monetary Fund,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft International Monetary Fund (Limit on Lending) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th February, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen): It was agreed to.

7 Defence,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 21st May, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen): It was agreed to.

8 Adjournment, Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

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

[Adjourned at 5.42 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) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Kingdom of Morocco) Order 1997,

(2) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Chile) Order 1997, and

(3) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Inter-regional Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Southern Common Market and its Party States) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Fertilisers (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1543), dated 18th June 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

3 Road Traffic,—(1) Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1501), and

(2) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1502), dated 11th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Other Papers:

4 Disabled Persons.—Report on Research and Development Work on Equipment for the Disabled during 1994 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 43] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Legal Aid.—Report and Accounts of the Legal Aid Board for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 52] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

6 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Inland Revenue: Employer Compliance Reviews [by Act]; to be printed [No. 51] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Health Service (Scotland).—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 13th June 1997 on borrowing by Central Scotland Healthcare National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II
Committee of Selection

Standing Committee A.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from Standing Committee A Mr David Curry (nominated in respect of the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill); and had appointed in substitution Mr Christopher Chope.

[No. 27.]

Tuesday 24th June 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 1st July.

2 Selection.—Ordered, That Mr Andrew MacKay be discharged from the Committee of Selection and Mr Peter Ainsworth be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie.)

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 Plant Varieties Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Plant Varieties Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Graham Allen: 289.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunell: 35.

So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of Bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Clive Betts).—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 agreed to.

Clause No. 2 (The Plant Variety Rights Office).

Amendment No. 1 proposed, in page 1, line 25, after the word ‘subsection (1)’, to insert the words—

‘(1A) The Controller shall each year make a report of his activities to Ministers, who shall lay a copy of every such report before Parliament.’.—(Mr Norman Baker.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 3 agreed to.
Clause No. 4 (Conditions for the grant of rights).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 2, line 42, at the end, to insert the words 'but no variety which occurs naturally in the wild shall be the subject of a grant of plant breeders' rights.'—(Mr James Paice.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 5 agreed to.
Clause No. 6 (Protected variety).

Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 3, line 21, to leave out from the word 'above' to the end of line 22.—(Mr James Paice.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 7 and 8 agreed to.
Clause No. 9 (Farm saved seed).

Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 5, line 20, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘After 30th June 2001, where required to do so by a regulation made by the Council of the European Communities.’—(Mr James Paice.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 12 to 14 agreed to.
Clause No. 15 (Compulsory licences).

Amendment (No. 12) proposed, in page 7, line 29, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 33 and insert the words—

'(a) that for the variety to which the application relates it is necessary in the public interest to do so, including the need to supply the market with material offering specified features, or to maintain the incentive for continued breeding of improved varieties.'—(Mr James Paice.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 16 (Selection and registration of names).

Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 8, line 34, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) Any provision for the keeping of a register made under subsection 1(c) above shall include provision for such a register to be freely open for public inspection.'—(Mr Norman Baker.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 17 to 31 agreed to.
Clause No. 32 (Reference collections of plant material).

Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 14, line 7, to leave out from the word 'Controller' to the word 'reference' and insert the words 'shall establish and maintain comprehensive'.—(Mr Norman Baker.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 33 to 51 agreed to.
A Clause (Reference of certain applications to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission)—(Mr Norman Baker)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Schedule No. 1 agreed to.
Schedule No. 2 (Conditions for the grant of plant breeders' rights).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 20, line 31, after the word 'application', to insert the words—

'1A. The variety shall not be deemed to be distinct if, for the purposes of assessment of genetically modified organisms under United Kingdom or European Union Law it has been deemed substantially equivalent to an existing variety.'—(Mr Norman Baker.)

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

Schedule agreed to.
Schedules Nos. 3 and 4 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr George Mudie 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.

Parliament,—Resolved, That the draft Solicitor General's Salary Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 12th June, be approved.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr George Mudie.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.28 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Draft Scottish Seed Potato Development Council (Dissolution) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


3 Social Security,—Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


5 Libraries,—Public Lending Right Scheme 1982 (Commencement of Variations) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1576), dated 21st June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Transport,—Railways (Heathrow Express Temporary Network) (Exemptions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1531), dated 17th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:


Papers withdrawn:

8 Judicature (Northern Ireland),—Court Funds (Amendment No. 2) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 259), dated 17th June 1997 [laid 20th June].
9 Social Security,—Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997 [laid 16th June].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments,—Fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-iv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen’s Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Gordon McMaster to be a member of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.

[No. 28.]

Wednesday 25th June 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—(Jane Kennedy);

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 1st July.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Selection (see Appendix II).

5 Chairmen’s Panel,—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Chairmen’s Panel several Resolutions:

(1) That if, at any two sittings of a Standing Committee called for the consideration of a Bill, the Committee is adjourned by reason of the absence of a quorum before Twelve o’clock noon, the Committee shall not proceed again to the consideration of that Bill until any other Bills committed to the Committee have been considered;

(2) That if, during the consideration of a Bill before one of the Standing Committees, it shall appear that the business would be expedited by postponing the further consideration of the Bill in hand until the Bill next on the list has been reported, and if the Member in charge of the Bill rises and makes a motion to that effect, the Chairman will be in order in proposing such a Question; and

(3) That, whenever the Chairman of a Standing Committee adjourns the Committee without Question put, the Debate on any Question then under discussion, or further consideration of the Bill, shall be resumed at the next meeting.

Report to lie upon the Table.

6 Internet (Dissemination of Child Pornography) Bill,—Mrs Ann Winterton presented a Bill to amend the law on the use of the Internet for the dissemination of child pornography; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 29].

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. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Future of the London Underground,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House welcomes the belated recognition by the Government that the future operation of, and investment in, London Underground can best be carried out by privately-owned companies; and urges the Government to avoid dogma and pursue with vigour ways to maximise private investment in the Underground whilst preserving safeguards for passengers—(Sir Norman Fowler);

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 ‘regrets the substantial investment
backlog in the London Underground which the Government has inherited; welcomes the Government’s rejection of the wholesale privatisation of the London Underground, as proposed by the previous Government; and applauds the Government’s swift action on options for public-private partnerships to improve the Underground, safeguard its commitment to the public interest and guarantee value for money to taxpayers and passengers’, instead thereof. — (Dr Gavin Strang.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Nigel Waterson: 146.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 375.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 regrets the substantial investment backlog in the London Underground which the Government has inherited; welcomes the Government’s rejection of the wholesale privatisation of the London Underground, as proposed by the previous Government; and applauds the Government’s swift action on options for public-private partnerships to improve the Underground, safeguard its commitment to the public interest and guarantee value for money to taxpayers and passengers.

Charging for NHS Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House expresses deep concern that the Government, in implementing its review of the National Health Service, has refused to rule out extending charging for NHS services, particularly the possible imposition of prescription charges for pensioners, charges for hospital hotel services and charges for visits to general practitioners—(Mr John Maples);

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 ‘welcomes the commitment of Her Majesty’s Government to the historic principle of the National Health Service that if someone is ill or injured there will be a national health service to help, with access to it based on need, not on ability to pay or on who their general practitioner happens to be or on where they live; notes the steps which are being taken to end the internal market, which is unfair both to patients and staff and which has resulted in massive sums being consumed by bureaucracy; welcomes the shift of funds into patient care, including cancer treatment, instead of paperwork; and looks forward to further changes which will ensure that once again the National Health Service provides the best health services for all and is ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Dobson.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
Mr James Arbuthnot 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 Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 148.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 328.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 309.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 148.

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 commitment of Her Majesty’s Government to the historic principle of the National Health Service that if someone is ill or injured there will be a national health service to help, with access to it based on need, not on ability to pay or on who their general practitioner happens to be or on where they live; notes the steps which are being taken to end the internal market, which is unfair both to patients and staff and which has resulted in massive sums being consumed by bureaucracy;
welcomes the shift of funds into patient care, including cancer treatment, instead of paperwork; and looks forward to further changes which will ensure that once again the National Health Service provides the best health services for all and is ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

8 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr Charles Kennedy, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Terry Lewis, Shona McIsaac, Mr Robert Sheldon, Miss Ann Widdecombe and Mr Alan Williams be members of the Committee on Standards and Privileges.—(Ms Bridget Prentice.)

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for the publication of more information on experiments on animals was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 10.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Income Tax,—(1) Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Falkland Islands) Order 1997,
   (2) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Lesotho) Order 1997,
   (3) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997, and
   (4) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997
   [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Potato Marketing Board (Residuary Functions) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1573), dated 23rd June 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

3 Water Supply (Scotland),—Water (Prevention of Pollution) (Code of Practice) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1584), dated 23rd June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

4 Coroners,—North Yorkshire (Coroners' Districts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1532), dated 16th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Local Government (Scotland),—Reports of—
   (1) East of Scotland Water Authority,
   (2) North of Scotland Water Authority, and
   (3) West of Scotland Water Authority
   for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 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) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997
   (S.I., 1997, No. 1565)
   [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

7 Treaty Series (No. 40, 1997),—Schedule to the International Whaling Convention, 1946, revised to include the Amendments adopted at the Forty-eighth Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission held in Aberdeen, June 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3691] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee B.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Local Government (Contracts) Bill, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Geraint Davies, Mrs Louise Ellman, Jane Griffiths, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Keith Hill, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr David Rendel and Mr Nick St. Aubyn.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,— Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated fifteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Eric Clarke, Angela Eagle, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Nigel Waterson.

MEMORANDA

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

(1) the Local Government (Contracts) Bill to Standing Committee B; and

(2) the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

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

(1) Mr Edward O'Hara Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Local Government (Contracts) Bill;

(2) Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997; and

(3) Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Tuesday 8th July.

[No. 29.]

Thursday 26th June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill, and made an Amendment thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 31].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 94].

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels) Order 1997.

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

5 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill,—Mrs Ann Taylor, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Davies and Dr David Clark, presented (under Standing Order No. 50 (Procedure upon bills whose main object is to create a
charge upon the public revenue)) a Bill to make provision for the alteration of salaries payable under the Ministerial and other Salaries 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 30].

6 Northern Ireland.—Resolved, That the draft Appropriation (No. 2) Northern Ireland Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th June, be approved.—(Mr Paul Murphy.)

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Ms Bridget Prentice.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.51 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Housing,—Draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Monopolies and Mergers,—Draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—(1) Draft Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997, and

(2) draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Coal Industry,—The British Coal Corporation (Change of Quorum) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1388), dated 25th June 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

6 Atomic Energy,—Accounts of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 88] [Clerk of the House].

7 Defence,—List of exceptions to—

(1) the Air Force Regulations,

(2) the Army Regulations, and

(3) the Navy Regulations

as to pensions for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Employment (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights, entitled Employment Equality: Building for the Future [by Command] [Cm. 3684] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

9 Financial Services,—Report and Accounts of the Securities and Investment Board for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

10 National Lottery,—Report of the Director General of the National Lottery for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 19] [Mr Secretary Smith].

11 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Prison Complaints Commissioner for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3688] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection. That it had discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Jimmy Hood (nominated in respect of the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997); and had appointed Mr Richard Allin and Mr Chris Pond.
Friday 27th June 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for better access to further and higher education was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

3 Adjournment (Sport for All).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn (Janet Anderson);

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

4 Members' Expenses (Inner London Constituencies).—Resolved, That, with effect from 2nd May 1997, the following shall be substituted for the Schedule to the Resolution of 20th December 1971 about parliamentary expenses (substituted by the Resolution of 19th July 1983)—

SCHEDULE

Battersea; Bethnal Green and Bow; Camberwell and Peckham; Cities of London and Westminster; Dulwich and West Norwood; Eltham; Greenwich and Woolwich; Hackney North and Stoke Newington; Hackney South and Shoreditch; Hammersmith and Fulham; Hampstead and Highgate; Holborn and St. Pancras; Islington North; Islington South and Finsbury; Kensington and Chelsea; Lewisham, Deptford; Lewisham East; Lewisham West; North Southwark and Bermondsey; Poplar and Canning Town; Putney; Regent's Park and Kensington North; Streatham; Tooting; Vauxhall. (Janet Anderson.)

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Ordered, That Mr Alastair Goodlad be discharged from the Committee on the Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mrs Gillian Shephard be added to the Committee. (Janet Anderson.)

6 Non-sitting Fridays.—Ordered, That the Order [19th May] relating to Non-sitting Fridays be amended by leaving out Friday 4th July. (Janet Anderson.)

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 30th June, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Dewar relating to Scottish Grand Committee (Business and Sittings) not later than one and a half hours after their commencement; and the said Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o'clock. (Janet Anderson.)

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Janet Anderson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 30th June.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Industrial Training.—Report and Accounts of the Construction Industry Training Board for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Kazakhstan (No. 1, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 21st March 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan concerning air services [by Command] [Cm. 3685] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Monopolies and Mergers.—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between Bass PLC, Carlsberg A/S and Carlsberg Tetley PLC [by Command] [Cm. 3662] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Welsh Grand Committee.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, That it had considered the Matter of the Government's programme for Wales, referred to it on 12th June, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 96].

3 Scottish Grand Committee (Business and Sittings),—Ordered, That—

(1) during the present Parliament, Standing Orders Nos. 99 (Scottish Grand Committee (substantive motions for the adjournment)) and 100 (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)) shall have effect subject to the following modifications—

(i) in paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 99, for lines 19 to 30 there shall be substituted—

“(3) The days specified for the consideration of motions for the adjournment of the committee under this order shall be allocated as follows—

(a) four at the disposal of the government;
(b) two at the disposal of the leader of the largest Opposition party in Scotland; and
(c) two at the disposal of the leader of the next largest Opposition party in Scotland.”; and

(ii) in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 100 there shall be substituted for the word “twelve” in line 21 the word “eight”.

(2) the Speaker shall put forthwith the Question on any Motion to vary the provisions of this Order, and proceedings thereon may be disposed of after the time for opposed business.—(Mr Henry McLeish.)

4 Northern Ireland,—Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th June, be approved.—(Secretary Marjorie Mowlan.)

5 Broadcasting,—Resolved, That the draft Satellite Television Service Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 18th June, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Smith.)

6 Contracting Out,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 6th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.51 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolutions:

1 Contracting Out,—Draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Hong Kong,—Hong Kong (Colonial Probates Act) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1572), dated 26th June 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

4 Value Added Tax,—(1) Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1523),
(2) Value Added Tax (Place of Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1524), and
(3) Value Added Tax (Reverse Charge) (Anti-avoidance) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1523),
dated 30th June 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:
5 Education and Employment,—Government Response to the Third Report of the Education and Employment Committee, Session 1996–97: The Operation of the Nursery Education Voucher Scheme [by Command] [Cm. 3698] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Value for Money Review of Performance Measurement [by Act]; to be printed [No. 64] [Clerk of the House].
8 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Reports of the Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members and for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

[No. 32.]

Tuesday 1st July 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 8th July.
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 8th July.
3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).
5 Local Government (Contracts) Bill,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Local Government (Contracts) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
 Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 36].
 Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 106].
6 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1997.
 Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
7 Public House Names Bill,—Mr Nicholas Winterton presented a Bill to amend the law relating to the names of public houses; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 32].
8 Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill,—Mr Andrew Mackinlay, supported by Dr John Marek and Mr Nicholas Winterton, presented a Bill to provide for the representation of Gibraltar by a Member of Parliament, subject to limitations, in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; for the inclusion of Gibraltar in a European parliamentary constituency; for the right of the Chief Minister to petition the House of Commons at the bar of the House; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 33].
9 Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill.—Mr Andrew Mackinlay, supported by Dr John Marek and Mr Nicholas Winterton, presented a Bill to provide for limited representation for dependencies other than Gibraltar at the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by a non-voting delegate and for the right of the Chief Ministers to petition the House of Commons at the bar of the House, to improve for elected members of the Legislative Councils access to and communications with Members of the House of Commons; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 34].

10 School Absenteeism.—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to place duties upon schools, local education authorities and parents to identify promptly and act as necessary in cases of child absenteeism from school, to ensure attendance or attention to the absent child’s educational needs; and for related purposes: And that Mr Harry Cohen, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Richard Burden, Ms Judith Church, Mr Tony Colman, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr David Kidney, Ms Oona King, Judy Mallaber, Mr Chris Pond, Christine Russell, and Mr Paddy Tipping do prepare and bring it in.

11 School Absenteeism Bill.—Mr Harry Cohen accordingly presented a Bill to place duties upon schools, local education authorities and parents to identify promptly and act as necessary in cases of child absenteeism from school, to ensure attendance or attention to the absent child’s needs; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 35].

12 Adjournment (Review of international development policies).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn (Mr Jim Dowd);
And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn (Mr Greg Pope);
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 Negative Resolution:

1 Licensing.—Licensing (Conditions for Mixed Trading) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 277), dated 12th June 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

2 Police.—Police Act 1997 (Provisions in relations to the NCIS Service Authority) (No. 1) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1585), dated 25th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


4 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—(1) Statute, dated 5th March 1997, made by the Governing Body of Somerville College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College, and
(2) Statute, dated 26th February 1997, made by the Governing Body of St Hilda’s College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

5 Appropriation Accounts, 1996–97.—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1996–97 for Class XVIII, B (National Audit Office) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 37] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

6 Education (Scotland).—Report and Summary Financial Statements of the Scottish Examination Board, with Examination Statistics, for 1996 [by Statutory Instrument][Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Housing.—Report and Accounts of the Castle Vale Housing Action Trust for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
8 Insurance,—Report on Insurance pursuant to the Insurance Companies Act 1982 for 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 Police,—Account of the Police Complaints Authority for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 105] [Clerk of the House].

10 Roads,—Report for 1996 under section 18 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments,—(1) Fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-v]; and

(2) First Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 34-i]

[Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 33.]

Wednesday 2nd July 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 Clive Betts);

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 Financial Statement and Budget Report, July 1997,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House a copy of the Financial Statement and Budget Report, July 1997, as laid before this House by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer when opening the Budget.—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.)

6 Ways and Means,—Provisional Collection of Taxes,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 51 (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 Motion:

Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duties and rebates) (Motion No. 7)—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer)—It was agreed to.

7 Ways and Means,—The windfall tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That provision may be made for imposing a tax on the amount of the windfall from which a company was benefitting on 2nd July 1997 in any case where—

(a) an undertaking whose privatisation involved the imposition of economic regulation has been privatised by means of a flotation; and

(b) the profits of the undertaking in the period after the flotation show that the company was benefitting on that date from a windfall from that flotation—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer);

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

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert 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


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute made by the Governing Body of Trinity College, Cambridge, on 14th March 1997, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

3 Value Added Tax,—(1) Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1614),
(2) Value Added Tax (Cars) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1615),
(3) Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1628), and
(4) Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1010),
dated 2nd July 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

4 Church Commissioners,—Report and Accounts of the Church Commissioners for 1996 [by Measure] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 2nd July 1997, concerning the proposed gifting of equipment to the Royal Artillery Museum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Financial Statement and Budget Report, July 1997,—Financial Statement and Budget Report, July 1997 [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 85] [Dawn Primarolo].

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Scotland on the Petitions [4th March, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Tweedale, Ettrick and Lauderdale and Roxburgh and Berwickshire regarding Scottish Borders Council's financial settlement for 1997–98 [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel),—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had appointed thirteen 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 Peter Bottomley, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr David Marshall, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Robert Walter, Mrs Ann Winterton and Audrey Wise.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr John Burnett, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Jane Kennedy, Mr Humfrey Malins, Judy Mallaber, Dan Norris, Mr Gareth Thomas, Mr Mike Wood and Dr Tony Wright.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Scottish Seed Potato Development Council (Dissolution) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Peter Atkinson, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Lynda Clark, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr John Hayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mrs Ray Mischie, Mr Jim Murphy, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Frank Roy and Mr John Swinney.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Chile) Order 1997, the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement
Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Kingdom of Morocco) Order 1997 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Inter-regional Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Southern Common Market and its Party States) Order 1997, viz.: Mr David Borrow, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr James Dobbin, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr David Heath, Mr Doug Henderson, Mrs Joan Humble, Mrs Tess Kingham, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Ken Purchase, Debra Shipley, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Gary Streeter.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Standards and Privileges.—First Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints from Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, The Guardian and others against Twenty-five Members and former Members], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Commissioner for Standards with Appendices including minutes of oral hearings), to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 30-I to III] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

MEMORANDA

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

   (1) the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

   (2) the draft Scottish Seed Potato Development Council (Dissolution) Order 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

   (3) the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Chile) Order 1997; the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Kingdom of Morocco) Order 1997; and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Inter-regional Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Southern Common Market and its Party States) Order 1997 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) Dr Michael Clark Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997;

   (2) Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Scottish Seed Potato Development Council (Dissolution) Order 1997; and

   (3) Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Chile) Order 1997; the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Kingdom of Morocco) Order 1997; and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Inter-regional Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Southern Common Market and its Party States) Order 1997.

[No. 34.]

Thursday 3rd July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

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

National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision about the powers of National Health Service trusts to enter into agreements; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
The Lords have agreed to the Southampton International Boat Show Bill, without Amendment.

3 National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords],—The National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 38].

4 Ways and Means,—The windfall tax,—The Order of the Day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [yesterday], That provision may be made for imposing a tax on the amount of the windfall from which a company was benefitting on 2nd July 1997 in any case where—
   (a) an undertaking whose privatisation involved the imposition of economic regulation has been privatised by means of a flotation; and
   (b) the profits of the undertaking in the period after the flotation show that the company was benefitting on that date from a windfall from that flotation;
And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)
Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

5 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);
   And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

6 Adjournment,Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
   [Adjourned at 10.22 p.m.]

APPENDIX
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

2 Social Security,—Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Pensions,—(1) Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1612), and
   dated 30th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Sea Fisheries,—(1) Fishing Boats (Specified Countries) Designation (Variation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1630), and
   (2) Third Country Fishing (Enforcement) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1629),
   dated 2nd July 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:

6 Health and Social Services (Northern Ireland),—Summary of Health and Personal Social Services and Northern Ireland Health Promotion Agency Accounts for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command][Cm. 3690] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

7 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Tai Cymru Housing for Wales for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Legal Aid Board for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
9 Police,—Report and Accounts of the Police Complaints Authority for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 95] [Mr Secretary Straw].

10 Public Expenditure,—Public Expenditure, 1996–97, Provisional Outturn [by Command] [Cm. 3696] [Mr Alistair Darling].

[No. 35.]

Friday 4th July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Ways and Means,—The windfall tax,—The Order of the Day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [2nd July], That provision may be made for imposing a tax on the amount of the windfall from which a company was benefiting on 2nd July 1997 in any case where—

(a) an undertaking whose privatisation involved the imposition of economic regulation has been privatised by means of a flotation; and

(b) the profits of the undertaking in the period after the flotation show that the company was benefiting on that date from a windfall from that flotation;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

Debate to be resumed on Monday 7th July.

3 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Evidence taken before, and the Memoranda submitted to, the Committee on Standards and Privileges in the last Parliament be referred to the Committee on Standards and Privileges.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

4 Finance Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Finance 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 Robert Ainsworth.)

5 National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That, in respect of the National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords], 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 Robert Ainsworth.)

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nine minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 7th July.

[Adjourmed at 2.51 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education (Scotland),—Grants for School Education (Early Intervention and Alternatives to Exclusion) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1638), dated 30th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Housing,—Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1621), dated 30th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

3 Lands Tribunal,—Lands Tribunal (Salaries) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 296), dated 17th June 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Majorie Mowlam].

4 Local Government (Scotland),—Local Authorities Etc. (Allowances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1631), dated 1st July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Law Officers Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, an Act to enable functions of the Attorney General and of the Attorney General for Northern Ireland to be exercised by the Solicitor General; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Law Officers Bill [Lords].—The Law Officers Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 40].

4 Hairdressers Registration (Amendment),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Hairdressers (Registration) Act 1964 to provide for the regulation of the hairdressing industry; the training and mandatory registration of hairdressers; a complaints and compensation scheme for the protection of customers; the development and improvement of professional standards in hairdressing; and for related purposes—(Mr Austin Mitchell);
   And the Question 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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):It was agreed to.
   Ordered, That Mr Austin Mitchell, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mrs Ann Cryer, Ms Barbara Follett, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Miss Anne McIntosh, Alice Mahon, Dr Jenny Tonge and Mrs Ann Winterton do prepare and bring in the Bill.

5 Hairdressers Registration (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Austin Mitchell accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Hairdressers (Registration) Act 1964 to provide for the regulation of the hairdressing industry; the training and mandatory registration of hairdressers; a complaints and compensation scheme for the protection of customers; the development and improvement of professional standards in hairdressing; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 39].

6 Ways and Means,—The windfall tax,—The Order of the Day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [2nd July], That provision may be made for imposing a tax on the amount of the windfall from which a company was benefiting on 2nd July 1997 in any case where—
   (a) an undertaking whose privatisation involved the imposition of economic regulation has been privatised by means of a flotation; and
   (b) the profits of the undertaking in the period after the flotation show that the company was benefiting on that date from a windfall from that flotation;
   And the Question being again proposed;
   The House resumed the adjourned Debate.
   And the Question being put;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 342.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Malcolm Moss: 196.
   So the Question was agreed to.
   The Speaker then, pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 51 (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. Value added tax (fuel and power)

   Resolved, That—
   (1) In section 2(1A) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, for "8 per cent." there shall be substituted "5 per cent.".
(2) This Resolution applies in relation to any supply made on or after 1st September 1997 and any acquisition or importation taking place on or 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.

3. Spirits (rate of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rate of duty set out in section 5 of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

4. Beer (rate of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rate of duty set out in section 36(1) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

5. Wine and made-wine (rates of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in the Table in Schedule 1 to the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

6. Cider (rates of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in section 62(1A) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

7. Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duties and rebates)

The Question being put, That—

(1) In relation to times before the coming into force of section 7(2) and (3) of the Finance Act 1997, section 6(1) of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979 ("the 1979 Act") shall have effect as follows—

(a) for "£0.4168" there shall be substituted "£0.4510"; and
(b) for "£0.3686" there shall be substituted "£0.4028".

(2) In relation to times after the coming into force of section 7(2) and (3) of the Finance Act 1997, section 6(1A) of the 1979 Act shall have effect as follows—

(a) in paragraph (a), for "£0.4168" there shall be substituted "£0.4510";
(b) in paragraph (b), for "£0.3586" there shall be substituted "£0.3928"; and
(c) in paragraph (c), for "£0.3686" there shall be substituted "£0.4028".

(3) In section 11(1) of the 1979 Act, for "£0.0194" and "£0.0250" there shall be substituted "£0.0200" and "£0.0258", respectively.

(4) In section 14(1) of the 1979 Act, for "£0.0194" there shall be substituted "£0.0200".

(5) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o'clock in the evening of 2nd July 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;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 335.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Malcolm Moss: 137.

So the Question was agreed to.

8. Tobacco products (rates of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in the Table in Schedule 1 to the Tobacco Products Duty Act 1979.

9. Vehicle excise duty (increase in rates)

The Question being put, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in Schedule 1 to the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Clelland: 332.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunell: 192.

So the Question was agreed to.
10. Vehicle licensing (fees with licence applications)

Resolved, That provision may be made enabling the Secretary of State to require payments to be made to him in connection with—

(a) steps taken by him for facilitating the transmission of information to him electronically in connection with licence applications under the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, and

(b) the processing of such applications where information is so transmitted.

11. Withdrawal of relief on medical insurance premiums

The Question being put, That—

(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) below, relief under section 54 of the Finance Act 1989 shall not be given in respect of any payment where either—

(a) the premium in respect of which the payment is made is a premium under a contract entered into on or after 2nd July 1997; or

(b) the payment is received by the insurer on or after 6th April 1999.

(2) Paragraph (1) above shall not affect the giving of relief in respect of a payment received by an insurer before 6th April 1999 where—

(a) the premium in respect of which the payment is made is a premium under a contract entered into on or after 2nd July 1997 but before 1st August 1997;

(b) the contract is one entered into in pursuance of a written proposal received by or on behalf of the insurer before 2nd July 1997;

(c) the contract is not a contract entered into by way of the renewal of an earlier contract; and

(d) if the payment is not itself a payment received before 1st August 1997, the insurer had before 1st August 1997 received an earlier payment in respect of a premium under the contract in question.

(3) Paragraph (1) above shall not affect the giving of relief in respect of a payment received by an insurer before 6th April 1999 where—

(a) the premium in respect of which the payment is made is a premium under a contract entered into on or after 2nd July 1997 but before 1st August 1997;

(b) that contract is one entered into by way of the renewal of an earlier contract;

(c) the period of insurance under the earlier contract ended before 2nd July 1997; and

(d) if the payment is not itself a payment received before 1st August 1997, the insurer had before 1st August 1997 received an earlier payment in respect of a premium under the renewal contract.

(4) For the purposes of the preceding provisions of this Resolution a contract shall be taken to have been entered into by way of the renewal of an earlier contract only if—

(a) it was entered into by way of the renewal of a contract which was an eligible contract for the purposes of section 54 of the Finance Act 1989 when that earlier contract was entered into;

(b) the insurer under the earlier contract and the insurer under the contract by which it has been renewed are the same; and

(c) the period of insurance under the earlier contract ended immediately before the beginning of the period of insurance under the contract by which it has been renewed.

(5) This Resolution has effect for 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 Jim Dowd, Mr Kevin Hughes: 377.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr John Whittingdale: 113.

So the Question was agreed to.
12. Corporation tax (rates for financial year 1997)

Resolved. That—

(a) the rate at which corporation tax is charged for the financial year 1997 shall be, and shall be deemed always to have been, 31 per cent. (and not 33 per cent. as provided by section 58 of the Finance Act 1997); and

(b) the small companies' rate for that year shall be, and shall be deemed always to have been, 21 per cent. (and not 23 per cent. as provided by section 59(a) of that Act).

13. Surplus franked investment income

Resolved. That provision may be made in relation to sections 242 to 244 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

14. Tax credits (pension funds)

The Question being put, That—

(1) In section 231 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988—

(a) in subsection (2) for “Subject to section 241(5)” there shall be substituted “Subject to sections 231A and 241(5)”; and

(b) at the beginning of subsection (3) there shall be inserted “Subject to section 231A,”;

(2) After section 231 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 there shall be inserted

“Restrictions on the use of tax credits by pension funds.

231A.—(1) No claim shall be made under section 231(2) for payment of the amount of a tax credit if or to the extent that the qualifying distribution to which the credit relates is income of a pension fund.

(2) In the case of any pension fund, for any year of assessment the aggregate amount of the tax credits in respect of which claims are made under section 231(3) must not exceed the aggregate amount of the tax credits in respect of the qualifying distributions comprised in the income of the pension fund and brought into charge to tax.

(3) Accordingly, no payment shall be made under section 231(3) in respect of so much of the excess there mentioned as is referable to a tax credit in respect of a qualifying distribution if or to the extent that the qualifying distribution is income of a pension fund.

(4) In this section—

“income”, in relation to a pension fund, means income derived from investments or deposits held for the purposes of the pension fund;

“pension fund” means any scheme, fund or other arrangements established and maintained (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) for the purpose of providing pensions, retirement annuities, allowances, lump sums, gratuities or other superannuation benefits (with or without subsidiary benefits);

“scheme” includes any deed, agreement or series of agreements.

(5) For convenience of identification only, the schemes, funds or other arrangements which are “pension funds” for the purposes of this section by virtue of the definition of that expression in subsection (4) above include, in particular, those whose income is, in whole or in part, exempt, or eligible for exemption, from tax under or by virtue of any of the following provisions—

(a) section 512(2);
(b) section 592(2);
(c) section 608(2)(a);
(d) section 613(4);
(e) section 614(2), (3), (4) or (5);
(f) section 620(6);
(g) section 643(2).
(6) The preceding provisions of this section do not have effect in relation to—

(a) claims made in respect of tax credits to which entitlement arises by virtue of section 232(3); or

(b) claims made by virtue of arrangements having effect under section 788."

(3) This Resolution has effect in relation to qualifying distributions made on or after 2nd July 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;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Kevin Hughes: 332.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 199.

So the Question was agreed to.

15. Insurance companies and friendly societies (tax credits)

Resolved, That—

(1) In paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 19AB to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988

(a) the words “the aggregate of” shall cease to have effect; and

(b) paragraph (b) shall cease to have effect.

(2) For the purposes of section 121 of the Finance Act 1993, Schedule 19AB to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be deemed to have effect without the amendments made by paragraph (1) above.

(3) Paragraph (1) above has effect in relation to distributions made on or after 2nd July 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.

16. Insurance companies, friendly societies and Lloyd’s underwriters

Resolved, That provision may be made, in the case of insurance companies, friendly societies and Lloyd’s underwriters, in relation to, or in connection with amending provisions relating to, distributions and tax credits.

17. Dealers in shares and other securities

Resolved, That provision may be made for and in connection with amending sections 95 and 732 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

18. Payments representing tax credits etc

Resolved, That provision may be made—

(a) about payments to which section 687 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 applies;

(b) about arrangements under which a person receives a payment representing any of the value of a tax credit received by another; and

(c) for and in connection with amending section 699A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.
19. Unauthorised unit trusts

Resolved, That—

(1) Where a qualifying distribution—

(a) is made on or after 2nd July 1997 but before 6th April 1999 by a company resident in the United Kingdom, and

(b) falls to be regarded by virtue of subsection (2) of section 469 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 as income of the trustees of a unit trust scheme to which that section applies, and

(c) is not a foreign income dividend and does not (apart from this Resolution) fall to be regarded by virtue of any provision of the Tax Acts as a foreign income dividend arising to the trustees,

the trustees shall be treated for all purposes of the Tax Acts (but not this Resolution) as if the qualifying distribution were a foreign income dividend.

(2) Paragraph (1) above shall not apply—

(a) if the unit trust scheme is a common investment fund established under section 42 of the Administration of Justice Act 1982; or

(b) if, apart from section 469(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, the whole of the qualifying distribution would fall to be regarded as income of section 505 bodies.

(3) In this Resolution—

“foreign income dividend” shall be construed in accordance with Chapter VA of Part VI of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;

“section 505 body” means

(a) a charity, as defined in section 506(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;

(b) a body mentioned in section 507 of that Act; or

(c) an Association of a description specified in section 508 of that Act.

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. Relief for losses etc

Resolved, That provision may be made limiting—

(a) the period for which amounts may be carried back under section 393A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 or paragraph 3 of Schedule 8, paragraph 4(3) of Schedule 11 or paragraph 23 of Schedule 15 to the Finance Act 1996; and

(b) the amount that may be allowed by way of group relief on a claim under Chapter IV of Part X of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

21. Capital allowances

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the Capital Allowances Act 1990 for the purpose of—

(a) allowing first-year allowances to be made under Part II of that Act in respect of expenditure incurred by small and medium-sized companies and businesses on or after 2nd July 1997 and before 2nd July 1998; and

(b) modifying the operation of that Act in cases where machinery or plant is made available for use directly or indirectly as a consequence of any such arrangements as fall, in accordance with normal accountancy practice, to be treated as a finance lease or as a loan.

22. Relief for film production and acquisition expenditure

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the amounts of film production and acquisition expenditure incurred before 2nd July 2000 that are relievable under section 42 of the Finance (No. 2) Act 1992.

23. Stamp duty (conveyances and transfers on sale)

The Question being put, That the following provisions shall have effect for the period beginning 8th July 1997 and ending 31 days after the earliest of the dates mentioned in section 50(2) of the Finance Act 1973—
(1) Section 55 of the Finance Act 1963 and section 4 of the Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 1963 shall each be amended in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (2) to (4) below.

(2) Subject to the modification mentioned in paragraph (5) below, in subsection (1), for paragraphs (b) and (c) there shall be substituted—

"(b) where paragraph (a) above does not apply and—

(i) the amount or value of the consideration does not exceed £500, and
(ii) the instrument is certified as described in section 34(4) of the Finance Act 1958 at £250,000, the rate of 50p for every £50 or part of £50 of the consideration;

(c) where paragraph (a) above does not apply and—

(i) the amount or value of the consideration exceeds £500 but does not exceed £250,000, and
(ii) the instrument is certified as described in section 34(4) of the Finance Act 1958 at £250,000, the rate of £1 for every £100 or part of £100 of the consideration;

(d) where paragraphs (a) to (c) above do not apply and—

(i) the amount or value of the consideration does not exceed £500,000, and
(ii) the instrument is certified as described in section 34(4) of the Finance Act 1958 at £500,000, the rate of £1.50p for every £100 or part of £100 of the consideration; and

(e) in any other case the rate of £2 for every £100 or part of £100 of the consideration;".

(3) In subsection (1A) for "paragraph (c)" there shall be substituted "paragraph (e)".

(4) In subsection (2)—

(a) after the words "shall have effect as if" there shall be inserted "(a)", and

(b) after the word "omitted" there shall be inserted "and (b) in paragraph (d) for the words "paragraphs (a) to (c)" there were substituted the words "paragraphs (b) and (c)".".

(5) In section 4 of the Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 1963, for the words "section 34(4) of the Finance Act 1958" wherever they occur, there shall be substituted the words "section 7(4) of the Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 1958".

(6) This Resolution shall apply to instruments executed on or after 8th July 1997, except where the instrument in question is executed in pursuance of a contract made on or before 2nd July 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 section 50 of the Finance Act 1973;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Graham Allen: 367.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 147.

So the Question was agreed to.

24. Statutory effect of resolutions

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 1(3) of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

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 the following provisions taking effect in a future year—

(a) provision relating to income tax relief for interest payments;
(b) provision in relation to distributions received by charities and persons to whom section 507 or 508 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 applies;

(c) provision relating to tax credits;

(d) provision relating to the taxation of dividends and other distributions of companies;

(e) provision for or in connection with varying the rate at which tax is charged under or by virtue of sections 249 and 421 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;

(f) provision for and in connection with the abolition of foreign income dividends;

(g) provision for interest on gilt-edged securities to be paid without deduction of income tax;

(h) provision for tax to be deducted on the payment of public revenue dividends mentioned in section 118G(3) or (7) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988; and


Finance [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Finance [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 amounts which, by virtue of that Act, are payable to charities and persons to whom section 507 or 508 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 applies in respect of distributions received by them.

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 Prescott, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Secretary Dobson, Secretary Harriet Harman, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Dawn Primarolo and Mrs Helen Liddell do prepare and bring it in.

7 Finance Bill,—Dawn Primarolo 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 37].

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.54 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government (Scotland).—Draft Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Defined Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Northern Ireland.—Draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

3 Transport and Works.—Draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Education.—Education (Disability Statements for Local Education Authorities) (England) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1625), dated 30th June 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Education (Scotland).—(1) Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1641), and
(2) St Mary's Music School (Aided Places) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1640),
dated 1st July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

6 Development of Rural Wales.—Accounts of the Development Board for Rural Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 118] [Clerk of the House].

7 Education.—(1) Accounts of the Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 119] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Paper, entitled Excellence in Schools [by Command] [Cm. 3681] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Government Trading Funds.—Accounts of the HMSO Trading Fund for 1st January to 30th September 1996 and 1st October 1996 to 5th October 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 6] [Clerk of the House].

9 Local Government, Planning and Land.—Accounts of the Land Authority for Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 117] [Clerk of the House].

10 Parliamentary Ombudsman (Northern Ireland).—Annual Report of the Parliamentary Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Complaints for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 60] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

11 Science and Technology.—Science, Engineering and Technology Statistics for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3695] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen's Panel.—In pursuance of Standing Order No.4 (Chairmen's Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Peter Atkinson and Mrs Ray Michie to be members of the Chairmen's Panel during this Session, in place of Sir Patrick Cormack and Sir David Madel.

[No. 37.]

Tuesday 8th July 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 15th July.

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 15th July.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Select Committees (see Appendix II).

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997.

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

6 Film Classification Accountability and Openness.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make the British Board of Film Classification accountable to Parliament; to require it to publish each year a list of its
members, a register of their interests, minutes of its proceedings and copies of the expert advice it commissions; to give the Secretary of State power to dismiss its president; and for connected purposes—(Mr Julian Brazier);

And the Question 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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Julian Brazier, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Edward Leigh, Miss Ann Widdecombe, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Piers Merchant, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Shaun Woodward, Mr Oliver Letwin and Mr Christopher Fraser do prepare and bring in the Bill.

7 Film Classification Accountability and Openness Bill.—Mr Julian Brazier accordingly presented a Bill to make the British Board of Film Classification accountable to Parliament; to require it to publish each year a list of its members, a register of their interests, minutes of its proceedings and copies of the expert advice it commissions; to give the Secretary of State power to dismiss its president; 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 41].

8 Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Duty of Secretary of State to have regard to accessibility standards)—(Mr Adrian Sanders)—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 Paul Tyler, Mr Paul Burstow: 38.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Greg Pope: 303.

Another Clause (Local authority debt reduction strategies)—(Mr Christopher Chope)—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 James Cran: 142.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 355.

Another Clause (Local authority investments in energy efficiency measures)—(Mr Tim Yeo)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another (Housing need criteria to be the same in England and Wales)—(Mr Nigel Evans)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No.3) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, to leave out lines 16 to 21.—(Mr Christopher Chope.)

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 Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mr James Cran: 138.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

9 Local Government (Contracts) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Local Government (Contracts) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.
Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 10, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3A) The power of a local authority to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of its functions, includes the power to enter into a contract with another person for the provision or making available of assets or services, or both (whether or not together with goods), for or in connection with those purposes.'—(Mr David Rendel.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 16, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3A) A person signing the certificate on behalf of the local authority shall in doing so be under no duty to any party other than the local authority on behalf of which he has signed.'—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3A) Before making a determination under subsection (3), a court shall have regard to the consequences for the parties to the contract of such a determination arising from provision made in any relevant discharge terms relating to the contract.'—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

10 Select Committees related to Government Departments,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) be amended

(1) by leaving out items 3, 4, 10 and 15 in the Table in paragraph (2) and inserting the following items at the appropriate places:

‘Education and Employment/Department for Education and Employment/17/5';

‘Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs/Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions/17/5';

‘International Development/Department for International Development/11/3';

(2) by leaving out line 10 and inserting the words 'The Education and Employment Committee and the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee shall each have the power to appoint two sub-committees; and the';

(3) in line 25, at the end, by inserting the words 'and to lay upon the Table of the House the minutes of the proceedings of sub-committees';

(4) in line 36, after the word 'House', by leaving out the word 'and'; and

(5) in line 37, after the second word 'place', by inserting the words 'to report from time to time the minutes of their proceedings, and to meet concurrently with any committee appointed under this order or any sub-committee thereof for the purposes of deliberating or taking evidence'.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

11 Select Committee on Public Administration,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 146 (Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration) be re-named 'Select Committee on Public Administration'; and that the said Standing Order be amended, in line 7, after the word 'therewith', by inserting the words 'and to consider matters relating to the quality and standards of administration provided by civil service departments, and other matters relating to the civil service'.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.46 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Children and Young Persons,—Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers (Panels) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1662), dated 8th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

2 National Health Service,—(1) Avon Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1618),

(2) North and East Devon Health Authority (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1619), and

(3) Worcestershire Community Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1620),
dated 1st July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

3 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 8th July 1997, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the votes specified in the Summer Supplementary Estimates and New Estimates for 1997-98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

4 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Financial Control in Voluntary Grammar and Grant-Maintained Integrated Schools in Northern Ireland [by Act]; to be printed [No. 83] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

5 Broadcasting,—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Broadcasting Complaints Commission for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 25];

(2) British Broadcasting Corporation for 1996–97 [by Command]; and


[Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Education,—Paper, entitled Building Excellent Schools Together [by Command] [Cm. 3701] [Mr Secretary Davies].

7 National Savings Bank,—Statements of—

(1) National Savings Bank Investment Deposits Accounts, and

(2) National Savings Bank Ordinary Deposits Accounts

for 1995, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 99 and 100] [Clerk of the House].

8 Standards in Public Life,—Third Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, Standards of Conduct in Local Government in England, Scotland, and Wales, Volumes I and II [by Command] [Cm. 3702–I and –II] [The Prime Minister].

9 Supply Estimates, 1997–98,—Summer Supplementary Estimates and New Estimates for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 65] [Dawn Primarolo].

10 Treaty Series (No. 41, 1997),—First supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3697] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments,—Sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-vi] [Mr David Tredinnick].
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 David Clelland);

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

2 Uxbridge 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 Uxbridge, in the room of Sir Julian Michael Shersby, deceased.—(Mr James Arbuthnot.)

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Selection (see Appendix II).

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scottish Seed Potato Development Council (Dissolution) Order 1997.

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

6 Social Security Bill,—Secretary Harriet Harman, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blankett, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Dobson, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Mr Secretary Davies, Dr David Clark, Mr Frank Field, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Keith Bradley and Mr John Denham, presented a Bill to make provision as to the making of decisions and the determination of appeals under enactments relating to social security, child support, vaccine damage payments and war pensions; to make further provision with respect to social security; 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 42].

7 Disability Discrimination (Provision of Voting Facilities),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 to make it unlawful for a provider of voting facilities to discriminate against disabled people: And that Mr John Heppell, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Elyn Llwyd, Mr John Hayes, Mr John Healey, Mr Tom Levitt and Kali Mountford do prepare and bring it in.

8 Disability Discrimination (Provision of Voting Facilities) Bill, Mr John Heppell accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 to make it unlawful for a provider of voting facilities to discriminate against disabled people: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 43].

9 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. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Pensions,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s assault on pension funds through the removal of tax relief on dividend income of pension funds in direct betrayal of their election pledges; agrees with the National Association of Pension Funds that this is the biggest attack on funded pension provision since the War; believes the brunt of the cost of the Windfall Tax will also fall on pension funds; warns members of occupational schemes that they and their employers will have to increase contributions to maintain benefits; further warns personal pension holders that they will need to pay higher premiums or suffer significantly lower pensions; believes the Government is guilty of mis-selling personal pensions if it refuses to spell out how much this tax change will cost pension holders; demands that the Government increases the contracted out rebate to avoid large-scale contracting back into SERPS; deplores the total absence of consultation about these far-reaching changes in company and pension taxation which has resulted in shoddy, hastily prepared and ill-thought-out proposals; and calls for the Government to withdraw these measures until it has prepared a Green Paper on future reform of company taxation and its implications for pension provision.—(Mr Peter Lilley);
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 'condemns the failure of the last Government to foster security in retirement for either today's pensioners or pensioners of the future; supports the present Government's objective of a decent income for all in retirement; believes that the best way to achieve this is by developing second pensions building on the foundation of the basic state pension; commends the Government's decisive action on the past mis-selling of private pensions; endorses the measures taken in the Budget, particularly the reforms to corporation tax, which will help to create a climate encouraging higher investment and a higher sustainable growth rate increasing the capacity of the economy to support decent pensions; supports the Government's welfare-to-work proposals, which will improve the employment opportunities for thousands of people, enabling them to save for their own retirement; and welcomes the Government's commitment to review pensions and achieve security in retirement for all', instead thereof. (Mr Alistair Darling).

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

Mr James Arbuthnot 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 Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 190.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 353.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 condemns the failure of the last Government to foster security in retirement for either today's pensioners or pensioners of the future; supports the present Government's objective of a decent income for all in retirement; believes that the best way to achieve this is by developing second pensions building on the foundation of the basic state pension; commends the Government's decisive action on the past mis-selling of private pensions; endorses the measures taken in the Budget, particularly the reforms to corporation tax, which will help to create a climate encouraging higher investment and a higher sustainable growth rate increasing the capacity of the economy to support decent pensions; supports the Government's welfare-to-work proposals, which will improve the employment opportunities for thousands of people, enabling them to save for their own retirement; and welcomes the Government's commitment to review pensions and achieve security in retirement for all.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation.—Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Third Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1653) dated 7th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Education.—Education (School Performance Information) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1633), dated 7th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Other Papers:

3 Coal Industry Nationalisation.—Report and Accounts of the British Coal Corporation for 1996-97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Crown Estates.—Accounts of the Crown Estate Commissioners for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 110] [Clerk of the House].

5 Education.—Accounts of the Education Assets Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 128] [Clerk of the House].

6 Industrial Organisation and Development.—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Seed Potato Development Council for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Local Government.—Financial Statements of the South Bank Centre for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 National Heritage (Scotland).—Report of the National Museums of Scotland for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1565), viz.: Mr Martin Caton, Mr Ian Cawsey, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Sam Galbraith, Mr Andrew George, Mr Oliver Heald, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr David Stewart, Dr George Turner, Mr James Wallace and Mr James Wray.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect to the draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Norman Baker, Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Roger Casale, Mr John Cryer, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Michael Fallon, Ms Barbara Follett, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr John Hutton, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Malcolm Moss, Dr Nick Palmer and Mr David Prior.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam 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 Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr John Grogan, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr David Wilshire, Ms Rosie Winterton and Mr Tony Worthington.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997 and the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) Order 1997, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr David Faber, Mr George Foulines, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mr Andy King, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Andrew Rowe, Dr Jenny Tonge, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Bowen Wells, Dr Alan Whitehead and Derek Wyatt.
5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997, viz.: Ms Hazel Blears, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr James Cran, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr John Greenway, Mr Simon Hughes, Jane Kennedy, Ms Oona King, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Alun Michael, Joan Ryan, Paddy Tipping and Mr Stephen Twigg.

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Norman Baker, Christine Butler, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr John Cummings, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Howard Flight, Mr James Gray, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Stephen McCabe, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Bill O’Brien, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr Adrian Sanders and Mr George Stevenson.

MEMORANDA

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

(1) the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1565) to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(2) the draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(3) the draft Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(4) the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) Order 1997 and the Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997 to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(5) the draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997 to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(6) the draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997 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) Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1565);

(2) Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997;

(3) Dr Michael Clark Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997;

(4) Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) Order 1997 and the draft Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997;

(5) Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997; and

(6) Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997.
Thursday 10th July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II):

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Co-operation Agreement Between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Chile) Order 1997, the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Kingdom of Morocco) Order 1997 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Inter-regional Framework Co-operation Agreement Between the European Community and its Member States and the Southern Common Market and its Party States) Order 1997.

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

4 Education (Student Loans) Bill,—Mr Secretary Blunkett, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Dewar, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam and Dr Kim Howells, presented a Bill to make further provision with respect to public sector student loans: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 44].

5 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 put, That the Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jim Dowd: 314.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 179.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Ordered, That
(1) Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19 be committed to a Committee of the whole House;
(2) the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee; and
(3) 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.—(Mrs Helen Liddell.)

Committee to-morrow.

6 Select Committees related to Government Departments,—Ordered, That, for the remainder of this Parliament, Standing Order No. 152 (Select Committees related to government departments) shall have effect as if, in the third column of the Table in paragraph (2), in the items relating to the Foreign Affairs Committee and to the Treasury Committee, for '11' there were substituted '12'.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for diplomatic action to continue the search for Ben Needham was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.38 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2. Education.—Education (Student Loans) Regulations 1997 (S., I., 1997, No. 1675), dated 10th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


4. National Health Service.—National Health Service (Fund-holding Practices) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1678), dated 10th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

   (2) Safety of Sports Grounds (Designation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1676), dated 9th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

6. Atomic Energy.—Annual Review of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7. Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—Report and Accounts of the Gaming Board for Great Britain for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 112] [Mr Secretary Straw].


10. Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies.—Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Coastguard Agency, and
   (2) Driving Standards Agency
   for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 42 and 46] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11. Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance.—Report of the Law Society of Northern Ireland on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland in 1995–96, with the Report of the Lord Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 54] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

12. Local Government Planning and Land.—Report and Financial Statements of London Docklands Development Corporation for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13. National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Department for Education and Employment: Contracting Out of Careers Services in England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 113] [Clerk of the House].

14. Northern Ireland.—Government Response to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee Second Report (Session 1996–97): Underachievement in Northern Ireland Secondary Schools [by Command] [Cm. 3705] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


17 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Companies House for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 53] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Dr. George Turner (nominated in respect of the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1565)) and had appointed in substitution Mr James Plaskitt.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Peter Bradley (nominated in respect of the draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997)); and had appointed in substitution Mr Gordon Marsden.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Denis Murphy (nominated in respect of the draft Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997)); and had appointed in substitution Mr Christopher Leslie.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Rosemary McKenna (nominated in respect of the draft Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997 and the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) Order 1997)); and had appointed in substitution Mr Barry Gardiner.

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Bernie Grant and Joan Ryan (nominated in respect of the draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997)); and had appointed in substitution Ms Linda Perham and Mr Gareth R. Thomas.

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Stephen McCabe and Ms Margaret Moran (nominated in respect of the draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997)); and had appointed in substitution Ms Claire Ward and Mr David Watts.

MEMORANDUM

Court of Referees,—In pursuance of Standing Order 89 relating to Private Business (Constitution of Court of Referees on Private Bills), the Speaker appointed the following Members to the Court of Referees on Private Bills: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Ernie Ross and Mr Dennis Turner.
3 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 17th July, Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Prescott relating to the draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 1997, and the Speaker shall put the Question not later than three hours after the start of proceedings thereon; and the said Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o'clock.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

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

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 14th July.

[Adjourned at 2.33 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Income Tax,—Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1681), dated 10th July 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

2 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages etc.—Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1680), dated 10th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1679), dated 10th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Social Security,—Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1671), dated 8th July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other Papers:

5 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Postal and Courier Services Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 29] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 European Communities,—European Community Finances: Statement on the 1997 Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement [by Command] [Cm. 3700] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

7 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of the Parole Board for Scotland for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 28] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

MEMORANDA

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

(1) the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19) to Standing Committee A; and

(2) the draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) 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) Mr John McWilliam and Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19); and

(2) Mr John Butterfill Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.
Monday 14th July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1. Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).
2. Selection (see Appendix II).
3. Message from the Lords. — A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   The Lords have agreed to the Imperial College Bill, without Amendment.

   Coordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords]. — The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An
   Act to amend the Interpretation Act 1978, the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954
   and the Summer Time Act 1972 to make provision for the use of Coordinated Universal
   Time; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4. Coordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords]. — The Coordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords] was
   read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and
   to be printed [Bill 47].

5. Finance Bill (Allocation of Time). — A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That
   the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the Finance Bill:

   Committee of the whole House

   1. — (1) The proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be completed in two
   allotted days.

   (2) The proceedings to be taken on each of those days shall be as shown in the second
   column, and shall be brought to a conclusion at the times specified in the third column,
   of the following Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>Clause 1</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clause 15</td>
<td>10:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second day</td>
<td>Clause 17</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clause 19</td>
<td>10:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   (3) 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. 66 (Committee of the whole
   House on bill) shall not apply.

   (4) No Motion shall be made as to the order in which proceedings are to be considered
   in Committee of the whole House.

   (5) Standing Order No. 82 (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 23rd July.

   (2) The Standing Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it
   shall meet.

   (3) Proceedings in the Standing Committee on 23rd July 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 24th July.

Report and Third Reading

3. — (1) Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading 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) The Third Reading may be proceeded with at the conclusion of the proceedings on
   consideration, notwithstanding the practice of the House as to the interval between stages
   of a Bill brought in on Ways and Means resolutions.
Business Committee

4.—(1) For the purposes of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) paragraph 3 of this Order shall be taken to allot to the proceedings on consideration such part of the allotted days 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 of the Bill, and as to the allocation of time between those proceedings and proceedings on Third Reading, not later than 25th July.

(3) Any resolution of the Business Committee may be varied by a further Report of the Committee under Standing Order No. 82, whether before or after the date on which the Committee is to report under this paragraph 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 are to be taken on consideration, but the Resolutions of the Business Committee may include alterations in that order.

Procedure in Standing Committee

5.—(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

6. 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

7. 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.

Exempted business

8. On an allotted day paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall not apply by virtue of paragraph (a) of that paragraph to any proceedings on the Bill after the conclusion of all the 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.

Private business

9.—(1) 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.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (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.

Conclusion of proceedings

10. 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 moved or Motion 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 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.

11.—(1) Proceedings under paragraph 10 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. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) would, apart from this Order, stand over to Seven o'clock and proceedings to which this Order applies have begun before that time—

(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. 24 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

12.—(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 the 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. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings.

(3) If on 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 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

13. Nothing in this Order or a Resolution of the Business Committee or the 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.

Recommittal

14.—(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

15. 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;

"the Bill" means the Finance Bill;

"Resolution of the Business Committee" means a Resolution of the Business Committee as agreed to by the House; and

"Resolution of the Business Sub-Committee" means a Resolution of the Business Sub-Committee as agreed to by the Standing Committee—(Dawn Primarolo);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr John McFall: 342.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Malcolm Moss: 175.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords].—The National Health Service (Private Finance) 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Bridget Prentice)—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 (Powers of NHS trusts to enter into agreements).

Amendment (No.11) proposed, in page 1, line 13, at the end to insert the words—

'(aa) he is satisfied that the agreement has been the subject of full public consultation in the area which it is to affect, and'—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

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 Bridget Prentice reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

7 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted Business), That, at this day's sitting, the National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Bridget Prentice)—It was agreed to.

8 National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords].—The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the National Health Service (Private Finance) Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 1, line 13, at the end to insert the words—

'(aa) he is satisfied that the agreement has been the subject of full public consultation in the area which it is to affect, and'.

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

Another Amendment (No.1) proposed, in page 1, line 15, at the end to insert the words 'and

(c) he is satisfied that all the terms of the agreement have been finalised and that the necessary finance has been committed;

and no certificate given under this section may subsequently be withdrawn or amended.'—(Mr Michael Jack.)

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

Another Amendment (No.6) proposed, in page 1, line 15, at the end to insert the words 'and

(c) in his opinion the agreement is compatible with the fair distribution of capital and revenue spending within a regional strategic framework.'—(Dr Peter Brand.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Phil Willis: 26.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Jane Kennedy: 216.

Another Amendment (No.8) proposed, in page 1, line 15, at the end to insert the words 'and

(c) if the National Health Service trust has proved to his satisfaction that the agreement would not restrict clinical freedom or patient choice.'—(Dr Evan Harris.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Tuesday 15th July 1997

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 1, line 24, to leave out from the word 'property' to the end of line 25.—(Dr Evan Harris.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Phil Willis: 26.


Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 2 and 3 agreed to.

A Clause (Commencement)—(Mr Michael Jack)—brought up and read the first time.

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

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Bridget Prentice 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, without Amendment.

9 Legal Aid and Advice,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope)(Amendment)(No.2) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 19th June, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):— It was agreed to.

10 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties)(Framework Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Chile) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 23rd June, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):— It was agreed to.

11 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (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 Kingdom of Morocco) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 23rd June, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):— It was agreed to.

12 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties)(Inter-regional Framework Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Southern Common Market and its Party States) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 23rd June, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):— It was agreed to.

13 Industrial Organisation and Development,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scottish Seed Potato Development Council (Dissolution) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):— It was agreed to.
14 Agriculture,—Ordered, That Mr Tim Collins, Mr Andrew George, Mr John Hayes, Mr Alan Hurst, Ms Fiona Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mrs Diana Organ and Mr Mark Todd be members of the Agriculture Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Defence,—Ordered, That Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Bruce George, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr John McWilliam, Laura Moffatt and Ms Dari Taylor be members of the Defence Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Education and Employment,—Ordered, That Ms Candy Atherton, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Graham Brady, Yvette Cooper, Mr Cynog Dafis, Valerie Davey, Caroline Flint, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Don Foster, Mr John Healey, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Judy Mallaber, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Nick St. Aubyn and Mr Gerry Steinberg be members of the Education and Employment Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

17 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Tom Brake, Christine Butler, Mr John Cummings, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr James Gray, Mr Bill O’Brien, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Graham Stringer and Dr Alan Whitehead be members of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

18 Health,—Ordered, That Mr John Austin, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Peter Brooke, Julia Drown, Mr John Gunnell, Mr David Hinchliffe, Ann Keen, Mr Andrew Lansley, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Robert Syms and Audrey Wise be members of the Health Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

19 International Development,—Ordered, That Mr Dennis Canavan, Ann Clwyd, Ms Barbara Follett, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Ms Oona King, Mrs Tess Kingham, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Andrew Rowe, Dr Jenny Tonge and Mr Bowen Wells be members of the International Development Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

20 National Heritage,—Ordered, That Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mrs Lin Golding, Mr Damian Green, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Mr Alan Keen, Mr John Maxton, Mr Roger Stott, Ms Claire Ward and Derek Wyatt be members of the National Heritage Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

21 Science and Technology,—Ordered, That Mr David Atkinson, Mr Nigel Beard, Dr Michael Clark, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Dr Ian Gibson, Lynne Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Desmond Turner and Mr Alan W. Williams be members of the Science and Technology Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

22 Scottish Affairs,—Ordered, That Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Peter Atkinson, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr John McAllion, Rosemary McKenna, Mr David Marshall, Mr Michael Moore, Mr David Stewart, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Andrew Welsh be members of the Scottish Affairs Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

23 Social Security,—Ordered, That Ms Karen Buck, Mr Nick Gibb, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Edward Leigh, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr Chris Pond, Mr Frank Roy, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Malcolm Wicks be members of the Social Security Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

24 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Roger Berry, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Bob Laxton, Gillian Merron, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mr David Prior and Joan Walley be members of the Trade and Industry Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

25 Welsh Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr John Bercow, Mr Martin Caton, Paul Flynn, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mr Martyn Jones, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Richard Livsey, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Gareth Thomas and Mrs Betty Williams be members of the Welsh Affairs Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
26 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past One o'clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.23 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Council Tax,—Draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Meat Hygiene Service for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 103] [Dr John Cunningham].

4 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas,—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Wales for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 Criminal Justice,—Report of the Serious Fraud Office for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 61] [Mr Attorney General].

6 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Bills Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 63] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

7 Development of Tourism,—(1) Accounts of the Wales Tourist Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 146] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report and Accounts of the Scottish Tourist Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Education,—Accounts of the Funding Agency for Schools for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 145] [Clerk of the House].

9 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—(1) Accounts of Highlands and Islands Enterprise for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 144] [Clerk of the House];

(2) Accounts of Scottish Enterprise for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 149] [Clerk of the House]; and

(3) Report and Accounts of Scottish Enterprise for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

10 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) the Marine Safety Agency, and

(2) The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre

for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 69 and 107] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 Further and Higher Education,—Accounts of the Further and Higher Education Funding Councils for Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 142] [Mr Secretary Davies].

12 Housing (Scotland),—Accounts of Scottish Homes for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 150] [Clerk of the House].

13 Local Government Finance,—Accounts of the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the
Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 148] [Clerk of the House].

14 Local Government (Scotland).—Accounts of the Accounts Commission for Scotland for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 143] [Clerk of the House].

15 Science and Technology.—Accounts of the Economic and Social Research Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 147] [Clerk of the House].

16 Welsh Development Agency.—(1) Accounts of the Welsh Development Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 141] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Welsh Development Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 European Standing Committee A.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated twelve Members to serve on European Standing Committee A, viz.: Mr Harold Best, Mr David Borrow, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Christopher Gill, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Piens Merchant, Laura Moffatt, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr William Thompson and Dr Rudi Vis.

2 European Standing Committee B.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated twelve Members to serve on European Standing Committee B, viz.: Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Tony McNulty, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr William Ross, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr John Wilkinson.

3 Standing Committee A.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated thirty-five Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Finance Bill (Except Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19), viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Charlotte Atkins, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Yvette Cooper, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Quentin Davies, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Damian Green, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Tim Loughton, Kali Mountford, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Ian Pearson, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr William Ross, Mr John Smith, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Derek Twigg, Mr John Whittingdale and Mr Shaun Woodward.

4 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated fifteen Members to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Eric Illsley, Shona McIsaac, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Tom Pendry, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr David Wilshire and Mr Tony Worthington.

MEMORANDUM

Business Sub-Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 120 (Business sub-committees), the Speaker nominated the following members of Standing Committee A to be members of the Business Sub-Committee to consider the Allocation of Time Order relating to the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19): Mr John McWilliam (Chairman), Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Edward Davey, Mr David Hanson, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Don Touhig and Mr John Whittingdale.
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 22nd July.

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 22nd July.

3 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

4 Selection (see Appendix II).

5 Select Committees (see Appendix III).

6 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1565).
    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Donald Anderson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997.
    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.
    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

9 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997 and the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) 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:
    Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to establish the Special Immigration Appeals Commission; to make provision with respect to its jurisdiction; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

11 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords].—The Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 49].

12 Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill,—Mr Andrew Mackinlay, supported by Mr John McDonnell, presented a Bill to make subject to a local planning inquiry any proposal to widen the M25 motorway or to vary the number or width of lanes within its existing curtilage; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th November and to be printed [Bill 48].

13 Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 to exempt persons who have attained the age of 75 from paying the fee for certain wireless telegraphy licences; to make provision with respect to the funding of the BBC; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Howard Flight, Mr Graham Brady, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr David Prior, Mr Tim Collins, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mrs Eleanor Laing and Mr Robert Walter do prepare and bring it in.

14 Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption) Bill,—Mr Howard Flight accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 to exempt persons who have
attained the age of 75 from paying the fee for certain wireless telegraphy licences: to make provision with respect to the funding of the BBC; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 45].

15 Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Charge to windfall tax).

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Clive Betts: 338.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Ottaway, Sir David Madel: 188.

Clause No. 15 (Mortgage interest payments).

Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 10, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

'(4) This section shall not come into effect until the average mortgage rate is at or below the rate prevailing on 1st May 1997.'—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 147.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Clelland: 381.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the remaining Question required by the Order [yesterday] to be put at that hour.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 370.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr John Whittingdale: 141.

The Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Robert Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

16 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:

National Health Service (Private Finance) Act 1997
Southampton International Boat Show Act 1997
Imperial College Act 1997.

17 Estimates.—It being after Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.), put the Question on the total amount of outstanding estimates.

Supplementary Estimates, 1997–98

Resolved, That a supplementary sum, not exceeding £66,285,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to defray the charges for Civil Services which will come in course of payment for the year ending on 31st March 1998, as set out in House of Commons Paper No. 65.

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 Alistair Darling, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Dawn Primarolo and Mrs Helen Liddell do prepare and bring it in.

18 Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill.—Dawn Primarolo accordingly presented a Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on 31st March 1998, and to appropriate the supplies granted in this Session of Parliament: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 46].
19 Select Committee on Public Administration,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 146 (Select Committee on Public Administration) be amended, in line 8, by leaving out the word 'nine' and inserting the word 'eleven'.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

20 Select Committee on European Legislation,—Ordered, That Mr Norman Baker, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Roger Casale, Mr William Cash, Mrs Margaret Elwington, Miss Linda Gilroy, Mr Jimmy Hood, Ms Jennifer Jones, Mr Jim Marshall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Shaun Woodward be members of the Select Committee on European Legislation.—(Mr George Mudie.)

21 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert 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 Negative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Recreation Grounds (Revocation of Parish Council Byelaws) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1654), dated 4th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

2 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Report and Accounts of the Horserace Betting Levy Board for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Data Protection,—(1) Accounts of the Data Protection Registrar for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 152] [Clerk of the House]; and

   (2) Report of the Data Protection Registrar for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 122] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Pay and Personnel Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 76] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Environmental Protection,—Report of the Countryside Council for Wales for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

6 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Central Office of Information for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 97] [Clerk of the House].

7 Health Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the National Health Service Estates Management and Building Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 82] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Parliamentary Commissioner,—First Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1997–98, Selected Cases 1997—Volume 3 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 132] [Clerk of the House].

9 Prosecution of Offences,—Report of the Crown Prosecution Service for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 68] [Mr Attorney General].

10 Scottish Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 49] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

11 Transport,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Transport Group for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection. That it had nominated The Reverend Martin Smyth as an additional Member to serve on the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Statutory Instruments.—Seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-vii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 43.]

Wednesday 16th July 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 Clive Betts);

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 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Defence.—Ordered, That the Memoranda laid before the Defence Committee in the last Parliament be referred to the Committee.

7 Elections (Visually Impaired Voters) Bill.—Mr Paul Burstow, supported by Mr Harry Barnes and Mr Peter Bottomley, presented a Bill to make provision for blind and partially sighted people to vote unaided in person at elections through the use of braille template and large print; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th February and to be printed [Bill 50].

8 Animal Health (Amendment),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to improve the welfare of animals in quarantine; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Charles Kennedy, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Nick Palmer, Mr David Hanson, Mr Tim Loughton and Mr Huw Edwards do prepare and bring it in.

9 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Paul Flynn accordingly presented a Bill to improve the welfare of animals in quarantine; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 51].

10 Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19) [2nd allotted day],—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 17 (Withdrawal of relief on medical insurance premiums).

Amendment (No. 13) proposed, in page 11, line 15, to leave out from the word ‘section’ to the end of line 16 and insert the words—

‘shall not take effect until Her Majesty’s Government has published a study of the additional National Health Service spending required to accommodate the extra patients resulting from the consequential cancellation of medical insurance contracts’—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

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

And it being after Seven o’clock, the Chairman put the remaining Question required by the Order [14th July] to be put at that hour.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 332.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr James Cran: 181.

Clause No. 19 (Pension funds no longer entitled to payment of tax credits).

Amendment (No. 15) proposed, in page 12, line 41, to leave out from the word 'section' to the end of line 42, and insert the words 'shall not take effect until Her Majesty's Government has published an assessment of the effects of this section on local authority finance for 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01'. — (Dr Vincent Cable.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Edward Davey: 176.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 313.

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed, in page 12, line 42, at the end, to insert the words—

"(4) Section 468Q of the Taxes Act 1988 (dividend distributions to corporate unit holder) shall be amended as follows—

(a) In subsection (1) at the end of paragraph (b) there shall be inserted—

"or is a pension fund as defined in section 231A(4)"

(b) In subsection (2) the words "or income tax" shall be inserted after the words "corporation tax"." — (Mr Nick Gibb.)

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

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 334.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Oliver Heald: 182.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill to the House.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Robert Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19), without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19), not amended in the Committee, do lie upon the Table.

11 Public Health.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1565), dated 20th June 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

12 Monopolies and Mergers.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Supply of Beer (Tied Estate) (Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 26th June, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

13 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd July, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

14 Public Administration.—Ordered, That Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Mike Hancock, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Fraser Kemp, Fiona Mactaggart, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Richard Shepherd and Mr Andrew Tyrie be members of the Select Committee on Public Administration.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

15 Foreign Affairs.—Ordered, That Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Donald Anderson, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Sir Peter Emery, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr David Heath, Mr Eric Islley, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Ted Rowlands, Sir John Stanley and Mr David Wilshire be members of the Foreign Affairs Committee.—(Charlotte Atkins, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
16 Home Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Richard Allan, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mr Gerald Howarth, Ms Beverley Hughes, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Marsha Singh and Mr David Winnick be members of the Home Affairs Committee.—(Charlotte Atkins, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

17 Treasury,—Ordered, That Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Quentin Davies, Ms Ruth Kelly, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Giles Radice, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Sir Michael Spicer and Sir Teddy Taylor be members of the Treasury Committee.—(Charlotte Atkins, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

18 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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 Negative Resolution:

1 Customs and Excise,—Dual Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1694), dated 14th July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Local Government,—Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (Craven, Kerrier and Mid-Devon District Councils and Middlesbrough Borough Council) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1666), dated 8th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 Agriculture,—Government Response to the Second Report of the Agriculture Committee, Session 1996-97, on Environmentally Sensitive Areas and other Schemes under the Agri-Environment Regulation [by Command] [Cm. 3707] [Dr John Cunningham].

4 British Library,—Statement of determination of pay and pensions of Chairman and Members of the British Library Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Crofters (Scotland),—Report of the Crofters Commission for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Ordnance Survey for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 59] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of Highland and Islands Enterprise for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) the Fire Service College for 1995-96, and
(2) the Meteorological Office for 1996-97,

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 56 and 139] [Clerk of the House].

9 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Black Country Development Corporation,
(2) Birmingham Heartlands Development Corporation,
(3) Plymouth Development Corporation,
(4) Teesside Development Corporation,
(5) Trafford Park Development Corporation, and
(6) Tyne and Wear Development Corporation

for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
10 National Health Service,—Summarised Accounts of—

(1) Health Authorities, Family Health Service Authorities and NHS Trusts in England, the Dental Practice Board and Special Health Authorities providing central services in England, and of Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, NHS Trusts, Special Health Authorities and Special Trustees in England, and

(2) District Health Authorities, Family Health Services Authorities and NHS Trusts in Wales; of the Welsh Health Common Services Authority and the Health Promotion Authority for Wales; and of Funds held on Trust by District Health Authorities, the Welsh Health Common Services Authority, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales and NHS Trusts in Wales

for 1995–96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 127 and 134] [Clerk of the House].

11 National Health Service (Scotland),—Summarised Accounts of Health Boards, NHS Trusts, the Common Services Agency, the Health Education Board for Scotland, the State Hospital Management Committee, State Hospital, Carstairs, the Scottish Council for Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 135] [Clerk of the House].

12 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Valuation and Lands Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 90] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

13 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Report and Accounts of the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

14 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Second Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1997–98, Selected Cases 1997—Volume 4 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 133] [Clerk of the House].

15 Prisons (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Prison Service for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 18] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

16 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Twelfth to Twenty-Fifth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3714] [Dawn Primarolo].

17 Treaty Series (No. 42, 1997),—Notes exchanged at London on 30th April 1997 and 21st May 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Agreement No. 4 (1996)) [by Command] [Cm. 3706] [Mr Secretary Cook].

18 Treaty Series (No. 43, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Bangkok on 19th September and 7th December 1995 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand extending the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Transfer of Offenders and on Co-operation in the Enforcement of Penal Sentences, signed at Bangkok on 22nd January 1990, to the Isle of Man [by Command] [Cm. 3710] [Mr Secretary Cook].

19 Treaty Series (No. 44, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Peking (Beijing) on 26th 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 British Consulate-General in Hong Kong [by Command] [Cm. 3711] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 European Standing Committee A,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had appointed Mr John Swinney as an additional Member to serve on European Standing Committee A.

2 European Standing Committee B,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had appointed Dr Vincent Cable as an additional Member to serve on European Standing Committee B.
3 Standing Committee A.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from Standing Committee A Mr John Smith (nominated in respect of the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19)); and had appointed in substitution Jacqui Smith.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam 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 Jobseeker's Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997, viz: Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Julian Brazier, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Alan Howarth, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr David Jameson, Mr Ivan Lewis, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Steve Webb.

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Defined Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, viz: Mr Graham Brady, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Liam Fox, Mr George Galloway, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John McAllion, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mr David Marshall, Dr Lewis Moomey, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Malcolm Savidge and Mr Nick St. Aubyn.

6 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam 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 Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997, viz: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Geraint Davies, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr David Drew, Mr John Healey, Glenda Jackson, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Doug Naynsmith, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Gordon Prentice, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Peter Snape and Mr Graham Stringer.

7 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1627), viz: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tim Boswell, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Edward Davey, Julia Drown, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Philip Hammond, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr David Ruffley, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Michael Wills.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—First Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Replies to the First to Sixth Reports from the Defence Committee, Session 1996–97, on the Sale of the Married Quarters Estate, the Army Terms of Service (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2973), Defence Medical Services, Defence Spending, Heavy Lift and Gulf War Illnesses: Latest Developments]; to be printed [No. 153] [Mr Bruce George].

2 European Legislation.—First Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

MEMORANDA

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

(1) the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997 to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(2) the draft Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Defined Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation;

(3) the draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997 to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and


2 European Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 102 (European Standing Committees), European Community Document No. COM (97) 280, relating
to the 1998 Preliminary Draft Budget, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

3 Business Committee,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), the Speaker nominated Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Edward Davey, Mr David Hanson, Mr Ian Pearson, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Don Touhig and Mr John Whittingdale to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Finance Bill.

[No. 44.]

Thursday 17th July 1997.

The House met at half past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix).

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997.

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

3 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

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

Parliamentary Privilege,—The Lords concur with the Commons in their Message [10th July] relating to the appointment of a Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege.

5 Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

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.

6 Council Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 14th July, be approved—(Hilary Armstrong);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 301.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 36.

Resolved, That the draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 14th July, be approved.

7 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Asian Development Bank (Sixth Replenishment of the Asian Development Fund) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 26th June, be approved—(Mr Thomas McAvoy):—It was agreed to.

8 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Fourth Replenishment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 26th June, be approved—(Mr Thomas McAvoy):—It was agreed to.

9 Contracting Out,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions) Order 1997, which was
laid before this House on 30th June, be approved—(Mr Thomas McAvoy);—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Thomas McAvoy.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.50 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Fire Services,—(1) Draft Berkshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(2) draft Cambridgeshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(3) draft Cheshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(4) draft Devon Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(5) draft Essex Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(6) draft Hereford and Worcester Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(7) draft Kent Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(8) draft Lancashire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997,
(9) draft Nottinghamshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997, and
(10) draft Shropshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997

[by Act][Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

2 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Buying Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 55] [Clerk of the House].

3 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Disposals Sales Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 50] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Fair Trading,—Report of the Director General of Fair Trading for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 104] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Health Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Medicines Control Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 92] [Clerk of the House].

6 Medicines,—Reports of the Medicines Commission, Committee on Safety of Medicines, Advisory Board on the Registration of Homoeopathic Products, Veterinary Products Committee and the British Pharmacopoeia Commission for 1996 [by Act][Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: Protecting Environmentally Sensitive Areas [by Act]; to be printed [No. 120] [Clerk of the House].

8 National Health Service (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Hospital Trust for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 75] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 National Heritage Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—
(1) Historic Royal Palaces, and
(2) the Royal Parks Agency
for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 126 and 67] [Mr Secretary Smith].

10 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 72][Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Record Office for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 45] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

12 Scottish Office Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, of—
   (1) Registers of Scotland [by Act]; to be printed [No. 74] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Scottish Court Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 84] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Social Security,—Report by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Fund for 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3667] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

14 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Insolvency Service for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 86] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed—
   (1) Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997;
   (2) Mr John Butterfill Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Defined Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997;
   (3) Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997;
   (4) Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1627); and

[No. 45.]

Friday 18th July 1997.

The House met at half past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Accounts and Papers (see Appendix I).

2 Selection (see Appendix II).

3 Adjournment (The Schools White Paper, Cm. 3681).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd);

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

4 Domestic Committees,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 142 (Domestic Committees) be amended, in line 9, by leaving out the word ‘seven’ and inserting the word ‘nine’.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

5 Finance and Services Committee,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 144 (Finance and Services Committee) be amended, in line 18, by leaving out the word ‘nine’ and inserting the word ‘eleven’.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

6 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Ministerial and other Salaries Bill,—

   (1) 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 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 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill [Money] have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill.—(Mr Greg Pope.)
7 Law Officers Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That, in respect of the Law Officers Bill [Lords], 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 Greg Pope.)

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit five minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 21st July.

[Adjourned at 2.55 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Cultural Objects.—Return of Cultural Objects (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1719), dated 15th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Education.—Education (Mandatory Awards) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1693), dated 8th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Income Tax.—(1) Open-ended Investment Companies (Tax) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1715), and
(2) Personal Equity Plan (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1716), dated 18th July 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

4 Protection of Wrecks.—Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1717), dated 16th July 1997, and
(2) Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 3) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997 No. 1718), dated 18th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

5 Development of Rural Wales.—Report and Accounts of the Development Board for Rural Wales for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

6 Housing.—Annual Review and Accounts of the Housing Corporation for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Local Government.—Report and Accounts of the London Pension Fund Authority for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Northern Ireland.—Government Response to the Third Report of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, Session 1996-97, on the BSE Crisis and the Export Ban on Northern Ireland Beef [by Command] [Cm. 3704] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr David Drew (nominated in respect of the draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Hilton Dawson.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Julia Drown (nominated in respect of the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1627)); and had appointed in substitution Ann Keen.

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

PRAYERS.

[Note: From this day onwards cross-references to Appendices relating to Accounts and Papers, Selection, and Select Committees ceased to appear in the main body of the Votes and Proceedings and the Journal.]

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

Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision about the grant of, and sums payable in respect of, licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 other than television licences, and about the promotion of the efficient use and management of the electro-magnetic spectrum for wireless telegraphy; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords].—The Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 52].

3 Education (Student Loans) Bill.—The Order of the day being read for the Second Reading of the Education (Student Loans) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr Clive Betts: 267.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mrs Margaret Ewing: 3.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

4 Education (Student Loans) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Education (Student Loans) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Education (Student Loans) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act—

(a) in the sums required by the Secretary of State for making payments under the Education (Student Loans) Act 1990;

(b) in the expenses of the Secretary of State under that Act—(Bridget Prentice):—

It was agreed to.

5 Housing.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Allocation of Housing (Reasonable and Additional Preference) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 26th June, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

6 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 7th July, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

7 Health.—Ordered, That Mr Peter Brooke be discharged from the Health Committee and that Mr Robert Walter be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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

[Adjourned at 6.36 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


   (5) Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Works Contracts) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1700), and
   (6) Local Government Act 1988 (Direct Service Organisations) (Accounts etc.) (Extension) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1702), dated 14th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

4. Medicines,—(1) Medicines (Control of Substances for Manufacture) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1728), and
   (2) Medicines (Stilbenes and Thyrostatic Substances Prohibition) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1727), dated 18th July 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

5. Road Traffic,—International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1673), dated 8th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Special Parliamentary Procedure:

6. Civil Aviation,—Manchester Airport (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997, dated 16th July 1997, together with a Certificate by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions under section 2 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

7. British Council,—(1) Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the indemnification of works of art to be lent to the British Council for exhibitions planned for the second half of 1997-98, and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the British Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8. Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9. Coal Industry,—Report and Accounts of the Coal Authority for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

10. Courts and Legal Services,—Report of the Court Service for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 73] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


12. Environmental Protection,—Accounts of the Countryside Council for Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 165] [Clerk of the House].
13 Government Trading Funds.—Report and Accounts of HM Land Registry for 1996–97, with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 131] [Clerk of the House].

14 Housing.—Report and Accounts of Liverpool Housing Action Trust for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Local Government Planning and Land.—Report and Accounts of Merseyside Development Corporation for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


17 National Lottery.—Paper, entitled The People's Lottery [by Command] [Cm. 3709] [Mr Secretary Smith].

18 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for School Standards on the Petition [17th June] from residents of Eastleigh against the proposed closure of Rookwood County Infants School [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

19 Public Works Loan.—Report of the Public Works Loan Board for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

20 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Patent Office for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 151] [Clerk of the House].

21 Transport.—Report and Accounts of British Waterways for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mrs Angela Browning (nominated in respect of the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Stephen Dorrell.

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Geraint Davies (nominated in respect of the draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Brian White.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 21st July [Budgetary and monetary issues]; to be printed [No. 169-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

Tuesday 22nd July 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 29th July.

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 29th July.
3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Defined Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Water Charges (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Water Industry Act 1991 to prohibit the use by water undertakers of rateable values as a basis for charging from 31st March 1998; to provide for charging by water undertakers in accordance with council tax bands; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Colin Breed, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew George, Ms Candy Atherton, Mr A. J. Beith, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Daiydd Wigley, Mr Ellyn Llwyd and Mr Simon Hughes do prepare and bring it in.

6 Water Charges (Amendment) Bill.—Mr Colin Breed accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Water Industry Act 1991 to prohibit the use by water undertakers of rateable values as a basis for charging from 31st March 1998; to provide for charging by water undertakers in accordance with council tax bands; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd January and to be printed [Bill 53].

7 Social Security Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Social Security Bill;

A Motion was 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, while including measures which will reduce delays in, and increase the fairness of, the appeals process in social security and related areas, or which will reduce unnecessary public expenditure, will result in a slower appeals process, with more appeals being the subject of judicial review, will make the appeals process less fair, and will discourage lone parents from working and thereby increase public expenditure on benefits', instead thereof. — (Mr Steve Webb.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunell: 47.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 304.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

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

8 Social Security Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Social Security Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Social Security Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State or the Lord Chancellor under the Act; and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable out of money so provided; and

(2) the payment out of the Consolidated Fund of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable out of that Fund—

(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.
9 Social Security Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Social Security Bill, it is expedient to authorise any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which—

(a) under any other Act are payable into the Consolidated Fund; or

(b) under the Social Security Administration Act 1992 are to be taken as paid towards the cost of the National Health Service in Great Britain—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

10 European Legislation.—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Tyrie be discharged from the European Legislation Committee and Mr Quentin Davies be added to the Committee.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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:

1 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 87] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Building Societies,—Accounts of the Building Societies Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 173] [Clerk of the House].

3 Civil Aviation,—Report and Accounts of Highlands and Islands Airports Limited for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Service Children's Education Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 79] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Development of Tourism,—(1) Accounts of the English Tourist Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 174] [Clerk of the House];

(2) Report and Accounts of the English Tourist Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith]; and

(3) Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Wales Tourist Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

6 Disability Discrimination,—Report of the National Disability Council for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 136] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 Friendly Societies,—Accounts of the Friendly Societies Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 172] [Clerk of the House].

8 Further and Higher Education (Scotland),—Accounts of the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 177] [Clerk of the House].

9 Health Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the National Health Service Pensions Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 154] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

10 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Passport Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 101] [Mr Secretary Straw].

11 House of Commons Members' Fund,—Accounts of the House of Commons Members' Fund for the period 1st October 1995 to 30th September 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 176] [Clerk of the House].
12 Housing.—Report and Accounts of the Stonebridge Housing Action Trust for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 National Heritage (Scotland).—Accounts of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 175] [Clerk of the House].

14 Pensions.—Accounts of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 171] [Clerk of the House].

15 Police.—Report of the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis for 1996–97 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

16 Post Office.—Report of the Post Office Users’ Council for Scotland for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


18 Social Security Executive Agencies.—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Benefits Agency,
(2) Child Support Agency,
(3) Contributions Agency,
(4) Information Technology Services Agency, and
(5) War Pensions Agency

for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 78, 124, 44, 22 and 39] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

19 Welsh Affairs.—(1) Government Response to the Second Report of the Welsh Affairs Committee, Session 1996–97, on Further Education in Wales, and
(2) Paper, entitled A Voice for Wales
[by Command] [Cm. 3708 and 3718] [Mr Secretary Davies].

20 Welsh Language.—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Welsh Language Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Papers withdrawn:

21 Fire Services.—(1) Draft Lancashire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997, and
(2) draft Nottinghamshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997
[laid on 17th July].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 22nd July [Water Management]; to be printed [No. 183–i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 European Legislation.—Second Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155–ii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Standards and Privileges.—(1) Second Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr George Galloway], together with Appendices (including a Memorandum by the Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 179];

(2) Third Report from the Committee [Complaint against Mr Kenneth Clarke], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 180];
MEMORANDA

1 Chairmen’s Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mrs Marion Roe and Mr Andrew Welsh to be members of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.

2 Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. COM (97) 280: The Preliminary Draft Budget 1998, in place of Mr John Maxton.

3 European Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), the following referrals have been made:

   (1) European Community Documents Nos. 8150/97, relating to Food Law, together with 8386/97, relating to Consumer Health and Food Safety, to European Standing Committee A; and

   (2) European Community Document No. 7310/97, relating to the Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (RTD), to European Standing Committee B.

[No. 48.]

Wednesday 23rd July 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 Clive Betts);

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

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997.

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

3 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. COM(97)280, the Preliminary Draft Budget of the European Communities for 1998; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Education (Schools) Bill, with an Amendment; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Education (Schools) Bill.—Lords Amendment to the Education (Schools) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 56].

6 Access to the Countryside.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law on 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.—(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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Helen Jackson, Ms Sally Keeble, Jackie Lawrence, Chris McCafferty, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Chris Pond, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Chris Ruane, Mr Stephen Timms and Joan Walley do prepare and bring in the Bill.

7 Access to the Countryside Bill,—Mr Paddy Tipping accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law on 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 13th February and to be printed [Bill 54].

8 European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, Section 5.—Resolved, That this House takes note with approval of the Government's assessment as set out in the Financial Statement and Budget Report for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—(Mr Geoffrey Robinson.)

9 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill,—The Ministerial and other Salaries Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed, pursuant to Order [18th July].

10 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Ministerial and other Salaries Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Ministerial and other Salaries Bill, it is expedient to authorise any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament, or charged on the Consolidated Fund, under the Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1975—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

11 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill,—The House, pursuant to Order [18th July], resolved itself into a Committee on the Ministerial and other Salaries Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 3 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Jim Dowd 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.

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes to Nine o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.38 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

1 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Army Technical Support Agency of the Ministry of Defence for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 98] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

2 Development of Tourism,—Accounts of the British Tourist Authority for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 185] [Clerk of the House].

3 Health Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Medical Devices Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 111] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development,—Report and Accounts of English Partnerships for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Report and Accounts of the Sheffield Development Corporation for—
   (1) 1996–97, and
   (2) the period 31st March to 30th June 1997
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts for 1996–97 of—
   (1) Museums and Galleries Commission, and
   (2) the Tate Gallery,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 186 and 187] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Department of Social Security: Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud [by Act]; to be printed [No. 164] [Clerk of the House].

8 National Lottery,—Accounts for 1996–97 of—
   (1) Arts Council of Northern Ireland Lottery Distribution, and
   (2) Sports Council for Northern Ireland Lottery Distribution,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 188 and 189] [Clerk of the House].

9 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Training and Employment Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 102] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

10 Scottish Executive Agencies,—Report, including Corporate Plan for 1997–2000, and Accounts of Historic Scotland for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 115] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee A,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Education (Student Loans) Bill, viz.: Miss Anne Begg, Mr John Bercow, Mr Graham Brady, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Stephen Byers, Yvette Cooper, Caroline Flint, Dr Kim Howells, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Tom Levitt, Sir David Madel, Joan Ryan, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Rachel Squire, Mr Stephen Twigg and Mr Phil Willis.

2 Standing Committee B,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had nominated twenty Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Social Security Bill, viz.: Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Simon Burns, Mr John Denham, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Piers Merchant, Kali Mountford, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Chris Pond, Mr David Rendel, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Nigel Waterson and Steve Webb.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Modernisation.—(1) First Report from the Modernisation Committee [The Legislative Process], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 190];

(2) First Special Report from the Modernisation Committee [Work of the Committee: First Progress Report], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 191]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Modernisation Committee [Submissions to the Committee]

[Mrs Ann Taylor].

2 Scottish Affairs.—(1) First Special Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee (Session 1996–97) on Housing and Anti-Social Behaviour]; to be printed [No. 192]; and

(2) Second Special Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the Second Report from the Committee (Session 1996–97) on the Implementation of Community Care in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 193]

[Mr David Marshall].

3 Trade and Industry.—(1) First Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, Session 1996–97, on Telecommunications Regulation]; to be printed [No. 195]; and

(2) Second Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Responses from the Government and the Office of Electricity Regulation to the Second Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, Session 1996–97, on Liberalisation of the Electricity Market]; to be printed [No. 196]

[Mr Martin O’Neill].

4 Treasury.—(1) First Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97, on the International Monetary Fund]; to be printed [No. 197];

(2) Second Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97, on the Prospects for the London Stock Exchange]; to be printed [No. 198]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Budgetary and monetary issues]; to be printed [No. 169-iii]

[Mr Giles Radice].

MEMORANDA

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

(1) the Education (Student Loans) Bill to Standing Committee A, and

(2) the Social Security Bill to Standing Committee B.

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 Standing Committee A in respect of the Education (Student Loans) Bill, and

(2) Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Social Security Bill.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Finance 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 Finance Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House.

That—

(a) the order in which proceedings on consideration are taken shall be New Clauses, New Schedules, and amendments to Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1, Clause 3, Schedule 2, Clauses 4 to 17, Clause 49, Clauses 18 to 23, Schedule 3, Clauses 24 to 34, Schedule 4, Clause 35, Schedule 5, Clause 36, Schedule 6, Clauses 37 to 41, Schedule 7, Clauses 42 to 48, Clauses 50 to 53 and Schedule 8;

(b) the allotted days which under the Order [14th July] are given to the proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below and, subject to the provisions of that Order, each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the third column of that Table.

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<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>New Clauses, New Schedules and amendments to Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1, Clause 3, Schedule 2, Clauses 4 to 17 and Clause 49.</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second day</td>
<td>Remaining proceedings on consideration.</td>
<td>9.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Third Reading.</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Finance Bill,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 15, 17 and 19) and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 55].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 203].

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1627).

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

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

The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill, without Amendment.

5 Mobile Telephones (Prohibition of Use in Designated Places).—Mr Michael Fabricant presented a Bill to prohibit the sending or receiving of mobile telephone calls in restaurants, railway carriages, buses, cinemas, theatres and other designated places: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th February and to be printed [Bill 57].

6 1998 Preliminary Draft Budget,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. COM (97) 280, the Preliminary
Draft Budget of the European Communities for 1998; and supports the Government's efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community—(Mr David Jamieson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 319.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 111.

So the Question was agreed to.

7 Education (Schools) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment to the Education (Schools) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Secretary Blankett);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 286.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Sir David Madel: 120.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 1.

Ordered, That Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Stephen Byers, Jean Corston, Mr David Jamieson and Sir David Madel be Members of the Committee;

Ordered, That Three be the quorum of the Committee;

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

8 Law Officers Bill [Lords].—The Law Officers 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said 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 Greg Pope 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.

9 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker's Allowance (Workskill Courses) Pilot (No. 2) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 3rd July, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

10 Local Government (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Government Act 1988 (Competition)(Defined Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 7th July, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

11 Education (Schools) Bill.—Mr Stephen Byers reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment to the Education (Schools) Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:
The Commons disagree to Amendment No. 1 made by the Lords in page 2, line 5, for the following Reason:

Because it would alter the financial arrangements made by the Commons, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason with the Bill and Amendment.

12 Adjournment, —Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Greg Pope.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Nine o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Animals,—Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals in Great Britain for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3722] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Civil Aviation,—Report and Accounts of the Civil Aviation Authority for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Deer (Scotland),—Report of the Deer Commission for Scotland for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Duke of York’s Royal Military School for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 58] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster,—Revenue and Capital Accounts of the Duchy of Lancaster for 1996–97 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 Education,—Accounts of—

   (1) School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, and

   (2) Teacher Training Agency

   for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 204 and 201] [Clerk of the House].

7 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Mint Trading Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 57] [Clerk of the House].

8 Housing,—Report and Accounts of North Hull Housing Action Trust for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Judicial Statistics,—Judicial Statistics for England and Wales for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3716] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

10 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between Technicolor Limited and Metrocolor London Limited [by Command] [Cm. 3720] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—

   (1) Rate Collection Agency, and

   (2) Social Security Agency

   for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 93 and 77] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Prisons (Northern Ireland),—Report on the work of the Northern Ireland Prison Service for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 137] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

13 Registration Service,—Marriage and Divorce Statistics: Review of the Registrar General on marriages and divorces in England and Wales, 1994 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].
14 Scottish Affairs.—Paper, entitled Scotland’s Parliament [by Command] [Cm. 3658] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Paper withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

National Heritage,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the National Heritage Committee on 24th July [The Royal Opera House]; to be printed [No. 199-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman]

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen’s Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Bowen Wells to be a member of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Ministerial and other Salaries Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 50.]

Friday 25th July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

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

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Education (Schools) Bill, to which this House has disagreed.

2 Adjournment (White Paper on the Government’s Proposals for a Welsh Assembly (Cm. 3718)),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jon Owen Jones);

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

3 Select Committees related to government departments,—Ordered, That—

(1) Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) be amended, in the Table in paragraph (2), in the item relating to the National Heritage Committee, by replacing the words ‘National Heritage/Department of National Heritage’ with the words ‘Culture, Media and Sport/Department for Culture, Media and Sport’; and

(2) all proceedings of the House and of its Select Committees in this Session in respect of the National Heritage Committee shall be deemed to have been in respect of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

4 Sittings of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 31st July, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

5 Liaison,—Ordered, That Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Bruce George, Mr David Hinchliffe, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Peter Luff, Mr John McWilliam, Mr David Marshall, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Chris
25th July 1997

Vol. 254

Mullins, Mr. Martin Gwilym, Mr. Giles Radice, Mr. Robert Sheldon, Mr. David Tredinnick and Mr. Bowen Wells be members of the Liaison Committee.—(Mr. Jon Owen Jones.)

6 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Mr. Alan Campbell, Mr. Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr. David Davis, Mr. Ian Davidson, Mr. Geraint Davies, Maria Eagle, Jane Griffiths, Mr. Phil Hope, Mr. Andrew Love, Mr. Robert Maclean, Mr. Richard Page, Mr. Charles Wardle, Mr. Dafydd Wigley and Mr. Alan Williams be members of the Committee of Public Accounts.—(Mr. Jon Owen Jones.)

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr. Jon Owen Jones.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 28th July.

[Adjourned at 2.53 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 National Health Service.—National Health Service (Pilot Schemes: Financial Assistance for Preparatory Work) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1821), dated 25th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr. Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

2 Aliens' Employment.—Cabinet Office Minute dated 18th July 1997 under section 1 of the Aliens' Employment Act 1955 relating to aliens employed in a civil capacity under the Crown during 1996-97 [by Command] [Dr. David Clark].

3 Defence Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Defence Animal Centre for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 166] [Mr. Secretary Robertson].

4 Environment.—Report and Accounts of the Environment Agency for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr. Secretary Prescott].

5 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 121] [Mr. Secretary Prescott].

6 Local Government.—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Commission for England for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr. Secretary Prescott].

7 Local Government, Planning and Land.—Report and Accounts of—

(1) Cardiff Bay Development Corporation, and

(2) Land Authority for Wales

for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr. Secretary Davies].

8 Local Government (Scotland).—Report and Accounts of—

(1) East of Scotland Water,

(2) North of Scotland Water Authority, and

(3) West of Scotland Water Authority

for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr. Secretary Dewar].

9 New Towns.—Accounts of the Commission for New Towns for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr. Secretary Prescott]

[No. 51.]

Monday 28th July 1997.

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 Mr Gordon McMaster, Member for Paisley 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 friends.

2 Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 (Petition of General Objection),—Ordered, That a Message be sent to the Lords to acquaint them that this House has appointed a Committee of three Members to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee to which the Petition of General Objection against the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 stands referred, pursuant to section 4 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945.

3 Finance Bill (Allocation of Time),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [24th July] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr Robert Ainsworth)—It was agreed to.

A Motion was made, and Question being put forthwith, That this House doth agree with the Committee in its Resolution—(Mr Robert Ainsworth)—It was agreed to.

4 Finance Bill [1st allotted day],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Finance Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Low cancer-risk part-renewable blended diesel)—(Sir Michael Spicer)—brought up and read the first time.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Amendment (No. 32) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, to leave out lines 27 to 29.—(Mrs Margaret Ewing.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Swinney: 158.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Jane Kennedy: 327.

Another Amendment (No. 26) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 28, to leave out the words '2nd July' and insert the words '25th November', instead thereof.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Malcolm Moss: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Bridget Prentice: 335.

Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 12, to leave out '1998-99' and insert '2003-04', instead thereof.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr James Cran: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Bridget Prentice: 363.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 29, at the end to insert the word 'and'.—(Mr Nick St. Aubyn.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 47, line 32, after the first word 'of', to insert the words '£1 for every £100 or part of £100 of the consideration up to £250,000, and at the rate of'.—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr James Cran: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Clelland: 367.
And it being after Ten o'clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned, pursuant to Order [14th July] and Resolution [this day].

Ordered, That the Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, be further considered to-morrow.

5 Insurance Premium Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Insurance Premium Tax (Taxable Insurance Contracts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1627), a copy of which was laid before this House on 2nd July, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

6 Adjournment (Summer).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 31st July, do adjourn till Monday 27th October.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

7 Accommodation and Works,—Ordered, That Janet Anderson, Sir Sydney Chapman, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr George Mudie, Ms Linda Perham, Sir Raymond Powell, Mr Syd Rapson and Mr David Rendel be members of the Accommodation and Works Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Administration,—Ordered, That Mr James Cran, Mr David Crausby, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Jane Kennedy, Mrs Marion Roe and Mr William Ross be members of the Administration Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Catering,—Ordered, That Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Thomas Graham, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Helen Jones, Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Dr John Marek and Mr Dennis Turner be members of the Catering Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 Information,—Ordered, That Mr Richard Allan, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Andrew Miller, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Phil Sawford and Mr John Whittingdale be members of the Information Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Jeffrey Donaldson, Mr John Grogan, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Eddie McGrady, Mr Tony McWalter, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Peter Robinson and Mr Martin Salter be members of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Transport and Works,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Transport and Works (Guided Transport Modes) (Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 7th July, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

13 Broadcasting,—Ordered, That Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Roger Gale, Mr George Galloway, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr David Lepper, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Jonathan Sargeant, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Mike Wood and Mr Shaun Woodward be members of the Select Committee on Broadcasting.—(Mr George Mudie.)

14 Public Petitions,—Petitions from—

(1) Ash Green Residents Association for anti-noise pollution measures along the elevated section of the M6 around Junction 3, and

(2) residents of Barbridge and Wardle for increased road safety measures on the A51 between Nantwich and Tarporley

were 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 Robert 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 seventeen minutes to Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.43 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2. Fire Services,—(1) Draft Lancashire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997, and (2) draft Nottinghamshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


5. Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (English Heritage) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1835), dated 23rd July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].


8. Sports Grounds and Sporting Events,—Sports Grounds and Sporting Events (Designation) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1787), dated 22nd July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

11. Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—

   (1) Central Science Laboratory, and (2) Pesticides Safety Directorate

   for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 80 and 62] [Dr John Cunningham].

12. Broadcasting,—Accounts of—

   (1) Independent Television Commission Additional Payments and Financial Penalties by Licensees, and (2) Radio Authority Additional Payments by Radio Programme Licensees

   for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 206 and 211] [Clerk of the House].

13. Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Accounts of the Transport Research Laboratory for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 212] [Dr Gavin Strang].

28th July 1997

15 Further and Higher Education.—Accounts of the Further Education Funding Council for England for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 205] [Clerk of the House].

16 Industrial Training.—Report and Financial Statements of the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

17 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Tenants' Choice and the Torbay Tenants Housing Association [by Act]; to be printed [No. 170] [Clerk of the House].

18 National Heritage.—Accounts of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 207] [Clerk of the House].

19 National Lottery.—Accounts of—
   (1) English Sports Council National Lottery Distribution Fund for the period 1st January to 31st March 1997,
   (2) Scottish Arts Council National Lottery Distribution Fund for 1996–97, and
   (3) Sports Council National Lottery Distribution Fund for the period 1st April to 31st December 1996,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 210, 208 and 209] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (4) Report of the Arts Council of England on the National Lottery for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

20 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Compensation Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 162] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

21 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the National Weights and Measures Laboratory for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 89] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated sixteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Falkland Islands) Order 1997, and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Lesotho) Order 1997, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tim Boswell, Dr Vincent Cable, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Nick Gibb, Ann Keen, Mr Andy King, Dawn Primarolo, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr Mark Todd, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr John Whittingdale and Mr Michael Wills.

2 Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 (Petition of General Objection) (Joint Committee).—Mr John McWilliam 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 Petition of General Objection against the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 stands referred, pursuant to section 4 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, viz.: Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Michael Fabricant and Mr Bill Olner.

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Standing Committees,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), the Speaker appointed:
   (1) Mr Donald Anderson an additional Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Education (Student Loans) Bill; and
   (2) Mr Roger Gale an additional Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Social Security Bill.
Tuesday 29th July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 King's College London Bill [Lords].—The King's College London Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

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 28th October.

3 Education (Student Loans) Bill.—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Education (Student Loans) Bill, and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 219].

4 Agriculture.—Ordered, That the Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee in the last Session of Parliament relating to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Intervention Board Winter Supplementary Estimates 1996-97 be referred to the Committee.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 59].

7 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance),—Ordered. That leave be given to bring a 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: And that Mr David Atkinson, Mr David Amess, Frank Cook, Mr Tam Dalyell, Lynne Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Charles Kennedy, Mr Robert Sheldon, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr John Townend and Mr Dafydd Wigley do prepare and bring it in.

Mr David Atkinson accordingly presented a 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: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 58].

8 Finance Bill [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Finance Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 38, after the word 'made', to insert the words 'from 6th April 2004'.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Malcolm Moss: 168.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Janet Anderson: 328.

Amendments (Nos. 11 to 14) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 25) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, to leave out lines 24 to 37.—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Nigel Waterson: 149.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Janet Anderson: 326.

Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed to the Bill, in page 29, to leave out lines 11 to 27.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)
29th July 1997

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 150.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 330.

It being after Nine o'clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [14th July] and Resolution [yesterday] put forthwith the Question on an Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Another Amendment (No. 15) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [14th July] and Resolution [yesterday].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 336.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 168.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

10 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Ordered, That Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr James Plaskitt, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Adrian Sanders, Dr George Turner, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Brian White be members of the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

11 Deregulation,—Ordered, That Mr David Chaytor, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr John Cryer, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr David Lock, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Piers Merchant, Mr Dennis Murphy, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr William Ross, Miss Geraldine Smith, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Anthony Steen and Mr Ian Stewart be members of the Deregulation Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.45 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Broadcasting (Technical Services) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1856), dated 29th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Fire Precautions,—Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1840), dated 28th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


   (2) Premium Savings Bonds (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1862),

   (3) Savings Certificates (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1859),


   (5) Savings Certificates (Yearly Plan) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1863), and

   (6) Savings Contracts (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1858), dated 29th July 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

4 Medical Professions,—General Medical Council (Legal Assessors) (Amendment) Rules (S.I., 1997, No. 1861), dated 29th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

5 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Control of Interference from Videosenders) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1842), dated 28th July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
Other Papers:

6 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 156] [Dr John Cunningham].

7 Defence Executive Agencies,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Queen Victoria School for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 35] [Mr Secretary Robertson]; and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the UK Hydrographic Office, for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 116] [Clerk of the House].

8 Environmental Protection,—Accounts of the Nature Conservancy Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 227] [Clerk of the House].

9 Firearms,—Report of the Firearms Consultative Committee for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 200] [Mr Secretary Straw].

10 Further and Higher Education,—Accounts of the Higher Education Funding Council for England for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 213] [Clerk of the House].

11 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of the Vehicle Inspectorate for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 163] [Clerk of the House].


13 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Forensic Science Service for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 129] [Mr Secretary Straw].

14 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Waltham Forest Action Trust for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Local Government,—Paper, entitled New Leadership for London: The Government’s Proposals For A Greater London Authority [by Command] [Cm. 3724] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

16 Local Government Finance,—Report and Accounts of the Audit Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

17 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions,—Accounts of the Development Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 226] [Clerk of the House].

18 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the National Museum of Science and Industry for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 216] [Clerk of the House].

19 National Heritage,—Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 218] [Clerk of the House].

20 National Lottery,—Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund Lottery Distribution for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 217] [Clerk of the House].

21 Public Lending Right,—Accounts of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 214] [Clerk of the House].

22 Sessional Returns, 1996-97,—Returns to Orders [3rd June] 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 and Deregulation Proposals 
in Session 1996–97 [by Order]; to be printed [No. 228] [Clerk of the House].

23 Wildlife and Countryside:—Accounts of the Countryside Commission for 1996–97, with the 
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 225] 
[Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 29th July [Gulf War Illnesses]; to be printed [No. 222-i] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—First Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97, on Social Costs and Employment]; to be printed [No. 229] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the 
Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Local Government Finance]; to be printed [No. 224-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the Home Office]; to be printed [No. 215-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 Public Administration,—(1) First Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government Response to the First Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration on the Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1995–96]; to be printed [No. 220]; and 
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 29th July [Role and Responsibilities of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster]; to be printed [No. 221] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

6 Standards and Privileges,—Fifth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Robert N. Wareing], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards), together with Sixth Report from the Committee [Complaint against Mr Robert N. Wareing [further Report]]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Reports [No. 182] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-ix] [Mr David Tredinnick].

MEMORANDUM
Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 84 (Constitution of standing committees), the Speaker allocated the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Falkland Islands) Order 1997, and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Lesotho) Order 1997 to the first Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and, in pursuance of Standing Order No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees), appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of the said standing committee in respect of the said draft Orders.

[No. 53.]

Wednesday 30th July 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—(Janet Anderson);
And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Companies (Political Funds).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require ballots of shareholders of companies incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 in respect of proposed donations for political purposes; to define political purposes; to require political funds to be established for the payment of such donations; to specify how such political funds will be funded and the qualifications for receipt of donations; and for connected purposes; And that Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Harry Cohen, Caroline Flint, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Dennis MacShane, Mr Phil Woolas, Ms Margaret Moran and Mr Alan Keen do prepare and bring it in.

3 Companies (Political Funds) Bill.—Mr Roger Godsiff accordingly presented a Bill to require ballots of shareholders of companies incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 in respect of proposed donations for political purposes; to define political purposes; to require political funds to be established for the payment of such donations; to specify how such political funds will be funded and the qualifications for receipt of donations; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 60].

4 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill [Money] (No. 2),—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill [Money] (No. 2);
Resolved, That the Resolution of the House of 22nd May 1997 relating to Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill [Money] shall have effect as if—

(1) in paragraph (1), the words 'an Order in Council under' were omitted,
(2) in paragraph (2), for the words 'the Secretary of State' there were substituted the words 'a Minister of the Crown', and
(3) in paragraph (2)(b), the words 'the establishment of' were omitted.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

5 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill (Supplemental Allocation of Time),—Ordered, That the Order of the House of 3rd June 1997 be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendments

1.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at this day's sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of the proceedings on this Order.

(2) For the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with subparagraph (1)—

(a) the Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and has not yet been decided and, if that Question is for the amendment of a Lords Amendment, shall then put forthwith the Question on any further Amendment of the 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 their Amendment or, as the case may be, in the Lords Amendment as amended,
(b) the Speaker shall then designate such of the remaining Lords Amendments as appear to the Speaker 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 agree 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 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 the Speaker shall put forthwith a separate Question on any other Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown relevant to the Lords Amendment.
2.—(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by the 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 their commencement.

(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 has not yet been 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 the Speaker to involve questions of Privilege and shall—

(i) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by the 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 in all the remaining Lords Proposals.

Reasons Committee

3.—(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by the 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.

Extra time, &c.

4.—(1) This paragraph applies to—

(a) proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments,

(b) proceedings on any further Message from the Lords,

(c) proceedings on the appointment, nomination and quorum of a Committee to draw up Reasons and on the appointment of its Chairman.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings to which this paragraph applies.

(3) Proceedings to which this paragraph applies shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

(4) No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, proceedings to which this paragraph applies shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown; and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

(5) If proceedings to which this paragraph applies are interrupted by a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on the Motion shall be added to the period at the end of which the interrupted proceedings are to be brought to a conclusion.

(6) If the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the expiry of the period at the end of which proceedings to which this paragraph applies are to be brought to a conclusion, 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.—(Mr. Henry McLeish.)

6 Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment to the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Peter Hain);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr. Graham Allen, Mr. Greg Pope: 349.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr. John Whittingdale, Mr. James Cran: 134.

So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

An Amendment (a) was made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 1 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Henry McLeish);

And it being Three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Supplemental Allocation of Time Order [this day], the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to the said Order.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Graham Allen: 330.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr John Whittingdale: 131.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then designated Lords Amendments Nos. 11 to 14, 17 and 18 as appearing to the Speaker to involve Questions of privilege.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Questions on Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in a Lords Amendment.

Lords Amendment Nos. 5 and 6 were disagreed to.

An Amendment (a) was made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 6 disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 7, 10, 15 and 16 were disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question with respect to the Amendments designated by the Speaker, That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendments.

Lords Amendments Nos. 11 to 14, 17 and 18 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question, That this House doth agree with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

Lords Amendments Nos. 3, 4, 8 and 9 were agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Questions relating to a Committee to draw up Reasons.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 2, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 16.—(Mr John McFall.)

Ordered, That Dr Liam Fox, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John McFall and Mr Henry McLeish be members of the Committee.—(Mr John McFall.)

Ordered, That Mr Henry McLeish be the Chairman of the Committee.—(Mr John McFall.)

Ordered, That three be the Quorum of the Committee.—(Mr John McFall.)

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr John McFall.)

7 Parliamentary Privilege.—Ordered, That a Select Committee of seven Members be appointed to join with a Committee to be appointed by the Lords, as the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, to review parliamentary privilege and make recommendations thereon;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers, and records; to sit notwithstanding any Adjournment of the House; to report from time to time; and to appoint specialist advisers to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the Committee's order of reference.

That Mr Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, Mr Solicitor General and Mr Solicitor General for Scotland, being Members of either House, may attend the Committee, may take part in deliberations, may receive Committee papers and may give such other assistance to the Committee as may be appropriate, but shall not vote or make any Motion or move any Amendment or be counted in the Quorum;

That Mr Joe Benton, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr Bill Michie, Mrs Ann Taylor, Mr Paul Tyler and Mr Alan Williams be members of the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.
Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Ordered, That Sir Patrick Cormack be discharged from the Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr Richard Shepherd be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill.—Mr Henry McLeish reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House;

The Commons disagree to the Amendments made by the Lords in page 1, line 6, in page 4, line 19 and in page 4, line 22, for the following Reason:—

Because it is desirable to keep the questions to be asked in the referendums as simple as possible.

The Commons disagree to the Amendment made by the Lords in page 2, line 3, for the following Reason:—

Because the amendment is unnecessary, as a consequence of the amendment in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 1 proposed by the Commons.

The Commons disagree to the Amendment made by the Lords in page 2, line 4, for the following Reason:—

Because it is not desirable that the referendums in Scotland and Wales should be held on the same day.

The Commons disagree to the Amendment made by the Lords in page 2, line 26, for the following Reason:—

Because the amendment is unnecessary, as a consequence of the amendment in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 6 proposed by the Commons.

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 citizens of the United Kingdom for pressure for the release from custody of Roisin McAliskey was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Banks and Banking.—Banking Act 1987 (Exempt Transactions) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1866), dated 29th July 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

2 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1783), dated 22nd July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Education.—Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1789), dated 23rd July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Housing.—Homelessness (Suitability of Accommodation) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1741), dated 21st July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Immigration.—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 161] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Landlord and Tenant.—(1) Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (Fees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1852),

(2) Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (Service Charges, Insurance or Appointment of Managers Applications) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1853), and

(3) Rent Assessment Committee (England and Wales) (Leasehold Valuation Tribunal) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1854),
dated 28th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 River.—Fish Health Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1881), dated 30th July 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].
8 Social Security,—(1) Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1841), dated 28th July 1997,  
(2) Social Security (Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1839), dated 28th July 1997, and  
(by Act) [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other Papers:

9 Broadcasting,—Accounts of the Broadcasting Standards Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 231]  
[Clerk of the House].


11 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Civil Service College for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 202] [Dr David Clark].

12 Coal Industry,—Accounts of the Coal Authority for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 232] [Clerk of the House].

13 Education (Northern Ireland),—Statements and Summary Accounts of the Education and Library Boards for 1995-96, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3717] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

14 Hong Kong,—(1) Paper, entitled Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong, January–June 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3719] [Mr Secretary Cook]; and  
(2) Report of the Governor of Hong Kong to the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act 1990 for the year ending 19th June 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 125] [Mr Secretary Straw].

15 House of Commons Commission,—(1) Accounts of the House of Commons Refreshment Department for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and  
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 159 and 160] [The Speaker].

16 Housing (Scotland),—Review of Scottish Homes for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

17 Industrial Development,—Report by the Secretaries of State for Trade and Industry, Scotland and Wales under the Industrial Development Act 1982 for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 223] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

18 Inland Revenue Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Valuation Office Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 184] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

19 Insolvency,—Report on Insolvency for 1996 under section 379 of the Insolvency Act 1986 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

20 Miscellaneous (No. 8, 1997),—World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Performances and Phonograms Treaty, done at Geneva, 2nd-20th December 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3728] [Mr Secretary Cook].

21 Monopolies and Mergers,—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on—  
(1) Domestic Electrical Goods: I (A report on the supply in the UK of video cassette recorders, hi-fi systems and camcorders), and  
(2) Domestic Electrical Goods: II (A report on the supply in the UK of washing machines, tumble dryers, dishwashers and cold food storage equipment)  
[by Command] [Cm. 3675-I and -II and 3676-I and -II] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

22 Museums and Galleries,—Reports of—  
(1) the National Gallery, and  
(2) the National Portrait Gallery  
for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].
23 National Debt.—Accounts of the National Debt Commissioners Gilt-edged Official Operations for the period 9th December 1993 to 31st March 1995 and 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 194] [Clerk of the House].

24 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Northern Ireland Child Support Agency for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 157] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

25 Prisons.—Report of the Prisons Ombudsman for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3687] [Mr Secretary Straw].

26 Radiological Protection.—Accounts of the National Radiological Protection Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 230] [Clerk of the House].

27 Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland).—Report of the Registrar General for Scotland for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

28 Scottish Office Executive Agencies.—(1) Reports and Accounts of—
   (i) Scottish Agricultural Science Agency, and
   (ii) Scottish Office Pensions Agency,
   for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 114 and 140]; and
   (2) Accounts of the Scottish Record Office for 1996–97 [by Act]
   [Mr Secretary Dewar].

29 Social Security.—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee preceded by a statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Security (Lone Parents) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1790) [by Command] [Cm. 3713] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

30 Treaty Series (No. 45, 1997).—Convention, opened for signature at Paris on 13th January 1993, on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction [by Command] [Cm. 3727] [Mr Secretary Cook].

31 Welsh Language.—Accounts of the Welsh Language Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 233] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Royal Opera House]; to be printed [No. 199–ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138–i] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—First Special Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Government Response to the First Report of the Transport Committee, Session 1996–97, on the Road and Bridge Maintenance Programme]; to be printed [No. 234] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation.—Third Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155–iii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

MFMORANDUM

European Standing Committees.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), European Community Document No. 6692/97, relating to landfill waste sites, and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 21st July 1997, relating to TSE: prohibition of risk material, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.
THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Finance Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 54.]

Thursday 31st July 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Finance Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords do not insist on certain of their Amendments to the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill, to which this House has disagreed; and they have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made to the Bill in lieu of their remaining Amendments to which this House has disagreed.

Parliamentary Privilege.—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee consisting of six Lords to join with a Committee of the Commons as the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, to review parliamentary privilege and make recommendations thereon; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman; that the Committee have leave to report from time to time; that the Committee have power to appoint Specialist Advisers; that the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee from time to time shall, if the Committee think fit, be printed and delivered out; and that the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, the Solicitor General and the Solicitor General for Scotland, being members of either House, may attend the Committee, may take part in deliberations, may receive Committee papers and may give such other assistance to the Committee as may be appropriate, but shall not vote or make any motion or move any amendment or be counted in the quorum.

2 Adjournment (White Paper on Scotland’s Parliament (Cm. 3658)).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts).

3 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:

- Appropriation (No. 2) Act 1997
- Finance (No. 2) Act 1997
- Education (Schools) Act 1997
- Law Officers Act 1997
- Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Act 1997
- King’s College London Act 1997.

4 Adjournment (White Paper on Scotland’s Parliament (Cm. 3658)).—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;

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

5 Procedure,—Ordered, That Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Keith Darvill, Mr David Drew, Mr Clive Efford, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Damian Green, Mr Eric Illsley, Chris McCafferty, Mr Piers Merchant, Helen Southworth, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Paul Tyler and Mr Nicholas Winterton be members of the Procedure Committee.—(Mr John McFall.)

6 Public Petitions,—A Petition from users of the Skye toll bridge for abolition of tolls on the Skye bridge 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 John McFall.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 27th October, pursuant to Resolution [28th July].

[Adjourned at 10.31 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Housing (Scotland).—Draft Homeless Persons (Priority Need) (Scotland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Ecclesiastical Law.—(1) Ecclesiastical Judges and Legal Officers (Fees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1889), dated 11th July 1997,
   (2) Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1890), dated 14th July 1997, and
   [by Measure] [Clerk of the House].

4 Fair Trading.—Trading Schemes (Exclusion) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1887), dated 30th July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Family Law.—(1) Children (Allocation of Proceedings) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1897), and
   dated 28th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

   (2) Family Proceedings Courts (Children Act 1989) (Amendment) Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1895), and
   dated 28th July 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

7 Telecommunications.—Telecommunications (Voice Telephony) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1886), dated 30th July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

8 Telegraphs.—Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1885), dated 30th July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

9 Asylum and Immigration.—Report of the Independent Monitor of Entry Clearance Refusals for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10 Data Protection.—A paper entitled Data Protection: The Government's Proposals [by Command] [Cm. 3725] [Mr Secretary Straw].

11 Defence Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Defence Analytical Services Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 168] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

12 Development of Tourism.—Accounts of the Scottish Tourist Board for 1996-97 with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 237] [Clerk of the House].
13 Education and Employment Executive Agencies.—Accounts of the Teachers' Pension Agency for the period 1st April to 30th September 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 158] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

14 Environment, Transport and the Regions.—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Environment Committee, Session 1996–97, on Shopping Centres [by Command] [Cm. 3729] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Vehicle Certification Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 167] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

16 Merchant Shipping.—Accounts of the General Lighthouse Fund for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 178] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

17 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Major Projects Report 1996, and

(2) The Sale of the Ministry of Defence's Married Quarters Estate [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 238 and 239] [Clerk of the House].

18 National Lottery.—Accounts of

(1) the Arts Council of England Lottery Distribution Fund for 1996–97, and

(2) the Scottish Sports Council National Lottery Fund for 1996–97 with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 235 and 236] [Clerk of the House].

19 Prisons.—Prison statistics for England and Wales for 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3732] [Mr Secretary Straw].

20 Securities and Investments.—Departmental minute from HM Treasury relating to a contingent liability in respect of borrowing by the Securities and Investments Board [by Command] [Mr Alistair Darling].

21 Treasury Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Office for National Statistics for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 123] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 31st July [Report of the National Committee of Inquiry into Higher Education]; to be printed [No. 241–i] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

2 Standards and Privileges.—Seventh Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints from Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, The Guardian and others against Twenty-five Members and former Members: Further Report]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 240] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

MEMORANDUM

Mr David Davis, Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, has been appointed an ex officio member of the Public Accounts Commission, pursuant to section 2(2) of the National Audit Act 1983.
PRAYERS.

1 Writ issued during the Adjournment.—The Speaker acquainted the House that, during the Adjournment, she had issued a 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 Burgh Constituency of Paisley South in the room of Gordon McMaster, Esquire, deceased.

2 Controverted Elections (Winchester, Election Petition).—The Speaker acquainted the House, that she had received the following Certificate and Report from the Judges appointed to try the Election Petition relating to the Election for Winchester:

"To the Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons

Election of a Member of Parliament for the Constituency of Winchester held on the 1st day of May 1997

In the Matter of a Petition relating to the said Election presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 15th day of May 1997

Between Gerald Malone Petitioner, and Mark Oaten and Lindsay Garrett Fox Respondents We the Right Honourable Lord Justice Brooke and the Honourable Mr Justice Gage do hereby certify in accordance with the provisions of section 146(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 that on the 6th day of October 1997 a trial of the Petition herein in the form of a Special Case was heard before us, sitting as a Divisional Court of the Queen's Bench Division, and that our determination is set out in the sealed copy of the Order of the Court dated the 6th day of October 1997 annexed hereto dated this 9th day of October 1997

Monday the 6th day of October 1997, In the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, Divisional Court, In the Matter of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and in the Matter of a Parliamentary Election for the Constituency of Winchester held on the 1st day of May 1997

Between Gerald Malone Petitioner, and Mark Oaten and Lindsay Garret Fox Respondents

Upon reading the Petition of the above named Petitioner presented the 15th day of May 1997

And upon reading the Notice of Motion dated the 23rd day of September 1997 on behalf of the Petitioner for an Order that the Case raised by the said Petition be stated as a Special Case

And a Special Case having been agreed and signed by Counsel on behalf of the Petitioner and the Respondents

And upon reading the Affidavit of David Hamilton Cowan sworn the 30th day of July 1997 and the exhibits referred to therein, the Report of the Prescribed Officer dated the 25th day of July 1997 and the Agreed Special Case

And upon hearing Mr Richard Price QC on behalf of the Petitioner, Mr David Pannick QC and Miss Helen Mountfield of Counsel on behalf of the first Respondent, Mr Timothy Straker QC on behalf of the second Respondent and Mr Mark Harris of Counsel on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions

And the Court having directed that the Case raised by the Petition be stated as a Special Case and that this hearing be treated as the substantive hearing of the Special Case and proceeding to hear the same forthwith

The Court applying the provisions of section 23 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 determined and declared that

(i) there were breaches by the Returning Officer's agents of Rules 20 and 37 of the Parliamentary Elections Rules in Schedule 1 to the said Act in that 54 or 55 ballot papers were issued to voters without bearing the official mark

(ii) although the election was conducted substantially in accordance with the law as to elections, the result was affected by the above breaches of the said Rules

(iii) the first Respondent, Mark Oaten, was not duly elected and returned as a Member of Parliament for the Constituency of Winchester and the election held on 1 May 1997 was void
And it is ordered that the Petition be allowed accordingly and that the second Respondent do pay to the Petitioner and to the first Respondent their costs of this Petition and of the Special Case herein, such costs to be taxed if not agreed.

And it is further ordered that the sum of £5,000 (five thousand pounds) paid into Court by the said Petitioner as security for costs be paid out to the Petitioner's Solicitor together with the interest if any accrued thereon.

And the said Certificate and Order of the Court were ordered to be entered in the Journal of the House.

3 Disqualification of a Member.—The Speaker laid upon the Table a notification, That Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer had on 21st October appointed Piers Rolf Garfield Merchant, Esquire, Member for Beckenham, to the office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty's Manor of Northstead in the County of York.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Ministerial and other Salaries Bill, without Amendment.

Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to enable effect to be given to certain provisions of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty adopted in New York on 10th September 1996 and the Protocol to that Treaty; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend section 33 of the Electricity Act 1989; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 in respect of the duty of local authorities to make arrangements to meet the needs of chronically sick and disabled persons; 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.

Parliamentary Privilege.—The Lords propose, pursuant to their Message of 31st July, that the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege do meet on Tuesday 18th November at Eleven o'clock in Committee Room 4.

5 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 63].

6 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—The Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 64].

7 Parliamentary Privilege.—Ordered, That so much of the Lords Message [this day] as relates to the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege be now considered.

So much of the 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.

8 Adjournment (British defence policy).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);

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

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

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 by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Animals.—Report of the Animal Procedures Committee for 1996 [Cm. 3777] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Antigua and Barbuda (No. 1, 1997).—Agreement, done at St. John’s on 10th March 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Antigua and Barbuda concerning the Investigation, Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime [Cm. 3741] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Australia (No. 1, 1997).—Agreement, done at Canberra on 6th February 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Australia concerning the Investigation, Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime [Cm. 3742] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Colombia (No. 1, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 11th February 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Colombia concerning Mutual Assistance in Relation to Criminal Matters [Cm. 3743] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Defence.—Ministry of Defence Performance Report for 1996-97 [Cm. 3781] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Education.—Paper, entitled Excellence For All Children: Meeting Special Educational Needs [Cm. 3785] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 Environmental Pollution.—Twentieth Report of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution: Transport and the Environment-Developments since 1994 [Cm. 3752] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 European Communities (No. 8, 1997).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 21st May 1997, to the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Russian Federation, of the other part [Cm. 3733] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 European Communities (No. 9, 1997).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 10th April 1997, to the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part [Cm. 3734] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10 European Communities (No. 10, 1997).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 15th May 1997, to the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Moldova, of the other part [Cm. 3735] [Mr Secretary Cook].

11 European Communities (No. 11, 1997).—Convention, done at Brussels on 29th November 1996, on the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgements in Civil and Commercial Matters and to the Protocol on its Interpretation by the Court of Justice, with the Adjustments made to them by the Convention on the Accession of the Kingdom of Denmark, of Ireland and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, by the Convention on the Accession of the Hellenic Republic and by the Convention on the Accession of the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic [Cm. 3745] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 European Communities (No. 12, 1997).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 19th June 1997, drawn up, on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty of European Union and Article 41(3) of the Europol Convention, on the Privileges and Immunities of Europol, the members of its organs, the Deputy Directors and employees of Europol [Cm. 3767] [Mr Secretary Cook].

13 European Communities (No. 13, 1997).—Framework Agreement, done at Luxembourg on 28th October 1996, for Trade and Co-operation between the European Community and its Member States, on the one hand, and the Republic of Korea, on the other hand, with Minutes of the Signing and Joint Declaration [Cm. 3770] [Mr Secretary Cook].

14 Human Rights.—Paper, entitled Rights Brought Home: the Human Rights Bill [Cm. 3782] [Mr Secretary Straw].
15 Immigration,—Paper, entitled Control of Immigration: Statistics, United Kingdom 1996 [Cm. 3737] [Mr Secretary Straw].

16 Law Commission,—Report of the Law Commission on Shareholder Remedies [Cm. 3769] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

17 Metropolitan Police,—(1) Accounts of the Metropolitan Police Fund for 1994–95, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Cm. 3747], and

(2) Report of the Metropolitan Police Committee for 1996–97 [Mr Secretary Straw].

18 Miscellaneous (No. 9, 1997),—World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Copyright Treaty, done at Geneva from 2nd to 20th December 1996 [Cm. 3736] [Mr Secretary Cook].

19 Miscellaneous (No. 10, 1997),—European Convention, done at Strasbourg on 2nd October 1996, relating to Questions on Copyright Law and Neighbouring Rights in the Framework of Transfrontier Broadcasting by Satellite [Cm. 3751] [Mr Secretary Cook].

20 Monopolies and Mergers,—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on—

(1) The proposed transfer to Mirror Group plc of the newspapers of Midland Independent Newspapers plc,

(2) Solicitors’ estate agency services in Scotland: the supply of residential estate agency services in Scotland, and

(3) The merger situation between London Clubs International plc and Capital Corporation PLC [Cm. 3762, 3699 and 3721] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


22 National Lottery,—Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Mr Secretary Dewar].

23 Northern Ireland,—Account of the Public Income and Expenditure of Northern Ireland for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [Cm. 3750] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

24 Police (Scotland),—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland for 1996–97 [Cm. 3756] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

25 Prisons,—Statistics of offences against prison discipline and punishments in England and Wales for 1996 [Cm. 3715] [Mr Secretary Straw].

26 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland for 1996–97 [Cm. 3726] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

27 Romania (No. 1, 1997),—Agreement, done at Bucharest on 14th November 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Romania concerning the Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime [Cm. 3754] [Mr Secretary Cook].

28 Royal Fine Art Commission,—Report of the Royal Fine Art Commission for 1996 [Cm. 3760] [Mr Secretary Straw].

29 Science and Technology,—(1) Government Response to the Second Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, Session 1996–97, EU Framework Programme for European Research and Technological Development, and

(2) Government Response to the Third Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, Session 1996–97, The Innovation-Exploitation Barrier [Cm. 3787 and 3786] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

30 Scottish Sports Council,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council Trust Company for 1996–97 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

31 Sports Councils,—(1) Accounts of the Sports Council and Sports Council Group for 1996–97, and

(2) Accounts of the UK Sports Council for the period 19th September 1996 to 31st March 1997, and
168

27th October 1997

Vol. 254


with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Mr Secretary Smith].

32 Treaty Series (No. 46, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Maputo on 4th and 10th July 1995 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Mozambique concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Mozambique Debt Agreement No. 4 (1993) Amendment) [Cm. 3730] [Mr Secretary Cook].

33 Treaty Series (No. 47, 1997),—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 [Cm. 3731] [Mr Secretary Cook].

34 Treaty Series (No. 48, 1997),—Notes exchanged at London on 10th and 25th June 1996 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Bolivia concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Bolivia Debt Agreement No. 6 (1995)) [Cm. 3738] [Mr Secretary Cook].

35 Treaty Series (No. 49, 1997),—Notes exchanged at London on 15th and 22nd July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America concerning the Establishment on Ascension Island of an Additional Facility to be operated on behalf of the United States Air Force [Cm. 3739] [Mr Secretary Cook].

36 Treaty Series (No. 50, 1997),—1996 Amendments, adopted at London on 11th January 1996, to the Annex to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, as Amended (Resolution FAL.5(24)) [Cm. 3740] [Mr Secretary Cook].

37 Treaty Series (No. 51, 1997),—Agreement, done at Zagreb on 21st February 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on Co-operation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science [Cm. 3746] [Mr Secretary Cook].

38 Treaty Series (No. 52, 1997),—Agreement, done at London on 11th December 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments [Cm. 3748] [Mr Secretary Cook].

39 Treaty Series (No. 53, 1997),—Supplementary Agreement, done at London on 6th June 1996, amending the Agreement on Social Security between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America, with Supplementary Administrative Agreement [Cm. 3749] [Mr Secretary Cook].

40 Treaty Series (No. 54, 1997),—Agreement, done at Belfast on 26th August 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Ireland establishing the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning [Cm. 3753] [Mr Secretary Cook].

41 Treaty Series (No. 55, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Dakar on 9th October and 13th November 1995 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Senegal concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Senegal Debt Agreement No. 11 (1995)) [Cm. 3755] [Mr Secretary Cook].

42 Treaty Series (No. 56, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Lusaka on 30th May and 5th June 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Zambia concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Zambia Debt Agreement No. 6 (1996)) [Cm. 3757] [Mr Secretary Cook].

44 Treaty Series (No. 58, 1997),—Extradition Treaty, done at London on 18th July 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Federative Republic of Brazil [Cm. 3759] [Mr Secretary Cook].


46 Treaty Series (No. 60, 1997),—Notes exchanged at Sana'a on 26th August 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Yemen concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Yemen Debt Agreement No. 1 (1997)) [Cm. 3766] [Mr Secretary Cook].

47 Treaty Series (No. 61, 1997),—Final Act, done at London from 26th June to 7th July 1995, of the 1995 Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 as amended in 1995 [Cm. 3772] [Mr Secretary Cook].

48 Treaty Series (No. 62, 1997),—Second supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1997 [Cm. 3765] [Mr Secretary Cook].

49 Treaty Series (No. 63, 1997),—Agreement, done at London on 1st November 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Chile concerning Mutual Assistance in relation to Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances [Cm. 3775] [Mr Secretary Cook].

50 Treaty Series (No. 64, 1997),—Adjustments, adopted at Vienna from 5th to 7th December 1995, to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (done at Montreal on 16th September 1987) [Cm. 3778] [Mr Secretary Cook].

51 Tribunals and Inquiries,—Report by the Council on Tribunals on Tribunals: their Organisation and Independence [Cm. 3744] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

5th August 1997

52 Sea Fisheries,—Fishing Vessels (Decommissioning) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1924), dated 4th August 1997 [Dr John Cunningham].

22nd October 1997

53 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2509), dated 21st October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1st August 1997

54 Agriculture,—Bovines and Bovine Products (Despatch Prohibition and Production Restriction) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1905), dated 1st August 1997 [Dr John Cunningham].


56 Gaming and Lotteries,—Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1828), dated 25th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].


58 Criminal Law,—(1) Transfer of Prisoners (Isle of Man) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1775), and
(2) Transfer of Prisoners (Restricted Transfers) (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1776), dated 22nd July 1997 [Mrs Ann Taylor].


60 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1742), dated 22nd July 1997 [Mrs Ann Taylor].


64 National Health Service,—Birmingham Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1791), dated 24th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4th August 1997

65 Environmental Protection,—Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release and Risk Assessment-Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1900), dated 30th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

66 Merchant Shipping,—Oil Pollution (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1820), dated 23rd July 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5th August 1997


6th August 1997

70 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution: Substances Other than Oil) (Intervention) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1869), dated 29th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7th August 1997

Criminal Law,—Knives (Forfeited Property) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1907), dated 25th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].


Housing,—Housing (Prescribed Forms) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1903), dated 30th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


8th August 1997


Horse Racing and Betting,—Horse Racing (Charges on Bookmakers) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 353), dated 30th July 1997 [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


11th August 1997

Building and Buildings,—Building Standards (Relaxation by Local Authorities) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1872), dated 28th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Criminal Law,—Sex Offenders (Certificate of Caution) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1921), dated 2nd August 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].


[Mr Secretary Blankett].


88 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Training Certification and Safe Manning) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1911), dated 31st July 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

89 National Health Service.—National Health Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1888), dated 30th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

90 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1916), dated 25th July 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


   (2) Royal Ulster Constabulary (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 362),

   (3) Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) (Appointment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 363), and


   dated 5th August 1997 [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


94 Town and Country Planning (Scotland).—(1) Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1870), and

   (2) Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1871),

   dated 23rd July 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12th August 1997

95 Housing.—Rent Officers (Housing Benefit Functions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1984), dated 12th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


13th August 1997


100 Legal Aid and Advice.—Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1985), dated 7th August 1997 [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

15th August 1997

102 Housing (Scotland),—Rent Officers (Housing Benefit Functions) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1995), dated 15th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

19th August 1997

103 Education,—Nursery Education (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2006), dated 18th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

20th August 1997

104 Education (Scotland),—Education (Fees and Awards) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2008), dated 11th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

105 Housing,—Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2001), dated 15th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Davies].


21st August 1997


22nd August 1997

111 Local Government (Scotland),—(1) Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1980), and


dated 4th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

26th August 1997


113 Housing,—Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2046), dated 26th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

114 Medicines,—(1) Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2045), dated 21st August 1997, and

(2) Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2044), dated 26th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

27th August 1997


28th August 1997

117 Food,—(1) Animal By-products (Identification) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2073), and
(2) Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2074), dated 27th August 1997 [Dr John Cunningham].

118 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2070), dated 26th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

29th August 1997

119 National Health Service,—Lambeth Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2041), dated 21st August 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

120 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Kent) (Borough of Maidstone) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2078), dated 28th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

121 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2055), dated 24th August 1997 [Secretary Harriet Harman].

2nd September 1997


4th September 1997


5th September 1997

124 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—(1) Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2080), and
(2) Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2079), dated 23rd August 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].

125 Race Relations,—Race Relations (Complaints to Industrial Tribunals) (Armed Forces) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2161), dated 29th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Robertson].

126 Sex Discrimination,—(1) Equal Pay (Complaints to Industrial Tribunals) (Armed Forces) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2162), and
(2) Sex Discrimination (Complaints to Industrial Tribunals) (Armed Forces) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2163), dated 29th August 1997 [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8th September 1997


9th September 1997

128 Education,—(1) Education (Grant-Maintained Special Schools) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2175),
(3) Education (Qualifications and Curriculum Authority and Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales) (Transfer of Property and Designation of Staff) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2172), dated 4th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and
46 ELIZ. II

27th October 1997

175

(4) Education (Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales)
[Mr Secretary Davies].

129 Local Government.—(1) Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 2)
Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2095), dated 27th August 1997, and
(2) Local Government Changes for England (Direct Labour Organisations) (East
September 1997
[Mr Mr Secretary Prescott].

130 Road Traffic and Vehicles.—Road Traffic Offenders (Appropriate Driving Test) Order
(Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 370), dated 14th August 1997 [Secretary
Marjorie Mowlam].

10th September 1997

131 Customs and Excise.—Gaming Duty Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2196), dated 9th
September 1997 [Dawn Primarolo].

132 Education.—Education (Further Education Institutions Information) (England)
(Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2173), dated 9th September 1997 [Mr
Secretary Blunkett].

11th September 1997

133 Immigration.—Immigration (Exemption from Control) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1997
(S.I., 1997, No. 2207), dated 10th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].

12th September 1997

134 International Immunities and Privileges.—Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act
September 1997 [Mr Secretary Cook].

135 Social Security.—Income-related Benefits and Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2)
Harman].

15th September 1997

136 Food.—Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2238),
dated 15th September 1997 [Dr John Cunningham].

2205), dated 10th September 1997, and
2237), dated 15th September 1997
[Secretary Harriet Harman].

138 Telecommunications.—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (ACC Long
Distance UK Limited) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2177),
(2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Advanced Radio Telecom
Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2180),
(3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Coventry Cable Limited) Order
1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2178),
(4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Diamond Cable Communications
(UK) Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2179), and
(5) Public Telecommunication System Designation (RadioTel Systems Limited) Order
1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2181),
dated 4th September 1997 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

18th September 1997

139 Education.—Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation (No. 3) Order 1997
(S.I., 1997, No. 2258), dated 17th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

140 Environmental Protection.—Waste Management Licensing (Amendment) Regulations 1997
(S.I., 1997, No. 2203), dated 6th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>23rd September 1997</td>
<td>142 National Health Service, National Health Service (Proposals for Pilot Schemes) and (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2289), dated 22nd September 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].</td>
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<td>146 Police, (1) National Crime Squad Service Authority (Levying) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2283), and (2) NCIS Service Authority (Levying) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2284), dated 19th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].</td>
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<td>149 Companies, Companies (Membership of Holding Company) (Dealers in Securities) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2306), dated 23rd September 1997 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].</td>
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<td>155 National Health Service, Portsmouth Health Care National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2276), dated 22nd September 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].</td>
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<td>156 Prisons (Scotland), Parole Board (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2317), dated 24th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].</td>
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157 Road Traffic,—M8 and M9 Special Roads (Newbridge Grade Separation) Speed Limit Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2322), dated 26th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


30th September 1997

159 Road Traffic,—Motor Cycle (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2282), dated 22nd September 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

1st October 1997


2nd October 1997

164 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Hertfordshire) (Borough of Watford) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2304), dated 24th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3rd October 1997

165 Civil Aviation,—Airports (Groundhandling) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2389), dated 3rd October 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

166 Fire Services,—Firemen’s Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2309), dated 25th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].


6th October 1997

168 Education,—Education (Disability Statements for Local Education Authorities) (Wales) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2353), dated 26th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Davies].


7th October 1997


175 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Cargoes) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2366), and
dated 24th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


177 Taxes.—(1) Stamp Duty and Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (Investment Exchanges and Clearing Houses) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2429), and
(2) Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2430),
dated 8th October 1997 [Dawn Primarolo].


[Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


181 Police.—(1) Police Act 1997 (Commencement No. 4 and Transitional Provisions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2390), and
(2) Police Act 1997 (Provisions in relation to the NCIS Service Authority) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2391),
dated 3rd October 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].


183 Value Added Tax.—Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2437), dated 10th October 1997 [Dawn Primarolo].

184 Education.—Education (Grants for Education Support and Training) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2395), dated 6th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Davies].

185 National Health Service.—National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2393), dated 6th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

186 Social Security.—(1) Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2434),
(2) Housing Benefit (Information from Landlords and Agents) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2436), and
(3) Housing Benefit (Recovery of Overpayments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2435),
dated 8th October 1997 [Secretary Harriet Harman].
14th October 1997

187 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2455), dated 13th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

15th October 1997

188 Local Government.—Police Authorities (Standing Orders) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2416), dated 5th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].

189 National Health Service.—National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2468), dated 15th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

17th October 1997


191 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices Audit) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2469), dated 13th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

20th October 1997


193 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2492), dated 15th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


21st October 1997

196 Pensions.—Local Government Pension Scheme (Burnley and Pendle Transport Company Limited) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2467), dated 14th October 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

22nd October 1997


24th October 1997

199 Protection of Wrecks.—Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 4) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2536), dated 23rd October 1997 [Mr Secretary Smith].

200 Food.—Imported Food Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2537), dated 23rd October 1997 [Mr Secretary Dobson].
Other Papers:

1st August 1997

(2) Extradition (Drug Trafficking) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1762),
(3) Extradition (Hijacking) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1763),
(4) Extradition (Internationally Protected Persons) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1764),
(5) Extradition (Protection of Nuclear Material) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1765),
(8) Extradition (Tokyo Convention) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1768) and
(9) Extradition (Torture) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1769),
dated 22nd July 1997 (Mrs Ann Taylor).

(3) United Nations (International Tribunals) (Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda) (Dependent Territories) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1753),
dated 22nd July 1997 [Mrs Ann Taylor].

8th August 1997


12th August 1997


5th September 1997


12th September 1997

206 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2206), dated 11th September 1997 [Mr Secretary Davies].

30th September 1997

207 Police,—Number of Members of Thames Valley Police Authority Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2293), dated 23rd September 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 27th October 1997:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


209 Summer Time,—Draft Summer Time Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Other Papers:

212 Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries,—Report and Accounts of British Shipbuilders for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

213 Census of Production,—Annual Censuses of Production and Construction: Summary Volume 1994 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

214 Civil Aviation,—Statement of determination of pension arrangements for Mr A. G. Herron of the Civil Aviation Authority Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

215 Coal Industry,—Report of the Office of the Subsidence Adviser for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

216 Companies,—Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry pursuant to the Companies Act 1985 entitled Companies in 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

217 Courts and Legal Services,—Statement made by the Lord Chancellor pursuant to Schedule 3 of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 with regard to the pension provision of the Legal Services Ombudsman [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

218 Criminal Statistics,—Paper, entitled Criminal Statistics: Recorded Crimes and Offences involving Firearms, Scotland, 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

219 Crown’s Nominee Account,—Account of the receipts and payments by the Treasury Solicitor in the administration of estates on behalf of the Crown for 1992–96 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

220 Development of Tourism,—(1) Report and Accounts of the British Tourist Authority for 1996–97, with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and (2) Statements of— 
   (i) appointment of David Lunn to the English Tourist Board,
   (ii) appointment of Jennifer Robson to the English Tourist Board, and
   (iii) salaries of chairman and members of the Board of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

221 Education,—Paper, entitled the BEST for Special Education: A Welsh Office Green Paper on Special Educational Needs [by Command] [Cm. 3792] [Mr Secretary Davies].

222 Environmental Protection,—(1) Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Fees and Charges Scheme 1997, 
   (2) Report and Accounts of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee for 1996–97, and 

223 Fisheries,—Report and Accounts of the Sea Fish Industry Authority for 1996–97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

224 Local Government (Scotland),—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 23rd September 1997 on borrowing by— 
   (1) East of Scotland Water Authority, and 
   (2) West of Scotland Water Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

225 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions,—Reports and Accounts of— 
   (1) Devon and Cornwall Development International, 
   (2) East Midlands Development Company, 
   (3) Inward, 
   (4) London First Centre, 
   (5) Northern Development Company, 
   (6) West Midlands Development Agency,
(7) West of England Development Agency Limited, and
(8) Yorkshire and Humberside Development Agency,
for 1996-97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

[by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith]; and
(2) Report and Accounts of the National Museums and Galleries of Wales for 1996-97,
with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Davies].

227 National Audit,— Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
(1) Further Education Colleges in England: Strategies to Achieve and Manage
Growth, and
(2) The Management of Growth in the English Further Education Sector
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 260 and 259] [Clerk of the House].

228 National Health Service (Scotland),— Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State
for Scotland on 24th September 1997 on borrowing by Grampian Healthcare National
Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

230 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Report and Financial Statements of the National
Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting in Scotland for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Dewar].

231 Opticians,— Accounts of the General Optical Council for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

232 Public Petitions,—Observations by the—
(1) Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Lifelong Learning on the Petition [27th
June] from citizens of the United Kingdom for better access to further and higher
education, and
(2) Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [10th
July] from citizens of the United Kingdom for action to continue the search for Ben
Needham
[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

233 Railways,—Report of the Central Rail Users' Consultative Committee for 1996-97 [by Act]
[Mr Secretary Prescott].

234 Severn Bridges,—Financial Statements of Severn River Crossing PLC for the period 1st
January to 31st December 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

235 Special Procedure Orders,—Report by the Chairman of Committees in 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 no Petitions have been presented
against the Manchester Airport (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 [by Act]
[Chairman of Wa, and Means].

236 Statutory Instruments (Notification),—Communications declaring that—
(1) the Bovines and Bovine Products (Despatch Prohibition and Production
Restriction) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1905), and
(2) the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish
and Plants) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2206)
had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why
such copies had not been so laid before the Instruments came into operation [by Standing
Order] [The Speaker].

237 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 Limited,
(2) Advanced Radio Telecom Limited,
(3) Coventry Cable Limited,
(4) Diamond Cable Communications (UK) Limited, and
(5) Radio Tel Systems Limited
[by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

238 Trade and Industry.—Trade and Industry Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon direct access to the Police National Computer [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

239 Transport (Scotland).—Reports and Accounts for 1996-97 of—
(1) Caledonian MacBrayne Limited, and
(2) David MacBrayne Limited
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

240 United Kingdom Ecolabelling Board.—Accounts of the UK Ecolabelling Board for 1996-97 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers withdrawn:

241 Criminal Justice.—Report of the Serious Fraud Office for 1996-97 [laid 14th July].

242 Landlord and Tenant.—Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (Service Charges, Insurance or Appointment of Managers Applications) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1853), dated 28th July 1997 [laid 30th July].

APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

1 Standing Committee B.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had appointed Julie Kirkbride to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Social Security Bill.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee, That it had discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Bowen Wells (nominated in respect of the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Falkland Islands) Order 1997 and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Lesotho) Order 1997); and had appointed in substitution Mr Julian Brazier.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 23rd September [Teacher Supply]; to be printed [Nos. 262-i and -ii];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 14th October [Further Education]; to be printed [Nos. 264-i and -ii];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 24th September and 15th October [The Dearing Report; funding, access and participation]; to be printed [Nos. 241-ii, -iii and -iv];

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 25th September [The New Deal]; to be printed [Nos. 263-i and -ii]; and

(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 16th October [The Relationship between TECs and Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 265-i];

[ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]

and

(6) Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee [Teacher Supply; The Dearing Report: funding, access and participation; The New Deal]
[Clerk of the House].

2 Home Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 13th October [The Work of the Lord Chancellor’s Department]; to be printed [No. 257-i];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 13th and 20th
October [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures]; to be printed [Nos. 258-i and -ii]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 20th October [The Operation of the Criminal Cases Review Commission]; to be printed [No. 273-i] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]

[Clarin of the House].

3 International Development,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 14th October [Montserrat]; to be printed [No. 267-i and -ii] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the International Development Committee [Montserrat];

[Clarin of the House].

4 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 23rd October; to be printed [No. 283-i] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select Committees (adjournment of the House))]

[Clarin of the House].

5 Standards and Privileges,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Standards and Privileges on 14th October [Complaints from Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, The Guardian and others against 25 Members and former Members]; to be printed [No. 261] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]

[Clarin of the House].

6 Treasury,—First Report from the Treasury Committee [Accountability of the Bank of England], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 282] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]

[Clarin of the House].

[No. 56.]

Tuesday 28th October 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Winchester 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 Winchester, in the room of Mark Oaten, Esquire, whose election on 1st May 1997 has been declared to be void.—(Mr Paul Tyler.)

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

The Lords have agreed to the Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend sections 12 and 13 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980; to make further provision, in relation to certain criminal proceedings in magistrates' courts, about the proof of previous convictions and orders; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 67].

4 Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 66].

5 Bank of England Bill,—Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Alistair Darling, Dawn
Primarolo, Mr Geoffrey Robinson and Mrs Helen Liddell, presented a Bill to make provision about the constitution, regulation, financial arrangements and functions of the Bank of England, including provision for the transfer of supervisory functions; to amend the Banking Act 1987 in relation to the provision and disclosure of information; to make provision relating to appointments to the governing body of a designated agency under the Financial Services Act 1986; to amend Schedule 5 to that Act; to make provision relating to the registration of Government stocks and bonds; to make provision about the application of section 207 of the Companies Act 1989 to bearer securities; 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 62].

6 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Nick Raynsford and Glenda Jackson, presented a Bill to make provision for the holding of a referendum on the establishment of a Greater London Authority and for expenditure in preparation for such an Authority; and to confer additional functions on the Local Government Commission for England in connection with the establishment of such an Authority: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 61].

7 Prevention of Delay in Trials,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide that a person indicted for a serious criminal offence shall be brought to trial within a period of not more than 110 days; and for connected purposes: And that Miss Anne McIntosh, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr James Gray, Mr David Prior, Mr Andrew Tyrie, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Robert Walter, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mrs Theresa May and Mr Nick St. Aubyn do prepare and bring it in.

8 Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill,—Miss Anne McIntosh accordingly presented a Bill to provide that a person indicted for a serious criminal offence shall be brought to trial within a period of not more than 110 days; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 69].

9 Adjournment (British defence policy),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);
The Motion was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn.

10 Public Accounts,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 148 (Committee of Public Accounts) be amended, in line 7, by leaving out the word ‘fifteen’ and inserting the word ‘sixteen’.—(Mr David Clelland.)

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);
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 Merchant Shipping,—Draft General Lighthouse Authorities (Beacons: Maritime Differential Correction Systems) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Civil Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997,
(2) draft Deregulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997,
(3) draft Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997,
(4) draft Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and
(5) draft Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
[by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

3 Transport and Works,—Draft Transport and Works (Descriptions of Works Interfering with Navigation) (Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
### Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

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<th>No.</th>
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<th>Date of Resolution</th>
<th>Responsible Person</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Health and Safety, Health and Safety (Fees) Regulations 1997</td>
<td>(S.I., 1997, No. 2505), dated 20th October 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Magistrates' Courts, Licensing (Fees) (Variation) Order 1997</td>
<td>(S.I., 1997, No. 2501), dated 18th October 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Trade Union and Labour Relations, Draft Revised Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service Codes of Practice on—</td>
<td>(1) Disciplinary practice and procedures in employment, (2) Disclosure of information to trade unions for collective bargaining purposes, and (3) Time off for trade union duties and activities [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Water (Scotland), Surface Waters (Fishlife) (Classification) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2471), and Surface Waters (Shellfish) (Classification) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2470), dated 9th October 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].</td>
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### Other Papers:

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<td>10</td>
<td>Appropriation Accounts, 1996–97, Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for Class X (National Heritage) for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251-X] [Dawn Primarolo].</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Criminal Justice, Accounts of the Parole Board for England and Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 269] [Clerk of the House]; and</td>
<td>(2) Report of the Parole Board for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 252] [Mr Secretary Straw].</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>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 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No.244] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Museums and Galleries, Accounts of the National Museum of Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 288] [Clerk of the House].</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>National Audit, Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the PFI Contracts for Bridgend and Fazakerley Prisons [by Act]; to be printed [No. 253] [Clerk of the House].</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>National Lottery, Account of the Sports Council for Wales Lottery Distribution for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 290] [Clerk of the House].</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Police, Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 246] [Mr Secretary Straw].</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Science and Technology, Accounts of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 289] [Clerk of the House]; and</td>
<td>(2) Report of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].</td>
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APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—First Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Press Activity Affecting Court Cases; Government Response to the Second Report from the National Heritage Committee, Session 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 292] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) First Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Teacher recruitment: what can be done?], 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. 262];

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Teacher Supply] [Ms Margaret Hodge]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 28th October [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-iii] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 28th October [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-ij]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-III] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 28th October [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures]; to be printed [No. 258-iii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 28th October [Montserrat]; to be printed [No. 267-iii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 28th October; to be printed [No. 285] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Tenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-x] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 57.]

Wednesday 29th October 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 Greg Pope);

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

2 Chairmen’s Panel,—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Chairmen’s Panel, That the Panel had agreed to a Report, which they 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. 296].

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income)
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 New Member sworn,—Alexander John Randall, Esquire, Member for Uxbridge, was sworn.

5 Supreme Court (Offices) Bill,—Mr Geoffrey Hoon, supported by Mr Attorney General, Mr Peter Kilfoyle and Jane Kennedy, presented a Bill to make provision with respect to the qualification for appointment as, and tenure of office of, Permanent Secretary to the Lord Chancellor and Clerk of the Crown in Chancery: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 68].

6 European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—Mr Secretary Straw, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Dewar, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr George Howarth, presented a Bill to amend the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978 so as to alter the method used in Great Britain for electing Members of the European Parliament; to make other amendments of enactments relating to the election of Members of the European Parliament; 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 65].

7 Hare Coursing,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make hare coursing illegal—(Mr Colin Pickthall);

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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business): It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr David Amess, Jackie Ballard, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Mike Hall, Mr John Heppell, Mr Edward O'Hara, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Alan Meale and Angela Smith do prepare and bring in the Bill.

8 Hare Coursing Bill,—Mr Colin Pickthall accordingly presented a Bill to make hare coursing illegal: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 70].

9 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords].—The Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

10 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) any expenses of the Secretary of State under the Act, and
(2) any sums required by the Secretary of State for the purpose of making—

(a) refunds in respect of charges paid in respect of licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, and
(b) grants relating to the efficient use or management of the electro-magnetic spectrum for wireless telegraphy—(Mr Clive Betts): It was agreed to.

11 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the imposition, in respect of licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, of increased charges payable into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Clive Betts): It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.
13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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 Negative Resolution:

1 Housing.—Draft Statutory Guidance under Section 604A of the Housing Act 1985 on the Relocation Grant introduced by Part IV of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Telecommunications.—Public Telecommunication System Designation (Viatel UK Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2561), dated 17th September 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

3 Administration of Justice.—Accounts of Funds in Court in England and Wales for 1995-96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 294] [Clerk of the House].

4 Atomic Energy Authority.—Report and Accounts of British Nuclear Fuels plc. for 1996-97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Customs and Excise.—Report and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Customs and Excise for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3776] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 European Communities (No. 14, 1997).—Treaty of Amsterdam, done at Amsterdam on 2nd October 1997, amending the Treaty on European Union, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and certain related Acts, including the Protocols, with Final Act, Declarations and consolidated versions of the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community [by Command] [Cm. 3780] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Inland Revenue.—Report and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Inland Revenue for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3771] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Justices of the Peace.—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of the Magistrates’ Courts Service for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 248] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

9 Law Commissions.—Report by the Scottish Law Commission on Interpretation in Private Law [by Act]; to be printed [No. 254] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

10 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on—

(1) the Petition [9th July] from the residents of Dedham Vale and others for the protection of the natural heritage in Dedham Vale and elsewhere against the erection of mobile telecommunications masts,

(2) the Petition [28th July] from Ash Green Residents Association for anti-noise pollution measures along the elevated section of the M6 around Junction 3, and

(3) the Petition [28th July] from residents of Barbridge and Wardle for increased road safety measures on the A51 between Nantwich and Tarporley [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

11 Science and Technology.—Report of the Economic and Social Research Council for 1996-97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

12 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into force 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) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2509)

[by Standing Order] [The Speaker]

13 Telecommunications.— Licence granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to Viatel UK Limited [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

14 Treaty Series (No. 65, 1997),—Final Acts, adopted at Kyoto on 14th October 1994, of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union with Instruments amending the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union, Decisions, Resolutions and Recommendations [by Command] [Cm. 3779] [Mr Secretary Cook].

15 Treaty Series (No. 66, 1997),—Treaty, done at Bangkok on 12th September 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters [by Command] [Cm. 3783] [Mr Secretary Cook].

16 Welsh Church.—Council of the City and County of Swansea (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund) Scheme 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(1) The Speaker has allocated the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2509) to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of the Committee; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the said Committee, viz: Mr Russell Brown, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Frank Doran, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Dr Liam Fox, Maria Fyie, Mr Oliver Heald, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Mr David Maclean, Sir Robert Smith and Mr James Wray.

European Standing Committees

1 European Standing Committee A,—European Community Document No. 10040/97, relating to TSE: prohibition of risk material, has been referred to European Standing Committee A in place of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 21st July 1997, referred on 30th July.

2 European Standing Committee B,—European Community Document No. 10385/97, relating to the Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Development (RTD), together with European Community Document No. 7310/97, referred on 22nd July, has been referred to European Standing Committee B; and the Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Committee in respect of those documents.

3 European Standing Committee B,—European Community Document No. 10153/97, relating to the Draft General Budget for 1998, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 29th October [Earth Summit II towards Kyoto]; to be printed [No. 287-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 29th October [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

2 European Legislation,—Fourth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-iv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].
3 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 29th October [Current Public Expenditure Plans For Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 295]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Current Public Expenditure Plans; Fraudulent use of Diesel Fuel in Northern Ireland]

[Mr Peter Brooke].

4 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 29th October [The work of the Scottish Office]; to be printed [No. 293] [Mr David Marshall].

5 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 29th October [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 283] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 58.]

Thursday 30th October 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Beckenham 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 Beckenham in the room of Piers Rolf Garfield Merchant, Esquire, who since his election for the said Borough Constituency hath accepted the Office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty's Manor of Northstead in the County of York. —(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

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

Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 (Petition 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 Petition of General Objection against the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 stands referred; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Committee of the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman; and they propose that the Committee do meet on Tuesday 11th November at Three o'clock in Committee Room 4.

3 European Communities (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Secretary Cook, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Dr John Cunningham, Mr Secretary Robertson, Mrs Ann Taylor and Mr Doug Henderson, presented a Bill to make provision consequential on the Treaty signed at Amsterdam on 2nd October 1997 amending the Treaty on European Union, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and certain related Acts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 3rd November and to be printed [Bill 71].

4 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill,—Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Robertson and Mr Adam Ingram, presented a Bill to postpone the expiry and otherwise make amendments of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996; and for connected purposes; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 3rd November and to be printed [Bill 72].

5 Standards and Privileges (Suspension of a Member).—Resolved, That this House—

(i) approves the Sixth Report of the Committee on Standards and Privileges (HC 182);

(ii) accordingly suspends Mr Robert N. Wareing, Member for Liverpool, West Derby, from the service of the House for one week, with suspension of his salary as a Member for that period; and

(iii) requires him to withdraw from the precincts of the House for that period.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

Ordered,—That Mr Robert N. Wareing be suspended from the service of the House for one week, with suspension of his salary for that period; and that he do withdraw from the precincts for that period.
6 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords].—The Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of a Minister of the Crown incurred in consequence of the Act.—(Ms Bridget Prentice).—It was agreed to.

8 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 25th June.—(Ms Bridget Prentice).—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.

9 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 25th June.—(Ms Bridget Prentice).—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. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Falkland Islands) Order 1997 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 25th June.—(Ms Bridget Prentice).—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. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Lesotho) Order 1997 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 25th June.—(Ms Bridget Prentice).—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 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Dawn Primarolo be added to the Committee of Public Accounts.—(Ms Bridget Prentice.)

13 Liaison.—Ordered, That Mr Peter Brooke, Sir Sydney Chapman, Dr Michael Clark, Mr David Davis, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr Dennis Turner and Mr Nicholas Winterton be members of the Liaison Committee.—(Ms Bridget Prentice.)

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Ms Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes to Seven o'clock, adjourned till Monday 3rd November.

[Adjourned at 6.54 pm]
APPENDIX 1

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Social Security.—Housing Benefit (Recovery of Overpayments) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2619), dated 30th October 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other Papers:

2 Agricultural Marketing.—Report and Accounts of Food from Britain for 1996-97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

3 Criminal Justice.—Report of the Serious Fraud Office for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 284] [Mr Attorney General].

4 Export of Works of Art.—Report of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art for the period 1st July 1996 to 30th June 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3768] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Law Commission (Scotland).—Report by the Scottish Law Commission for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 256] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 National Lottery.—(1) Accounts of the Millennium Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 300];

   (2) Accounts of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 299]

   [Clerk of the House];

   (3) Report and Accounts of the Millennium Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and


   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Oil and Pipelines.—Report and Accounts of the Oil and Pipelines Agency for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 30th October [The Royal Opera House]; to be printed [No. 199-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health.—Memorandum laid before the Health Committee [Public Expenditure on Health and Personal Social Services]; to be printed [No.297] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 International Development.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 30th October [Montserrat]; to be printed [Nos. 267-iv and -v]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Montserrat]

   [Mr Bowen Wells].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 (Petition of General Objection).—Ordered, That the Lords Message [30th October] relating to the Joint Committee on the Petition of General Objection to the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 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.

2 Welsh Affairs.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), That the matter of North Wales and the Government's proposals for a Welsh Assembly, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mr Jim Dowd)—It was agreed to.

3 Firearms (Amendment) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Alun Michael);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr David Jamieson: 291.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr Oliver Heald: 155.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2 was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendment No. 3.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Alun Michael);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Kevin Hughes: 292.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 160.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 and 3.—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Ordered, That Mr James Cran, Mr John Greenway, Jane Kennedy, Mr Alun Michael and Mr Colin Pickthall be members of the Committee.—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Ordered, That three be the Quorum of the Committee.—(Mr Alun Michael.)

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Alun Michael.)

4 Education (Student Loans) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Education (Student Loans) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendments (Nos. 1 to 5) 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 Jon Owen Jones, Mr Greg Pope: 293*.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Elfyn Llwyd: 24.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

5 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Welsh Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 18th November at half-past Ten o'clock to take questions under Standing Order No. 103 (Welsh Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and to consider the matter of North Wales and the Government's proposals for a Welsh Assembly under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales))—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

6 Supreme Court (Offices) Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Supreme Court (Offices) 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 David Jamieson.)

7 Firearms (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Alun Michael 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 Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to the Amendments made by the Lords after Clause 1 and after Clause 2, for the following Reason:

Because the Commons do not consider it appropriate for the Bill to provide for any special exemptions to apply to the prohibition of small-calibre pistols.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes to Nine o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.32 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 31st October 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12).

1 Treaty Series (No. 67, 1997),—Protocol, 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 Kingdom of Denmark to Amend the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains, Signed at Copenhagen on 11th November 1980, as Amended by the Protocol signed at London on 1st July 1991, with Exchange of Notes [Cm. 3784] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 31st October 1997 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12).

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


* The number of Ayes has been altered from 283, as reported by the Tellers, to 293 in accordance with the Speaker's direction on 5th November.
4 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2604), dated 29th October 1997 [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other Papers:

   (2) Angola (United Nations Prohibition of Flights) (Dependent Territories) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2570),
   (8) Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions) (Channel Islands) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2595),
   (9) Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions) (Dependent Territories) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2593), and
   (10) Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions) (Isle of Man) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2600),
   dated 30th October 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 3rd November 1997:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

6 Civil Aviation,—Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


8 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Payments to Employers) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2559), dated 27th October 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].


Other Papers:

10 Churches Conservation,—Report and Accounts of the Churches Conservation Trust for 1996-97 [by Measure] [Mr Secretary Smith].

11 Criminal Procedure and Investigation,—Draft Code of Practice under section 23 of the Criminal Procedure and Investigation Act 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the Residuary Body for Wales for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

13 Members' Interests,—Register of Members' Interests as at 31st October 1997 [pursuant to the Resolutions of 22nd May 1974, 28th June 1993 and 6th November 1995]; to be printed [No. 291] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Exchange of Information on Direct Taxation within the European Union [by Act]; to be printed [No. 276] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Lottery,—(1) Report of the Scottish Sports Council Lottery Sports Fund for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar];
(2) Report of the Arts Council of Wales Lottery Distribution Activities for 1996–97, and

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


[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—The Committee of Selection have discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Ian Davidson (nominated in respect of the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2509)); and appointed in substitution Mr Calum Macdonald.

[No. 60.]

Tuesday 4th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

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

Local Government (Contracts) Bill.—The Lords have agreed to the Local Government (Contracts) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Local Government (Contracts) Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Local Government (Contracts) Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 75].

3 Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 74].

4 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 28th November and to be printed [Bill 76].

5 Division (Numbers incorrectly reported).—Mr Jon Owen Jones and Mrs Margaret Ewing, being Tellers in the Aye Lobby in the Division on Monday 3rd November arising on the Question, That the Education (Student Loans) Bill be now read a third time, came to the Table and informed the House that the numbers voting Aye had been erroneously reported as 283, instead of 293.

Whereupon the Speaker directed the Clerk to correct the number in the Journal accordingly: Ayes 293, Noes 24.

6 Prohibition of Bull Bars.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit the fitting of bull bars to motor vehicles: And that Mr Richard Spring, Mr John Austin, Mr Alan Duncan, Paul Flynn, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Andrew George, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr John Hutton, Sir Peter Lloyd, Alice Mahon, Mr David Ruffley and Mr Desmond Swayne do prepare and bring it in.

7 Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill.—Mr Richard Spring accordingly presented a Bill to prohibit the fitting of bull bars to motor vehicles: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th February and to be printed [Bill 73].

8 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. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.
Government Proposals for Student Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House welcomes the expansion of higher education which has taken place in recent years; shares the view of the Dearing Committee that a further period of expansion is desirable; believes that part of the cost of this expansion should be met by students themselves, but agrees with the Dearing Committee that means-tested maintenance grants make an important contribution to improving access to higher education for students from low-income backgrounds and deeply regrets the Government’s hurried decision to reject this advice; and finds incomprehensible the Government’s proposal that students from other EU countries should be able to attend four-year courses at Scottish universities on terms more favourable than those available to home students living in England, Wales or Northern Ireland.—(Mr Stephen Dorrell);

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 ‘welcomes the decisive response of Her Majesty’s Government to the report of the National Committee of Enquiry into Higher Education and to the crisis of funding in higher education bequeathed by the previous administration; notes with approval the new arrangements for supporting students, including fair repayment arrangements and targeted help for the most disadvantaged; and welcomes the commitment to ensuring that more people will have opportunities to participate in high-quality education to their benefit and to the benefit of the country as a whole’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Blunkett.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr John M. Taylor: 139.
Teller for the Noes Mr Jon Owen Jones, Bridget Prentice: 373.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Bridget Prentice: 311.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Don Foster, Mr Phil Willis: 169.

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 decisive response of Her Majesty’s Government to the report of the National Committee of Enquiry into Higher Education and to the crisis of funding in higher education bequeathed by the previous administration; notes with approval the new arrangements for supporting students, including fair repayment arrangements and targeted help for the most disadvantaged; and welcomes the commitment to ensuring that more people will have opportunities to participate in high-quality education to their benefit and to the benefit of the country as a whole.

Threats to Rural Life and the Rural Economy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House expresses its concern about the economic and environmental pressures currently affecting the rural economy and rural life; calls upon Her Majesty’s Government to respond to this situation by protecting farmers from the effects of the appreciation of sterling, withdrawing the Government-imposed ceiling on the weight of cattle entering the BSE over thirty months scheme and undertaking without precondition discussions with farmers and their representatives about the level of payments to be made through the 1997-98 Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowances scheme; and condemns the proposals to extend access to the countryside by means of a legal right to roam rather than voluntary agreement, not to introduce policies to protect small village shops and rural post offices, to create urban-based regional development agencies, to weaken planning controls designed to protect the Green Belt and the countryside, and to threaten the pursuit of traditional country sports.—(Mr Michael Jack);

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 ‘deplores the neglect of the countryside and rural areas over the past eighteen years by the previous administration; congratulates the Government on its commitment to the countryside; welcomes the Government’s intention to create the conditions necessary to let the rural economy flourish, to protect and enhance the rural environment and to enable everyone to enjoy the countryside; and further welcomes that start already made, notably on the reform of the CAP, the review of the Organic Aid Scheme, introducing Arable Stewardship, and reviewing the legislation for the protection of hedges and SSSIs’, instead thereof.—(Dr John Cunningham.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
Mr James Arbuthnot 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, That the original words stand part of the Question; The House divided. Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr James Cran: 133. Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 371. So the Question was negatived. And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments); The House divided. Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 319. Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Patrick McLoughlin: 171. So the Question was agreed to. The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to. Resolved, That this House deplores the neglect of the countryside and rural areas over the past eighteen years by the previous administration; congratulates the Government on its commitment to the countryside; welcomes the Government’s intention to create the conditions necessary to let the rural economy flourish, to protect and enhance the rural environment and to enable everyone to enjoy the countryside; and further welcomes the start already made, notably on the reform of the CAP, the review of the Organic Aid Scheme, introducing Arable Stewardship, and reviewing the legislation for the protection of hedges and SSSIs.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.) 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 Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 Audit (Northern Ireland),— Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Funding of the Council for Positively Belfast [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 268] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

3 Mental Health (Scotland),— Report and Accounts of the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Health,— Government Response to the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Reports from the Health Committee, Session 1996–97, on Health Services for Children and Young People [by Command] [Cm. 3793] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Human Fertilisation and Embryology,— Report and Accounts of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for 1995–96, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 National Audit,— Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Prison Catering [by Act]; to be printed [No. 277] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 4th
November [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1997]; to be printed [No.
310-i];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 4th November [CAP reform:
Agenda 2000]; to be printed [No. 311-i]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety;
MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1997]
[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport
Committee on 4th November [The Royal Opera House]; to be printed [No. 199-iv] [Mr
Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-
Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th November [The New
Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-iv] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the
Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs
Committee on 4th November [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-
ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 4th
November [The Treaty of Amsterdam]; to be printed [No. 305-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 4th
November [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures]; to be printed [No. 258-iv]
[Mr Chris Mullin].

7 Statutory Instruments.—Eleventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory
Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No.
33-xi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Trade and Industry.—(1) Third Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee
[Government Observations on the First Report from the Trade and Industry Committee,
Session 1996-97, on Energy Regulation]; to be printed [No. 307]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 4th
November [The work of the Department of Trade and Industry]; to be printed [No. 308]
[Mr Martin O'Neill].

WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 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 Graham Allen);
And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed,
without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the
First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Food Protection (Emergency
Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2509).
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee B.—Mr John Maxton reported from European Standing
Committee B the following Resolution: That the Committee takes note of European
Community Documents Nos. 7310/97, on the European Fifth Framework Programme
for Research and Technological Development, and 10385/97, on the amended proposal
for the Fifth Framework Programme; and supports the Government's view that the
Commission's proposals would benefit from amendment in key areas to improve focus,
targeting and responsiveness to user needs.
Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
4 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Social Security (Lone Parents) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1790) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—(Mr Jim Dowd);—It was agreed to.

5 War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to end the differential treatment of war widows and war disablement pensioners by local authorities; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr John McWilliam, Mr Daiymdd Wigley, Mr John Austin, Mr David Tredinnick, Mr David Winnick, Mr Dan Norris, Mr John Burnett, Mr John Cryer and Mr Ivan Henderson do prepare and bring it in.

6 War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill.—Mr Andrew Mackinlay accordingly 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 28th November and to be printed [Bill 77].

7 Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

8 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—The Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

9 Ministerial and other Salaries Bill.—Resolved, That, in pursuance of the Parliament Act 1911, this House directs that the provisions of section 1(1) of that Act shall not apply to the Ministerial and other Salaries Bill.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.41 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education (Scotland).—Scottish Examination Board and Scottish Vocational Education Council (Dissolution) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2634), dated 3rd November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Housing.—Draft Statutory Guidance given by the Secretary of State for Wales under Section 604A of the Housing Act 1985 on the Relocation Grant introduced by Part IV of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

3 Legal Aid and Advice.—Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2647), dated 3rd November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

4 Securities.—Gilt Strips (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2646), dated 4th November 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

5 Water Resources.—Surface Waters (Dangerous Substances) (Classification) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2560), dated 24th October 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Forestry.—(1) Accounts of the Forestry Commission for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 250] [Dawn Primarolo];

(2) Accounts of the Forestry Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 312] [Clerk of the House];

(3) Report and Accounts of Forest Enterprise for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 271] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and

(4) Report and Accounts of the Forestry Commission for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 250] [Dr John Cunningham].
7 International Development,—Paper, entitled Eliminating World Poverty: A Challenge for the 21st Century [by Command] [Cm. 3789] [Secretary Clare Short].

8 Law Reform (Scotland)—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Conveyancing and Executry Services Board for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 255] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Pensions,—Accounts of the—
   (1) Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority for 1996-97, and
   (2) Pensions Compensation Board for the period 1st August 1996 to 5th April 1997, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 314 and 315] [Clerk of the House].

10 Science and Technology,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Biotechnology and Biological Services Research Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A and appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Clive Betts, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Ian Bruce, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Michael Fallon, Dr Ian Gibson, Dr Nick Palmer, Ms Linda Perham, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Stephen Timms and Mr Brian White.

2 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D and appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr John Burnett, Mr James Cran, Maria Eagle, Mr John Greenway, Jane Kennedy, Mr Piara S. Khabru, Ms Oona King, Mr Tony McNulty, Fiona Mactaggart, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Colin Pickthall, Ms Claire Ward and Mr Mike Wood.

3 Draft Transport and Works (Description of Works Interfering with Navigation) (Amendment) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Christopher Chope, Angela Eagle, Mr Andrew George, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Stephen Hayes, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Alan Hurst, Ms Jennifer Jones, Mr David Kidney, Fiona Mactaggart, Mr Gordon Prentice, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Robert Syms and Mr John Whittingdale.

4 Fishing Vessels (Decommissioning) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1924):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Scheme to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Ms Candy Atherton, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Richard Burden, Mr James Cran, Mr David Drew, Mr Andrew George, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Elliot Morley, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr James Paice, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr John Townend, Dr George Turner, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Alan Williams.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Tim Boswell, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Terry Davis, Julia Drown, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Stephen McCabe, Ms Dawn Primarolo, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr John Whittingdale.

6 Draft General Lighthouse Authorities (Beacons: Maritime Differential Correction Systems) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Andrew George, Jane Griffiths, Mr Patrick Hall, Glenda Jackson, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mrs Marion Roe, Sir Robert Smith and Mr John M. Taylor.

7 Draft Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Donald Anderson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Iain Coleman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Helen Jackson, Mr David Lock, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Chris Ruane, Christine Russell, Mr Dennis Skinner, the Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr William Thompson, Mr Andrew Tyrie, Mr David Winnick and Mr Tony Worthington.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Simon Burns, Maria Eagle, Caroline Flint, Mr Damian Green, Mr Nick Hawkins, Kate Hoey, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Alan Johnson, Siobhain McDonagh, Shona McIsaac, Gillian Merron, Mr David Rendel, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Nigel Waterson and Steve Webb.

9 Draft Summer Time Order 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Draft Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr John Bercow, Mr Gerald Berinham, Mr Harold Best, Mr Graham Brady, Ms Judith Church, Mr John Greenway, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr George Howarth, Jane Kennedy, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Colin Pickthall, Joan Ryan, Mr Marsha Singh, Angela Smith, Mr Paul Stinchcombe and Mr William Thompson.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tim Boswell, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Edward Davey, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr David Hanson, Mr Ivan Henderson, Ms Sally Keeble, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mrs Helen Liddell, Kali Mountford, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Alan Simpson, Sir Michael Spicer and Mr John Whittingdale.

11 Draft Homeless Persons (Priority Need) (Scotland) Order 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee viz.: Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Martin O'Neill, Ernie Ross, Mr Frank Roy, Mr David Stewart and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

European Standing Committees

12 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 6692, relating to landfill waste sites.

13 European Community Document No. 10510/97, relating to biotechnological inventions, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

14 European Standing Committee A,—The Committee of Selection has added Mr Owen Paterson to the Committee.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 5th November [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
2 European Legislation,—Fifth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-v] [Mr Jim Marshall].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 5th November; to be printed [No. 305-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 5th November [Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 316-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 5th November [Child Support Agency]; to be printed [No. 313-i] [Mr David Davis].


(2) Second Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97 (The Natural Environment Research Council and Research into Climate Change)]; to be printed [No. 306]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 5th November [University funding]; to be printed [No. 303-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

7 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 5th November [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 283-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

8 Standards and Privileges,—Eighth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints from Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, The Guardian and others against 25 Members and former Members: Second Further Report: Mr Neil Hamilton], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 261] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Bank of England Bill]; to be printed [No. 309] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 62.]

Thursday 6th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Internet (Dissemination of Child Pornography) Bill,—The Order for reading the Internet (Dissemination of Child Pornography) Bill a second time on Friday 28th November was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

2 Supreme Court (Offices) Bill,—The Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Supreme Court (Offices) Bill,

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Supreme Court (Offices) Bill be now read a second time.

3 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:

Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1997
Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Act 1997.

4 Supreme Court (Offices) Bill,—The Question being again proposed, That the Supreme Court (Offices) Bill be read a second time;

And the Question being put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Kevin Hughes: 202.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Nick Hawkins: 5.
So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee—(Janet Anderson);

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved.—That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Greg Pope 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 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary of State incurred in consequence of the Act—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

7 Public Health.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) That the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2509), dated 21st October 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 22nd October, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

8 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 11th December, Thursday 29th January, Thursday 26th February, Thursday 26th March, Thursday 4th June and Thursday 2nd July at half-past Ten o’clock—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment.—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.10 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Copyright.—Draft Copyright and Rights in Databases Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education.—Education (Pupil Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2624), dated 6th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
3 Pensions,—(1) Judicial Pensions (Requisite Surviving Spouses' Benefits etc.) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2667), dated 4th November 1997 [by Act]; and

[Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Other Papers:

4 Education.—Report and Accounts of the Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the Natural History Museum for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 318] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Heritage (Scotland),—Accounts of the—
   (1) National Galleries of Scotland,
   (2) National Library of Scotland, and
   (3) National Museums of Scotland

for 1996-97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 324, 322 and 323] [Clerk of the House].

8 Railways,—Objectives, Instructions and Guidance to the Passenger Rail Franchising Director from the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions pursuant to section 5 of the Railway Act 1993 [by Act] [Dr Gavin Strang].

9 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the—
   (1) Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, and
   (2) Research Councils' Pensions Schemes

for 1996-97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [Nos. 320 and 321] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:

   The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the said Order, in place of Mr Donald Anderson.


   The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the said Regulations, in place of Mr Roger Gale.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 6th November [Children Looked After By Local Authorities]; to be printed [No. 319-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 6th November [The Nolan Committee]; to be printed [No. 317] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].
PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment (Innovation and the Role of Small Firms).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Janet Anderson);

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

2 Procedure,—Ordered, That Mr Paul Tyler be discharged from the Select Committee on Procedure and Mr Edward Davey be added to the Committee.—(Bridget Prentice.)

3 Adjournment,—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 10th November.

[Adjourned at 2.55 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 County Courts.—County Court Fees (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2670), dated 5th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


3 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Supreme Court Fees (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2672), dated 5th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Other Papers:

4 Education and Employment Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Employment Service for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 270] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Cataract Surgery in Scotland [by Act]; to be printed [No. 275] [Clerk of the House].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Standing Committee A,—The Committee of Selection have discharged from Standing Committee A Mr Kerry Pollard (nominated in respect of the Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords]); and appointed in substitution Mr John Battle.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—The Committee of Selection have discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Alan Williams (nominated in respect of the Fishing Vessels (Decommissioning) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No.1924)); and appointed in substitution Mr Alan W. Williams.
Monday 10th November 1997.

PRAYERS.

1 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Greater London Authority (Referendum) 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 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill because it fails to provide for Londoners to be consulted on proposals for an Assembly and for a directly elected Mayor separately', instead thereof.—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Sir David Madel: 167.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr John McFall: 342.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Glenda Jackson):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

2 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the charging on and payment out of the Consolidated Fund of—

(a) any fee payable to, or charge made or expenditure incurred by, the Chief Counting Officer, a counting officer or a returning officer which is to be charged on and paid out of that Fund by virtue of an Order in Council under the Act, and

(b) any grant payable by the Secretary of State under the Act to a London borough council or the Common Council of the City of London in respect of expenditure incurred (or to be incurred) by them by virtue of an Order in Council under the Act;

(2) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure of the Secretary of State in connection with the referendum held by virtue of the Act (other than expenditure authorised by paragraph (1) above to be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund);

(b) any payments made by the Secretary of State under the Act to the Local Government Commission for England; and

(c) any expenditure of the Secretary of State in preparation for a Greater London Authority—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

3 House of Commons Members' Fund.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That Mr John Butterfill, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Barry Gardiner, Dr Nick Palmer, Dr Howard Stoate and Ms Gisela Stuart be appointed Managing Trustees of the House of Commons Members' Fund in pursuance of Section 2 of the House of Commons Members' Fund Act 1939—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.
4 Environmental Audit Committee.—Ordered, That—

(1) The following Standing Order (Environmental Audit Committee) be made:

'Environmental Audit Committee

(1) There shall be a select committee, called the Environmental Audit Committee, to consider to what extent the policies and programmes of government departments and non-departmental public bodies contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development; to audit their performance against such targets as may be set for them by Her Majesty’s Ministers; and to report thereon to the House.

(2) The committee shall consist of fifteen members, of whom four shall be a quorum.

(3) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

(4) The committee shall have power—

(a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time;

(b) to appoint specialist advisers to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference;

(c) to communicate its evidence and any other documents relating to matters of common interest to any committee appointed by this House or by the Lords; and

(d) to meet concurrently with any committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments), or any sub-committee thereof, or with any committee appointed by the Lords, or any sub-committee thereof, for the purposes of deliberating or examining witnesses.’

(2) Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) be amended, in line 27, after the word ‘Accounts’, by leaving out the word ‘and’, and in line 28, after the word ‘Committee’, by inserting the words ‘and to the Environmental Audit Committee’.—(Mr David Clelland.)

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.08 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—(1) Food Industry Development Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2673), and

(2) Food Industry Development Scheme (Specification of Activities) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2674),

dated 7th November 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Coast Protection,—Coast Protection (Variation of Excluded Waters) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2675), dated 7th November 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


4 Education,—(1) Education (Teachers) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2679), dated 5th November 1997, and


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Health and Safety,—(1) Carriage of Explosives by Road Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 474), and
(2) Carriage of Explosives by Road (Driver Training) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 475), dated 28th October 1997 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


7 Social Security.—(1) Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2677), and


Other Papers:

8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Examinations at Grant-Maintained Schools in England, 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 301] [Clerk of the House].

9 Welsh Development Agency.—Direction, dated 22nd October 1997, given by the Secretary of State for Wales to the Welsh Development Agency [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees


The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the said Order, in place of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody.

European Standing Committees

2 Landfill Waste Sites (European Community Document No. 6692/97):

The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of the said document, in place of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th November [Highlands and Islands Enterprise: Value for Money Review of Performance]; to be printed [No. 325-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 65.]

Tuesday 11th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Transport and Works (Descriptions of Works Interfering with Navigation) (Amendment) Order 1997.

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

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Fishing Vessels (Decommissioning) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1924).

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

3 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords].—Mr Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords], and had made Amendments thereto.
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 78].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 332].

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

Plant Varieties Bill.—The Lords have agreed to the Plant Varieties Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Parliamentary Privilege.—The Lords propose that the meeting of the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege which stands appointed to meet on Tuesday next, 18th November, do meet instead on Tuesday 25th November at half-past Ten o'clock in Committee Room 4.

The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, to which this House has disagreed.

5 Plant Varieties Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Plant Varieties Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 80].

6 Parliamentary Privilege.—Ordered. That so much of the Lords Message [this day] as relates to the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege be now considered.

So much of the 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.

7 Regulation of Wet Bikes.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the use of wet bikes; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West), Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mr Martin Caton, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Mrs Betty Williams, Mr Chris Ruane, Mr John Gummer, Mr David Hanson and Mr Andrew Mackinlay do prepare and bring it in.

8 Regulation of Wet Bikes Bill.—Mr Gareth Thomas accordingly presented a Bill to regulate the use of wet bikes; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 79].

9 Bank of England Bill.—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Bank of England Bill;

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 364.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 139.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

10 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, Consideration of Lords Amendments to the Local Government (Contracts) Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

11 Local Government (Contracts) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Local Government (Contracts) Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 18 were agreed to.

12 Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (RTD).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7310/97, on the European Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, and 10385/97, on the amended proposal for the Fifth Framework Programme; and supports the Government's view that the Commission's proposals would benefit from amendment in key areas to improve focus, targeting and responsiveness to user needs—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.
13 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) citizens of the United Kingdom for controls on media exploitation of sex and violence, and

(2) the Skipton Support Group for East Timor for an immediate embargo on military aid to Indonesia

were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

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:

Paper subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Draft Air Quality Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 3) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2563), dated 30th October 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].


5 Marine Pollution,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2567), and

(2) Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2569),
dated 30th October 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

6 Merchant Shipping:—(1) Merchant Shipping (Liability and Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage) (Transitional Provisions) (Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2566), and

(2) Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Intervention) (Foreign Ships) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2568),
dated 30th October 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

7 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendment Lists Nos. 1 and 2 to Regulations for the Royal Air Force Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force (First Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies,—Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies Report for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3712] [Dr David Clark].

9 Health and Safety,—Report and Accounts of the Health and Safety Commission for 1996–97, and Accounts of the Health and Safety Executive for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Homeless Persons (Priority Need) (Scotland) Order 1997,—The Committee of Selection have discharged from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Jimmy Hood (nominated in respect of the said Order); and appointed in substitution Mrs Irene Adams.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 11th November [CAP reform: Agenda 2000]; to be printed [No. 311–ii];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 11th November [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331–i]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety]
[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Second Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The New Deal], 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. 263];
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The New Deal];
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 11th November [The Relationship between TECs and Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 265–ii]
[Mr Derek Foster]; and
(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 11 November [Further Education]; to be printed [No. 264–iii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266–iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures]; to be printed [No. 258–v] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 11th November [The Development White Paper]; to be printed [No. 330–i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 11th November [The Work of the Commissioner for Public Appointments]; to be printed [No. 327] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Twelfth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee, to be printed [No. 33–xii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

8 Welsh Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1996–97, on The Preservation of Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments: Follow Up]; to be printed [No. 328]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 10th and 11th November [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329–i and ii]
[Mr Martyn Jones].
PRAYERS.

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

2 Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 (Petition of General Objection).—Mr Bill Etherington reported from the Joint Committee to which the Petition of General Objection of Mr Michael Kingsley against the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 stood referred, pursuant to section 4 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, That it had considered the said Petition; and had directed him to report the Order, without Amendment, to the House, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before it.
Order and Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Payments on Account) (Appeals) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2542).
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft General Lighthouse Authorities (Beacons: Maritime Differential Correction Systems) Order 1997.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Social Security (Lone Parents) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1790), referred on 5th November.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 6692/97, relating to the landfill of waste; and welcomes the intention to set high regulatory standards for landfill sites.
Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

8 New Member sworn.—Douglas Garven Alexander, Esquire, Member for Paisley South, was sworn.

9 Representation of the People (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to extend electoral registration for homeless persons: And that Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Paul Burstow, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Daiydd Wigley, Mr Martin Bell, Mr Tam Dalyell and Mr Paul Flynn do prepare and bring it in.

10 Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill.—Mr Harry Barnes accordingly presented a Bill to extend electoral registration for homeless persons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th January and to be printed [Bill 81].

11 European Communities (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Communities (Amendment) Bill;
And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 392.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr John Whittingdale: 162.

So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Doug Henderson)—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

12 Sea Fisheries,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Fishing Vessels (Decommissioning) Scheme 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1924), dated 4th August 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 5th August, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

13 Transport and Works,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Transport and Works (Descriptions of Works Interfering with Navigation) (Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

14 Environmental Audit,—Ordered, That Mr Bob Blizzard, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr John Horam, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West), Mr Paul Truswell and Joan Walley be members of the Environmental Audit Committee.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.40 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Clean Air,—Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2658), dated 3rd November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

2 Criminal Statistics,—Criminal Statistics for England and Wales for 1996 [by Command][Cm. 3764] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Fire Services,—(1) Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Fire Services for 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3791] [Mr Secretary Straw]; and

(2) Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland for 1996–97 [by Command][Cm. 3788] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the Prison Service for—

(1) 1995–96, and

(2) 1996–97

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 247 and 274] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Miscellaneous (No. 11, 1997),—Draft Agreement, done at Paris on 22nd September 1992, relating to the Commission established by the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the North-east Atlantic 1992 [by Command] [Cm. 3796] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 National Lottery,—Account of the Arts Council of Wales Lottery Distribution for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 334] [Clerk of the House].

7 Science and Technology,—Report of the Natural Environment Research Council for 1996–97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A.

2 Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B.

3 Bank of England Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tim Boswell, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Genta Davies, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr David Kidney, Mr Andy King, Mr Helen Liddell, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr David Ruffley, Jacqui Smith, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr John Whittingdale and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

4 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D.

5 Draft Deregulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr John Grogan, Mr Adam Ingram, Helen Jackson, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Bill Michie, Laura Moffat, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr William Ross, Miss Geraldine Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr Phil Woolas.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Miss Anne Begg, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Sam Galbraith, Mr George Galloway, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr Howard Leaing, Mr John McAllion, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Robert Maclean, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Mr William Thompson and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

7 Draft Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and draft Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Clifford Forysthe, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Kevin McNamara, Dr John Marek, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Owen Paterson, Bridget Prentice, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Ms Dari Taylor, Mr Desmond Turner, Mr Rudi Vis, Mr Cecil Walker and Mr Tony Worthington.

8 Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tom Brake, Tom Cox, Mr Stephen Day, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Gerald Howarth, Glenda Jackson, Mr Andy Love, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr David Wilshire and Ms Rosie Winterton.

9 Draft General Lighthouse Authorities (Beacons: Maritime Differential Correction Systems) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of the Fourth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, in place of Mr Bowen Wells; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Marion Roe from the Committee, and appointed in substitution Mr Patrick McLoughlin.

European Standing Committees

10 European Community Documents Nos. 8582/97, relating to air transport competition rules, and 9984/97, relating to Agenda 2000: as it refers to reform of the CAP, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

11 European Community Documents Nos. 10230/97, relating to part-time work, together with 10975/97, Part A relating to European Works Councils Directive, 10975/97, Part B relating to Parental Leave, Directive PE262 699, relating to the 1998 Draft Budget, together with 10153/97 referred on 29th October, 9984/97, relating to Agenda 2000: as it refers to structural and cohesion policy, and 9984/97, relating to Agenda 2000: as it refers to a new financial framework, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 12th November [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-ii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 12th November [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286-iii] [Mr Eric Pickles].

3 European Legislation,—(1) Sixth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-vi]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 12th November; to be printed [No. 333]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 12th November [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 12th November [The Department for Education and Employment, Remploy Limited]; to be printed [No. 339-i] [Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 12th November [Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research]; to be printed [No. 303-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].

7 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 12th November [Welfare to Work]; to be printed [No. 335-i]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 12th November [Air Services in and out of Scotland]; to be printed [No. 336]

[Mr David Marshall].

8 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 12th November [Progress in the Liberalisation of the Gas Market]; to be printed [Nos. 338-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

ECCLESIASTICAL COMMITTEE

In pursuance of section 2(2) of the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919, the Speaker has nominated Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Martin Bell, Mr Stuart Bell, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Sir Sydney Chapman, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr David Drew, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Frank Field, Mr Derek Foster, Mr John Gummer, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Gordon Marsden and Mr Peter L. Pike to serve, for the duration of the present Parliament, upon the Ecclesiastical Committee.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Standing Orders (Private Business),—Ordered, That the Amendments to the Standing Orders relating to Private Business set out in the Schedule be made.

SCHEDULE

Standing Order 27

Line 73, at end, insert ‘Transport and the Regions’.

Standing Order 27A

Line 24, leave out ‘three’ and insert ‘four’.


Standing Order 29


Standing Order 30


Standing Order 30A


Standing Order 31


Standing Order 32

Line 13, leave out ‘National Rivers Authority’ and insert ‘Environment Agency’.

Standing Order 33

Line 10, leave out ‘National Rivers Authority’ and insert ‘Environment Agency’.

Standing Order 34


Standing Order 37

Line 10, at end insert ‘Transport and the Regions’.

Line 17, at end insert ‘Transport and the Regions’.

Standing Order 39

Line 3, after ‘bill’, insert ‘four at the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions’.

Line 3, leave out ‘at the Department of the Environment and’.

Line 10, leave out ‘of National Heritage’ and insert ‘for Culture, Media and Sport’.

Line 10, leave out ‘the Department of Transport’.

Line 36, leave out ‘Great George Street’ and insert ‘Whitehall’.

Standing Order 42

Line 7, leave out ‘National Rivers Authority’ and insert ‘Environment Agency’.

Standing Order 43

Line 8, leave out ‘National Rivers Authority’ and insert ‘Environment Agency’.

Standing Order 45


Standing Order 47

Standing Order 154

Line 12, leave out 'Transport' and insert 'the Environment, Transport and the Regions'.

Line 27, leave out 'Transport' and insert 'the Environment, Transport and the Regions'.—(The Chairman of Ways and Means.)

2 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Summer Time Order 1997.

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

3 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Financial Services Act 1986 (Extension of Scope of Act) Order 1997.

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

4 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Homeless Persons (Priority Need) (Scotland) Order 1997.

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

5 Religious Discrimination Bill,—Mr John Austin, supported by Mr David Atkinson, Mr Simon Hughes, Fiona Mactaggart, Mr Terry Rooney and Mr Marsha Singh, presented a Bill to make discrimination on the grounds of religion unlawful; to outlaw incitement to religious hatred; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 82].

6 Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund,—Resolved, That Mr John Butterfill, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr John MacGregor, Dr Nick Palmer, Dr Howard Stoate, Ms Gisela Stuart and Paddy Tipping be appointed Managing Trustees of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund in pursuance of Section 1 of the Parliamentary and other Pensions Act 1987.—(Mr John McFall.)

7 House of Commons Members' Fund,—Resolved, That Mr John Butterfill, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Barry Gardiner, Dr Nick Palmer, Dr Howard Stoate and Ms Gisela Stuart be appointed Managing Trustees of the House of Commons Members' Fund in pursuance of Section 2 of the House of Commons Members' Fund Act 1939.—(Mr John McFall.)

8 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Resolved, That this House approves the First Report of the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons: The Legislative Process (HC 190).—(Mr John McFall.)

9 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 17th November, the Speaker shall not later than Ten o'clock put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion on Standards and Privileges in the name of Mrs Ann Taylor and such Questions shall include the Question on any Amendment which has been selected and which may then be moved.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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 Criminal Law (Northern Ireland),—Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, dated 12th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Sheep Annual Premium (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2500), dated 13th October 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

4 Companies.—Companies Act 1985 (Insurance Companies Accounts) (Minor Amendments) Regulations 1997 (S.I. 1997, No. 2704), dated 12th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Health and Safety.—Section 7 of the Petroleum (Production) Act 1934 and Section 2(1)(a) of the Petroleum Act 1987 (Modification) Regulations 1997 (S.I. 1997, No. 2703), dated 11th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers

6 Census.—1991 Census: Key Statistics for Urban and Rural Areas, Great Britain [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

7 Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments.—Report of the Historic Buildings Council for Scotland for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 272] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Bank of England Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Welsh Grand Committee.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Tuesday 18th November.

3 Draft Deregulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Dounreay Nuclear Establishment) Order 1997 (S.I. 1997, No. 2662).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

5 Draft Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and draft Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

6 Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1997,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

7 European Community Document No. 10040/97, relating to TSE: Controls on cattle, sheep and goats.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of the Document.

8 European Community Document No. 10153/97 and Directive PE 262699, relating to the draft Budget of the Community for 1998.—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of the Documents.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 13th November [The Millennium Dome]; to be printed [No. 340-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 13th November [Children Looked After By Local Authorities]; to be printed [No. 319-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 13th November [The Barnett Formula and Public Spending Levels]; to be printed [No. 341] [Mr Giles Radice].
[No. 68.]

Friday 14th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords].—Mr John Maxton reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 17th November; and to be printed [Bill 83].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 344].

2 Adjournment (Policing of London).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Graham Allen);

And it being Eleven o'clock, the Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).

And the Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;

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

3 Finance and Services. —Ordered, That Mr Peter Ainsworth, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Thomas McAvoy, Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr George Mudie, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Dennis Turner and Mr Dave Watts be members of the Finance and Services Committee.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

4 Adjournment. —Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 17th November.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Building Societies.—Building Societies (Transfer Resolutions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2714), dated 13th November 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].


3 Judicature (Northern Ireland).—Court Funds (Amendment No. 3) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 497), dated 12th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

4 Sea Fisheries.—Camus an Lighe, Loch Ceann Traigh, Argyll, Oysters and Scallops Several Fishery Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2711), dated 4th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

5 Treaty Series (No. 70, 1997).—Convention, done at London on 12th May 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Malta 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. 3797] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Monday 17th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

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

British Nationality (St. Helena) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for the acquisition of British citizenship by persons having connections with St. Helena; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Opposition day [4th allotted day] [1st part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Public services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that Britain's key public services, in particular education, health and social care, have been underfunded and undermined by 18 years of Conservative rule; condemns the Government for continuing Conservative spending plans and council-capping and for spending less in the present year in real terms on education, health and social services; expresses alarm at the effect of the last budget inflation forecast, which will reduce the real value of government spending plans for next year by around £5.3 billion; believes that the cumulative effects of government policies will be larger classes, longer waiting times, and less care and treatment, when what the public services need is to be rescued from the vicious circle of cost shunting and crisis management, with sufficient resources to allow the raising of quality and standards for all; and calls on the Government urgently to put the necessary resources into public services, by such measures as switching monies from other departments and by limited but targeted and earmarked increases in taxation—(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 'welcomes the extra £1.5 billion the new Government has made available to the National Health Service since taking office; notes that this is more than the Liberal Democrats promised in their Election Manifesto; further welcomes the £100 million shifted this year out of NHS red tape and into frontline patient care, including £10 million for breast cancer treatment and £5 million for children's intensive care; further welcomes the £1.3 billion hospital building programme announced since the election; welcomes the £2.3 billion extra over Conservative spending plans announced in the Budget for education, including £1.3 billion to tackle the backlog of repairs in schools and to bring further improvements for education in the future; further welcomes the public/private partnership approach adopted in education which will increase that sum further to £2 billion by 2002; welcomes the start that has been made on achieving the Government's pledge to reduce infant class sizes and to phase out the assisted places scheme; welcomes the enormous strides that have begun in improving standards in schools; and congratulates the Government on the commitment that has been thus shown to the public services, in particular in education, health and social services', instead thereof. (Mr Secretary Dobson.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Donald Gorrie: 48.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Clelland: 300.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Clelland: 298.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Donald Gorrie: 43.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House welcomes the extra £1.5 billion the new Government has made available to the National Health Service since taking office; notes that this is more than the Liberal Democrats promised in their Election Manifesto; further welcomes the £100 million shifted this year out of NHS red tape and into frontline patient care, including £10 million for breast cancer treatment and £5 million for children's intensive care; further welcomes the £1.3 billion hospital building programme announced since the election; welcomes the £2.3 billion extra over Conservative spending plans announced in the Budget for education, including £1.3 billion to tackle the backlog of repairs in schools and to bring further improvements for education in the future; further welcomes the
public/private partnership approach adopted in education which will increase that sum further to £2 billion by 2002; welcomes the start that has been made on achieving the Government's pledge to reduce infant class sizes and to phase out the assisted places scheme; welcomes the enormous strides that have begun in improving standards in schools; and congratulates the Government on the commitment that has been thus shown to the public services, in particular in education, health and social services.

3 Standards and Privileges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House approves the Seventh and Eighth Reports from the Committee on Standards and Privileges (HC 240 and 261)—(Mrs Ann Taylor);

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, on an amendment proposed by the honourable Member for Workington, the Committee on Standards and Privileges resolved, nemine contradicente, not to endorse Sir Gordon Downey's findings in respect of Mr Neil Hamilton; expresses its deep concern that the ultimate author of the grave allegations concerning cash payments, Mr Al Fayed, was not called to give evidence before the Committee on oath in public; and believes that justice cannot be done until Mr Al Fayed has been so called', instead thereof.—(Mr Gerald Howarth.)

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

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

Resolved, That this House approves the Seventh and Eighth Reports from the Committee on Standards and Privileges (HC 240 and 261).

4 Environmental Audit.—Ordered, That Mr Cynog Dafis and Mr Matthew Taylor be added to the Environmental Audit Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Stephen Day be discharged from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee and Mr Philip Hammond be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from citizens of Coventry for improved state retirement pensions, action to reform the NHS and reconsideration of the role of 'Care in the Community' was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997, together with a statement from the Secretary of State for the Home Department [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

2 Agriculture,—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Home Grown Cereals Authority, and
(2) Meat and Livestock Commission
for 1996–97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

3 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (Partial Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I. 1997, No. 2735), dated 14th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Statutory Instruments (Notification),—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into force 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) Order 1997 (Partial Revocation) Order 1997 (S.I. 1997, No. 2735)
[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Bank of England Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Butterfill and Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody additional Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—(1) First Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [NHS suppliers in England]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 349];

(2) Second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Health and safety in NHS acute hospital trusts in England]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 350]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 17th November; to be printed [No. 348–i]

[Mr David Provis]

[No. 70.]

Tuesday 18th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of North Wales and the Government’s Proposals for a Welsh Assembly, referred to it on 3rd November, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 96].

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Deregulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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


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

4 National Health Service (Equity of Funding),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to set up an independent National Health Service Funding Advisory Body charged with the task of ensuring an equitable formula for the funding of local health authorities: And that Mr Andrew George, Mr Simon Hughes, Dr Jenny Tonge, Mr John Hayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Matthew Taylor, Dr Evan Harris, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Paul Burstow, Bob Russell and Mr John Burnett do prepare and bring it in.

5 National Health Service (Equity of Funding) Bill,—Mr Andrew George accordingly presented a Bill to set up an independent National Health Service Funding Advisory Body charged with the task of ensuring an equitable formula for the funding of local health authorities: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th February and to be printed [Bill 84].

6 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill,—The Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary of State by virtue of that Act.—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.
8 Housing (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Homeless Persons (Priority Need) (Scotland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 31st July, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

9 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Payments on Account) (Appeals) Order 1997, (S.I., 1997, No. 2542), dated 27th October 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th October, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

10 Financial Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Financial Services Act 1986 (Extension of Scope of Act) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2543), dated 27th October 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th October, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

11 Summer Time.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Summer Time Order 1997 be made in form of the draft laid before this House on 27th October—(Mr Greg Pope):—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 Merchant Shipping.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft General Lighthouse Authorities (Beacons: Maritime Differential Correction Systems) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

13 Public Health.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Dounreay Nuclear Establishment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2622), dated 29th October 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 31st October, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Greg Pope.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.54 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 Slovenia) Order 1997, (2) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and Georgia) Order 1997, (3) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Armenia) Order 1997, (4) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Azerbaijan) Order 1997, and (5) draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Uzbekistan) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Family Law.—Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].
3 Value Added Tax,—Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744), dated 18th November 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

   (2) Income Tax (Paying and Collecting Agents) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2705), dated 14th November 1997, and
   (3) Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2707), dated 17th November 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 National Health Service,—Oxleas National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2691), dated 11th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 22nd May 1997, made by the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University, and
   (2) Statute, dated 22nd May 1997, made by the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

7 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 18th November 1997, directing the applications of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Winter Supplementary Estimates for 1997–98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Privatisation of Belfast International Airport [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 298] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

9 Compliance Cost Assessment,—List of Compliance Cost Assessments produced for the period 1st January to 30th June 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3801] [Dr David Clark].

10 Defence (Votes A), 1997–98,—Supplementary estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 249] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed merger between the Littlewoods Organisation plc and Freemans plc (a subsidiary of Sears plc) [by Command] [Cm. 3761] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

12 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the National Gallery for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 354] [Clerk of the House].

13 Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation for 1996 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

14 Science and Technology,—(1) Accounts of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 353] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the Council for the Central Laboratory for the Research Council for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

15 Supply Estimates, 1997–98,—Winter Supplementary Estimates for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 278] [Dawn Primarolo].

16 Supply Estimates, 1998–99,—(1) Estimates (Classes I–XVIII), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 279] [Dawn Primarolo];
   (2) Estimates for the House of Commons Commission (Class XVIII, A), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 280] [The Speaker]; and
   (3) Estimates for the National Audit Office (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 281] [Mr Robert Sheldon].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 18th November [CAP reform: Agenda 2000]; to be printed [No. 311-iii] [Mr Austin Mitchell].

2 Education and Employment, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 18th November [Further Education]; to be printed [No. 264-iv] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 18th November [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Foreign Affairs, (1) First Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [The Treaty of Amsterdam], 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. 305]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 18th November [The Dependent Territories Review]; to be printed [No. 347-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 18th November [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures; and the Work of the Crown Prosecution Service]; to be printed [Nos. 258-vi and 351-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development First Report from the International Development Committee [Montserrat], 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. 267] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Public Administration, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 18th November [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 352-i] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Statutory Instruments, Thirteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xiii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 18th November [Co-ordination of Inward Investment]; to be printed [No. 355] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 71.]

Wednesday 19th November 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—(Janet Anderson);

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

2 European Standing Committee A, Mr Barry Jones reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 10040/97, on the prohibition of the use of material presenting risks relating to transmissible spongiform encephalopathies; and supports the Government’s position that such controls are necessary for the protection of public health and to avoid the risk of undermining the Single Market.

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

3 European Standing Committee B, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 10153/97, the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1998, and PE262.699, the European Parliament's proposed amendments to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1998; and supports the Government's efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community.

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

4 Lead in Paint (Health and Safety).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the manufacturers and retailers of paint stripping equipment and fluids to provide customers with information about lead in paint manufactured before 1960; to require the Secretary of State to provide information to the general public about the dangers of lead in older paint; and to provide for the testing of children under the age of three years living in older housing to determine whether they are at risk from lead in older paintwork: And that Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Charles Clarke, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr John Gunnell, Mr John Healey, Ms Oona King, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Chris Pond, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Ms Dari Taylor and Mr Michael Wills do prepare and bring it in.

5 Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill,—Miss Melanie Johnson accordingly presented a Bill to require the manufacturers and retailers of paint stripping equipment and fluids to provide consumers with information about lead in paint manufactured before 1960; to require the Secretary of State to provide information to the general public about the dangers of lead in older paint; and to provide for the testing of children under the age of three years living in older housing to determine whether they are at risk from lead in older paintwork: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 85].

6 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Ordered, That the Bill be considered in the following Order, namely: Clause No. 1, the Schedule, Clauses Nos. 2 to 13, new Clauses, new Schedules.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)

Clause No. 1 (Referendum).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 7, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘subject to subsection (1A) below.’—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 1, line 8, after the word ‘prescribe’, to insert the words ‘(being a date not earlier than one month after the publication of the Government’s bill for the establishment of that Authority)’.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 339.

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 1, line 9, to leave out from the word ‘Authority’ to the end of line 10.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunell: 157.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Jamieson: 311.

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 Clive Betts reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

7 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Deregulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved.—(Mr Clive Betts.)—It was agreed to.
8 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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 Animals,—Mink Keeping Order 1997, dated 17th November 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 European Communities,—(1) Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (European Police Office) Order 1997, and
   (2) draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the European Police Office) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft OSPAR Commission (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Education,—Education (Individual Pupils' Achievements) (Information) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2709), dated 11th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 Pesticides,—(1) Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 469), and
   (2) Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 470),
   dated 28th October 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

6 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions,—Report and Accounts of the Rural Development Commission for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed merger between the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and Stena Line AB [by Command] [Cm. 3664] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

8 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 326] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Treaty Series (No. 71, 1997),—Agreement, done at London on 22nd October 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 3800] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-four additional Members to serve on the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr James Cran, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr John Grogan, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Andrew Hunter, Helen Jackson, Shona McIsaac, Mr Andrew MacKay, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Tony McWalter, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Bill O'Brien, Mr Lambert Ópik, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West).
2 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill.---(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A and has appointed Mrs Ann Winterton and Mrs Ray Michie Chairmen; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated seventeen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Andrew Hanter, Mr Adam Ingram, Helen Jackson, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Seamus Mallon, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Lembit Opik, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Martin Salter, Miss Geraldine Smith and Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West).

3 Draft Civil Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997,---(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Clive Elford, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Nick St. Aubyn and Mr David Trimble.

European Standing Committees

4 European Community Documents No. 6294/92 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Health on 17th November 1997, relating to tobacco advertising and COM(97) 564 and 10427/97, relating to harmful tax competition, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,---(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 19th November [Climate Change]; to be printed [No. 287-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 19th November [Air Quality]; to be printed [No. 356-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 19th November [UK Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 360-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

2 European Legislation,---(1) Seventh Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 19th November [Tobacco advertising] [No. 155-viii]; and

(2) Eighth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-viii]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs,---Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 19th November [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-ii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

4 Public Accounts,---(1) Third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [South and West Regional Health Authority: Disposal of Swift]; to be printed, with the Minutes of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 358];

(2) Fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: management of utilities]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 359]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 19th November [Inland Revenue: Employer compliance review]; to be printed [No. 357-i]

[Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology,---Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 19th November [The Year 2000 and Computer Compliance]; to be printed [No. 342-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

6 Scottish Affairs,---Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 19th November [Welfare to Work in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 335-ii] [Mr David Marshall].
The House met at half past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and the draft Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1997.

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

3 Public Accounts,—Resolved, That this House takes note of the First to Twenty-fifth Reports of the Committee of Public Accounts of Session 1996–97 and of the relevant Treasury Minutes (Cm 3559, 3577 and 3714), with particular reference to the following Reports:

Second, Progress in Completing the New British Library (HC 38);

Fifth, Highways Agency: The Bridge Programme (HC 83);

Eighth, Information Technology Services Agency: Outsourcing the Service Delivery Operations (HC 98);

Thirteenth, HM Treasury: The Second Sale of Shares in National Power and PowerGen (HC 151);

Sixteenth, The Work of the Directors General of Telecommunications, Gas Supply, Water Services and Electricity Supply (HC 89);

Twenty-second, British Rail Maintenance Ltd.: The Sale of Maintenance Depots (HC 168).—(Mr David Davis.)

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes to Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.38 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Customs and Excise,—Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 4) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2759), dated 19th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Sea Fisheries,—Sole, Plaice, etc (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2757), dated 19th November 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

6 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Civil Courts (Amendment No. 4) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2762), dated 20th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Other Papers:

7 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment of a new member to the British Tourist Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Sale of PSA Projects [by Act]; to be printed [No. 345] [Clerk of the House].

9 National Heritage,—Government Response to the Fourth Report of the National Heritage Committee, Session 1996-97 (The BBC and the Future of Broadcasting) [by Command] [Cm. 3799] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated a further member to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Robert McCartney.

European Standing Committees

2 European Community Documents Nos. 8150/97 and 8386/97, relating to Food Law and Consumer Health and Food Safety,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of the Document.

3 European Community Document No. 10510/97, relating to Biotechnological Inventions,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of the Document.

4 European Community Documents Nos. COM(97)564 and 10427/97, relating to Harmful Tax Competition,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of the Document.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 20th November [The Millennium Dome]; to be printed [No. 340-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 20th November [Public Expenditure 1997]; to be printed [No. 362-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 International Development,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 20th November [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [No. 365-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee

[Mr Bowen Wells].
Friday 21st November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment (Review of Civil Justice and Legal Aid),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);
And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

2 Scottish Grand Committee,—Ordered, That
(1) the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Wednesday 3rd December at half-past Four o'clock;
(2) at that sitting, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 96 (Scottish Grand Committee (ministerial statements)), the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings, if not previously concluded, at Six o'clock.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

3 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 24th November.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott]; and
(8) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Wales) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2649), and
dated 17th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Other Papers:

2 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon medium-range TRIGAT trials in Australia [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

3 European Union,—Paper, entitled Developments in the European Union, January to June 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3802] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Accounts of the National Library of Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 Northern Ireland,—Northern Ireland Appropriation Accounts for 1996–97, together with the Consolidated Fund Services Account and the Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon and upon the Revenue Accounts [by Act]; to be printed [No. 304] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
234

[No. 74.]

Monday 24th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th November, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill,—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Referendum).

Another Amendment (No. 15) proposed in page 1, line 9, to leave out the words 'an elected assembly' and insert the words 'an assembly of leaders of London boroughs'.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Stephen Day: 116.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 297.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Greg Pope: 291.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr James Cran: 154.

Schedule (Form of ballot paper).

Question put, That the Schedule be the Schedule to the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 297.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Donald Gorrie: 157.

Clause No. 2 (Entitlement to vote).

Amendment (No. 20) proposed, in page 1, line 20, after the word 'borough', to insert the words 'and in the district councils of Broxbourne, Elmbridge, Epping Forest, Epsom and Ewell, Hertsmere, Reigate and Banstead, and Spelthorne'.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Accounting officers).

Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 2, line 19, at the end, to insert the words 'but shall not so certify until after the declaration of the results of all local government elections held in Greater London on the same day as the referendum'.—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 29) proposed, in page 2, line 19, at the end, to insert the words—

'(4A) The Chief Counting Officer shall not certify the total of votes cast for each answer under subsection (4) above unless at least 50 per cent. of the persons entitled to vote in the referendum have voted'.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 113.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 315.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 4 (Referendum: supplementary).

Amendment (No. 31) proposed, in page 2, line 26, after the word ‘shall’, to insert the words ‘subject to subsection (1A) below’.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 5 and 6 agreed to.

Clause No. 7 (Functions of Local Government Commission).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 3, line 15, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘Subject to section (London Electoral Convention) below’.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr David Heath: 33.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 298.

And it being after 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 John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

3 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

4 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill,—The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 7 (Functions of Local Government Commission).

Another Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 3, line 31, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(3) The Commission’s report shall be based on the assumption that the elections will be conducted on the “first past the post” system.’.—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 120.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Clive Betts: 327.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 8 to 13 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Kevin Hughes reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time to-morrow.
5 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Brentwood and Ongar for a new accident and emergency unit at Harold Wood Hospital was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.——(Mr Kevin Hughes).

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Twelve o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

Adjourned at 11.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Road Traffic.—Draft Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education (Scotland).—Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2773), dated 18th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


(3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (First Telecom plc) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997 No. 2770), dated 20th November 1997,

(4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (TotalTel International Inc.) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2772), dated 20th November 1997, and

(5) Public Telecommunication System Designation (WORLDxCHANGE Communications Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2769), dated 20th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1996–97.—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1996–97 for Class IV (Trade and Industry and Export Credits Guarantee Department) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251-IV] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Culture, Media and Sport.—Department for Culture, Media and Sport Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon possible revocation of a licence granting a right of way between Upper Lodge, Bushy Park, and the public highway at Hampton Hill Gate [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 National Heritage.—Report and Accounts of English Heritage for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].


(2) Report and Accounts of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland National Lottery Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—

(1) American Telemedia Limited,

(2) Atlantic Telecommunications Limited,

(3) First Telecom plc,
TotalTel International Inc., and

WORLDxCHANGE Communications Limited

(by Act) [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Paper withdrawn:

9 Road Traffic,—Draft Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 1997 [laid 20th November].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—First Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997]; to be printed together with the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 367] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 24th November [Measures to combat housing benefit fraud]; to be printed [No. 366-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 75.]

Tuesday 25th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Social Security Bill,—Mr Edward O'Hara reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Social Security Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 86].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 368].

2 European Standing Committee B,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution: That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 10510/97, on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions; and supports the Government's view that this Directive could harmonise and clarify national laws on the patenting of biotechnological inventions, so reducing the current uncertainty which exists in this area of law in Europe which has the potential to act as a deterrent in this industry.

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

3 British Nationality (St Helena) Bill [Lords].—The British Nationality (St Helena) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 89].

4 New Member sworn,—Mark Oaten, Esquire, Member for Winchester, was sworn.

5 Reform of Quarantine Regulations,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to allow the importation of pet animals from the European Union and rabies-free countries without quarantine upon proof of vaccinations, blood tests and permanent identification by microchip; to improve standards in quarantine kennels; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Amess, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Alan Clark, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr John Heppell, Mr Robert Key, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Colin Pickthall, Sir Teddy Taylor and Miss Ann Widdecombe do prepare and bring it in.

6 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—Mr David Amess accordingly presented a Bill to allow the importation of pet animals from the European Union and rabies-free countries without quarantine upon proof of vaccinations, blood tests and permanent identification by microchip; to improve standards in quarantine kennels; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 87].

7 European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Parliamentary Elections Bill,
And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr John McFall: 365.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Bernard Jenkin: 150.

so the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills) That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr George Howarth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

8 European Parliamentary Elections Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to European Parliamentary Elections Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 5 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the European Parliamentary Elections Bill, it is expedient to authorise the charging on and payment out of the Consolidated Fund of—

(1) charges to which returning officers are entitled by virtue of that Act, and

(2) sums required by the Secretary of State for expenditure on the provision of training relating to functions conferred on returning officers by virtue of that Act—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

9 Landfill of Waste.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 6692/97, relating to the landfill of waste; and welcomes the intention to set high regulatory standards for landfill sites—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

10 Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Controls on Cattle, Sheep and Goats.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 10040/97, on the prohibition of the use of material presenting risks relating to transmissible spongiform encephalopathies; and supports the Government's position that such controls are necessary for the protection of public health and to avoid the risks of undermining the Single Market—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

11 Draft Budget for 1998.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 10153/97, the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1998, and PE262.699, the European Parliament's proposed amendments to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1998; and supports the Government's efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

12 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

13 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

14 Civil Aviation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 3rd November, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

15 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Lyn Lambell and others in support of the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
16 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Activity Centres (Young Persons' Safety) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and
   (2) draft Museums and Galleries (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
   [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

2 Rating and Valuation,—Draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

**Papers subject to Negative Resolution:**

3 Housing,—Relocation Grants Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2764), dated 20th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Vocational Training) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2787), dated 24th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

**Other Papers:**

5 Environmental Protection,—Report of the Countryside Council for Wales for 1996-97: Volume II, Digest of statistics [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Audit of Assumptions for the Pre-Budget Report, November 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 361] [Clerk of the House].


8 Pre-Budget Report,—Paper, entitled Pre-Budget Report November 1997: Securing Britain's Long-Term Economic Future [by Command] [Cm. 3804] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

9 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:
   Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 4) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2536)
   [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

APPENDIX II

**Reports from Select Committees**

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) First Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Royal Opera House], 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. 199]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Royal Opera House]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 25th November [Further Education]; to be printed [No. 264-v] [Ms Margaret Hodge]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the
240 25th—26th November 1997  Vol. 254

Education and Employment Committee on 25th November [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-v] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 25th November [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-v] [Mr Andrew F. Bennet].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 25th November [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 25th November [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 352-ii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

6 Statutory Instruments,—Fourteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 24th November [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329-iv] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 76.]

Wednesday 26th November 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 David Clelland);

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

2 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from Standing Committee A, that it had gone through the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) 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. 372].

3 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Donald Anderson reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 8150/97, on the general principles of Food Law in the European Union, and 8386/97, on Consumer Health and Food Safety; and endorses the Government’s intention to support and contribute to the development of an EC food policy which delivers high standards of food safety, fully reflects the needs of consumers and contributes to the development of an effective Single Market.

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

4 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of the Commission Communications (10427/97) of 1st October 1997 Towards tax co-ordination in the European Union—a package to tackle harmful tax competition and (COM(97)564) of 5th November 1997 A package to tackle harmful tax competition in the European Union; and supports the Government’s position as set out in its Explanatory Memorandum (COM 97(564)) of 17th November 1997.

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

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Maxton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Civil Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill.—The Order for reading the Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill a second time on Friday 28th November was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

7 Representation of Dependancies at Westminster Bill.—The Order for reading the Representation of Dependancies at Westminster Bill a second time on Friday 28th November was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

8 New Member sworn.—Jacqueline Anne Harkness, Mrs Lait, Member for Beckenham, was sworn.

9 Government of Wales Bill.—Mr Secretary Davies, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Dr. John Cunningham, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Dobson, Mr Peter Hain and Mr Win Griffiths, presented a Bill to establish and make provision about the National Assembly for Wales and the office of Auditor General for Wales; to reform certain Welsh public bodies and abolish certain other Welsh public bodies; 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 88].

10 National Minimum Wage Bill.—Secretary Margaret Beckett, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Robertson, Mr Secretary Davies, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Dr John Cunningham, Mr Secretary Blunkett and Mr Ian McCartney, presented a Bill to make provision for and in connection with a national minimum wage; to provide for the amendment of certain enactments relating to the remuneration of persons employed in agriculture; 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 90].

11 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 114 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (legislative proposals and other matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland)), That the matter of public expenditure in Northern Ireland in 1998-99, being a matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mr Jim Dowd):— It was agreed to.

12 Welfare of Pigs.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision with respect to the health and welfare of pigs: And that Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Alan Clark, Angela Smith, Sir Richard Body, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Nigel Jones, Dr Nick Palmer and Sir Teddy Taylor do prepare and bring it in.

13 Welfare of Pigs Bill.—Mr Chris Mullin accordingly presented a Bill to make provision with respect to the health and welfare of pigs: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 91].

14 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, that the Bill be now read the third 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 Third Reading to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill because, while it looks ahead to the establishment of both a directly-elected Assembly and a directly-elected Mayor for London, it fails to provide the citizens of London with the opportunity to express their views separately on those two proposals', instead thereof.—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Stephen Day: 176.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 324.

So the Question was negatived.
And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

15 Biotechnological Inventions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 10510/97, on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions; and supports the Government’s view that this Directive could harmonise and clarify national laws on the patenting of biotechnological inventions, so reducing the current uncertainty which exists in this area of law in Europe which has the potential to act as a deterrent in this industry—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

16 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No.1) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

17 Plant Varieties Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Plant Varieties Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 16 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 14.

18 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Ordered, That, at the meeting of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee on Thursday 11th December—

(1) the Committee shall consider the matter of public expenditure in Northern Ireland in 1998–99; and

(2) at the completion of those proceedings, a Motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to Standing Order No. 116(1)(h).—(Mr Greg Pope)

19 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.23 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education.—Education (School Performance Information) (England) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2816), dated 25th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Education (Scotland),—Grants for School Improvements (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2790), dated 19th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Vocational Training for General Medical Practice) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2817), dated 26th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Police,—Police Cadets (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2791), dated 17th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

5 Health and Safety,—Accounts of the Health and Safety Commission and the Health and Safety Executive for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 374] [Clerk of the House].

6 London Regional Transport,—Report and Accounts of the London Regional Passengers Committee for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
7 Treaty Series (No. 72, 1997),—Convention, done at Dublin on 15th June 1990, determining the State responsible for examining Applications for Asylum lodged in one of the Member States of the European Communities [by Command] [Cm. 3806] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Tim Boswell, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Neil Gerrard, Dr Evan Harris, Ms Ruth Kelly, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Stephen McCabe, Sir David Mael, Dawn Primarolo, The Reverend Martin Smyth and Ms Claire Ward.

2 Draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Damian Green, Helen Jones, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Robert Maclennan, Alice Mahon, Mr Francis Maude and Mr John Whittingdale.

3 Draft Copyright and Rights in Databases Regulations 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Clive Betts, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Ian McCartney, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Phil Sawford, Mr Llew Smith, Helen Southworth, Mr Ian Stewart, Mr John M. Taylor and Mrs Betty Williams.

4 Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Stuart Bell, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Alan Campbell, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Huw Edwards, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Kate Hoey, Mr Kevin Hughes, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Andrew Lansley, Ms Chris McCafferty, Mr David Rendel, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb and Mr Brian White.

5 Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Martin Caton, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Hilton Dawson, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Alan Hughes, Mrs Beverley Hughes, Ms Melanie Johnson, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Alan Milburn, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Bridget Prentice, Mrs Marion Roe, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Robert N. Wareing, Mr Nigel Waterson and Audrey Wise.

6 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) (National Health Service Trusts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2763):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Martin Caton, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Hilton Dawson, Dr Evan Harris, Ms Beverley Hughes, Ms Melanie Johnson, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Alan Milburn, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Bridget Prentice, Mrs Marion Roe, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Robert N. Wareing, Mr Nigel Waterson and Audrey Wise.

7 Draft Air Quality Regulations 1997 and draft Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 1997:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr David Drew, Angela Eagle, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Nick St. Aubyn and Mr Andrew Tyrie.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Derek Fatchett, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Fraser Kemp, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Gordon Marsden, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Gary Streeter, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Dennis Turner, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

Scottish Grand Committee

9 Scottish Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton and Mrs Ray Michie Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Wednesday 3rd December.

European Standing Committees

10 European Standing Committee B,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 6294/92, relating to Tobacco Advertising.

11 European Standing Committee B,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 10230/97, relating to Part-Time Work, and 10975/97, Parts A and B, relating to the European Works Council Directive and to Parental Leave.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 26th November [Air Quality]; to be printed [No. 356-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 26th November [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

2 Health,—(1) First Report from the Health Committee [Tobacco Advertising and the Proposed EC Directive]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 373]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 26th November [Public Health]; to be printed [No. 373-i]

[Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 26th November [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-iii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

4 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Coronary Heart Disease in Northern Ireland]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 381];

(2) Sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland): Control of Belfast Action Team's Expenditure]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 382];

(3) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 26th November [National Audit Office Estimates]; to be printed [No. 383-i]; and
(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 26th November [Northern Ireland Audit Office Estimates]; to be printed [No. 384-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 26th November [The Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research]; to be printed [No. 303-iii] [Dr Michael Clark].

6 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 26th November [Welfare to Work in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 335-iii] [Mr David Marshall].

7 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 26th November [Developments Affecting the Postal Services]; to be printed [Nos. 380-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

8 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 20th November [The Bank of England November Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 379] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 77.]

Thursday 27th November 1997.

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 30th October relating to Income Tax had been presented to Her Majesty; and Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and give the following Answer:

I have received your Addresses praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Malaysia) Order 1997, the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Singapore) Order 1997, the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Falkland Islands) Order 1997 and the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Lesotho) Order 1997 be made in the form of the drafts laid before your House.

I will comply with your request.

2 Summer Time,—The Vice Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That its Address of 18th November relating to Summer Time 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 Address praying that the Summer Time Order 1997 be made in the form of the draft laid before your House.

I will comply with your request.

3 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:

Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997
Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997

4 European Communities (Amendment) Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Meaning of “the Treaties” and “the Community Treaties”).

Amendment (No. 65) proposed in page 1, line 12, at the end, to insert the words ‘but (for the avoidance of doubt) not Article 1 of the said Treaty.’—(Mr Michael Howard.)

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 Greg Pope reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

5 Food Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 8150/97, on the general principles of Food Law in the European Union, and 8386/97, on Consumer Health and Food Safety; and of an EC food policy which delivers high standards of food safety, fully reflects the needs of consumers and contributes to the development of an effective Single Market—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

6 Harmful Tax Competition.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of the Commission Communications (10427/97) of 1st October 1997, Towards tax co-ordination in the European Union—a package to tackle harmful tax competition and (COM(97)564) of 5th November 1997, A package to tackle harmful tax competition in the European Union; and supports the Government's position as set out in its Explanatory Memorandum (COM97(564)) of 17th November 1997—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

7 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Civil Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the constituents of Nottingham North in support of the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill 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 Greg Pope.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.23 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Firearms.—Draft Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—(1) Draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, and
   (2) Draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Social Security,—(1) Social Security (National Insurance Number Information: Exemption) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2814), and

4 Telecommunications,—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Cable Thames Valley Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2821),
   (2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Eurobell (Holdings) PLC) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2823), and
(3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (General Telecommunications Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2822),
dated 26th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

5 Air Force (Constitution).—Air Force Act 1955 (Part 1) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Charities (Scotland).—Report of Scottish Charities Nominee for the year ended 31st August 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Reserve Forces.—Change 1 to the Regulations for the Naval and Marine Reserve (BR 64) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—
   (1) Cable Thames Valley Limited,
   (2) Eurobell (Holdings) PLC, and
   (3) General Telecommunications Limited
[by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 Youth Justice.—Paper, entitled No More Excuses—a new approach to tackling youth crime in England and Wales [by Command] [Cm. 3809] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744), The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Ross Cranston and Mr Stephen McCabe (nominated in respect of the Order); and appointed in substitution Ms Fiona Jones and Mr Jim Murphy.

2 Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Stuart Bell (nominated in respect of the Order) and appointed in substitution Mr Stephen Hepburn.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 27th November [CAP reform: Agenda 2000]; to be printed [No. 311-iv]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 27th November [The Millennium Dome]; to be printed [No. 340-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 27th November [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-vi] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 27th November [The Bank of England November Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 379-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].
Friday 28th November 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Standing Orders,—Ordered, That the Standing Orders relating to Public Business be printed [No. 386].

2 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—
   (1) residents of York,
   (2) citizens of Dundee, and
   (3) visitors to the South Yorkshire RSPCA Animal Centre in the Don Valley constituency
   in support of the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, and
   (4) from citizens of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the protection of deer herds were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

3 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill,—The Order of the day being read for the Second Reading of the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill;
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
   Mr David Hinchcliffe 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, That the Bill be now read a second time;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr Joe Benton: 411.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Peter Atkinson: 151.
   So the Question was agreed to.

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

4 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill,—The Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of Bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Marsha Singh)—It was agreed to.

   The Bill was accordingly committed to a Committee of the whole House.

5 Pesticides Bill,—The Pesticides Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Fireworks Bill,—The Fireworks Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Public House Names Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Public House Names Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th December.

8 Co-ordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Co-ordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords];
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th February.

9 Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Widening of M25 Motorway Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

10 Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

11 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill,—The Animal Health (Amendment) Bill, was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.
12 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

13 Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.

14 Hare Coursing Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

15 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

16 War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th December.

17 Social Security,—Ordered, That Siobhain McDonagh be discharged from the Social Security Committee and Mr Paul Goggins be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

18 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd); 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 then being seven minutes past Three o'clock, till Monday 1st December.

[Adjourned at 3.07 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Health and Safety,—Diving at Work Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2776), dated 24th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


3 Rating and Valuation,—(1) Non-Domestic Rating (Rural Areas and Rateable Value Limits) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2827), dated 21st November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and


4 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Sheriff Officers) 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2824), dated 21st November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

5 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 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 370] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order, in place of Mrs Ray Michie.
The House met at half past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), That the matter of government expenditure in Wales in 1998-99, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

2 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. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Government policies on welfare, pensions and disabled people.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deeply regrets the unnecessary delay to proposals on pension and welfare reform; finds it inconceivable that having attacked reductions to lone parent benefits proposed by the previous Government this Government now plans to implement the same reductions, and urges the Government to take this opportunity to reassure people with disabilities that they will not tax Disability Living Allowance or transfer disability benefits from disabled individuals to bureaucracies such as local government's social services departments—(Mr Iain Duncan 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 ‘congratulates the Government for the progress that has already been made on reforming the welfare state to tackle social exclusion and welfare dependency; backs the Government’s strategy of offering hope, opportunity and a better standard of living for people through its welfare to work programmes for lone parents, disabled people and those with long-standing illness, young unemployed people and the long-term unemployed, and the National Childcare Strategy, in contrast to the previous Government’s approach of writing millions of people off to a life dependent on benefit; welcomes the Government’s determination to ensure security in retirement for today’s and tomorrow’s pensioners through the pensions review and the action the Government has already taken to get help to Britain’s pensioners, particularly the poorest pensioners, by cutting VAT on fuel and through the £20 winter fuel payment to pensioner households and the £50 winter fuel payment to pensioner households on Income Support; and congratulates the Government for keeping its promises and delivering its manifesto commitments to the British people’, instead thereof. (Secretary Harriet Harman.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Nigel Waterson: 131.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Graham Allen: 336.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 congratulates the Government for the progress that has already been made on reforming the welfare state to tackle social exclusion and welfare dependency; backs the Government’s strategy of offering hope, opportunity and a better standard of living for people through its welfare to work programmes for lone parents, disabled people and those with long-standing illness, young unemployed people and the long-term unemployed, and the National Childcare Strategy, in contrast to the previous Government’s approach of writing millions of people off to a life dependent on benefit; welcomes the Government’s determination to ensure security in retirement for today’s and tomorrow’s pensioners through the pensions review and the action the Government has already taken to get help to Britain’s pensioners, particularly the poorest pensioners, by cutting VAT on fuel and through the £20 winter fuel payment to pensioner households and the £50 winter fuel payment to pensioner households on Income Support; and congratulates the Government for keeping its promises and delivering its manifesto commitments to the British people.
Burdens on business.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets the damage to business and jobs represented by the actions and inactions of this Government; condemns the broken promises to the coal industry, the lack of clarity over ministerial duties, the persistent tax raids on business and the threats posed by new legislation; and urges the President of the Board of Trade to set out a clear energy, competition and business policy that is in the interests of British companies—(Mr John Redwood);

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 'welcomes the speedy action taken by Her Majesty's Government to foster an environment in which business can flourish, with macro-economic stability, low rates of corporation tax, a clear new competition policy, and a review of utility regulation; contrasts this with the boom and bust policies of the previous administration which led to the collapse of thousands of firms and unemployment for millions; and welcomes Her Majesty's Government's partnership with business to improve UK competitiveness', instead thereof. (Secretary Margaret Beckett.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Oliver Heald: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 326.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the speedy action taken by Her Majesty's Government to foster an environment in which business can flourish, with macro-economic stability, low rates of corporation tax, a clear new competition policy, and a review of utility regulation; contrasts this with the boom and bust policies of the previous administration which led to the collapse of thousands of firms and unemployment for millions; and welcomes Her Majesty's Government's partnership with business to improve UK competitiveness.

3 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Welsh Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 16th December at half-past Ten o'clock to take questions under Standing Order No. 103 (Welsh Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and to consider the matter of government expenditure in Wales in 1998-99 under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales))—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

4 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the constituencies of Kingston and Surbiton, and Richmond Park for legislation to abolish capping of local authorities, in particular to protect schools in Kingston-upon-Thames from expenditure cutbacks, was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

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 Negative Resolution:

1 Building Societies.—Building Societies (Members' Resolutions) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2840), dated 27th November 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

2 Sea Fisheries.—Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Conservation Measures) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2841), dated 27th November 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1996-97.—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1996-97 for Class XIV (Wales) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251-XIV] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Education and Employment.—Department for Education and Employment Minute, dated 1st December 1997; concerning giving surplus computer equipment to non-profit organisations [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Science and Technology.—Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 390] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C, and appointed Mr Edward O’Hara and Mr Bowen Wells Chairmen.

2 Pesticides Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

3 Fireworks Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

4 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—The Committee of Selection discharged from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Brian White (nominated in respect of the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997); and appointed in substitution Mr Paul Stinchcombe.

6 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr David Drew (nominated in respect of the draft Air Quality Regulations 1997 and the draft Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 1997); and appointed in substitution Mr Andrew Reed.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 1st December [EU Employment Issues]; to be printed [No. 391-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 1st December [European Council Meeting, Luxembourg, 12th-13th December 1997, and the UK Presidency of the European Union (January-July 1998)]; to be printed [No. 387-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 Public Accounts.—(1) Seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Resignation of Chief Executive of English Heritage]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 392];

(2) Eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Governance and Management of Overseas Courses at Swansea Institute of Higher Education]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 393];

(3) Ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Property Services in the English Occupied Royal Palaces; Responsibilities for Royal Household Remuneration; and Provision of Accommodation]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 394]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 1st December [Vacant office property]; to be printed [No. 395-i]

[Mr David Davis].
Tuesday 2nd December 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Roger Gale reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 6294/92 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Health on 17th November 1997, on tobacco advertising; and supports the Government’s efforts to bring into effect a ban on tobacco advertising.

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

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744).

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

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1997.

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

4 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 Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

5 National Transport Safety,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create a National Transport Safety Authority: And that Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Brian Donohoe, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Kate Hoey, Mr John Hepple and Mr Nick Ainger do prepare and bring it in.

6 National Transport Safety Bill,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody accordingly presented a Bill to create a National Transport Safety Authority: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 92].

7 European Communities (Amendment) Bill,—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Meaning of “the Treaties” and “the Community Treaties”).

Amendment (No. 65) proposed, in page 1, line 12, at the end to insert the words ‘but (for the avoidance of doubt) not Article 1 of the said Treaty.’

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made; Question put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 133.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jim Dowd: 328.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 13, after the word ‘Articles’, to insert the words ‘1, paragraph 9 (Cm. 3780, page 10)’.—(Mr Ted Rowlands.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 1, line 13, after ‘2’, to insert the words ‘(except paragraph 19)’.—(Mr Michael Howard.)

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 Bridget Prentice reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

8 Environmental Audit,—Ordered, That Mr Matthew Taylor be discharged from the Environmental Audit Committee and Mr Norman Baker be added to the Committee.—(Bridget Prentice.)

9 Consolidated Fund Bill,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 9th 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. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills) shall apply.—(Bridget Prentice.)

10 Liaison,—Ordered, That Mr John Horam, Dr Lewis Moonie and Mr Peter L. Pike be added to the Liaison Committee.—(Bridget Prentice.)

11 House of Commons Commission,—Ordered, That Sir Alastair Goodlad be discharged from the House of Commons Commission and Dr Lewis Moonie and Sir Peter Lloyd be appointed members of the Commission under the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978.—(Bridget Prentice.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—(1) Crown Court (Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996) (Confidentiality) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 519), and


dated 1st December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1996–97,—Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for 1996–97 for Class II (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251-II] [Dawn Primarolo].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) (National Health Service Trusts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2763),—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mrs Marion Roe (nominated in respect of the Order); and appointed in substitution Dr Julian Lewis.

2 Draft Air Quality Regulations 1997 and draft Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 1997,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Andrew Tyrie (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and appointed in substitution Mr Keith Simpson.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 2nd December [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-ii] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 2nd December [The Millennium Dome]; to be printed [No. 340-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) Third Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Dearing Report: Some Funding Issues], 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. 241];

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Dearing Report: Some Funding Issues]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 2nd December [Further Education]; to be printed [No. 264-vi]
[Ms Margaret Hodge].

4 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 2nd December; to be printed [No. 401-i] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

5 Public Administration,—(1) Second Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Further Government Response to the First Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Session 1996-97) on the Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1995-96]; to be printed [No. 396]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 2nd December [Freedom of Information]; to be printed [No.396-i]
[Mr Rhodri Morgan].

6 Statutory Instruments,—Fifteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 2nd December [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329-v] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 81.]

Wednesday 3rd December 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 Robert 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 Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Bill,—Mr Secretary Dewar presented a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order under Section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, relating to the Scottish Agricultural College: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be considered on Tuesday 9th December and to be printed [Bill 93].

3 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Frank Cook reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 10230/97, on a proposal for a directive on part-time work, and European Community Document No. 10975/97, Parts A and B, on proposals for directives extending the European Works
Councils Directive and the Parental Leave Directive to the United Kingdom; and supports the Government’s view that these proposals will contribute to a flexible labour market based on partnership between employers and employees and decent minimum standards at work.

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

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Copyright and Rights in Databases Regulations 1997.

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

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997.

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

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

7 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) (National Health Service Trusts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2763).

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

8 Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption) Bill,—The Order for reading the Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption) Bill a second time on Friday 12th December was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 30th January.

9 Electro-convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Mental Health Act 1983 to prescribe the circumstances in which electro-convulsive therapy may be used without the patient’s consent; to establish who may administer it; to lay down requirements governing the apparatus with which it is administered; and for related purposes: And that Mr John Gunnell, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mr Andrew Rowe, Audrey Wise, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Peter Bradley, John Austin, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr John McAllion, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Ken Purchase and Mr Neil Gerrard do prepare and bring it in.

10 Electro-convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use) Bill,—Mr John Gunnell accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Mental Health Act 1983 to prescribe the circumstances in which electro-convulsive therapy may be used without the patient’s consent; to establish who may administer it; to lay down requirements governing the apparatus with which it is administered; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 94].

11 European Communities (Amendment) Bill,—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Meaning of “the Treaties” and “the Community Treaties”).

Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 1, line 13, after ‘2’, to insert the words ‘(except paragraph 19).’.

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Question put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Oliver Heald: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Dowd: 332.

Another Amendment (No. 66) proposed, in page 1, line 13, after ‘2’, to insert the words ‘(except paragraph 13)’.—(Mr Gary Streeter.)

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 Bridget Prentice reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

12 Tobacco Advertising.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 6294/92 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Health on 17th November 1997, on tobacco advertising; and supports the Government's efforts to bring into effect a ban on tobacco advertising.—(Bridget Prentice).—It was agreed to.

13 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Miss Ann Widdecombe be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Mr Martin Bell be added to the Committee.—(Bridget Prentice.)

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Sheep Annual Premium and Suckler Cow Premium Quotas Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2844), dated 26th November 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Fire Services,—(1) Combined Fire Authorities (Protection from Personal Liability) (England) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2819), and

(2) Combined Fire Authorities (Protection from Personal Liability) (Wales) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2818),
dated 25th November 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Friendly Societies,—Friendly Societies (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2849), dated 1st December 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].


5 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 2nd September 1997, made by the Governing Body of Magdalene College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and

(2) Statute, dated 15th July 1997, made by the University of Cambridge amending the Statutes of the University
[by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

6 Criminal Statistics,—Statistical Bulletin: Homicide in Scotland 1987–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Paper, entitled Building Partnerships for Prosperity: Sustainable growth, competitiveness and employment in the English Regions [by Command] [Cm. 3814] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Foreign Compensation,—Report of the Foreign Compensation Commission for 1996–97 [by Command] [Cm. 3808] [Mr Secretary Cook].
9 Health Service Commissioner—Third Report of the Health Service Commissioner, Session 1997–98, Investigations completed April to September 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 371] [Clerk of the House].

10 Railways.—Report of the Rail Users’ Consultative Committee for Wales for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


12 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Radiocommunications Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 343] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr John Battle, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Borrow, Mr Ian Bruce, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Cynog Dafis, Caroline Flint, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Mr John Grogan, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr John Healey, Mr Andrew Stunell, David Taylor and Mr John M. Taylor.

2 Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr John Burnett, Mr Ian Caswely, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Alan Hurst, Ms Sally Keeble, Jane Kennedy, Ms Oona King, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Bob Russell, Mr Nigel Waterston, Mr Dave Watts and Dr Tony Wright.

3 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibitions and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Alan Campbell, Mr David Faber, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Tony Lloyd, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Gordon Marsden, Gillian Merron, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Keith Simpson, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr John M. Taylor and Dr Alan Whitehead.

4 Draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr David Borrow, Mrs Karen Buck, Christine Butler, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Robin Corbett, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Keith Hill, Mr John Horam, Mrs Nick Raynsford, Mr Adrian Sanders and Mr Tim Yeo.

5 Draft Museums and Galleries (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Roy Beggs, Ann Clwyd, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Judy Mallaber, Mr Malcolm Moss, Dr Doug Naymish, Ms Linda Perham, Mr William Thompson and Mr Tony Worthington.

6 Draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Regulations 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Miss Anne Begg, Mr Dennis Canavan, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Tam Dalyell, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Frank Roy, Sir Robert Smith, Mr David Stewart and Mr James Wray.
7 Draft Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Scheme to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr James Cran, Mr John Greenway, Jane Kennedy, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Alun Michael, Dan Norris, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr James Plaskitt, Mr William Ross, Christine Russell, Mr Barry Sheeran, Mr Stephen Twigg and Miss Ann Widdecombe.

8 Mink Keeping Order 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: John Austin, Mr Norman Baker, Mr Tony Baldry, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Stephen Day, Mr John Home Robertson, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr David Maclean, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Elliot Morley, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr James Paice and Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West).

Northern Ireland Grand Committee

9 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 11th December.

European Standing Committees

10 European Standing Committee A.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O'Hara Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 9984/97, relating to Agenda 2000 as it refers to Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

11 European Standing Committee B.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 9984/97, relating to Agenda 2000 as it refers to Structural and Cohesion Policy.

12 European Standing Committee B.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 9984/97, relating to Agenda 2000 as it refers to a New Financial Framework.

13 European Standing Committee A,—European Community Document No. 8164/96, relating to cocoa and chocolate, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

14 European Standing Committee B,—European Community Documents Nos. 11165/97 and 11167/97, relating to aid to shipbuilding, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) First Report from the Defence Committee [Peace Support Operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina], together with Appendices and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 403]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 3rd December [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-iii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286-v] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Legislation,—Ninth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-ix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].
4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 3rd December [The Dependent Territories Review]; to be printed [No. 347-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Second Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Explanatory Material for Bills], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 389] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 3rd December [Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 316-ii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 3rd December [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-iv]

[Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Public Accounts,—(1) Tenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Her Majesty's Stationery Office: Trade with Uzbekistan and 1995 operating results]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 405];

(2) Eleventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: Tackling Common Agricultural Policy Irregularities]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 406];

(3) Twelfth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Overseas Development Administration: Irregularities in Pension Payments in Amman, Jordan]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 407]; and

(4) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 3rd December [Regulation and Support of Charities]; to be printed [No. 408-i]

[Mr David Davis].

8 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 3rd December [The Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research]; to be printed [No. 303-iv] [Dr Lynne Jones].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 3rd December [Coal]; to be printed [Nos. 404-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].
4 School Standards and Framework Bill.—Mr Secretary Blunkett, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Davies, Mr Stephen Byers and Estelle Morris, presented a Bill to make new provision with respect to school education and the provision of nursery education otherwise than at school; to enable arrangements to be made for the provision of further education for young persons partly at schools and partly at further education institutions; to make provision with respect to the Education Assets Board; 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 95].

5 Adjournment (European Union).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);

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

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.24 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Protection.—Wheeled Child Conveyances (Safety) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2866), dated 3rd December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Local Government (Scotland),—Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2867), dated 1st December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

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 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 364] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Gift of Public Property,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 4th December 1997, concerning the gifting of vehicles to the National Army Museum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

7 Prisons,—Home Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of members of the Health Research Ethics Committee for the Prison Service [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 4th December [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-vi] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Home Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 4th December [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures]; to be printed [No. 258-vii] and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 4th December [Other Policing Matters]; to be printed [No. 409-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].
3 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 4th December [Resource Accounting and Budgeting]; to be printed [No. 410] [Mr Giles Radice].

4 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 4th December [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329-vi] [Mr Martyn Jones].

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen's Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen's Panel), the Speaker nominated Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Joe Benton, Mr George Stevenson and Miss Ann Widdecombe to be members of the Chairmen's Panel during this Session.

[No. 83.]

Friday 5th December 1997.

PRAYERS.

1 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill,—Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Dewar and Mr Adam Ingram, presented a Bill to make provision about policing in Northern Ireland; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 8th December and to be printed [Bill 96].

2 Adjournment (Special Educational Needs),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland); The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

3 Deregulation,—Ordered, That Mr Edward Leigh and Mr Richard Spring be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Mrs Jacqui Lait and Mr John Randall be added to the Committee.—(Jane Kennedy.)

4 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 17th December, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (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 Seven o'clock.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 8th December. [Adjourned at 2.37 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Paper presented or laid upon the Table:

Paper subject to Negative Resolution:

Monday 8th December 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Waste Minimisation Bill.—Angela Smith, supported by Ms Debra Shipley, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr David Drew, Joan Walley, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mr David Chaytor and Julia Drown, presented a Bill to enable certain local authorities to make arrangements to minimise the generation of 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 and to be printed [Bill 97].

2 Government of Wales Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Government of Wales Bill;

Mr Secretary Davies acquainted the House, That he had it in Command from the Queen to acquaint the House that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place Her prerogative and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

A Motion was 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, deploring the failure of Her Majesty's Government to respond to and allay the legitimate fears of the Welsh people expressed in the referendum vote of 18th September and in particular the omission from the Government of Wales Bill of any statutory assurances in relation to the supremacy of the Westminster Parliament, to the protection of geographic and cultural minorities, to the proper resourcing of Wales to reflect need, and to the safeguarding of the position of Wales within the United Kingdom and its voice within Europe, declines to give a Second Reading to the Government of Wales Bill', instead thereof. (Mr Michael Ancram.)

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

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

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

3 Administration.—Ordered, That Dr Nick Palmer be added to the Administration Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

4 Catering,—Ordered, That Mr Patrick McLoughlin be discharged from the Catering Committee and Mr Keith Simpson be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

5 Education and Employment,—Ordered, That Mr Cynog Dafis be discharged from the Education and Employment Committee and Mr Paul Keetch be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Welsh Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Paul Flynn be discharged from the Welsh Affairs Committee and Mr Huw Edwards be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Janet Anderson.)

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 Fire Services,—Firemen's Pension Scheme (Amendment No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2851), dated 1st December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Local Government,—(1) Local Authorities (Contracts) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2862), dated 2nd December 1997, and


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Local Government (Scotland),—Local Authorities (Contracts) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2879), dated 2nd December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Medicines,—(1) Medicines (Pharmacies) (Applications for Registration and Fees) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2876), dated 4th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson]; and

(2) Medicines (Restrictions on the Administration of Veterinary Medicinal Products) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2884), dated 4th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


7 National Health Service,—(1) East Glamorgan National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2652), and

(2) Rhondda Health Care National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2651),
dated 2nd December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Police,—Police Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2852), dated 1st December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

9 Aid and Trade Provision,—Department for International Development Minute, dated 4th December 1997, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Banque Paribas from tax liability which may be incurred as a result of a loan to finance the Outer Islands Diesel Generation Project in Indonesia [by Command] [Secretary Clare Short].

10 Courts and Legal Services,—Report and Accounts of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 375] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


12 Local Government,—Accounts of the Staff Commission for Wales for—

(1) 1996–97, and

(2) the period 1st April 1997 to 4th July 1997,

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

13 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the Victoria and Albert Museum for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 397] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Regulating and Monitoring the Quality of Service Provided to Customers by the Water Industry in England and Wales [by Act]; to be printed [No. 388] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Criminal Legal Aid Means Testing in the Magistrates' Courts]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 416];

(2) Fourteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs and Excise: The Seizure of Drug Traffickers' Assets]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 417];
PRAYERS.

1 Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Bill.

Bill to be read the third time to-morrow.

2 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. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to structural and cohesion policy; and supports the Government's aim that the reformed Funds should take account of the United Kingdom's regional interests and be fair to the United Kingdom in relation to other Member States, and that the reforms should make the Funds simpler, more efficient, affordable and durable.

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

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997.

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

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

Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the law relating to public processions in Northern Ireland; to provide for the establishment and functions of the Parades Commission for Northern Ireland; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 101].

6 Press Complaints Commission,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the establishment of a statutory Press Complaints Commission; to make further provisions in respect of libel actions brought against newspapers; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Clive Soley, Mr Martin Bell and Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith do prepare and bring it in.

7 Press Complaints Commission Bill,—Mr Anthony Steen accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the establishment of a statutory Press Complaints Commission; to make further provisions in respect of libel actions brought against newspapers; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th December and to be printed [Bill 99].

8 Government of Wales Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Amendment proposed to be made to the Question proposed yesterday, That the Government of Wales Bill be now read a second time;

Which Amendment was to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and to add the words 'this House, deploring the failure of Her Majesty's Government to respond to and allay the legitimate fears of the Welsh people expressed in the referendum vote of 18th September and in particular the omission from the Government of Wales Bill of any statutory assurances in relation to the supremacy of the Westminster Parliament, to the protection of geographic and cultural minorities, to the proper resourcing of Wales to reflect need, and to the safeguarding of the position of Wales within the United
Kingdom and its voice within Europe, declines to give a Second Reading to the Government of Wales Bill,' instead thereof.

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 James Cran, Mr Oliver Heald: 144.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr John McFall, Mr David Clelland: 375.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr John McFall, Mr David Clelland: 374.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 143.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That—

(1) Clauses Nos. 1, 4, 22, 58, 80 and 118 be committed to a Committee of the whole House;

(2) the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee; and

(3) 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 Win Griffiths);

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 paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 63 (Committee of Bills).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr David Clelland, Mr John McFall: 359.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 139.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That—

(1) Clauses Nos. 1, 4, 22, 58, 80 and 118 be committed to a Committee of the whole House;

(2) the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee; and

(3) 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.

Committee to-morrow.

9 Government of Wales Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Government of Wales Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Government of Wales Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by any Minister of the Crown or government department 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 enactment,

(2) the payment out of the National Loans Fund of—

(a) any sums required by a Minister of the Crown for making loans or other payments to the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with the Act, and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of that Fund under any other enactment, and
(3) the payment of sums into the National Loans Fund or the Consolidated Fund—
(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

10 Estimates,—It being after Ten o’clock, the Speaker put the Questions required to be put pursuant to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of Estimates, &c.).

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1998 an additional number not exceeding 40 all ranks be maintained for Air Force Service and an additional number not exceeding 305 for Service in the Air Force Reserve Forces.

Supplementary Estimates, 1997–98

Resolved, That a supplementary sum, not exceeding £634,729,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to defray the charges for civil services which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1998, as set out in HC 278 of Session 1997–98.

Estimates 1998–99 (Vote on Account)

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £97,354,245,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charges for civil and defence services for the year ending on 31st March 1999, as set out in HC 279, 280 and 281 of Session 1997–98.

11 Consolidated Fund,—Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions relating to Supplementary Estimates and Vote on Account: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Dawn Primarolo and Mrs Helen Liddell do prepare and bring it in.

12 Consolidated Fund Bill,—Dawn Primarolo accordingly presented a Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending on 31st March 1998 and 1999.

And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time this day and to be printed [Bill 98].

13 Consolidated Fund Bill,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills) and Order [2nd December], That the Consolidated Fund 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.

14 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the European Police Office) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 19th November, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr John McFall: 286.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr James Gray: 60.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the European Police Office) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 19th November, be approved.

15 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (European Police Office) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 19th November, be approved—(Jane Kennedy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr John McFall: 303.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr James Gray: 31.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (European Police Office) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 19th November, be approved.
16 International Immunities and Privileges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft OSPAR Commission (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 19th November, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

17 Family Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 18th November, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

18 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744), dated 18th November 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved—(Jane Kennedy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 262.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr James Gray: 57.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Value Added Tax (Drugs, Medicines and Aids for the Handicapped) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2744), dated 18th November 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved.

19 Criminal Law (Northern Ireland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (Code of Practice) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, dated 12th November 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 13th November, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

20 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the United Kingdom on the classification of films was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

21 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom on lone parent benefits was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

22 Adjournment, —A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

Wednesday 10th December 1997

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 Standing Order, it being then Twelve o'clock on Wednesday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.00 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Protection,—Cosmetic Products (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2914), dated 6th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Food,—Charges for Inspections and Controls Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2893), dated 8th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

3 Insurance,—Insurance Companies (Accounts and Statements) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2911), dated 30th November 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Local Government (Scotland).—Local Government Property Commission (Scotland) (Winding Up) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2880), dated 2nd December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Medicines,—Medicines (Veterinary Drugs) (Pharmacy and Merchants' List) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2892), dated 8th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].
6 Plant Health,—Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2907), dated 8th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

7 Sea Fisheries,—Sole, Plaice, etc. (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2891), dated 8th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

8 Telecommunications,—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Shropshire Cable & Telecoms Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2910), and
   (2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Sussex Cable & Telecoms Limited) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2909),
dated 3rd December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 Value Added Tax,—Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2887), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

10 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendments to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Electoral Law,—Report of the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 385] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks),—Accounts of the Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks) Fund for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 414] [Clerk of the House].

13 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Financial Statements of the Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Industry Trust for 1996-97 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

14 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Crown Prosecution Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 400] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Health Service,—Paper, entitled The New NHS [by Command] [Cm. 3807] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

16 National Health Service (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Designed to Care: Renewing the National Health Service in Scotland [by Command] [Cm. 3811] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

17 Pensions,—Annual Report of the Pensions Compensation Board for the period 1st August 1996 to 31st July 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

18 Science and Technology,—Report of the Medical Research Council for 1996-97 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

19 Superannuation,—Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1997 (No. 2) [by Act] [Dr David Clark].

20 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—
   (1) Shropshire Cable & Telecoms Limited, and
   (2) Sussex Cable & Telecoms Limited
[by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Mink Keeping Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order, in place of Mr Peter Atkinson; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Committee Mr Paul Marsden (nominated in respect of the Order); and has appointed in substitution Mr Gwyn Prosser.

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 11th December, in place of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 9th December [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-iii]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety]
[Mr Peter Lilff].

2 Education and Employment.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 9th December [The Relationship between TECs and the proposed Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 265-iii] [Mr Derek Foster]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 9th December ["Excellence for all Children": The Green Paper on Special Educational Needs]; to be printed [No. 421-i] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 9th December [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 415-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 9th December [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 415-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 9th December [The Dependent Territories Review]; to be printed [No. 347-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 9th December [The Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [No. 365-ii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 9th December [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 352-iii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Statutory Instruments.—Sixteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 9th December and Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xvi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 9th December [The Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 420-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

9 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 9th December [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329-vii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 86.]

Wednesday 10th December 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—(Jane Kennedy);
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 Agricultural College Order Confirmation Bill.—The Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Bill was, according to Order, read the third time and passed.

3 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to reform of the Common Agricultural Policy; and supports
the Government's objective of a market-oriented CAP with less emphasis on production-related agricultural support and more emphasis on targeted environmental and rural objectives.

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

4 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to the new financial framework for the European Community; and supports the Government in its policy of achieving enlargement of the European Union while maintaining the Own Resources ceiling of 1.27 per cent.

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

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Museums and Galleries (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

6 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 and the draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Regulations 1997.

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

7 Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill.—The Order for reading the Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill a second time on Friday 12th December was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

8 Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill.—The Order for reading the Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill a second time on Friday 12th December was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

9 Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill.—The Order for reading the Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill a second time on Friday 12th December was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

10 War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill.—The Order for reading the War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill a second time on Friday 12th December was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

11 Regional Development Agencies Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Dr John Cunningham, Mr Secretary Smith, Mr Richard Caborn and Angela Eagle, presented a Bill to make provision for regional development agencies in England; to make provision about the Development Commission and the Urban Regeneration Agency; 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 100].

12 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Council Tax Benefit (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1841) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

13 Doctor Assisted Dying.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable a person who is suffering distress as a result of his terminal illness or incurable physical condition to obtain assistance from a doctor to end his life; and for connected purposes—(Mr Joe Ashton);

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. 23 (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 Joe Ashton, Dr Jenny Tonge: 89.

Tellers for the Noes, Miss Ann Widdecombe, Mr Jim Dobbin: 234.

So the Question was negatived.
14 Social Security Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Social Security Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended, be considered in the following order, namely, new Clauses; new Schedules; Clauses 1 to 12; Clauses 18 and 19; Clauses 4 to 8; Schedule 1: Clause 13; Clause 77; Schedules 2 and 3; Clauses 14 and 15; Schedule 4; Clauses 10 and 11; Schedule 5; Clauses 20 to 22; Clause 35; Clause 23; Clause 59; Clauses 24 to 34; Clauses 36 and 37; Clauses 39 to 58; Clauses 60 to 69; Clause 38; Clause 73; Clauses 70 to 72; Clauses 74 to 76; Clauses 78 to 80; Schedules 6 and 7; Clause 81. —(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

A Clause (Child Benefit for lone parents) — (Steve Webb) — brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

Mr Nicholas Brown 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, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alex Salmond, Mr Donald Gorrie: 62.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 458.

Another Clause (Backdating of benefit) — (Steve Webb) — 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.

15 Business of the House. —A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Social Security Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour. — (Janet Anderson): It was agreed to.

16 Social Security Bill,— The House again proceeded to consider the Social Security Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (Backdating of benefit).

Question again proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

Question put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Paul Keetch: 57.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 345.

A Schedule (Exceptions to the backdating of benefits) — (Mr Nigel Waterson) — brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Schedule be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr James Cran: 192.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 374.

Amendments (Nos. 12, 10, 11, 21 and 22) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 54, line 15, at the end to insert the words —

‘Appeals in certain types of case

10.—(1) The President shall make arrangements for the identification of appeals made under section 13 of this Act which appear to him to raise questions of general importance relating to the interpretation or application of the law in respect of which the Secretary of State has decision making functions under section 1 or section 2 of this Act.

(2) The President shall, in making such arrangements as are referred to in sub-paragraph (1) above, delegate such of his powers in that regard as seem to him appropriate to any full-time chairman of appeal tribunals who hold office for the time being.

(3) The President shall, when he identifies any cases as are mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) above, make such further arrangements as are necessary to ensure that such appeals are determined as soon as reasonably practicable in priority to other pending appeals.’. — (Mr Archy Kirkwood.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 23, 24 and 13 to 17) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 46, line 35, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 1 on page 47.—(Steve Webb.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunell: 107.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 457.

Other Amendments (Nos. 18, 34 to 38, 25 to 30, 40 to 48, 19, 33 and 20) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Thursday 11th December 1997

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 295.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Adrian Sanders: 58.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

17 Broadcasting.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 20th November, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

18 Local Government.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) (National Health Service Trusts) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2763), dated 20th November 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 20th November, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

19 Copyright.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Copyright and Rights in Databases Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 6th November, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

20 Employment Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 10230/97, on a proposal for a directive on part-time work, and European Community Document No. 10975/97, Parts A and B, on proposals for directives extending the European Works Councils Directive and the Parental Leave Directive to the United Kingdom; and supports the Government’s view that these proposals will contribute to a flexible labour market based on partnership between employers and employees and decent minimum standards at work.—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 331.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Maclean, Mr Peter Luff: 18.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 10230/97, on a proposal for a directive on part-time work, and European Community Document No. 10975/97, Parts A and B, on proposals for directives extending the European Works Councils Directive and the Parental Leave Directive to the United Kingdom; and supports the Government’s view that these proposals will contribute to a flexible labour market based on partnership between employers and employees and decent minimum standards at work.

21 Agenda 2000: Structural and Cohesion Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to structural and cohesion policy; and supports the Government’s aim that the reformed Funds should take account of the United Kingdom’s regional interests and be fair to the United Kingdom in relation to other Member States, and that the
reforms should make the Funds simpler, more efficient, affordable and durable—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

22 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from
   (1) Mrs Hélène Atkinson for action to help the release of Mr George Atkinson from imprisonment in Dubai; and
   (2) the people of Cornwall for a university college in the county were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

23 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock on Wednesday 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 nine minutes past One o’clock on Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.09 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—(1) Civil Aviation (Air Travel Organisers’ Licensing) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2912), dated 8th December 1997, and
   (2) Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2920), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Education,—Education (Particulars of Independent Schools) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2918), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Medical Profession,—European Specialist Medical Qualifications Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2926), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Master’s Discretion) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2886), dated 2nd December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Pilot Schemes—Health Service Bodies) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2929), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Public Passenger Transport,—(1) Community Bus (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2917), and
   (2) Minibus and Other Section 19 Permit Buses (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2916), dated 8th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rating (Rural Settlement) (Wales) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2885), dated 4th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Road Traffic,—(1) Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Designation of Areas) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2913), dated 8th December 1997,
   (2) Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2934), dated 10th December 1997,
   (3) Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2915), dated 8th December 1997,
   (4) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2933), dated 10th December 1997,
   (5) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2936), dated 10th December 1997, and
   (6) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 6) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2935), dated 10th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Telecommunications,—(1) Telecommunications (Interconnection) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2931),
   (2) Telecommunications (Licensing) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2930), and
(3) Telecommunications (Open Network Provision and Leased Lines) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2932), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

10 British Library.—Report of the British Library for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

11 Criminal Injuries Compensation.—Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 422] [Clerk of the House].

12 Home Affairs.—Government Reply to the Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 1996–97, on the Management of the Prison Service (Public and Private) [by Command] [Cm. 3810] [Mr Secretary Straw].

13 Mental Health.—Paper, entitled Who Decides? Making Decisions on Behalf of Mentally Incapacitated Adults [by Command] [Cm. 3803] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

14 Miscellaneous (No. 12, 1997).—Convention, done at Paris on 7th October 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of the French Republic, and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning Scientific Personnel at the Max von Laue-Paul Langevin Institute [by Command] [Cm. 3821] [Mr Secretary Cook].

15 Northern Ireland.—Report of the Standing Advisory Committee on Human Rights for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 402] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

16 Parliamentary Commissioner.—Third Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1997–98, Selected Cases 1997—Volume 5 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 412] [Clerk of the House].

17 Treaty Series (No. 73, 1997).—Consolidated Text of the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF), done at Berne on 9th May 1980 [by Command] [Cm. 3812] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill:

The Committee of Selection has nominated nineteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Tony Baldry, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Michael Foster, Mr Edward Garmer, Dr Ian Gibson, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr James Gray, Mr George Howarth, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Martin Salter, Angela Smith and Miss Ann Widdecombe.

2 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill:

The Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Martin Caton, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Alan Clark, Mr Edward Davey, Paul Flynn, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr David Hanson, Lynne Jones, Mr David Maclean, Mr Bill Michie, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Jeff Rooker, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Desmond Turner.

3 Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1841):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harold Best, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr David Crausby, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Lepper, Fiona Maclaggart, Mrs Theresa May, Kati Mountford, Mr David Rendel, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Nigel Waterson and Steve Webb.

European Standing Committees

4 The unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 8th December 1997, relating to Fisheries: total allowable catches and quotas 1998, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 10th December [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-iv] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 10th December [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 415-iii]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 10th December [UK Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 360-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Legislation,—(1) Tenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-x]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 10th December [Tobacco advertising]; to be printed [No. 428] [Mr Jim Cunningham].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 10th December [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-v]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 10th December [Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 316-iii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Public Accounts,—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs and Excise: Accounts Matters]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 424];

   (2) Seventeenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust: Progress in Regenerating Housing Estates]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 425];

   (3) Eighteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Department of Trade and Industry Redundancy Payments Service: Management and Recovery of Debt], together with a Memorandum laid before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 426];

   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th December [Privatisation of Belfast International Airport]; to be printed [No. 427-i]; and

   (5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th December [The Industrial Research and Technology Unit]; to be printed [No. 429-i] [Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 10th December [The Year 2000 and Computer Compliance]; to be printed [No. 342-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].

7 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 10th December [Welfare to Work in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 335-iv] [Mr David Marshall].

8 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 10th December [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 423-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 10th December [Coal]; to be printed [No. 404-iii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Bank of England Bill.—Mr John McWilliam reported from Standing Committee D, that it had gone through the Bank of England 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. 432].

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, that it had considered the Matter of Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland in 1998–99, referred to it on 26th November, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 430].

3 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme.

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

4 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Mink Keeping Order 1997.

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

5 Welfare of Pigs Bill.—The Order for reading the Welfare of Pigs Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6th March.

6 Agenda 2000: The New Financial Framework.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), that this House takes note of European Community Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to the new financial framework for the European Community; and supports the Government in its policy of achieving enlargement of the European Union while maintaining the Own Resources Ceiling of 1.27 per cent—(Mr David Clelland).—It was agreed to.

7 Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, that this House takes note of European Community Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to reform of the Common Agricultural Policy; and supports the Government’s objective of a market-oriented CAP with less emphasis on production-related agricultural support and more emphasis on targeted environmental and rural objectives—(Mr David Clelland);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1 to leave out from the word ‘House’ and add the words ‘whilst recognising the need for urgent and radical reform of the CAP, declines to take note of European Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, unless and until the Government gives beef farmers the urgent support they need if there is to be a viable British beef industry in the future’, instead thereof.—(Mr Patrick McLoughlin.)

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), that the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Janet Anderson: 258.

So the Question was negatived.

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

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 9984/97, Agenda 2000, as it relates to reform of the Common Agricultural Policy; and supports the Government’s objective of a market-oriented CAP with less emphasis on production-related agricultural support and more emphasis on targeted environmental and rural objectives.
8 Environmental Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Air Quality Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 11th November, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

9 Road Traffic.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 24th November, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

10 Rating and Valuation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 25th November, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

11 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 17th November, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

12 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Interception of Communications)—(Mr David Trimble)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Codes of practice: commencement orders)—(Mr David Trimble)—brought up, and read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, to leave out lines 7 and 8.—(Mr David Trimble.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out lines 1 and 2.—(Mr David Trimble.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 6) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out lines 9 and 10.—(Mr Andrew MacKay.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Stephen Day: 118.


Amendments (Nos. 7 and 8) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.53 pm]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, and

(2) Draft Road Traffic (New Drivers) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Joint Financing) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2937), dated 10th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Criminal Law (Scotland),—Disqualification from Driving (Prescribed Courts) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2940), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Education,—Education (Student Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2919), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Local Government,—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (Easington District Council, Epping Forest District Council and London Borough of Merton) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2888), and
(2) Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (Stevenage Borough Council and Three Rivers District Council) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2889), dated 8th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Restrictive Trade Practices,—(1) Restrictive Trade Practices (Non-notifiable Agreements) (Sale and Purchase, Share Subscription and Franchise Agreements) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2945), and
(2) Restrictive Trade Practices (Non-notifiable Agreements) (Turnover Threshold) Amendment Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2944), dated 6th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—(1) Invergarry-Kyle of Lochalsh Trunk Road (A87) Extension (Skye Bridge Crossing) Toll Order (Variation) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2941), and
(2) Removal of Vehicles (Prescribed Charges) (Scotland) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2942), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

8 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Security Facilities Executive for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 91] [Dr David Clark].

9 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons,—Statements by the Secretary of State for Health and the Secretary of State for Wales on Residential care of Handicapped Persons under the age of 65 in England and Wales for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 399] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

10 Employment Protection,—Report of the Central Arbitration Committee for 1996 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Freedom of Information,—Paper, entitled Your Right to Know: The Government's proposals for a Freedom of Information Act [by Command] [Cm. 3818] [Dr David Clark].

12 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the National Portrait Gallery for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 431] [Clerk of the House].

13 National Audit,—Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on The Management of Sickness Absence in the Metropolitan Police Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 413] [Clerk of the House].


15 Science and Technology,—Report and Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Council Tax Benefit (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1841).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

2. Welsh Grand Committee.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of the Meeting of the Committee on Tuesday 16th December.

APPENDIX III

Select Committees

1. Agriculture,—First Report from the Agriculture Committee [MAFF Intervention Board Departmental Report 1997], together with an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 310] [Mr Peter Luff].

2. Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Second Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Millennium Dome], 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. 340]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Millennium Dome] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3. Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 11th December 1997 [Strategic Defence Review] [No. 138–v]; to be printed [Mr Bruce George].

4. Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th December [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 415–iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5. Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 11th December [Children Looked After By Local Authorities]; to be printed [No 319–iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

6. Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 11th December [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329–viii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 88.]

Friday 12th December 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1. Mental Health (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill;

A Motion was 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 16th January.

2. Public Interest Disclosure Bill,—The Public Interest Disclosure Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3. Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill,—The Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4. Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.
5 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;
   
   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

6 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;
   
   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

7 Hare Coursing Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;
   
   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th January.

8 Waste Minimisation Bill.—The Waste Minimisation Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

9 Public House Names Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Public House Names Bill;
   
   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th February.

10 Harmon (CFEM) Facades (UK) Limited v. The Corporate Officer of the House of Commons.—Resolved, That this House, notwithstanding its right to exclusive cognisance of its proceedings, gives leave, in the action of Harmon (CFEM) Facades (UK) Limited v the Corporate Officer of the House of Commons, for reference to be made to such papers of the Accommodation and Works and Finance and Services Committees in the last Parliament as relate to the fenestration contract for the New Parliamentary Building and which are in the possession of the Corporate Officer in accordance with the duties placed upon him by the Parliamentary Corporate Bodies Act 1992: and that leave be given for the proper Officers of the House to produce the said papers and to attend to give evidence in the trial of the action.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

11 Fisheries.—Ordered, That the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 8th December 1997, relating to Fisheries: total allowable catches and quotas 1998, shall not stand referred to European Standing Committee A.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

12 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 17th December, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (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 Eight o'clock; and that the Order of 5th December be discharged.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 15th December.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

**APPENDIX I**

*Papers presented or laid upon the Table:*

**Papers subject to Negative Resolution:**

1 Family Law.—Child Support (Written Agreements) (Scotland) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2943), dated 3rd December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Social Security.—Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2863), dated 11th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

**Other Papers:**

3 Industrial Organisation and Development.—Report and Accounts of the Milk Development Council for 1996–97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

4 Natural Heritage (Scotland).—Accounts of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 433] [Clerk of the House].

5 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland).—Land Purchase Account of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Northern Ireland, for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 434] [Clerk of the House].
282

15th December 1997

Vol. 254

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 Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill should originate in the House of Lords and the Tyne Tunnels Bill should originate in the House of Commons.

2 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill.—The Police (Northern Ireland) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Police (Northern Ireland) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Police (Northern Ireland) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenses of the Secretary of State under that Act; and

(b) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable out of such money under any other statutory provision.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

4 Adjournment (Christmas).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Monday 22nd December, do adjourn till Monday 12th January.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

5 Animals.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Mink Keeping Order 1997, dated 17th November 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 19th November, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

6 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Museums and Galleries (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 25th November, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

7 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 27th November, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

8 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Regulations 1997, which were laid before this House on 27th November, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

9 Firearms.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme, which was laid before this House on 27th November, be approved.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the National Federation of Meat and Food Traders for the research findings of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee to be published so that the public can decide what precautions to take about beef on the bone was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Janet Anderson.)

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 Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture.—Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Preseli) Designation (Amendment No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2868), dated 2nd December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

2 Food.—Beef Bones Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2959), dated 15th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

3 Law Commissions,—Report of the Law Commission on Aggravated Exemplary and Restitutionary Damages [by Act]; to be printed [No. 346] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency: Review of Performance [by Act]; to be printed [No. 411] [Clerk of the House].

5 Natural Heritage (Scotland),—(1) Report and Accounts of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1996–97, and
   (2) Scottish Natural Heritage Facts and Figures for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Police Complaints Authority,—Report by the Police Complaints Authority on the Investigation of a Complaint against the Metropolitan Police Service by Mr N. and Mrs D. Lawrence [by Command] [Cm. 3822] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of the British Waterways Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Treaty Series (No. 74, 1997),—Notes, exchanged at Antananarivo on 20th and 21st October 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Madagascar concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Madagascar Debt Agreement No. 8 (1997)) [by Command] [Cm. 3820] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 15th December [Contingent Liabilities in the Dependent Territories]; to be printed [No. 435-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Treasury,—Second Report from the Treasury Committee [The Barnett Formula], 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. 341] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 90.]

Tuesday 16th December 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, that it had considered the matter of Government Expenditure in Wales in 1998–99, referred to it on 1st December, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 96].

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Supreme Court (Offices) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Bill, without Amendment.
School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the zero-rating of the supply of items of clothing and footwear for use only as part of an approved school uniform: And that Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Shaun Woodward, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr John Hayes and Mr David Prior do prepare and bring it in.

School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax) Bill.—Mr Tim Loughton accordingly presented a Bill to provide for zero-rating of the supply of items of clothing and footwear for use only as part of an approved school uniform: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 103].

National Minimum Wage Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the National Minimum Wage Bill;

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Graham Allen: 387.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr James Cran: 145.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

National Minimum Wage Bill (Money).—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to National Minimum Wage Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the National Minimum Wage Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred under the Act by a Minister of the Crown or government department or by a body performing functions on behalf of the Crown; and

(b) any increase attributable to the provisions of the Act in the sums payable out of such money under any other Act; and

(2) the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

Committee of Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Mr Dafydd Wigley be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts.—(Janet Anderson.)

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Janet Anderson.)

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland.—Draft Financial Provisions (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Food.—Specified Risk Material Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2965), dated 16th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


4 National Health Service.—(1) Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2991), and
(2) National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2990), dated 15th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Sea Fisheries,—Mackerel (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2963), dated 16th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:

7 Animals,—Specified Risk Material Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2964), dated 16th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

8 Environment,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for the period 12th October 1995 to 31st March 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Residuary Body (England) for 1996–97 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Monopolies and Mergers,—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between—

(1) National Express Group Plc and Central Trains Limited, and
(2) National Express Group Plc and ScotRail Railways Limited,
[by Command] [Cm. 3774 and 3773] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, of the

(1) National Maritime Museum [by Act]; and
(2) National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside [by Statutory Instrument];
to be printed [Nos. 440 and 441] [Clerk of the House].

12 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretaries of State for Health and for Social Security on the Petition [17th November] from citizens of Coventry for improved state retirement pensions, action to reform the NHS and reconsideration of the role of ‘Care in the Community’ [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

13 Tribunals and Inquiries,—Report of the Council on Tribunals for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 376] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 16th December [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-iv]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety]
[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 16th December [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-vii] [Mr Derek Foster]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 16th December [Further Education]; together with an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee; to be printed [No. 264-vii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 16th December [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-vii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 16th December [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 258]; and
286

16th—17th December 1997

VOL. 254

(2) Memoranda laid before the Home Affairs Committee

[Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development,—Second Report from the International Development Committee [The Development White Paper], with the Appendices to the Minutes of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 330] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Parliamentary Privilege. Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 16th December; to be printed [No. 401-ii] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

8 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 17th December [Resource Accounting and Budgeting]; to be printed [No. 438-i] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

9 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 16th December [Freedom of Information]; to be printed [No. 398-ii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

10 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 16th December [The Work of the Scottish Arts Council]; to be printed [No. 442] [Mr David Marshall].

11 Standards and Privileges,—Ninth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Public Access toRegisters of Interest], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 437] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

12 Statutory Instruments,—Seventeenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xvit] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 91.]

Wednesday 17th December 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 Clive Betts);

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

2 Scotland Bill,—Mr Secretary Dewar, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Straw, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Dr John Cunningham, Mr Secretary Robertson, Secretary Harriet Harman, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr Henry McLeish, presented a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Scottish Parliament and Administration and other changes in the government of Scotland; to provide for changes in the constitution and functions of certain public bodies; to provide for the variation of the basic rate of income tax in relation to income of Scottish taxpayers in accordance with a resolution of the Scottish Parliament; to amend the law about parliamentary constituencies in Scotland; 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 104].

3 Energy Efficiency (Information).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to improve the gathering and provision of information on the energy efficiency of homes: And that Julia Drown, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Matthew Taylor, Tess Kingham, Mr David Chaytor, Angela Smith, Mr Alan Simpson, Linda Gilroy, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Tony Colman and Ms Debra Shipley do prepare and bring it in.

4 Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill.—Julia Drown accordingly presented a Bill to improve the gathering and provision of information on the energy efficiency of homes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 105].

5 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 1997
Special Immigration Appeals Commission Act 1997
Supreme Court (Offices) Act 1997
Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Act 1997.

6 Fisheries.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 8th December 1997 relating to the fixing of total allowable catches for 1998 and certain conditions under which they may be fished; and supports the Government’s intentions to negotiate the best possible fishing opportunities for British fishermen based on sustainable fisheries management, effective enforcement and the need to ensure that the regional differences of fisheries and their communities are fully recognised—(Mr Elliot Morley);

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 contents of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 8th December 1997 outlining the basis of the negotiations for the December Fisheries Council; and supports efforts to secure the best possible sustainable fishing opportunities for the United Kingdom industry, but recognises that, whatever the Council’s outcome, the Government have yet again failed Britain’s fishermen through their inability to provide an EU Treaty-based solution to the question of quota hopping, any form of workable plan to enable the industry to respond to the demands of MAGP IV and a statement reflecting the Government’s priorities in the forthcoming discussions on CFP reform, instead thereof. (Mr Michael Jack.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 153.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 378.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 360.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 150.
So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 8th December 1997 relating to the fixing of total allowable catches for 1998 and certain conditions under which they may be fished; and supports the Government’s intentions to negotiate the best possible fishing opportunities for British fishermen based on sustainable fisheries management, effective enforcement and the need to ensure that the regional differences of fisheries and their communities are fully recognised.

7 European Communities (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the European Communities (Amendment) Bill:—

Committee of the whole House

1.—(1) The remaining proceedings in Committee shall be completed in two allotted days.
(2) At the sitting on the first allotted day, proceedings on any amendment to Clause 1—
(a) which may be selected and
(b) which would insert after ‘9’ at line 13 of page 1 of the Bill words relating to paragraph 40 of Article 2 of the Treaty,
shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at half past Seven o’clock.
(3) At the sitting on that day proceedings on any amendment to Clause 1—
(a) which may be selected, and
(b) which would insert at the end of line 13 of page 1 of the Bill words relating to Article 2(3)(b) of the Treaty,
shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at Nine o’clock.
(4) At the sitting on the second allotted day, any remaining proceedings on Clauses 1 and 2 shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at half past Six o’clock.
(5) At that sitting, the remaining proceedings in Committee shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, at Eight o’clock.
Proceedings on going into Committee

2. 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. 66 (Committee of the whole House on bill) shall not apply.

Conclusion of proceedings in Committee

3. On the conclusion of the proceedings in Committee the Chairman shall report the Bill to the House without putting any Question and, if he reports the Bill with amendments, the House shall proceed to consider the Bill as amended without any Question being put.

Report and Third Reading

4. The proceedings on Consideration and on Third Reading shall be completed on the second allotted day and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at Ten o'clock.

Conclusion of proceedings

5. —(1) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraphs 1 or 4, the Chairman or 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;
   (c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion 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 Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(2) If an allotted day is one on which a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (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, are to be brought to a conclusion before that time; and
   (b) the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which, under this Order, are to be brought to a conclusion after that time shall be postponed for a period of time equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion, and paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (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.

(3) If an allotted day is one to which a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 stands over from an earlier day, the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which, under this Order, are to be brought to a conclusion on that day shall be postponed for a period of time equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion; and paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (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.

Order of proceedings

6. No motion shall be made to alter the order in which any proceedings on the Bill are taken.

Dilatory Motions

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

Interruption of business

8. The following business shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour—
   (a) proceedings under paragraph 5(1);
   (b) proceedings to which paragraph 5(2) or (3) applies;
   (c) proceedings under paragraph 10(1).
9. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to this Order.

Supplemental orders

10. — (1) The proceedings on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one hour after they have been commenced.

(2) If at the sitting on an allotted day the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the time at which any proceedings are to be brought to a conclusion under paragraphs 1 or 4, 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.

Recommittal

11. 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

12. 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;

“the Treaty” means the Treaty signed at Amsterdam on 2nd October 1997 amending the Treaty on European Union, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and certain related Acts—(Mr Secretary Cook);

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

8 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Motion relating to European Communities (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time) may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Robert Ainsworth)—It was agreed to.

9 European Communities (Amendment) Bill (Allocation of Time).—The Question being again proposed, the House resumed the adjourned Debate;

Question put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Jamieson: 352.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 144.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Environmental Audit Committee,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 152A (Environmental Audit Committee) be amended in line 9 by leaving out the word ‘fifteen’ and inserting the word ‘sixteen’.—(Jane Kennedy.)

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

Thursday 18th December 1997

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Twelve o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.08 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Arable Area Payments (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2969), dated 16th December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Education,—Teachers’ Pensions Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3001), dated 15th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
3 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2962), dated 13th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.—Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2939), dated 9th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

Other Papers:

5 Friendly Societies.—Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

6 National Loans. (1) Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 377] [Clerk of the House]; and (2) Supplementary Statements of Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 378] [Dawn Primarolo].

7 Policyholders Protection.—Statements by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 28 of the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 concerning assistance given by the Policyholders Protection Board to— (1) Anglo American Insurance Company Limited, (2) North Atlantic Insurance Company Limited, (3) Pine Top Insurance Company Limited, (4) Sovereign Marine and General Insurance Company Ltd, and (5) UIC Insurance Company Limited [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

8 Treaty Series (No. 75, 1997),—Additional Protocol No. 1, done at Montreal on 25th September 1975, to amend the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air, signed at Warsaw on 12th October 1929 [by Command] [Cm. 3823] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Treaty Series (No. 76, 1997),—Additional Protocol No. 2, done at Montreal on 25th September 1975, to amend the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air, signed at Warsaw on 12th October 1929, as amended by the Protocol Done at The Hague on 28th September 1955 [by Command] [Cm. 3824] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10 Treaty Series (No. 77, 1997),—Protocol, done at Montreal on 6th October 1980, relating to an Amendment to the Convention on International Civil Aviation [by Command] [Cm. 3825] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Government of Wales Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 4, 22, 58, 80 and 118): The Speaker has allocated the Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 4, 22, 58, 80 and 118) to Standing Committee A and has appointed Mr Barry Jones and Dr Michael Clark Chairmen.

2 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill: The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B.

3 Public Interest Disclosure Bill: The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

4 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill: The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

5 Waste Minimisation Bill: The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

6 National Minimum Wage Bill: (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody and Mr Peter Atkinson Chairmen; and (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-five Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr John Bercow, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Tim Boswell,
Mr Russell Brown, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Huw Edwards, Ms Barbara Follett, Mr Damian Green, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr John Healey, Ann Keen, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr David Lepper, Mr Ian McCartney, Judy Mallaber, Gillian Merron, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Chris Pond, Mrs Barbara Roche, Ms Dari Taylor, Mr John M. Taylor and Mr Phil Woolas.

7 Draft Activity Centres (Young Persons' Safety) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Paul Flynn, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Malcolm Moss, Jacqui Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr David Taylor, Mr Gareth R. Thomas, Mr Mike Wood and Mr Tony Worthington.

European Standing Committees

8 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 8164/96, relating to cocoa and chocolate.

9 European Community Document No. 6793/97, relating to the taxation of energy products, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 European Legislation,—Eleventh Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 17th December [Health Policy and Expenditure Issues]; to be printed [No. 443-i] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

3 Public Accounts,—(1) Nineteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Aid to Indonesia]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 436];

(2) Twentieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Motability]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 444];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 17th December [HM Customs and Excise: Checking Large Traders’ VAT Liability]; to be printed [No. 445-i]; and

(4) Memorandum laid before the Committee of Public Accounts [Welsh Development Agency: Car Travel Arrangements of the Former Chairman, Dr Gwyn Jones] [No. 439] [Mr David Davis].

4 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 17th December [The Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research]; to be printed [No. 303-v] [Dr Lynne Jones].

5 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 17th December [Welfare to Work in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 335-v] [Mr David Marshall].

6 Trade and Industry,—First Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Co-ordination of Inward Investment], together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 18th November and Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 355] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Treasury,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 17th December [Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 420-ii];

(2) Memorandum laid before the Treasury Committee [The Barnett Formula]; to be printed [No. 341]; and

(3) Memorandum laid before the Treasury Committee [The Pre-Budget Report] [Mr Giles Radice].
Thursday 18th December 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 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.:
   Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council
   Tyne Tunnels.

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 1841).

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

3 Sir Donald William Limon KCB,—Resolved, nemine contradicente, That Madam Speaker be requested to convey to Sir Donald William Limon KCB, on his retirement from the Office of Clerk of this House, the House's gratitude for his long and distinguished career, for his wise contribution to the development of the procedure of the House, and for the courteous and helpful advice always given to individual honourable Members.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

4 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords];

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr John McFall: 159
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr Roy Beggs: 7

So the Question was agreed to.

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

5 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary of State incurred in consequence of that Act.—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.25 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Construction,—(1) Draft Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Exclusion Order 1998, and
   (2) draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Community Charges,—Local Government Changes for England (Valuation Tribunals) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2954), dated 11th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


5 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Pilot Schemes: Financial Assistance for Preparatory Work) Amendment Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3021), dated 18th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


7 Video Recordings,—Proposal by the Home Secretary for the designation of Mr Andreas Whittam-Smith as an authority to determine the suitability of video works for classification [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

8 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for the Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 International Labour Conference,—Paper, entitled International Labour Conference: Presentation of a Convention and Recommendation adopted at the 83rd Session of the International Labour Conference (1996) and an amendment to the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation adopted at the 85th Session of the International Labour Conference (1997) and the proposed action by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Convention, Recommendation and constitutional amendment [by Command] [Cm. 3798] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [1st December] from the constituents of Kingston and Surbiton and Richmond Park for legislation to abolish capping of local authorities, in particular to protect schools in Kingston-upon-Thames from expenditure cutbacks [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

11 Science and Technology,—Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 1996–97, on the Cloning of Animals from Adult Cells [by Command] [Cm. 3815] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 National Minimum Wage Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated Angela Smith as an additional Member to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—First Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Regional Development Agencies], 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. 415] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 18th December [The Present Crisis in the Livestock Industry], to be printed [No. 447-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].
PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment (Welfare to work).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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

2 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

3 Environmental Audit Committee.—Ordered, That Mr Michael Meacher be added to the Environmental Audit Committee.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

4 Business of the House (Scotland Bill),—Ordered, That a Motion relating to Scotland Bill (Programme) in the names of Mr Secretary Dewar, Mrs Ann Taylor, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Mr Paul Tyler and Mrs Margaret Ewing may be proceeded with at any hour though opposed, and, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 83 (Allocation of time to bills), the Speaker shall put any Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings thereon (including the Question on any Amendment which may have been selected and may then be moved) not later than three-quarters of an hour after their commencement.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 22nd December.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Clean Air,—Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3009), dated 17th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Education,—Education (Grant) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2961), dated 14th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

3 Rating and Valuation,—(1) Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3031), dated 18th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott]; and

(2) Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3003), dated 18th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

4 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Statutory Off-Road Notification) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3025), dated 17th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Weights and Measures,—Non-automatic Weighing Instruments (EEC Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3035), dated 17th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Local Government (Scotland),—Accounts of the Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration for 1995-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 449] [Clerk of the House].

7 Monopolies and Mergers,—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on—

(1) the proposed acquisition by PacifiCorp of The Energy Group plc, and

(2) the supply in the UK of tour operators’ services and travel agents’ services in relation to foreign package holidays

[by Command] [Cm. 3816 and 3813] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B and has appointed Mr John Butterfill and Mr Andrew Welsh Chairmen.
Monday 22nd December 1997.

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

PRAYERS.

1 School Standards and Framework Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the School Standards and Framework Bill;

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr David Jamieson: 265.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Sir David Madel: 142.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

2 School Standards and Framework Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to School Standards and Framework Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with Bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the School Standards and Framework Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

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

(b) any other expenses of the Secretary of State under the Act; and

(c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable by virtue of any other Act; and

(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund.—(Mr Jim Dowd): It was agreed to.

3 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);

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 Standing Order, it being then nineteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till Monday 12th January, pursuant to Resolution [15th December].

[Adjourned at 10.41 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Electromagnetic Compatibility.—Electromagnetic Compatibility (Wireless Telegraphy Apparatus) Certification and Examination Fees Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3051), dated 18th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Environmental Protection.—Highway Litter Clearance and Cleaning (Transfer of Responsibility) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2960), dated 1st December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
3 Food.—Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3046), dated 22nd December 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


5 Landlord and Tenant.—(1) Long Residential Tenancies (Supplemental Forms) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3005), and

(2) Rent Assessment Committees (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3001),

dated 16th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Port Waste Reception Facilities) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3018), dated 16th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Merchant Shipping Safety.—Merchant Shipping (ISM Code) (Ro-Ro Passenger Ferries) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3022), dated 17th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Pensions.—(1) Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment (No. 4) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3048), dated 15th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and

(2) Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3038), dated 18th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].


10 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland).—Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment No. 3) 1997 (S.R.(N.I.), 1997, No. 543), dated 17th December 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

11 Telegraphs.—Wireless Telegraphy Apparatus Approval and Examination Fees Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3050), dated 17th December 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

12 Nuclear Liabilities.—Trade and Industry Departmental Minute, dated 22nd December 1997, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the merger of Magnox Electric plc and British Nuclear Fuels plc [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

13 Police (Northern Ireland).—Accounts of the Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 451] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords]: The Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Adam Ingram, Helen Jackson, Mr Eddie McGrady, Shona McIsaac, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr David Trimble and Mr Tony Worthington.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Disability Rights Commission Bill.—The Order for reading the Disability Rights Commission Bill a second time on Friday 16th January was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

2 Scotland Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Scotland Bill;

Mr Secretary Dewar acquainted the House, That he had it in Command from the Queen to acquaint the House that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place Her prerogative and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

A Motion was 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, while accepting and respecting the clear decision of the Scottish people in favour of a devolved Scottish Parliament with limited income tax-varying powers, nevertheless believes that the Scotland Bill is not an acceptable measure because it fails to create a constitutional settlement which is stable and enduring within the United Kingdom; because it undermines Scotland's role both in Europe and within the Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom; and because its lack of clarity on taxes and resources threatens the interests of Scottish business, Scottish people and Scottish jobs', instead thereof.-(Mr Michael Ancram.)

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

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

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

3 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.-(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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 by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Accounts of Sir John Soane's Museum for 1996-97 [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Treaty Series (No. 78, 1997).—Agreement, done at London on 8th June 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Côte D'Ivoire for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [Cm. 3826] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 79, 1997).—Convention, done at Kampala on 23rd December 1992, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Uganda for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains [Cm. 3827] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

23rd December 1997


5 Sea Fisheries,—Sole, etc. (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3054), dated 22nd December 1997 [Dr John Cunningham].
29th December 1997

6 Town and Country Planning (Scotland).—Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3060), dated 18th December 1997 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

30th December 1997

7 Road Traffic.—Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3063), dated 22nd December 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

31st December 1997


5th January 1998


(2) Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 (Enforcement of Overseas Forfeiture Orders) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2977), and

(3) Drug Trafficking Act 1994 (Designated Countries and Territories) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2980),
dated 17th December 1997 [Mrs Ann Taylor].


7th January 1998

12 National Health Service.—National Health Service (Proposals for Pilot Schemes) and (Miscellaneous Amendments) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3), dated 6th January 1998 [Mr Secretary Dobson].


8th January 1998


15 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (Vocational Training for General Medical Practice) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 5), dated 5th January 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

16 Road Traffic.—Traffic Signs (Temporary Obstructions) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3053), dated 18th December 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


9th January 1998

18 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 4), dated 5th January 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


(2) Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Bromley) (Amendment) Order 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3056), dated 19th December 1997, and
[Mr Secretary Prescott].

20 Wildlife,—Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 3055), dated 22nd December 1997 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

5th January 1998


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 12th January 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

22 Construction,—Draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

23 Defence,—Draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


25 Pesticides,—Draft Codes of Practice:
   (1) under the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 for Suppliers of Pesticides to Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry, and
   (2) under the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 and the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 for the Safe Use of Pesticides on Farms and Holdings [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:

27 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas,—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Wales for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

28 Appropriation Accounts, 1996-97,—Appropriation Account of sums granted by Parliament for 1996-97 for Class XII (Social Security) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251-XII] [Dawn Primarolo].

29 Covent Garden,—Report and Accounts of the Covent Garden Market Authority for 1996-97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

30 Local Government (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

31 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on loans proposed to be raised by the Leicester General Hospital National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

32 Science and Technology,—Accounts of
   (1) Medical Research Council, and
   (2) Natural Environment Research Council for 1996-97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 458 and 459] [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

33 Construction,—Draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 [laid 18th December].
APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Standing Committee B.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee B Mr Ken Maginnis and Mr David Trimble (nominated in respect of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords]); and has appointed in substitution Mr William Ross and Mr William Thompson.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 6th January [Foreign Policy and Human Rights; the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Mission Statement]; to be printed [No. 369—iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

[No. 96.]

Tuesday 13th January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Parliamentary Declaration Bill.—Mr Tony Benn, supported by Mr Chris Mullin, Audrey Wise, Mr Roger Berry, Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Alan Simpson, John Austin, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Jeremy Corbyn and Mr Dennis Skinner, presented a Bill to provide for a new Declaration to be made by Members of Parliament upon their election to the House of Commons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 106].

2 Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the holding of referendums on proposals of the Local Government Commission for England to change local government boundaries; to make the results of such referendums binding; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Ronnie Fearn, Bob Russell, Mr Andrew Stunell, Dr Jenny Tonge, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Don Foster, Mr David Heath and Mr Richard Allan do prepare and bring it in.

3 Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill.—Mr Ronnie Fearn accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the holding of referendums on proposals of the Local Government Commission for England to change local government boundaries; to make the results of such referendums binding; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 107].

4 Scotland Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Amendment proposed to be made to the Question proposed yesterday, That the Scotland Bill be now read a second time;

Which Amendment was to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and to add the words 'this House, while accepting and respecting the clear decision of the Scottish people in favour of a devolved Scottish Parliament with limited income tax-varying powers, nevertheless believes that the Scotland Bill is not an acceptable measure because it undermines Scotland's role both in Europe and within the Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom; and because its lack of clarity on taxes and resources threatens the interests of Scottish business, Scottish people and Scottish jobs', instead thereof;

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 Nigel Waterson, Sir David Madel: 148.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 411.

So the Question was negatived.
And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Scotland Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scotland Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House (Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.
302 13th January 1998 Vol. 254

a second time, the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill);
(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown; and
(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(3) If, apart from this sub-paragraph, two or more Questions would fall to be put by the Chairman under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to a series of clauses or schedules to which no notice of amendment has been given by a Minister of the Crown, the Chairman shall instead put a single question in relation to those clauses and schedules.

(4) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

5. In this Order "allotted day" means a day on which the Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day.

6. If any Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order so as to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Order, the Question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

7. If any Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of proceedings on any Lords Amendment or any subsequent message from the Lords relating to the Bill, such Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced. (Mr Secretary Dewar.)

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Mothers Opposed to Maldon Maternity Shutdown in support of St. Peter’s Maternity Unit at Maldon in Essex 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 Robert Ainsworth.)

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 Consumer Credit.—Draft Consumer Credit (Increase of Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Defence.—Draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

Other Papers:

3 Human Fertilisation and Embryology.—Account of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 463] [Clerk of the House].

4 Land Authority for Wales.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 8th January 1998 on borrowing by the Land Authority for Wales [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Monopolies and Mergers.—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed acquisition by Capital Radio plc of Virgin Radio Holdings Limited [by Command] [Cm. 3817] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Management of Building Projects at English Higher Education Institutions [by Act]; to be printed [No. 452] [Clerk of the House].
7 National Health Service (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Hospital Endowments Research Trust for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 National Insurance,—Account of Securities held for the National Insurance Fund as at 31st March 1997 [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

9 Sex Discrimination,—Account of the Equal Opportunities Commission for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 462] [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Animal Health Amendment Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee C Mr Jeff Rooker (nominated in respect of the Bill); and appointed in substitution Mr Elliot Morley.

APPENDIX III

Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 13th January [Sewage Treatment and Disposal]; to be printed [No. 266-viii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 13th January [Use of the Welsh Language in Parliamentary Proceedings in Wales]; to be printed [No. 461] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

3 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee on 13th January [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 352-iv] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

4 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 13th January [The Operation of Multi-Layer Democracy]; to be printed [No. 460] [Mr David Marshall].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Eighteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xviii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 13th January [The Impact of Devolution on Local Government and Economic Development in Wales]; to be printed [No. 329-ix] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 97.]

Wednesday 14th January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House to now adjourn—(Mr David Jamieson);

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

2 European Standing Committee A,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 8164/96, relating to cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption; and endorses the Government’s efforts to resist any discrimination against UK products, to secure their
free circulation throughout the EC and to maintain the widest possible range of consumer choice.

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

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Miss Ann Widdecombe reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Activity Centres (Young Persons’ Safety) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

4 Religious Discrimination Bill.—The Order for reading the Religious Discrimination Bill a second time on Friday 30th January was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6th February.

5 Liaison.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee on 29th July, 6th November and 4th December 1997 be printed [No. 470].

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

Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to rename industrial tribunals and amend the law relating to those tribunals; to amend the law relating to dismissal procedures agreements and other alternative methods of resolving disputes about employment rights; to provide for the adjustment of awards of compensation for unfair dismissal in cases where no use is made of internal procedures for appealing against dismissal; to make provision about cases involving both unfair dismissal and disability discrimination; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Consolidation, &c., Bills.—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee consisting of eleven Lords to join with a Committee of the Commons as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills; that they have ordered that such Committee have power to agree with the Committee of the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman; and that the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee from time to time be printed and, if the Committee think fit, be delivered out; and they propose that the Joint Committee do meet on Wednesday 21st January at half-past Four o’clock.

7 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].—The Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th January and to be printed [Bill 110].

8 Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill.—Mrs Linda Gilroy, supported by Mr David Chaytor, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Angela Smith, Maria Eagle, Joan Walley and Linda Perham, presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to draw up and facilitate the carrying out, over a period of 15 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 Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 108].

9 Labelling of Products.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make further provision with respect to the labelling and display of food and goods to assist the consumer in making choices on ethical grounds; and for connected purposes—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr John Heppell, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Ms Fiona Jones, Gillian Merson, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Paddy Tipping, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Derek Twigg, Mr Alan Simpson, Ms Karen Buck and Mr Nick Palmer do prepare and bring in the Bill.

10 Labelling of Products Bill.—Mr Vernon Coaker accordingly presented a Bill to make further provision with respect to the labelling and display of food and goods to assist the consumer in making choices on ethical grounds; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 109].

11 Regional Development Agencies Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Regional Development Agencies 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 Regional Development Agencies Bill because it deplores the enormous increase in ministerial power bestowed by this Bill and the accompanying erosion of the role of local authorities and because the Bill fails to reflect the concern expressed by many consultees, including local authorities of all political persuasions, about the lack of regional accountability of RDAs; regrets that policies which have successfully attracted record levels of inward investment into Britain are now being abandoned; fears that the interests of the rural community and the countryside have not been properly taken into account; and calls on the Government to withdraw this Bill until its true long-term plans for the creation of a new and additional tier of government in the form of regional assemblies have been clearly set out in detail for debate by the House and by the public', instead thereof.—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Oliver Heald: 148.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Jamieson: 388.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Jamieson: 383.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Oliver Heald: 147.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

12 Regional Development Agencies Bill [Money],—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Regional Development Agencies Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Regional Development Agencies Bill it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of the National Loans Fund of any sums required by the Secretary of State for making loans under the Act to a development agency established under the Act;

(2) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any sums required by the Secretary of State—

(i) for making grants under the Act, or

(ii) for fulfilling guarantees given under the Act, and

(b) any administrative expenses of a Minister of the Crown (as defined in the Ministers of the Crown Act 1975) which are attributable to the Act;

(3) the reduction of the assets of the National Loans Fund by amounts corresponding to such liabilities of the Development Commission or the Urban Regeneration Agency as the Secretary of State may extinguish by virtue of the Act;

(4) the payment of sums into the National Loans or the Consolidated Fund—

(Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

13 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of priorities in education in Northern Ireland, being a matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration.

(2) At the sitting on Thursday 29th January:

(i) the Committee shall take questions for oral answer pursuant to Standing Order No. 110 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)) and shall then consider, pursuant to Standing Order No. 114 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (legislative proposals and other matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland)) the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

(ii) at the completion of those proceedings, a Motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 116(1)(h) (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).—(Mr Graham Allen.)

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

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

[Adjourned at 11 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1. Food,—Accounts of the Home Grown Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 468] [Clerk of the House].

2. Food Standards,—Paper, entitled The Food Standards Agency: A Force for Change [by Command] [Cm. 3830] [Dr John Cunningham].

3. Human Growth Hormone,—Department of Health Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the risk of contracting Creutzfeldt Jacob Disease as a result of treatment with human growth hormone between 1977 and 1985 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4. Local Government Finance,—Accounts of the Scottish Office Development Department Non-Domestic Rating for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 467] [Clerk of the House].

5. Local Government (Wales),—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. School Standards and Framework Bill:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and appointed Mr John McWilliam and Mr Roger Gale Chairmen; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Graham Brady, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Don Foster, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Phil Hope, Ms Beverley Hughes, Mr David Jamieson, Helen Jones, Mr Tony McNulty, Sir David Madel, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mrs Theresa May, Estelle Morris, Kali Mountford, Joan Ryan, Rachel Squire, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Dr George Turner and Mr Phil Willis.

2. Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreements between the European Communities and the Member States and the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Uzbekistan) Orders 1997 and (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Slovenia) Order 1997:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nigel Beard, Mr David Heath, Mr Doug Henderson, Ann Keen, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Ken Livingstone, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Gary Streeter, Mr John D. Taylor, Mr Mark Todd, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Malcolm Wicks, Mr David Wilshire and Derek Wyatt.

European Standing Committees

3. European Community Documents Nos. 6177/94 and 1259/97, relating to bathing water, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 14th January [NATO Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 469-i] [Mr Bruce George].
2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 14th January [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286-vi] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Legislation,—Twelfth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xi] [Mr Jim Marshall].

4 Public Accounts,—(1) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 14th January [The Contract to Develop and Operate the Replacement National Insurance Recording System]; to be printed [No. 472-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 14th January [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 423-ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

6 Trade and Industry,—(1) Second Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Progress in the Liberalisation of the Gas 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. 358];

(2) Third Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [The Post Office], 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. 380]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 14th January [Energy Policy]; to be printed [No. 471-1] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 98.]


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

PRAYERS.

1 Tamar Bridge Bill,—The House proceeded to consider the Tamar Bridge Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Bill to be read the third time.

2 Consolidation &c., Bills,—Ordered, That so much of the Lords Message of 14th January as relates to the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills be now considered.

Lord 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.

3 Government of Wales Bill,—Ordered, That the Order [9th December] relating to committal of the Government of Wales Bill be discharged and that the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House.—[Mr Peter Hain.]

4 Government of Wales Bill (Programme),—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the Government of Wales Bill.

1.—(1) Proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be completed in seven allotted days and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at Ten o'clock on the seventh day.

(2) In that Committee the Bill shall be considered in the following order, namely, Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1, Clauses 3 to 22, Schedule 2, Clauses 23 to 29, Schedule 3, Clauses 30 to 73, Schedule 4, Clauses 74 to 104, Schedule 5, Clauses 105 to 108, Schedule 6, Clauses 109 and 110, Schedule 7, Clauses 111 to 117, Schedule 8, Clauses 118 and 119, Schedule 9, Clause 120, Schedule 10, Clause 121, Schedule 11, Clauses 122 to 132, Schedule 12, Clauses 133 to 136, Schedule 13, Clauses 137 to 140, New Clauses, New Schedules, Clauses 141 and 142, Schedule 14, Clauses 143 to 149.

2. Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be completed in two allotted days and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at Ten o'clock on the second day.
3.—(1) Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill.

(2) Notwithstanding the Standing Order, not more than nine other Members shall be nominated by the Speaker to the Business Committee in respect of the Bill.

(3) Resolutions of the Business Committee may include alterations in the order in which proceedings on the Bill may be taken on consideration.

(4) The Business Committee shall report to the House a Resolution as to proceedings in Committee not later than 19th January 1998.

(5) Any Resolution of the Business Committee may be varied by a further Report of the Committee under the Standing Order (whether before or after the date on which the Committee is to report under this paragraph and whether or not that Resolution has been agreed to by the House).

4. For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by or under this Order—

(1) The Chairman or Speaker shall put forthwith 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 Schedule which has been read a second time, the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill);

(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown; and

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(3) If, apart from this sub-paragraph, two or more questions would fall to be put by the Chairman under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to a series of clauses or Schedules to which no notice of amendment has been given by a Minister of the Crown, the Chairman shall instead put a single question in relation to those clauses and Schedules.

(4) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

5. In this Order “allotted day” means any day on which the Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day.

6. If any Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order so as to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Order, the Question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

7. If any Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of proceedings on any Lords Amendments or any subsequent message from the Lords relating to the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced. —(Mr Peter Hain.)

5 European Communities (Amendment) Bill [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Meaning of “the Treaties” and “the Community Treaties”).

Amendment (No. 66) proposed in page 1, line 13, after ‘2’, to insert the words ‘(except paragraph 13)’.

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Question put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Bridget Prentice: 284.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 1, line 13, after ‘9’ to insert the words ‘(except Article 2 paragraph 40)’.—(Mr Gary Streeter.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Bridget Prentice: 260.

Another Amendment (No. 58) proposed, in page 1, line 13, at the end, to insert the words 'except Article 2(3)(b)'.—(Mr William Cash.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 1, line 13, at the end, to insert the words 'other than in Article 2, paragraph 7'.—(Mr William Cash).

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 Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

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

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to Standing Order, it then being 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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out,—Draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the Management of Crown Lands) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Dangerous Drugs,—Draft Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Modification) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

3 Employment and Training,—(1) Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1998, and

(2) Draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Fees and Charges,—Draft Department of Transport (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Rating and Valuation,—Draft Valuation and Rating (Exempted Classes) (Scotland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

6 Immigration,—Immigration (Transit Visa) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 55), dated 14th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

7 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the National Library of Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 477] [Clerk of the House].

8 Overseas Pensions,—Overseas Service Pensions Amendment Scheme 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

9 National Health Service,—Paper, entitled NHS Wales: Putting Patients First [by Command] [Cm. 3841] [Mr Secretary Davies].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton as an additional Chairman for Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 15th January [UK beef industry]; to be printed [No. 474]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee (CAP reform: Agenda 2000; Food safety: UK beef industry)
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 15th January [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263–viii] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 15th January [Children Looked After By Local Authorities]; to be printed [No 319–iv] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

MEMORANDUM

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), as varied by the Order of the House of 15th January, the Speaker has nominated Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Ron Davies, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Richard Livsey, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Jon Owen Jones and Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West) to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Government of Wales Bill.

[No. 99.]

Friday 16th January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Referendum (English Parliament) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Referendum (English Parliament) 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 23rd January.

2 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—The Local Authority Tenders Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 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 30th January.

4 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords];
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th February.

5 Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.

6 Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.
7 Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Widening of M25 Motorway Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.

8 War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.

9 Mental Health (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th December, That the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd January.

10 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.

11 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th February.

12 Hare Coursing Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd January.

13 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].—The Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) 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. 63 (Commitment of Bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr John Healey):—It was agreed to.
   Committee on Friday 30th January.

14 Scotland Bill (Business Committee).—Ordered, That, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), not more than nine other Members shall be nominated by the Speaker to the Business Committee in respect of the Scotland Bill.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

15 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—
   (1) the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 27th January at half-past Ten o'clock to consider a substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the Committee; and
   (2) the provisions of Standing Order No. 99(2)(b) (Scottish Grand Committee (substantive motions for the adjournment)) shall not apply in respect of the sitting of the Committee on that day.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 19th January.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Hong Kong (No.1, 1998).—Agreement, done at Hong Kong on 5th November 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China for the Surrender of Fugitive Offenders [by Command] [Cm. 3843] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Hong Kong (No. 2, 1998),—Agreement, done at Hong Kong on 5th November 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China for the Transfer of Sentenced Persons [by Command] [Cm. 3844] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Further and Higher Education on the Petition [10th December] from the people of Cornwall for a university college in the county [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Regulation of Wet Bikes Bill.—The Order for reading the Regulation of Wet Bikes Bill a second time on Friday 6th February was read and discharged.

   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

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

   Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for the transfer to and vesting in Lloyds Bank Plc of the undertakings of TSB Bank plc and Hill Samuel Bank Limited; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

   Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

4 Government of Wales 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 Government of Wales Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

   That the seven days allotted under the Order [15th January] to proceedings in Committee shall be allotted in the manner shown in the following Table and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in relation to that part of the proceedings in the third column of the Table.

   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1 and Clauses 3 to 20</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second day</td>
<td>Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1 and Clauses 3 to 20, so far as not disposed of</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third day</td>
<td>Clauses 21 and 22, Schedule 2, Clauses 23 to 29, Schedule 3 and Clauses 30 to 44</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth day</td>
<td>Clauses 21 and 22, Schedule 2, Clauses 23 to 29, Schedule 3 and Clauses 30 to 44, so far as not disposed of</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth day</td>
<td>Clauses 45 to 73, Schedule 4 and Clauses 74 to 79</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth day</td>
<td>Clauses 80 to 104 and Schedule 5, Clauses 105 to 108, Schedule 6, Clauses 109 and 110, Schedule 7, Clauses 111 to 117 and Schedule 8</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh day</td>
<td>Clauses 118 and 119, Schedule 9, Clause 120, Schedule 10, Clause 121, Schedule 11, Clauses 122 to 132, Schedule 12, Clauses 133 to 136, Schedule 13 and Clauses 137 to 140</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   Report to lie upon the Table.

5 European Communities (Amendment) Bill [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

   (In the Committee)

   Clause No. 1 (Meaning of “the Treaties” and “the Community Treaties”).

   Another Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 1, line 13, at the end, to insert the words ‘other than in Article 2, paragraph 7’.
Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Question put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 1, line 18, at the end, to insert the words 'and Protocol 7 paragraph (2)'—(Mr Gary Streeter.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr John McFall: 362.

And it being after half-past Six o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [17th December], put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 1 and 2.

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause No. 3 agreed to.

A Clause (Enhancement of role of Parliament)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Powers of Europol: Report)—(Mr Gary Streeter)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Police operations in co-operation with Europol)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Steve Webb, Mr Richard Allan: 38.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr John McFall: 324.

Another Clause (Exchange of information between Court of Auditors and other bodies)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Bill to be reported, pursuant to Order [17th December].

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, without Amendment.

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 Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 370.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 145.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Bromsgrove against the proposed closure of the accident and emergency department at the Alexandra Hospital, Redditch, and the Kidderminster General Hospital and other services was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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

[Adjourned at 10.48 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Construction (Scotland),—(1) Draft Construction Contracts (Scotland) Exclusion Order 1998, and
(2) draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Crown Copyright,—Paper, entitled Crown Copyright in the Information Age: A consultation document on access to public sector information [by Command] [Cm. 3819] [Dr David Clark].

4 Social Security,—Account of the National Insurance Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 465] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Local Authority Tenders Bill:

The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Foreign Affairs and Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committees meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4)(e) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) on 19th January [EU Enlargement and NATO Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 482-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 19th January [Regulating and Monitoring the Quality of Service Provided to Customers by the Water Industry in England and Wales]; to be printed [No. 483-i] [Mr David Davis].

3 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 19th January [Emergency Funding for the NHS in Wales During the Coming Winter]; to be printed [No. 464] [Mr Martyn Jones].

MEMORANDUM

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), as varied by the Order of 16th January, the Speaker nominated Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr James Wallace and Mr Andrew Welsh to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Scotland Bill.
PRAYERS.

1 Parliamentary Boundary Commissions (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986: And that Mr Richard Page, Cheryl Gillan, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Richard Shepherd and Mr Quentin Davies do prepare and bring it in.

2 Parliamentary Boundary Commissions (Amendment) Bill.—Mr Richard Page accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986: And the same was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 111].

3 Government of Wales Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [19th January] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House doth agree with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

4 Government of Wales Bill [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (The Assembly).

Amendment (No. 52) proposed, in page 1, line 8, to leave out the word 'an' and to insert the words 'a legislative'.—(Mr Dafydd Wigley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 1, line 10, at the end, to insert the words

'(1A) Notwithstanding the establishment of the Assembly, or anything contained in this Act, the supreme authority of the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall remain unaffected and undiminished over all persons, matters and things in Wales.'—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 133.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Janet Anderson: 365.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 2 (Membership).

Amendment (No. 93) proposed, in page 1, line 15, after the word 'of' to insert the words 'members for each Assembly constituency'.—(Mr Lembit Opik.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Richard Allan: 43.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr John McFall: 355.

Another Amendment (No. 22A) proposed, in page 1, line 16, to leave out from the word 'constituency' to the end of line 17.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 136.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr John McFall: 378.

And it being Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.
The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

5 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Activity Centres (Young Persons’ Safety) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 25th November, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

6 Cocoa and Chocolate.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 8164/96, relating to cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption; and endorses the Government’s efforts to resist any discrimination against UK products, to secure their free circulation throughout the EC and to maintain the widest possible range of consumer choice—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

7 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Glenelg and Armadale communities in support of the Glenelg-Kylerhlea ferry service, and

(2) employees and patients of the National Health Service for the prevention of the use of the word ‘diabetic’ on the labels of food products

were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Administration of Disability Living Allowance by the Social Security Agency [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 450] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Hong Kong,—Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong: July-December 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3831] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Public Health,—(1) Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Radioactivity in Sheep) Partial Revocation Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 82), dated 6th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 20th January [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 20th January [Alternatives to Prison Sentences]; to be printed [No. 486-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].
3 Parliamentary Privilege.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 20th January; to be printed [No. 401-iii] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

4 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 20th January [Your Right to Know: The Government’s Proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 398-iii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

5 Standards and Privileges.—(1) Tenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Geoffrey Robinson], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 488]; and

(2) Eleventh Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Howard Flight], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 489]

[Mr Robert Sheldon].

6 Statutory Instruments.—Nineteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xix] [Mr David Tredinnick].

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 David Jamieson);

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

2 Consolidation, &c., Bills.—Mr Laurence Robertson reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, &c., Bills, to which the Petroleum Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, was referred, That it had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto; 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 21st January.

Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 500-I].

Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 500-II].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 500-II].

3 Acquisition and Possession of Air Weapons (Restriction).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Firearms Act 1968 to restrict the acquisition and possession of air weapons; and for connected purposes—(Dr Nick Palmer);

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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Alan Clark, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Vernon Coaker, Dr Liz Blackman, Ms Fiona Jones, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr Mark Todd, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Ivor Caplin and Mr Chris Mullin do prepare and bring in the Bill.

4 Acquisition and Possession of Air Weapons (Restriction) Bill.—Dr Nick Palmer accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Firearms Act 1968 to restrict the acquisition and possession of air weapons; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 112].
5 Government of Wales Bill [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 2 agreed to

Schedule No. 1 (Assembly constituencies and Assembly electoral regions).

Amendment (No. 19A) proposed, in page 70, line 11, to leave out the word 'four' and insert the word 'six', instead thereof.-(Mr Richard Livsey.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 186) proposed, in page 71, line 31, to leave out the words 'local government' and insert the word 'parliamentary', instead thereof.-(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

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

Schedule agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Time of ordinary elections).

An Amendment (No. 167) proposed, in page 2, line 18, at the end, to insert the words 'but that day shall not coincide with a day designated for holding elections to local authorities in Wales'.—(Mr Dafydd Wigley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 50) proposed, in page 2, line 42, at the end, to insert the words—

'(aa) a candidate who is a member of a registered political party which has submitted a list of candidates to be Assembly members for the Assembly electoral region in which the Assembly constituency is located,'.—(Mr Richard Livsey.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made—

And it being Seven o'clock the Chairman, pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [20th January], put the Question necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 4 to 20.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 50) be made, put and negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 5 to 10 agreed to.

Clause No. 11 (Power to make provision about elections etc.).

Amendment (No. 134) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 12 to 14 agreed to.

Clause No. 15 (Judicial proceedings as to disqualification).

Amendment (No. 135) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 16 to 20 agreed to.

Clause No. 21 agreed to.

Clause No. 22 (Transfer of Ministerial functions).

Amendment (No. 45) proposed, in page 12, line 39, after '(1)' to insert the words—
‘Functions in the fields specified in Schedule 2, so far as exercisable by the Secretary of State for Wales are hereby transferred to the Assembly.  

(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 147.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr Jim Dowd: 370.

And it being after Ten o’clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Clive Betts reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

6 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords] [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) 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 payable out of money so provided under any other enactment.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

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 fourteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.46 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Urban Development,—Draft London Docklands Development Corporation (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Criminal Procedure,—(1) Children’s Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (Notice of Transfer) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 1998, No. 7), and

(2) Criminal Justice (Serious Fraud) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (Notice of Transfer) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 1998, No. 6),

dated 14th January 1998 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Customs and Excise,—(1) Aircraft Operators (Accounts and Records) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 63), and


dated 20th January 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Education,—Education (Direct Grant Schools) (Revocation) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 86), dated 20th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blankett].


Other Papers:

Agriculture, – (1) Report on smallholdings in England for 1993–94, and
(2) Report on smallholdings in England for 1994–95
[by Act] [Dr John Cunningham]; and
(3) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1993–94, and
(4) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1994–95
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].


Other Papers:

Agriculture, – (1) Report on smallholdings in England for 1993–94, and
(2) Report on smallholdings in England for 1994–95
[by Act] [Dr John Cunningham]; and
(3) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1993–94, and
(4) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1994–95
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Other Papers:

Agriculture, – (1) Report on smallholdings in England for 1993–94, and
(2) Report on smallholdings in England for 1994–95
[by Act] [Dr John Cunningham]; and
(3) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1993–94, and
(4) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1994–95
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Treaty Series (No. 80, 1997), Third supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3842] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Treaty Series (No. 1, 1998), Convention, open for signature at Vienna from 26th September 1986 and at New York from 6th October 1986, on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident [by Command] [Cm. 3838] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Treaty Series (No. 2, 1998), Convention, open for signature at Vienna from 26th September 1986 and at New York from 6th October 1986, on assistance in the case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency [by Command] [Cm. 3839] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

Regional Development Agencies Bill:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E and has appointed Dr Michael Clark and Mr Joe Benton Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz. Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Paul Clark, Mr David Clelland, Mr David Curry, Mr Stephen Day, Angela Eagle, Mr Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Doug Naysmith, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr David Taylor, Ms Rosie Winterton, Mr Anthony D. Wright and Mr Tim Yeo.

Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill:
The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie an additional Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

Local Authority Tenders Bill:
The Committee of Selection has nominated seventeen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz. Ms Judith Church, Mr John Cryer, Mr Geraint Davies, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Damian Green, Ann Keen, Ms Oona King, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Gillian Merron, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Phil Sawford, Mr Stephen Twigg, Mr Bowen Wells and Mr Phil Woolas.

Draft Road Traffic (New Drivers) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz. Mr Tony Benn, Mrs Liz Blackman, Yvette Cooper, Mr James Cran, Mr John Cummings, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Christopher Gill, Mrs Tessa Kingham, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Cecil Walker and Mr Tony Worthington.

Draft Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz. Mr William Cash, Ms Judith Church, Mr James Cran, Mr John Cryer, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Helen Jackson, Ms Oona King, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Bill Olner, Mrs Sandra Osborne and The Reverend Martin Smyth.
Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation
Agreements between the European Communities and their Member States and the
Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of
Uzbekistan) Orders 1997 and (Europe Agreement establishing an Association between
the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Slovenia)
Order 1997:

The Committee of Selection has discharged Ann Keen from the Fifth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders; and appointed in
substitution Ms Gisela Stuart.

Grand Committees

7 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman
of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee
on Thursday 29th January.

8 Scottish Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton and Mr Andrew
Welsh Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the
Committee on Tuesday 27th January.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 21st
January [UK beef industry]; to be printed [No. 474–ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Food safety; UK beef
industry]
[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport
Committee on 21st January [Royal Opera House: Follow-up]; to be printed [No. 493–i]
[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Defence,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 21st January
[Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138–vij]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Defence Committee [Chinook Crash on Mull of
Kintyre]
[Mr Bruce George].

4 Education and Employment,—(1) Second Special Report from the Education and
Employment Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the
Committee, Session 1997–98, on The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 496];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on
21st January [The funding of student loans], together with Appendices; to be printed [No.
497–i]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education
and Employment Committee on 21st January [Disaffected children]; to be printed [No.
498–i];
[Ms Margaret Hodge].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the
Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 21st January [Housing]; to
be printed [No. 495–i]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment,
Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 21st January [Proposed
Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation]; to be printed [No. 286–vii]
[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

6 European Legislation,—Thirteenth Report from the Select Committee on European
Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No.
155–xiii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

7 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International
Development Committee on 21st January [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to
be printed [No. 365–iii] [Mr Dennis Canavan].

8 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee
[Northern Ireland Public Expenditure: Current Plans and Priorities], 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. 295];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 21st January [Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 316-iv]

[Mr Peter Brooke].

9 Public Accounts,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 21st January [The PFI Contracts for Bridgend and Fazakerley Prisons]; to be printed [No. 499-i] [Mr David Davis].

10 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 21st January [Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research]; to be printed [No. 303-vi] [Dr Michael Clark].

11 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 21st January [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [Nos. 423-iii and iv] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 103.]

Thursday 22nd January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Tyne Tunnels Bill,—A Bill to amend provisions of the Tyne and Wear Act 1976 concerning tolls in relation to the Tyne Tunnels; to confer further powers upon the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Authority to facilitate the provision and operation of an additional tunnel crossing of the river Tyne; to enable provision to be made for the operation of the existing tunnels in conjunction with such a new crossing; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

2 Liaison,—Mr Robert Sheldon reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report that it had chosen the First Report from the International Development Committee, Session 1997-98, on Montserrat, and the First Report from the Education and Employment Committee, Session 1997-98, on Teacher Supply, to be debated on Wednesday 18th February, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

3 Scotland 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 Scotland Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That—

(1) the order in which proceedings in Committee are taken shall be Clause 1, Schedule 1, Clauses 2 to 20, Schedule 2, Clause 21, Schedule 3, Clauses 22 to 28, Schedule 4, Clauses 29 to 91, Schedule 6, Clauses 2 to 17, Schedule 7, Clauses 92 to 109, Schedule 5, New Clauses, New Schedules, Clause 110, Schedules 7 and 8, Clauses 111 to 116.

(2) the eight days allotted under the Order [13th January] to proceedings in Committee shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in the third column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings in Committee</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>Clause 1 (to the end of subsection (2))</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 1 (remaining proceedings) Schedule 1</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 2 to 17</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second day</td>
<td>Clauses 18 to 20 Schedule 2 Clause 21 Schedule 3 Clauses 22 to 28 Schedule 4 Clauses 29 to 40</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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</table>
Third to eighth days Remaining proceedings (according to time limits to be determined by a further report or further reports of the Business Committee) 10.00 p.m. on the eighth day

Report to lie upon the Table.

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Azerbaijan) Order 1997, the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and Georgia) Order 1997, the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Armenia) Order 1997, the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Uzbekistan) Order 1997 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 Slovenia) Order 1997.

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

5 Bank of England Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Bank of England Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Role of Treasury Committee in appointments under section 13(2)(c))—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Confirmation hearings for Bank appointments)—(Mr Quentin Davies)—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 Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 143.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Greg Pope: 252.

Amendments (Nos. 41 and 42) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 25) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 2, after the word 'and', to insert the words 'the highest possible levels of employment, and'.—(Mr Austin Mitchell.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 30) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 41, at the end, to insert the words 'and an estimate of its effect on inflation, economic growth, employment and the exchange rate.'—(Mr Austin Mitchell.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 43) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 15) proposed to the Bill, in page 9, line 36, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2) In exercising the functions transferred under subsection (1) the costs of the Authority shall not exceed the costs incurred by the bodies previously responsible for exercising these functions, as adjusted for inflation.'.—(Mr Michael Fallon.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 44) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 21) proposed to the Bill, in page 21, line 5, to leave out the words 'to be representative of persons'.—(Mr Michael Fallon.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed to the Bill, in page 42, to leave out line 12.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 45) 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 Jon Owen Jones, Mr Clive Betts: 207.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Sir David Madel: 116.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

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

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 eighteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.42 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Nitrate Sensitive Areas (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 79), dated 20th January 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:

3 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Planning Inspectorate Executive Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 481] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Proceeds of Crime (Northern Ireland),—Draft Code of Practice in connection with the exercise by Financial Investigators of the powers conferred by Schedule 2 to the Proceeds of Crime (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton as an additional Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 22nd January [Children Looked After By Local Authorities]; to be printed [No. 319-v] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Treasury,—(1) Third Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government and Bank of England Response to the First Report from the Treasury Committee, on the Accountability of the Bank of England]; to be printed [No. 502];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 15th and 22nd January [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [Nos. 503-i & ii]; and

(3) Memoranda [Accountability of the Bank of England]

[Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (No Standing Order not previously enquired into applicable).—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from one of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the following Bill, originating in the Lords and referred after the First Reading thereof, no Standing Order not previously enquired into is applicable thereto, viz:

Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].

Bill to be read a second time.

2 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill.—Resolved, That this House will resolve itself into a Committee on the Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill on Friday 30th January.

3 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill.—The Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Sir George Young):—It was agreed to.

Committee on Friday 6th February.

4 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;

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th January.

5 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill.—The Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Andrew Lansley):—It was agreed to.

Committee on Friday 24th April.

6 Water Charges (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Water Charges (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

7 Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

8 Referendum (English Parliament) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 16th January, That the Referendum (English Parliament) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th January.

9 Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th January.

10 Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Representation of Dependencies at Westminster Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th January.

11 Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Widening of the M25 Motorway Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th January.
12 War Widowers and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the War Widowers and Pensioners (Equal Treatment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th January.

13 Mental Health (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th December, That the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th January.

14 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th January.

15 Hare Coursing Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th January.

16 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn (Mr Ian Dowd);

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 three minutes past Three o'clock, till Monday 26th January.

[Adjourned at 3.03 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture.—Feeding Stuffs (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 104), dated 22nd January 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Medicines,—(1) Medicines (Pharmacy and General Sale—Exemption) Amendment Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 107), and


dated 23rd January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

dated 15th January 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other Papers:

4 Police,—(1) National Crime Squad (Secretary of State's Objectives) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 109), and

   (2) NCIS (Secretary of State’s Objectives) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 110),
dated 20th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Social Security,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee preceded by a statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 71) [by Command] [Cm. 3829] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

6 Treaty Series (No. 3, 1998),—Amendments, adopted at London on 25th May 1990, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (MSC. 19(58)) [by Command] [Cm. 3845] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Treaty Series (No. 6, 1998),—Amendments, adopted at London on 28th October 1988, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (MSC. 12 (56)) [by Command] [Cm. 3848] [Mr Secretary Cook].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Government of Wales Bill (Committee) [3rd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 22 (Transfer of Ministerial functions).

Amendment (No. 152) proposed, in page 12, line 41, after the word 'Wales', to insert the word 'or'.—(Mr Denzil Davies.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 144) proposed, in page 12, line 41, at the end, to insert the words 'save and except for any functions in the field of social security or home affairs.'—(Mr Ted Rowlands.)

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

Amendment (No. 136) made.

Another Amendment (No. 208) proposed, in page 13, line 21, at the end, to insert the words—

'5) No recommendation shall be made to Her Majesty in Council to make an Order in Council under this section for the transfer of taxation powers unless and until the proposals for such a transfer have been approved by the Welsh people in a referendum vote.'—(Mr Denzil Davies.)

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

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 2 (Fields referred to in sections 22 and 56).

Amendment (No. 209) proposed, in page 73, to leave out line 18.—(Mr Nigel Evans.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 20A) proposed, in page 73, line 19, at the end, to insert '2a. Broadcasting'.—(Mr Richard Livsey.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 160) proposed, in page 73, line 19, at the end, to insert the words—

'2B. Council of the Isles issues'.—(Mr Dafydd Wigley.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Ten o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to the Order [15th January] and the Resolution [20th January], put the Question:—It was agreed to.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 160) be made, put and negatived.

The Chairman then proceeded to put forthwith the Questions necessary for the disposal of remaining proceedings on Schedule No. 2, Clauses Nos. 23 to 29, Schedule No. 3 and Clauses Nos. 30 to 44.

Schedule (No. 2) agreed to.

Clause No. 23 (Transfers: supplementary).

Amendments (Nos. 137 to 140) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 24 to 29 agreed to.

Schedule No. 3 agreed to.
Clause No. 30 (Power to implement Community law).
Amendment (No. 141) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 31 to 44 agreed to.
And it being after 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 Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Committee again to-morrow.

2 Accommodation and Works Committee.—Ordered, That Mr David Rendel be discharged from the Accommodation and Works Committee and Mr David Chidgey be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

3 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government Finance,—(1) Special Grant Report (No. 28): Persons from Abroad Children's Grant,
(2) Special Grant Report (No. 29): Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children, and
(3) Special Grant Report (No. 30): Asylum Seekers' Accommodation
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 478, 479 and 480] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—(1) Special Grant Report for Adult Asylum Seekers' Assistance (No. 98/3), and
(2) Special Grant Report for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and Children of Asylum Seekers (No. 98/4)
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 490 and 491] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Local Government Finance (Wales),—Special Grant Report (Wales) 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 457] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

7 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for Scotland for the Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Local Government Finance,—Account of Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in Wales for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 505] [Clerk of the House].
9 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Private Finance Initiative: The First Four Design, Build, Finance and Operate Road Contracts [by Act]; to be printed [No. 476] [Clerk of the House].

Paper withdrawn:

10 Civil Aviation.—Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1997 [laid 3rd November].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Local Authority Tenders Bill.—The Committee of Selection has appointed Mr Nick Raynsford as an additional Member to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Local Authority Tenders Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 26th January [Protecting Environmentally Sensitive Areas]; to be printed [No. 513-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 106.]

Tuesday 27th January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Tyne Tunnels Bill.—The Tyne Tunnels Bill was read a second time and committed.

2 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—Mr John Butterfill reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) 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. 514].

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

The Lords have agreed to the Education (Student Loans) Bill, without Amendment.

4 Home Zones.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable highway authorities to make provision in residential areas for the designation of highways where pedestrians and pedal cyclists have priority in the carriageway over mechanically powered vehicles, for the purpose of promoting safety and of improving the environment; and for related purposes: And that Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Dr Brian Iddon, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Jonathan Shaw and Joan Walley do prepare and bring it in.

5 Home Zones Bill.—Mrs Helen Brinton accordingly presented a Bill to enable highway authorities to make provision in residential areas for the designation of highways where pedestrians and pedal cyclists have priority in the carriageway over mechanically powered vehicles, for the purpose of promoting safety and of improving the environment; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th March and to be printed [Bill 113].

6 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 Act, agreed upon by both Houses:

Education (Student Loans) Act 1998.

7 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. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.
Government Responsibility for Protection of the Countryside.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the recent decisions by the Government to allow large-scale development in the countryside; is deeply concerned that the protection of the green belt and green spaces may be further weakened by the Government in the future; and urges the Government to strengthen protection for the countryside, while encouraging the renewal of towns and cities, by increasing the share of new housing which is built on previously developed land.—(Mr Tim Yeo);

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 ‘recognises that it was a Labour Government that created the planning system which has done so much to protect the countryside and promote sustainable development; welcomes the Government’s continued commitment to protecting the countryside, including green belts, and to regenerating towns and cities; recognises that the Government is shortly to announce its decisions on the way forward on planning for housing; is confident that the interests of all citizens, both the 80 per cent. and more who live in towns and cities, and those living in the countryside, will be considered; welcomes the importance that the Government attaches to revitalising towns and cities and making the best possible use of brownfield sites and existing buildings to meet housing demand; and believes that the regional planning conferences should be given greater say in reaching decisions on the most sustainable solutions for providing decent homes in line with the Government’s recently announced policy for modernising the planning system and using regional planning to find integrated solutions to the problems of economic development, housing and transport’, instead thereof.—(Mr Richard Caborn.)

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

Mr James Arbuthnot 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 Stephen Day, Mr John Whittingdale: 178.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Clelland: 297.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments): It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House recognises that it was a Labour Government that created the planning system which has done so much to protect the countryside and promote sustainable development; welcomes the Government’s continued commitment to protecting the countryside, including green belts, and to regenerating towns and cities; recognises that the Government is shortly to announce its decisions on the way forward on planning for housing; is confident that the interests of all citizens, both the 80 per cent. and more who live in towns and cities, and those living in the countryside, will be considered; welcomes the importance that the Government attaches to revitalising towns and cities and making the best possible use of brownfield sites and existing buildings to meet housing demand; and believes that the regional planning conferences should be given greater say in reaching decisions on the most sustainable solutions for providing decent homes in line with the Government’s recently announced policy for modernising the planning system and using regional planning to find integrated solutions to the problems of economic development, housing and transport.

Plans for London Underground.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the delay of the Government in bringing forward proposals for private investment to develop London Underground; believes that such delay is against the interests of both those working for London Underground and the travelling public; and calls on the Government to bring forward urgently plans that will both sustain adequate investment in the system and improve operation.—(Sir Norman Fowler);

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 ‘wants to see a modern, efficient, affordable and reliable Underground system, worthy of the people of London, and accountable to the people of London; deplores the substantial investment backlog in the London Underground which this Government inherited from the previous administration; applauds the Government’s rejection of the wholesale privatisation of the London Underground, as proposed by the previous Government; and welcomes the Government’s action to explore options for a public-private partnership for the London
Underground, which will safeguard its commitment to the public interest, guarantee value for money to taxpayers and passengers, and secure the resources necessary to ensure Londoners and visitors to the capital city have the modern Underground system they deserve', instead thereof. —(Dr Gavin Strang.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr James Arbuthnot 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 Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Graham Allen: 345.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House wants to see a modern, efficient, affordable and reliable Underground system, worthy of the people of London, and accountable to the people of London; depletes the substantial investment backlog in the London Underground which this Government inherited from the previous administration; applauds the Government's rejection of the wholesale privatisation of the London Underground, as proposed by the previous Government; and welcomes the Government's action to explore options for a public-private partnership for the London Underground, which will safeguard its commitment to the public interest, guarantee value for money to taxpayers and passengers, and secure the resources necessary to ensure Londoners and visitors to the capital city have the modern Underground system they deserve.

8 European Communities.—A Motion was made; and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Azerbaijan) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

9 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and Georgia) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

10 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Armenia) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

11 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Uzbekistan) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

12 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (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 Slovenia) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 18th November, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from parents and the local community in York against the closure of Canon Lee School and Queen Anne School and for a review of secondary education provision in York was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

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:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Housing,—Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 139), dated 26th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


(2) Urban Development Corporations in England (Planning Functions) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 84), and

dated 19th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1996–97,—Appropriation Account of sums granted by Parliament for 1996–97 for Class I (Ministry of Defence) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251-I] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Training and Employment Agency: Evaluation of Performance [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 475] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 United States (No. 1, 1998),—Report of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission for the period 1st October 1995 to 30th September 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 3828] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Video Recordings,—Report and Accounts of the British Board of Film Classification for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 27th January [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331–v]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [CAP reform: Agenda 2000; UK beef industry]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 27th January [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484–ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Entry Clearance Sub-Committee of the Foreign Affairs Committee on 27th January [Entry clearance procedures in overseas Posts (with particular reference to Islamabad and New Delhi) and related matters]; to be printed [No. 515–i] [Mr Donald Anderson].
4 Home Affairs, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 27th January [Alternatives to Prison Sentences]; to be printed [No. 486-ii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development, Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 27th January [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [Nos. 365-iv and v] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Procedure, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 27th January [Resource Accounting and Budgeting]; to be printed [No. 438-ii] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Administration, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 27th January [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996–1997]; to be printed [No. 352-v] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Statutory Instruments, Twentieth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xx] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 107.]

Wednesday 28th January 1998.

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 Jon Owen Jones);

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

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Road Traffic (New Drivers) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

3 Door Supervisors (Registration), Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish national standards for door supervisors; to establish a national register of door supervisors; and for connected purposes: And that Dr Phyllis Starkey, Ms Karen Buck, Ms Beverley Hughes, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Jonathan Shaw, Angela Smith and Dr Alan Whitehead do prepare and bring it in.

4 Door Supervisors (Registration) Bill, Dr Phyllis Starkey accordingly presented a Bill to establish national standards for door supervisors; to establish a national register of door supervisors; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th March and to be printed [Bill 114].

5 Scotland Bill (Programme), A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [22nd January] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr John McFall).—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

6 Scotland Bill (Committee) [1st allotted day], The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (The Scottish Parliament).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 8, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) Notwithstanding the establishment of the Parliament, or anything contained in this Act, the supreme authority of the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall remain unaffected and undiminished over all persons, matters and things in Scotland'.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Seven o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to the Order [13th January] and the Resolution this day, put the Question.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 127.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Dowd: 341.

Another Amendment (No. 47) proposed, in page 1, to leave out lines 11 to 14.—(Mr Oliver Heald.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Schedule No. 1 (Constituencies, regions and regional members).

Amendment (No. 240) proposed in page 53, to leave out lines 6 to 9 and insert the words 'the parliamentary constituencies in Scotland', instead thereof.—(Mr Ian Davidson.)

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

Question put, That the Schedule be the First Schedule to the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 341.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 73.

It being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to the Order [13th January] and the Resolution this day, proceeded to put forthwith the Questions necessary for the disposal of proceedings on Clauses Nos. 2 to 17.

Clause No. 2 (Ordinary general elections).

Amendments (Nos. 212 to 214) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Extraordinary general elections).

Amendment (No. 215) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 4 to 13 agreed to.

Clause No. 14 (Disqualification from membership of the Parliament).

Amendments (Nos. 216 and 217) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 15 to 17 agreed to.

The Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

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

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 twenty-three minutes to Twelve o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.37 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Education.—(1) Education (Mandatory Awards) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 162), and

3 Food.—Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 141), dated 22nd January 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

4 Housing (Scotland).—Housing Revenue Account General Fund Contribution Limits (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 158), dated 23rd January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Rating and Valuation.—(1) Non-Domestic Rate (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 159), dated 23rd January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and
(2) Rating Lists (Valuation Date) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 93), dated 20th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Treaty Series (No. 4, 1998).—1995 Amendments, adopted at London on 29th November 1995, to the Annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (Resolution 1 of the Conference of Contracting Governments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974) [by Command] [Cm. 3846] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Treaty Series (No. 5, 1998), Amendments, adopted at London on 10th November 1988, to the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, concerning Radiocommunications for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System [by Command] [Cm. 3847] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Private Business

1 Provisional Orders (Scotland) (Panel).—The Committee of Selection, in pursuance of Standing Order 228 relating to Private Business (Parliamentary Panel), has selected fifteen Members to form the Parliamentary Panel of Members of this House to act as Commissioners under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, viz.: Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Donald Grieze, Mr Thomas Graham, Rosemary McKenna, Mr David Marshall, Mr John Maxton, Mr Michael Moore, Sir Robert Smith, Mr John Swinney, Mr Andrew Welsh and Mr James Wray.

2 Standing Orders Committee.—The Committee of Selection has nominated eight Members to serve on the Standing Orders Committee under Standing Order 103 relating to Private Business (Appointment of Standing Orders Committee), viz.: Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Bill O’Brien, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Andrew Stunell and Mr Nicholas Winterton.

Standing Committees

3 Public Interest Disclosure Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr John Healey, Mr Ian McCartney, Mr Denis MacShane, Alice Mahon, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Richard Shepherd, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Michael Wills and Dr Tony Wright.

4 Draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the Management of Crown Lands) Order 1998.—(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Janet Anderson, Mr Norman Baker, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr David Curry, Sir Peter Emery, Mr Andrew George, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Mr Richard Spring, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Derek Twigg, Mr Rudi Vis, Mr Robert N. Wareing, Mr David Watts and Mr Brian White.

5 Drafting Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment) Order 1998,—(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Keith Darvill, Valerie Davey, Caroline Flint, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr David Heath, Mr Robert Key, Dr John Reid, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr John Smith and Mr Nigel Waterson.

6 Draft Consumer Credit (Increase of Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 1998,—(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Benn, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Roger Goddard, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr John Hutton, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Nigel Jones, Ms Ruth Kelly, Mr Andrew Miller, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr John Townsend and Mr David Tredinnick.

7 Draft Industrial Training levy (Construction Board) and (Engineering Construction Board) Orders 1998,—(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Ivan Henderson, Dr Kim Howells, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr David Prior, Mr Nicholas Soames, Helen Southworth, Mr Anthony Sten, Mr Stephen Timms, Dr George Turner and Mr David Willetts.

8 Draft Department of Transport (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1998,—(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr John Hayes, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Glenda Jackson, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Ken Livingston, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Ted Rowlands, Mr Phil Sawford, Debra Shipley and Sir Robert Smith.

European Standing Committees

9 European Community Documents Nos. 7531/97 and 12929/97, relating to Water Policy, have been referred to European Standing Committee A, together with Documents Nos. 6177/94 and 1259/97, already so referred.

10 European Community Document No. OJ No. C348, relating to the Court of Auditors' Report for 1996, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 28th January [Disaffected children]; to be printed [No. 498-ii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 28th January [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-i] [Mr John Horam].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 28th January [UK Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 360-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation,—Fourteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xiv] [Mr Jim Marshall].
5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 28th January [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-vi] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 28th January [Sale of the Married Quarters Estate]; to be printed [No. 518-i] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 28th January [The Year 2000 and Computer Compliance]; to be printed [No. 342-iii] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Scottish Affairs,—First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Welfare to Work in Scotland: The New Deal], 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. 335] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 28th January [Pensions]; to be printed [No. 516-i]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 28th January [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 423-v]

[Mr Archy Kirkwood].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 28th January [Energy Policy]; to be printed [No. 471-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 108.]

Thursday 29th January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Government of Wales 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 Government of Wales Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 19th January be varied so that—

(a) the fourth and fifth days allotted under the Order [15th January] to proceedings in Committee shall be allotted in the manner shown in the following table, and

(b) each part of the proceedings in Committee on those days shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in relation to that part of the proceedings in the third column of the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth day</td>
<td>Clauses 45 to 49</td>
<td>4.30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Clauses 50 and 51 and amendments to Clause 52 apart from any to insert words at the end of line 7 on page 27 of the Bill</td>
<td>6.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 52, so far as not disposed of</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 53 to 61</td>
<td>8.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 62 to 73, Schedule 4 and Clauses 74 to 79</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth day</td>
<td>Clauses 80 to 89</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Clauses 90 to 104 and Schedule 5</td>
<td>8.00 p.m.</td>
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Clauses 105 to 108, Schedule 6 and Clause 109

Clause 110, Schedule 7, Clauses 111 to 117 and Schedule 8

9.00 p.m.

10.00 p.m.

2 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Miss Ann Widdecombe reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

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

3 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the Matter of priorities in education in Northern Ireland referred to it on 14th January and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 430].

4 Scotland Bill (Committee) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 18 (Presiding Officer).

Amendment (No. 36) proposed in page 8, line 42, after the word 'deputies' to insert the words 'or such other number of deputies as the Parliament may determine.'—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

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

Amendment (No. 218) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 19 agreed to.

Clause No. 20 (Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body).

Amendment (No. 118) proposed in page 9, line 33, after the word 'purposes' to insert the words 'including any simultaneous interpretation and translation staff and facilities required in order to give effect to paragraph 3A, of Schedule 3'.—(Mrs Margaret Ewing.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Schedule No. 2 agreed to.

Clause No. 21 agreed to.

Schedule No. 3 (Standing orders—further provision).

Amendments (Nos. 219 to 221) made.

Another Amendment (No. 74) proposed, in page 57, line 40, at the end, to insert the words—

'(4) The standing orders shall include provision to allow members of the European Parliament to sit on any committee or sub-committee charged with the scrutiny of European Commission documents or European legislation.'—(Mrs Margaret Ewing.)

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

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 22 (Members' interests).

Amendment (No. 159) proposed, in page 10, line 33, after the word 'person' to insert the words 'organisation or trade union'.—(Dr Liam Fox.)

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

Amendment (No. 222) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 23 (Power to call for witnesses and documents).
Amendment (No. 163) proposed, in page 11, line 8, after the word 'Parliament', to insert the words 'by a two-thirds majority'.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 223 to 226) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 24 (Witnesses and documents: offences).

Amendment (No. 227) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause Nos. 25 and 26 agreed to.


Amendment (No. 23) proposed, in page 13, line 31, at the end, to add the words 'in relation to reserved matters'.—(Mr Alex Salmond.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mr Donald Gorrie: 24.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr John McFall: 239.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 28 (Legislative competence).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 13, line 32, to leave out the words 'so far as' and insert the words 'only to the extent that'.—(Mr James Wallace.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Ten o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to the Order [13th January] and the Resolution [28th January], put the Question:—It was negatived.

The Chairman then put forthwith the Questions necessary for the disposal of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 28, Schedule No. 4 and Clauses Nos. 29 to 40.

Clause (No. 28) agreed to.

Schedule No. 4 (Provisions of Act not protected from modification).

Amendment (No. 228) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 29 (Reserved matters).

Amendments (Nos. 229 to 231) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 30 to 40 agreed to.

The Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

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

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Fireworks Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenses incurred by a Minister of the Crown or government department in consequence of any provision of the Act, and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act, and

(2) the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund.—(Mr John McFall.)
6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

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 Housing (Scotland),—(1) Draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, and
   (2) draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Variation Order 1998
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


   [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Armed Forces Pay,—Twenty-seventh Report of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay [by Command] [Cm. 3834] [The Prime Minister].

7 Aviation Security,—Report for 1997 by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions under section 23 of the Aviation Security Act 1982 as amended by the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990 on the numbers of notices served by him under section 11 of the 1982 Act as amended, the number of directions given by him under sections 12, 13, 13A and 14 of the amended Act, and the number of enforcement notices served by authorised persons under the amended Act [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Aviation and Maritime Security,—Report for 1997 by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions under section 44 of the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990 on the numbers of notices served by him under section 19 of the Act, the number of directions given by him under sections 21, 22, 23 and 24 of the Act, and the number of enforcement notices served by authorised persons [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Channel Tunnel Security,—Report for 1997 by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions under Article 35 of the Channel Tunnel (Security) Order 1994 on the numbers of notices served by him under Article 11, directions given by him under Articles 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Order, and enforcement notices served by authorised persons [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
10 Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration,—Twenty-seventh Report of the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration [by Command] [Cm. 3835] [The Prime Minister].

11 Housing (Scotland),—Reports under sections 191(9) and 192(3) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 in respect of—
   (1) draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, and
   (2) draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Variation Order 1998
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 509 and 510] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine,—Fifteenth Report of the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives and Professions Allied to Medicine on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors [by Command] [Cm. 3832] [The Prime Minister].

13 Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine,—Fifteenth Report of the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine on Professions Allied to Medicine [by Command] [Cm. 3833] [The Prime Minister].

14 Railways,—Report and Accounts of the British Railways Board for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 School Teachers,—Seventh Report of the School Teachers' Review Body [by Command] [Cm. 3836] [The Prime Minister].

16 Scottish Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Student Awards Agency for Scotland for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 512] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

17 Senior Salaries,—Twentieth Report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries [by Command] [Cm. 3837] [The Prime Minister].

18 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—
   (1) AXS Telecom (UK) Limited,
   (2) Eurobell (Holdings) Plc,
   (3) GT UK Limited,
   (4) Izenkom Limited,
   (5) Teleport (Northern Ireland) Limited, and
   (6) The Phone Company
   [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the management of Crown Lands) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

2 Draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Consumer Credit (Increase of Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1998 and Draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

5 Draft Department of Transport (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 29th January [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence.—Second Report from the Defence Committee [The Draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law)(Amendment) Order 1998], together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 521] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment.—(1) Third Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Teacher Recruitment: what can be done?]; to be printed [No. 519]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 29th January [The Relationship between TECs and the proposed Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 265-iv] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Foreign Affairs.—Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Dependent Territories Review: Interim Report], 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. 347] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 29th January [Children Looked After by Local Authorities]; to be printed [No. 319-vi] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

6 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 29th January [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 109.]

Friday 30th January 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill.—The Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

2 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill.—The Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Public Records (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read for the Second Reading of the Public Records (Amendment) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Questions 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 27th March.

4 British Nationality (St Helena Bill) [Lords].—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the British Nationality (St Helena) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

5 Electro-Convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use) Bill.—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Electro-Convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

6 Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill.—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.
7 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 13th February.

8 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords],—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 17 agreed to.
Clause No. 18 (Short title).
Amendment (No. 1) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.
Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and made an Amendment thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be considered on Friday 6th February.

9 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 3 agreed to.
Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time on Friday 6th February.

10 Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill.—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd January, That the Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 6th February.

11 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th February.

12 Hare Coursing Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th March.

13 Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921,—Resolved, That it is expedient that a Tribunal be established for inquiring into a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the events on Sunday 30th January 1972 which led to loss of life in connection with the procession in Londonderry on that day, taking into account of any new information relevant to events on that day.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday next.

[Adjourned at 2.58 pm]
APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Housing.—Approval of Codes of Management Practice (Residential Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 106), dated 22nd January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1996–97.—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for Classes:

   (1) III (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Intervention Board Executive Agency),
   (2) V (Transport),
   (3) VI (Environment),
   (4) VII (Home Office and Charity Commission),
   (5) VIII (Lord Chancellor’s and Law Officer’s Departments),
   (6) IX (Education and Employment),
   (7) XI (Department of Health),
   (8) XIII (Scotland and the Forestry Commission),
   (9) XV (Northern Ireland),
   (10) XVI (Departments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer),
   (11) XVII (Cabinet Office: Office of Public Service and Science etc), and
   (12) XVIII, XVIIIA and XVIIIB (Cabinet Office: other services, Privy Council Office, Parliament etc; House of Commons; National Audit Office)

5 Defence Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of:

   (1) Logistical Information Systems Agency, and
   (2) Military Survey Defence Agency
for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 454 and 487] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Financial Statements of the Geffrye Museum Trust Limited for 1996–97 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Petition [9th December] from citizens of the United Kingdom on changes to benefits for lone parents [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

8 Treaty Series (No. 7, 1998),—1994 Amendments, adopted at the Sixty-third Session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC.31(63)) of the International Maritime Organisation at London on 23rd May 1994, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (Annex 1) [by Command] [Cm. 3849] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Treaty Series (No. 8, 1998),—1994 Amendments, adopted at London on 24th May 1994, to the Annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (Annex 1); Resolution 1 of the Conference of Contracting Governments for the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 [by Command] [Cm. 3850] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Monday 2nd February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Religious Discrimination Bill.—The Order for reading the Religious Discrimination Bill a second time on Friday 6th February was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

2 Government of Wales Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [29th January] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr Robert Ainsworth)—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

3 Government of Wales Bill (Committee) [4th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 45 (Regulation of procedure)

Amendment (No. 288) proposed, in page 25, line 30, at the end to insert the words—

'(7) Any remaking or provision of standing orders shall not come into effect unless a draft thereof has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.'—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 46 (Equal treatment of English and Welsh languages).

Amendment (No. 392) proposed, in page 25, line 31, to leave out from the word 'effect' to the word 'to' in line 32.—(Dr John Marek.)

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

And it being half-past Four o'clock, the Chairman pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [this day], put the Questions necessary to dispose of the remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 46 to 49.

Clauses Nos. 46 to 49 agreed to.

Clause No. 50 agreed to.

Clause No. 51 (Presiding officer and deputy).

Amendment (No. 294) proposed in page 26, line 39, to leave out from the word 'Members' to the word 'shall' in line 1 on page 27 and insert the words—

'the deputy presiding officer.

(1A) The Secretary of State shall be the presiding officer of the Assembly, but shall not otherwise be entitled to attend or to participate in or to vote in any proceedings of the Assembly.

(2) The offices specified in this section,' instead thereof.—(Mr Nigel Evans.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 52 (Assembly First Secretary).

Amendment (No. 10A) proposed, in page 27, line 6, to leave out from the word 'be' to the end of line 7, and insert the words 'Prime Minister of Wales or Prif Weinidog'.—(Mr Richard Livsey.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 151.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Janet Anderson: 292.

Another Amendment (No. 272) proposed, in page 27, line 7, at the end, to insert the words 'and the Assembly First Secretary shall be treated as being an office of ministerial level for the purposes of Article 203 of The Treaty of Amsterdam'.—(Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 53 (Committees).

Amendment (No. 395) proposed, in page 27, line 12, after the first word 'The', to insert the word 'voting'.—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 54 agreed to.

Clause No. 55 (Delegation to committees, sub-committees and staff).

Amendment (No. 363) proposed, in page 27, line 30, to leave out from the word 'Assembly' to the end of line 31.—(Mr Lembit Opik.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 56 and 57 agreed to.

Clause No. 58 (Executive committee).

Amendment (No. 27) proposed, in page 29, line 12, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3A) No function may be delegated to the Assembly First Secretary under subsection (3) above unless the executive committee (or the sub-committee, as the case may be) decides by no less than a two-thirds majority to make that delegation.'—(Mr Richard Livsey.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 59 agreed to.

Clause No. 60 (Members of scrutiny committee etc.)

Amendment (No. 364) proposed, in page 30, line 3, at the end, to insert the words 'but that number shall not be less than eight.'—(Mr Lembit Opik.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 61 (Audit Committee).

Amendment (No. 401) proposed, in page 30, line 19, after the second word 'the', to insert the word 'Financial'.—(Mr Cynog Dafis.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being half-past Eight o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 61.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 401) be made, put and negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 62 (Regional committees).

Amendment (No. 12A) proposed, in page 30, to leave out lines 36 and 37.—(Mr Richard Livsey.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 16A) proposed, in page 30, line 40, after the word 'region', to insert the words 'and carry out any of the functions which the Assembly has delegated
to the regional committees following a majority vote of Assembly members.'.—
(Mr Richard Livsey.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 400) proposed, in page 30, line 40, at the end, to insert the
words—
'(2A) A committee established under this section may nominate persons for
membership of any non-departmental public body mentioned in Schedule 3 or Schedule
4 and of which the responsibilities lie wholly or partly within the geographical area
covered by the committee.'.—(Mr Dafydd Wigley.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 63 agreed to.

Clause No. 64 (Regulatory appraisals).

Amendment (No. 412) proposed, in page 31, line 23, to leave out the word 'likely' and
insert the words 'financial, social and environmental', instead thereof.—(Mr Cynog
Dafis.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 303) proposed, in page 31, to leave out lines 27 to 30.—
(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;
And it being Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of
remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 64 to 73, Schedule No. 4 and Clauses Nos. 74
to 79.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 303) be made, put and negatived.

Clause (No. 64) agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 65 to 70 agreed to.

Clause No. 71 (Integrity).

Amendment (No. 282) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 72 agreed to.

Clause No. 73 (Power to require attendance and production of documents).

Amendment (No. 283) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 4 agreed to.

Clause No. 74 (Witnesses and documents: supplementary).

Amendments (Nos. 390 and 391) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 75 agreed to.

Clause No. 76 (Defamation).

Amendment (No. 284) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 77 to 79 agreed to.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to
ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jon Owen Jones reported, That the
Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have
leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.
4 Northern Ireland Affairs.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That Ms Margaret Moran be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Mr Stephen Hesford be added to the Committee—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection);
The Motion was opposed.

5 Trade and Industry.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That Mr Alan Johnson be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Mr Lindsay Hoyle be added to the Committee—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection);
The Motion was opposed.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past 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,—(1) Local Government Finance Report (England) 1998–99,
   (2) Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (England) 1998–99, and
   (3) Special Grant Report (No. 31) [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 506, 508 and 507] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government Finance (Wales),—(1) Limitation of Council Tax (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (Wales) 1998–99, and
   (2) Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1998–99, and
   (3) Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 456, 455 and 504] [Mr Secretary Davies].

3 Police,—Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 492] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 National Health Service,—(1) Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Montagu Hospital National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 175),
   (2) Isle of Wight Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 176),
   (3) Lincoln District Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 177), and
   (4) North and East Devon Health Authority (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 178),
dated 27th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

   (5) Public Telecommunication System Designation (KDD Europe Limited) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 163), and
dated 28th January 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
Other Papers:

6 Census,—1991 Census: Key Statistics for Urban and Rural Areas
   (1) the Midlands,
   (2) the North,
   (3) the South East, and
   (4) the South West and Wales
   [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Construction of the
   Southampton Oceanography Centre [by Act]; to be printed [No. 494] [Clerk of the
   House].

8 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act
   1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to
   (1) Frontel Communications Limited,
   (2) HighwayOne Corporation Limited,
   (3) IDT Global Limited,
   (4) Internet Network Services Limited,
   (5) KDD Europe Limited, and
   (6) Skylight Holdings Incorporated
   [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment)
Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Smith from the
Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and
appointed in substitution Mrs Sylvia Heal.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on
2nd February [Crown Prosecution Service]; to be printed [No. 526-i] [Mr David Davis].

MEMORANDUM

Wednesday sittings,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings), the
Speaker has appointed Wednesday 18th February, Wednesday 25th March and
Wednesday 17th June 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.

[No. 111.]

Tuesday 3rd February 1998.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Ann Widdecombe reported from
   the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the
   Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Visiting Forces and
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
3 Standing Orders,—Ordered, That—

(1) the Order [28th November], That the Standing Orders relating to Public Business be printed, be discharged, and

(2) the said Standing Orders, including the Amendment made on 17th December, be printed [No. 533].

4 Parliamentary Currency Commission,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a commission, chaired by a law lord, to examine and report to Parliament and to the public on future currency arrangements for the United Kingdom, including consideration of the options of retaining sterling, adopting the European Single Currency, or adopting the United States dollar: And that Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Amess, Mr Howard Flight and Mr Peter Atkinson do prepare and bring it in.

5 Parliamentary Currency Commission Bill,—Mr Michael Fabricant accordingly presented a Bill to establish a commission, chaired by a law lord, to examine and report to Parliament and to the public on future currency arrangements for the United Kingdom, including consideration of the options of retaining sterling, adopting the European Single Currency, or adopting the United States dollar: And the same was read the first time: and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 115].

6 Government of Wales Bill (Committee) [5th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 80 (Grants to Assembly).
Amendment (No. 387) proposed, in page 38, line 28, to leave out from the word ‘Parliament’ to the end of line 29. (Mr Richard Livsey.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 15) proposed, in page 38, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(3) The Secretary of State shall receive representations and consult interested parties, including the Assembly, as to payments made under this section.’. (Mr Robert Syms.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 114.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Jane Kennedy: 350.

It being after Seven o’clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [yesterday] put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 80 to 89.

Clause No. 80 agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 81 to 86 agreed to.

Clause No. 87 (National Loans Fund Lending).
Amendments (Nos. 285 and 286) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 88 and 89 agreed to.

Clause No. 90 (Auditor General for Wales).
Amendment (No. 331) proposed, in page 42, to leave out lines 28 and 29. (Mr Michael Ancram.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 91 to 98 agreed to.

Clause No. 99 (Accounts of Assembly subsidiaries etc.)
Amendment (No. 343) proposed, in page 49, line 30, after the word ‘Assembly’, to insert the words ‘or the Welsh Development Agency’. (Mr Bernard Jenkin.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 100 (Examinations into Assembly's use of resources).

Amendment (No. 344) proposed, in page 49, line 34, to leave out the word 'may' and insert the word 'shall', instead thereof.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Eight o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 100 to 104 and Schedule No. 5.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 344) be made, put and negatived.

Clause (No. 100) agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 101 to 104 agreed to.

Schedule No. 5 agreed to.

Clause No. 105 (Observing Community law and human rights).

Amendment (No. 373) proposed, in page 51, line 43, to leave out the words 'or any of the Convention rights'.—(Mr Oliver Letwin.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 106 agreed to.

Clause No. 107 (Power to prevent incompatible action etc.).

Amendment (No. 441) proposed, in page 52, line 6, after the word 'international' to insert the word 'treaty'.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 108 agreed to.

Schedule No. 6 (Devolution issues).

Amendment (No. 447) proposed, in page 79, line 13, to leave out from the first word 'the' to the end of line 14 and insert the words '“Appellate Committee” means the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords.'—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Nine o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Schedule No. 6 and Clause No. 109.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 447) be made, put and negatived.

Schedule (No. 6) agreed to.

Clause No. 109 agreed to.

Clause No. 110 (Relations with local government).

Amendment (No. 469) proposed, in page 53, line 14, at the end, to insert the words—'(1A) The Assembly shall have regard to the published plans and strategies of local authorities in Wales in making decisions which specifically affect the communities of those local authorities.'—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 355) proposed, in page 53, to leave out lines 15 to 42.—(Mr Nigel Evans.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 331.

It being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 110, Schedule No. 7, Clauses Nos. 111 to 117 and Schedule No. 8.
Amendment (No. 376) made.
Clause (No. 110), as amended, agreed to.
Schedule No. 7 (Relations with local government: supplementary).
Amendments (Nos. 377 to 386) made.
Schedule, as amended, agreed to.
Clause No. 111 (Relations with voluntary organisations).
Amendment (No. 287) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 112 to 117 agreed to.
Schedule No. 8 agreed to.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

7 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Road Traffic (New Drivers) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th December, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr John McFall: 285.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Keith Simpson: 0.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Road Traffic (New Drivers) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th December, be approved.

8 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 11th December, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts);

It was agreed to.

9 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 5th February, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions on any Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Prescott relating to Local Government Finance not later than Ten o'clock.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

10 European Legislation,—Ordered, That Mrs Anne McGuire and Ms Hazel Blears be discharged from the Select Committee on European Legislation and Mr Jim Dobbin and Mrs Rosemary McKenna be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

11 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered, That Mr Huw Edwards be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr David Drew be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

12 Public Administration,—Ordered, That Fiona Mactaggart be discharged from the Select Committee on Public Administration and Helen Jones be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

13 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);

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 one minute to Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.59 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Export Credits Guarantee Department,—Report and Trading Accounts of the Export Credits Guarantee Department for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Audit General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 245] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


5 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools for 1996-97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 453] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Welsh Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Cadw Welsh Historic Monuments for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 363] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1998 and draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders, in place of Mrs Irene Adams.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Food safety] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 3rd February [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484-iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 3rd February [Alternatives to Prison Sentences]; to be printed [No. 486-iii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 International Development,—(1) First Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government's Response to the First Report from the Committee: Montserrat]; to be printed [No. 532]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 3rd February [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [No. 365-vi] [Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 27th January and 3rd February; to be printed [Nos. 401-iv and -v] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 3rd February [Your Right to Know: The Government's proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 396-iv] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-First Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxi] [Mr David Tredinnick].
Wednesday 4th February 1998.

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—(Janet Anderson);

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

2 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].—The Order for considering the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords], as amended, on Friday 6th February was read and discharged.

Bill to be considered on Friday 13th February.

3 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill.—The Order for the House to resolve itself, on Friday 6th February, into a Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill was read and discharged.

Committee on Friday 13th February.

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Consumer Credit (Increase of Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 1998.

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

5 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1998 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1998.

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

6 Residential Care Homes and Nursing Homes (Medical Records) Bill.—Mr Paul Flynn presented a Bill to require persons registered to carry on residential care homes or nursing homes to keep records concerning medicines and their use; to provide for inspection of such records by medical practitioners; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 116].

7 Electricity (Maintenance of Supplies).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require electricity supply companies to compensate customers whose supply is interrupted and not restored within specified time periods: And that Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Chris Ruane, Mr Gareth Thomas, Mrs Betty Williams and Mr Alex Salmond do prepare and bring it in.

8 Electricity (Maintenance of Supplies) Bill.—Mr Dafydd Wigley accordingly presented a Bill to require electricity supply companies to compensate customers whose supply is interrupted and not restored within specified time periods: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th March and to be printed [Bill 117].

9 Police.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1998–99 (HC 492), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved—(Mr Alun Michael);

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. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents):—It was agreed to.

10 Defence.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

11 Contracting Out.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the Management of Crown Lands) Order
1998, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Janet Anderson);—It was agreed to.

12 Scottish Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 100 (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet on Monday 2nd March at half-past Ten o'clock at New Parliament House, Edinburgh, to take questions for oral answer pursuant to Standing Order No. 94 (Scottish Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)) and to consider a substantive Motion for the adjournment of the Committee pursuant to Standing Order No. 99 (Scottish Grand Committee (substantive motions for the adjournment))—(Janet Anderson);—It was agreed to.

13 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Advance notice of protest meetings related to public processions)—(Mr Adam Ingram)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

A Clause (The Commission's powers to impose conditions on public processions)—(Mr William Thompson)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.


Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Kevin Hughes: 287.

Another Clause (Prohibition Orders)—(Mr William Thompson)—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.

14 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Jim Dowd);—It was agreed to.

15 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The House again proceeded to consider the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Question again proposed, That the Clause (Prohibition Orders) be read a second time;—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Ken Maginnis, The Reverend Martin Smyth: 11.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 267.

Amendment (No. 15) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 21, to leave out the words 'mediate, or'.—(Mr Adam Ingram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr David Jamieson: 174.


Other Amendments (Nos. 17 to 19) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 20) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 14, at the end, to insert the word 'and'.—(Mr Adam Ingram.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Thursday 5th February 1998

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr John McFall: 153.

Other Amendments (Nos. 21 to 26) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 39) proposed to the Bill, in page 12, line 13, to leave out the word 'more' and insert the word 'less', instead thereof.—(Mr William Ross.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 27 and 29 to 32) 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 David Jamieson, Mr John McFall: 121.


So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

16 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-one minutes to Three o'clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 2.39 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Canadian Navigation Services) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 205), dated 2nd February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Criminal Law (Northern Ireland),—Knives (Forfeited Property) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 161), dated 22nd January 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (Wales) (Amendment) (Rural Rate Relief) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 155), dated 28th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].


Other Papers:

6 Biological Standards.—Accounts of the National Biological Standards Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 537] [Clerk of the House].

7 Gas Levy,—Accounts prepared pursuant to section 6(3) of the Gas Levy Act 1981 for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 538] [Clerk of the House].

8 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 under Orders made under section 9 of the Act, and of their disposal, for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 539] [Clerk of the House].

9 Northern Ireland,—Draft Code of Practice under section 53 of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 in connection with the silent video recording of police interviews with persons detained under section 14(1)(a) or (b) of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

10 Severn Bridges,—Accounts prepared pursuant to section 28(1)(b) of the Severn Bridges Act 1992 for 1994–95, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 540] [Clerk of the House].
11 Social Services (Training).—Accounts of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 536] [Clerk of the House].

12 Treaty Series (No. 9, 1998).—Amendments, adopted at London on 11th April 1989, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (MSC.13(57)) [by Command] [Cm. 3851] [Mr Secretary Cook].

13 Treaty Series (No. 10, 1998).—Notes, exchanged at Abidjan on 18th April 1997 and Ouagadougou on 24th July 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Burkina concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Burkina Faso Debt Agreement No. 3 (1996)) [by Command] [Cm. 3855] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones and Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Stephen Hayes, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Adam Ingram, Helen Jackson, Shona McIsaac, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Seamus Mallon, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Peter Robinson, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Cecil Walker and Mr Tony Worthington.

2 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr John Cummings, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Brian Jenkins, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Paul Keetch, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Ken Purchase, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Nicholas Soames, Mr Dennis Turner and Mr Charles Wurdle.

3 Draft Valuation and Rating (Exempted Classes) (Scotland) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Miss Anne Begg, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Alan Duncan, Dr Liam Fox, Mr George Galloway, Mr Donald Gourrie, Mr John McAllion, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John Jenkins, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Colin Pickthall, Christine Russell, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Sir Michael Spicer, Sir John Stanley and Mr Gerry Steinberg.

4 Draft Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Modification) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Ms Karen Buck, Mr John Burnett, Mr Alan Campbell, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr John Greenway, Mr George Howarth, Jane Kennedy, Mr Colin Pickthall, Christine Russell, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Sir Michael Spicer, Sir John Stanley and Mr Gerry Steinberg.

5 Draft Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Exclusion Order 1998; draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998; draft Construction Contracts (Scotland) Exclusion Order 1998; and draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders and draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr John Austin, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr David Crausby, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Alan Simpson.

6 Draft Financial Provisions (Northern Ireland) Order 1997:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee; viz. Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Dominic Grieve, Jane Griffiths, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr William Ross, Mr Chris Ruane and The Reverend Martin Smyth.

7 Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee; viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Christopher Chope, Glenda Jackson, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Fraser Kemp, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr David Lock, Ms Margaret Moran, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Robert Syms, Sir Peter Tapsell, Mr David Tredinnick and Joan Walley.

8 Draft Consumer Credit (Increase of Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Joe Benton from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, and appointed in substitution Mrs Louise Ellman.

**APPENDIX III**

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Second Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Reply to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, Peace Support Operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina]; to be printed [No. 535] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th February [Disaffected children]; to be printed [No. 498-iii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 4th February [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Housing] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation,—Fifteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xv] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 4th February [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-vii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 4th February [The Administration of Disability Living Allowance by the Social Security Agency (Northern Ireland)]; to be printed [No. 527-i] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 4th February [The Year 2000 and Computer Compliance]; to be printed [No. 342-iv] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 4th February [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 423-vi] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 113.]

*Thursday 5th February 1998.*

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

PRAYERS.

1 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Department of Transport (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1998. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill, with Amendments, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
3 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 118].

4 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 506), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved—(Mr Secretary Prescott);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 262.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr John Whittingdale: 170.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 506), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved.

5 Local Government Finance.—It being after Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker proceeded, pursuant to Order [3rd February], to put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the remaining Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Prescott relating to Local Government Finance.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Special Grant Report (No. 31) (House of Commons Paper No. 507), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved—(Hilary Armstrong);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 257.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr John Whittingdale: 109.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (No. 31) (House of Commons Paper No. 507), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved.

Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (England) 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 508), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved—(Hilary Armstrong);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 254.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr John Whittingdale: 93.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (England) 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 508), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved.

6 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) people affected by the traffic bottleneck on the A3 Hindhead in support of the A3 Hindland Tunnel Scheme, and

(2) Mr David Buss, Secretary of Kent Unison, against the proposal by Kent County Council to privatise the County Council’s Linked Service Centres (Old People’s Homes)

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.05 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—(1) Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1998, and
   (2) Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, dated 4th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—Special Grant Reports (Scotland) on—
   (1) Grant in Aid of Local Authority Revenue Costs and Reinstatement Works at Dunblane Cemetery Resulting from the Dunblane Tragedy, and
   (2) Local Taxation Collection Grant Scheme 1997-99 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 531 and 530] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Pensions,—Draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

   (3) draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Amendment Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

5 Education,—Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 208), dated 3rd February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

6 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—Reports by the Secretary of State for Scotland on—
   (1) the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1998, and
   (2) the Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 528 and 529] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Public Health,—Paper, entitled Our Healthier Nation: A Contract for Health [by Command] [Cm. 3852] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Public Health (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Working Together for a Healthier Scotland: A Consultation Document [by Command] [Cm. 3854] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill:
   The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill:
   The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Second Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Royal Opera House: Responses by the Government and the Arts Council of England to the First Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997-98]; to be printed [No. 493]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 5th February [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
Friday 6th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

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

   Human Rights Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled An Act to give
   further effect to rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on
   Human Rights; to make provision with respect to holders of certain judicial offices who
   become judges of the European Court of Human Rights; and for connected purposes; to
   which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Human Rights Bill [Lords].—The Human Rights Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and
   ordered to be read a second time on Monday 9th February and to be printed [Bill 119].

3 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Energy Efficiency Bill was, according to Order, read a second
   time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill.—The Order of the day being read,
   for the Second Reading of the Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill;

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

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 13th February.

5 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—The Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill was,
   according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second
   Reading of the Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

7 School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax) Bill.—The Order of the day
   being read, for the Second Reading of the School Children’s Clothing and Footwear
   (Value Added Tax) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

8 Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill.—The Order of the
   day being read, for the Second Reading of the Warm Homes and Energy Conservation
   (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

9 Labelling of Products Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the
   Labelling of Products Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

10 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day
    being read, for the Second Reading of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons
    (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

    Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th February.

11 Acquisition and Possession of Air Weapons (Restriction) Bill.—The Order of the day being
    read, for the Second Reading of the Acquisition and Possession of Air Weapons
    (Restriction) Bill;

    Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.
12 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Friday 13th February.

13 Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill,—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd January, That the Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 24th April.

14 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th February.

15 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall

1. at the sitting on Wednesday 11th February put the Questions on any Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Davies relating to Local Government Finance (Wales) not later than Seven o'clock;

2. at the sitting on Wednesday 18th February put the Questions on any Motions in the name of Secretary Harriet Harman relating to Social Security and Pensions not later than Ten o'clock; and

3. at the sitting on Thursday 19th February put the Questions on any Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Dewar relating to Local Government Finance (Scotland) and Housing (Scotland) not later than Seven o'clock.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday next.

[Adjourned at 3.00 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Education,—Education (Student Loans) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 211), dated 5th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


6 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 14th October 1997, made by the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

7 Chemical Weapons,—1997 Annual Report on the operation of the Chemical Weapons Act 1996 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Scotland 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 Scotland Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 22nd January be varied so that—

(a) the third to eighth days allotted under the Order [13th January] to proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below, and

(b) each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in the third column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings in Committee</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Third day</td>
<td>Clause 41</td>
<td>6.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 42 to 47</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 48 to 53</td>
<td>8.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 54 to 60</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Fourth day</td>
<td>Clause 61 (up to and including the word “determine” in subsection (2))</td>
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<td>Clause 61 (remaining proceedings)</td>
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<td>Clause 62</td>
<td>8.45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 63 to 68</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth to eighth days</td>
<td>Remaining proceedings (according to time limits to be determined by a further report or further reports of the Business Committee)</td>
<td>10.00 p.m. on the eighth day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Access to the Countryside Bill.—The Order for reading the Access to the Countryside Bill a second time on Friday 13th February was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

3 Coordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords].—The Order for reading the Coordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords] a second time on Friday 13th February was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

4 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 Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

5 Opposition day [7th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Child Support Agency.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House, believing that both parents have responsibility for the financial and emotional welfare of their children during the whole of their childhood, that the taxpayer should only be called upon to provide income-related benefits to support children financially when neither parent has sufficient resources to provide that support, that it is in the best interests of the children if the system of child support encourages their parents to agree voluntarily and then put into practice a financial arrangement for the maintenance of those children which is fair to those children, both parents and the taxpayer, and that the Child Support Agency has failed to meet these objectives, supports the repeal of the rigidly formula-based Child Support Act and its replacement by a system of child support which encourages parental responsibility, enhances work incentives, takes due account of
the cost to the taxpayer, includes an effective right of appeal, and is flexible enough to produce a fair outcome for families whatever their circumstances—(Mr David Rendel);

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 that all children have the right to the support of both parents wherever they may live, that the previous Government failed to set up an effective system of child support through the Child Support Agency because the CSA was introduced in a hasty and ill thought out manner, that the current child support formula is complex, difficult for parents to understand, and slow, inaccurate and expensive to deliver, that the result is that the CSA has failed to increase the proportion of parents who pay regular maintenance for their children and that 70 per cent. of parents with care are refusing to co-operate with the CSA and 60 per cent. of non-resident parents either pay no maintenance or only pay sporadically, and that the receipt of regular maintenance is an important part of the Government’s strategy of tackling child poverty; and welcomes the fact that the Government is looking closely at all areas of the child support system to ensure that it is consistent, fair and efficient and that it expects to bring forward its proposals by the summer’, instead thereof.—(Mr Frank Field.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Adrian Sanders: 43.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 296.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House believes that all children have the right to the support of both parents wherever they may live, that the previous Government failed to set up an effective system of child support through the Child Support Agency because the CSA was introduced in a hasty and ill thought out manner, that the current child support formula is complex, difficult for parents to understand, and slow, inaccurate and expensive to deliver, that the result is that the CSA has failed to increase the proportion of parents who pay regular maintenance for their children and that 70 per cent. of parents with care are refusing to co-operate with the CSA and 60 per cent. of non-resident parents either pay no maintenance or only pay sporadically, and that the receipt of regular maintenance is an important part of the Government’s strategy of tackling child poverty, and welcomes the fact that the Government is looking closely at all areas of the child support system to ensure that it is consistent, fair and efficient and that it expects to bring forward its proposals by the summer.

Railway Services,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that rail privatisation by the Conservative Government has been a disaster, failing on many routes to deliver customer satisfaction, reliability or an integrated service, and therefore calls on the Government to work with the regulator to set and enforce standards, withhold grants in cases of persistent failure, and bring forward policies to deliver investment in a safe, reliable and affordable rail system at the heart of an integrated sustainable transport strategy—(Mr Matthew Taylor);

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 ‘deplores the previous Government’s privatisation of the railways, which has made a large profit for a few, but has been a poor deal for the taxpayer and the passenger, and has fragmented the rail network; welcomes the Government’s interim package of measures introduced in November 1997—new Objectives, Instructions and Guidance for the Franchising Director, new planning criteria for OPRAF and a Concordat with the Rail Regulator—which puts the interests of rail users first; and commends the Government’s commitment to establish effective and accountable regulation and to set up a new rail authority so that passengers’ legitimate expectations are met’, instead thereof.—(Dr Gavin Strang.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Donald Gorrie: 40.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr David Jamieson: 296.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.
Resolved, That this House deplores the previous Government's privatisation of the railways, which has made a large profit for a few, but has been a poor deal for the taxpayer and the passenger, and has fragmented the rail network; welcomes the Government's interim package of measures introduced in November 1997—new Objectives, Instructions and Guidance for the Franchising Director, new planning criteria for OPRAF and a Concordat with the Rail Regulator—which puts the interests of rail users first; and commends the Government's commitment to establish effective and accountable regulation and to set up a new rail authority so that passengers' legitimate expectations are met.

6 Adjournment, —Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. —(Mr Clive Betts.)

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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Draft Local Authorities (Transport Charges) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government Finance (Wales),—(1) Limitation of Council Tax (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (Wales) 1998–99 (Revised), and

   (2) Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1998–99 (Revised),

   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 542 and 541] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers withdrawn:

5 Local Government Finance (Wales),—(1) Limitation of Council Tax (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (Wales) 1998–99, and

   (2) Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1998–99,

   [laid on 2nd February and then ordered to be printed [Nos. 456 and 455]].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Energy Efficiency Bill:

   The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill:

   The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 9th February [Cataract Surgery in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 546-i] [Mr David Davis]
Tuesday 10th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] be read a second time on Tuesday 17th February.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Valuation and Rating (Exempted Classes) Scotland Order 1998.

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

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Modification) Order 1998.

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

4 War Memorials Preservation,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the preservation of war memorials; to ensure their proper transfer to a suitable location if their present site is redeveloped; to amend the War Memorials (Local Authorities Powers) Act 1923; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Maclean, Mr A. J. Beith, Mr Menzies Campbell, Frank Cook, Sir Peter Emery, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Mr Barry Jones, Sir Peter Lloyd, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Nicholas Soames and Mr Peter Viggers do prepare and bring it in.

5 War Memorials Preservation Bill,—Mr David Maclean accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the preservation of war memorials; to ensure their proper transfer to a suitable location if their present site is redeveloped; to amend the War Memorials (Local Authorities Powers) Act 1923; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 120].

6 Scotland Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the further Report [9th February] from the Business Committee be now considered (Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

7 Scotland Bill (Committee) [3rd allotted day],—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 41 (The Scottish Executive).

Amendment (No. 303) proposed, in page 18, to leave out lines 7 and 8 and insert the words—

'(1A) Any devolved Law Officer shall not be a member of the Scottish Executive'.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Whittingdale: 138.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Greg Pope: 352.

It being Six o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [this day], put the Question necessary to dispose of the remaining proceedings on Clause No. 41.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 42 (The First Minister).

Amendment (No. 44) proposed, in page 18, line 11 to leave out from the word 'be' to the end of line 13 and insert the words 'elected by the members of the Parliament'.—(Mr Dennis Canavan.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 43 agreed to.

Clause No. 44 (Ministers).

Amendment (No. 276) proposed, in page 19, line 10, after the word 'appoint' to insert the words 'up to a total of ten'.—(Dr Liam Fox.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr John Whittingdale: 131.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Greg Pope: 365.

It being after Seven o'clock, the Chairman proceeded to put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of the remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 44 to 47.

Clause agreed to.

Clause Nos. 45 to 47 agreed to.

Clause No. 48 (Exercise of functions).

Amendment (No. 321) made.

Amendment (No. 279) proposed, in page 21, line 14, at the end, to add the words—

'(7) Nothing in this Act shall permit Scottish Ministers to exercise any function or to enjoy any power in any part of England, Wales or Northern Ireland.'—(Mr Oliver Heald.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Greg Pope: 364.

It being after half-past Eight o'clock, the Chairman put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 48 to 53.

Clause (No. 48), as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 49 to 51 agreed to.

Clause No. 52 (Shared powers).

Amendment (No. 322) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 53 agreed to.

Clause No. 54 (Power to prevent or require action).

Amendment (No. 281) proposed, in page 22, line 40, to leave out from the word 'may' to the end of line 41 and insert the words 'apply to the Court of Session to seek an Order to prohibit the proposed action'.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 181.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jim Dowd: 323.

It being after Ten o'clock the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of the remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 54 to 60.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 55 to 58 agreed to.

Clause No. 59 (Power to transfer functions).

Amendments (Nos. 323 to 327) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 60 (Transfers of property and liabilities in connection with functions).
Amendments (Nos. 328 and 329) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

8 Consumer Credit.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Consumer Credit (Increase of Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

9 Employment and Training.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

10 Employment and Training.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

11 Fees and Charges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Department of Transport (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

12 Food (S.I., 1997, No. 2959).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Beef Bones Regulations 1997 (S.I., 1997, No. 2959), dated 15th December 1997, a copy of which was laid before this House on 15th December, be annulled.—(Mr Charles Kennedy);

And it being half-past Eleven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 17 (Delegated Legislation (negative procedure)).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Paul Tyler: 196.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jim Dowd: 321.

So the Question was negatived.

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Pudsey in support of the campaign to amend the Licensing Act 1964 was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd);

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till thirteen minutes past Twelve o'clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.13 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Audit (Northern Ireland).—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Department of Education Northern Ireland: Provision of Initial Teacher Training [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 501] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

2 Health.—Government Respose to the First Report of the Health Committee, Session 1997–98, on Tobacco Advertising and the Proposed EC Directive [by Command] [Cm. 3859] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 Reserve Forces.—Amendment No. 18 to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Sea Fisheries.—Reports by—

(1) the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the proceedings under sections 1 to 5 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967, for 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham];

(2) the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State responsible for Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries in Scotland on the proceedings under sections 1 to 5 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967, for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and

(3) the Secretary of State for Wales on the proceedings under sections 1 to 5 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967, for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 10th February [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-vi]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Food safety; UK beef industry] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 10th February [The Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 547] [Mr John Horam].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 10th February [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484-iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 10th February [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [No. 365-vii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Parliamentary Privilege.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 10th February; to be printed [No. 401-vi] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

6 Procedure.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 10th February [Resource Accounting and Budgeting]; to be printed [No. 438-iii] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Administration.—(1) First Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Public Appointments]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 327]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 10th February [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 352-vi]

[Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Standards and Privileges.—Twelfth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Sir David Steel], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 548] [Mr Robert Sheldon].
9 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-Second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 117.]

Wednesday 11th February 1998.

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 (Bridget Prentice);

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

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Exclusion Order 1998, the draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998, the draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 1998 and the draft Construction Contracts (Scotland) Exclusion Order 1998.

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

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Frank Cook reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Financial Provisions (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

4 Motor Accident Injury Compensation, — Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to ensure compensation for persons injured as a result of road traffic accidents: And that Dr Desmond Turner, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr David Lepper, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews and Dr Michael Clark do prepare and bring it in.

5 Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill, — Dr Desmond Turner accordingly presented a Bill to ensure compensation for persons injured as a result of road traffic accidents: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th March and to be printed [Bill 121].

6 Local Government Finance (Wales), — A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1998-99 (Revised) (House of Commons Paper No. 541), which was laid before this House on 9th February, be approved (Mr Secretary Davies);

And it being Seven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [6th February]; — It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions required to be put at that hour.

Local Government Finance (Wales), — Resolved, That the Limitation of Council Tax (Relevant Notional Amounts) Report (Wales) 1998-99 (Revised) (House of Commons Paper No. 542), which was laid before this House on 9th February, be approved. — (Mr Secretary Davies.)

Local Government Finance (Wales), — Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1998 (House of Commons Paper No. 504), which was laid before this House on 2nd February, be approved. — (Mr Secretary Davies.)

7 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill, — The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill. Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment (Mr Nick Raynsford);

And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
8 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, Consideration of Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

9 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill,—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

The House resumed the adjourned Debate on the Question, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment.

Mr Graham Allen 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;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 347.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 105.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 346.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 103.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 245.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Paul Tyler: 181.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 245.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Paul Tyler: 181.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

A Motion was made and the Question being put, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

That Mr Graham Allen, Mr Stephen Day, Glenda Jackson, Mr Richard Ottaway and Mr Nick Raynsford be members of the Committee.

That three be the Quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 236.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Don Foster: 25.
So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

That Mr Graham Allen, Mr Stephen Day, Glenda Jackson, Mr Richard Ottaway and Mr Nick Raynsford be members of the Committee.

That three be the Quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.

10 Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill,—Mr Nick Raynsford reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1, 2 and 3 to the Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to the Amendment made by the Lords in page 1, line 8, for the following Reason:

Because it is not desirable to make the publication of a Bill providing for the establishment of a Greater London Authority a precondition of the holding of the referendum.

The Commons disagree to the Amendments made by the Lords in page 1, line 11 and in page 6, lines 3 to 7, for the following Reason:

Because the question asked in the referendum should be in the form set out in the Schedule to the Bill.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes to Two o’clock, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.54 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance,—Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat [by Act]; to be printed [No. 549] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Heath Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 251), dated 4th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Sale of The Stationery Office [by Act]; to be printed [No. 522] [Clerk of the House].

5 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Petition [20th January] from employees and patients of the National Health Service for the prevention of the use of the word ‘diabetic’ on the labels of food products [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

6 South Africa (No. 1, 1998),—Protocol, done at London on 25th November 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of South Africa to the Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 3857] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords]:

The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee A).

2 Special Grant Report (No. 28): Persons from Abroad Children's Grant (HC 478); Special Grant Report (No. 29): Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (HC 479); Special Grant Report (No. 30): Asylum Seekers' Accommodation (HC 480); Special Grant Report (Scotland) for Adult Asylum Seekers' Assistance (No. 98/3) (HC 490); Special Grant Report (Scotland) for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and Children of Asylum Seekers (No. 98/4) (HC 491); and Special Grant Report (Wales) 1998 for Asylum Seekers' Accommodation (HC 457):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Reports to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman of the Committee; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr David Drew, Dr Evan Harris, Helen Jones, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Humfrey Malins, Laura Moffatt, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Bridget Prentice, Mr Syd Rapson and Mr Malcolm Savidge.

European Standing Committees

3 European Community Document No. 5357/98, relating to bananas, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

4 European Community Document No. SEM 2000/3, relating to sound financial management:

(1) The Document has been referred to European Standing Committee B, together with Document No. OJ No. C348, relating to the Court of Auditors' Report for 1996, already so referred; and

(2) The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Committee in respect of the Documents.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 11th February [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-vii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 11th February [NATO Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 469-ii]

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 11th February [OFSTED Annual Report]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 266] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th February [UK Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 360-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Second Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Sewage Treatment and Disposal], 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. 260] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th February [UK Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 360-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation,—Sixteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xvi] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 11th February [Appropriation Accounts 1996-97, Volume 2: Class II—Foreign and
Commonwealth Office: Irregular Payments at the British Embassy in Amman, Jordan; to be printed [No. 553–i] [Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 11th February [The Year 2000 and Computer Compliance]; to be printed [No. 342–v] [Dr Michael Clark].

7 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 11th February [The Work of the Student Awards Agency for Scotland]; to be printed [No. 550] [Mr David Marshall].

8 Social Security,—Second Report from the Social Security Committee [Social Security Reforms: Lessons from the United States of America], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 552] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 11th February [Energy Policy]; to be printed [Nos. 471–iii and –iv] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

Thursday 12th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Tyne Tunnels Bill,—The Second 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 Tyne Tunnels 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.

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1998.

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

3 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Order for the House to resolve itself, to-morrow, into a Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill was read and discharged.

Committee on Friday 6th March.

4 Scotland Bill (Committee) [4th allotted day],—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 61 (Scottish Consolidated Fund).

Amendment (No. 309) proposed, in page 26, line 4, after the word 'State', to insert the words 'having first taken into account the needs of Scotland in relation to the needs of the United Kingdom as a whole,'—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Mowld: 113.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr David Jamieson: 304.

Another Amendment (No. 77) proposed, in page 26, line 4, to leave out from the word 'shall' to the end of line 6, and insert the words 'in respect of each financial year make payments into the Fund equalling the revenue raised by the Exchequer in Scotland and in the Scottish sector of the United Kingdom continental shelf', instead thereof.—(Mr John Swinney.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mr Alasdair Morgan: 4.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr David Jamieson: 276.

Another Amendment (No. 81) proposed, in page 26, line 6, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2A) No such payment as is mentioned in subsection (2) shall be made in respect of any financial year unless prior to the commencement of that financial year—

(a) the Scottish Executive has submitted to the Secretary of State a report containing the Executive’s detailed expenditure plans for the financial year in question, and—

(b) the Secretary of State has laid the report before the House of Commons at least ten sitting days before any motion is made in that House for the approval of a grant of Supply authorising the payment.'.—(Mr Tam Dalyell.)

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

It being a quarter to Nine o’clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [10th February], put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 61 and 62.

Clause (No. 61) agreed to.

Clause No. 62 agreed to.

Clause No. 63 (Borrowing by the Scottish Ministers, etc.).

Amendment (No. 298) proposed, in page 26, line 37, after 'Or, to insert the words ‘Subject to the approval of the Chancellor of the Exchequer,’.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 64 to 66 agreed to.

Clause No. 67 (Existing debt).

Question proposed, That the Clause stand part of the Bill;

And it being Ten o’clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 67 and 68.

Clause (No. 67) agreed to.

Clause No. 68 agreed to.

And it being after Ten o’clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.


The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

5 Dangerous Drugs.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Modification) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved.—(Mr John McFall.)—It was agreed to.

6 Rating and Valuation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Valuation and Rating (Exempted Classes) (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved.—(Mr John McFall.)—It was agreed to.

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

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 Standing Order, it being then twenty-nine minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.31 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Northern Ireland.—Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

5. Criminal Injuries Compensation.—Annual Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3840] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1. Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 12th February [Audio–Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520–iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2. Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Entry Clearance Sub-Committee of the Foreign Affairs Committee on 12th February [Entry clearance procedures in overseas Posts (with particular reference to Islamabad and New Delhi) and related matters]; to be printed [No. 515–ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3. International Development.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 12th February [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [No. 365–viii]; and

   (2) Memorandum laid before the International Development Committee [Montserrat]; to be printed [No. 555]

   [Mr Bowen Wells].

[No. 119.]

Friday 13th February 1998.

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

PAPERS.

1. Employment of Children Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Employment of Children Bill;

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

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

   Bill withdrawn.

2. Police Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Police 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 6th March.
3 Elections (Visually Impaired Voters) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Elections (Visually Impaired Voters) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

4 National Health Service (Equity of Funding) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the National Health Service (Equity of Funding) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

5 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th March.

6 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 6th March.

7 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended, be considered on Friday 20th March.

8 Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [6th February]. That the Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 3rd July.

9 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords],

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

10 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Friday 20th March.

11 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th March,

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do so now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 16th February.

[Adjourned at 3.02 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Housing.—Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 265), dated 7th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Other Papers:

2 Treaty Series (No. 12, 1998),—Convention, done at Espoo, Finland, on 25th February 1991, on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context [by Command][Cm. 3879] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Monday 16th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Police Bill.—Ordered, That the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills do examine the Police Bill with respect to the applicability thereto of the Standing Orders relating to Private Business.

2 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 Act, agreed upon by both Houses:


3 Human Rights Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Human Rights Bill [Lords];

Mr Secretary Straw acquainted the House, That he had it in Command from the Queen to acquaint the House that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place Her prerogative and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

A Motion was 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, while confirming its strong belief in human rights, expresses its deep concern at the constitutional implications and deficiencies of the Human Rights Bill [Lords] because the Bill weakens one of the foundations of everyone's human rights and fundamental freedoms, which is an effective political democracy; because the Bill creates in the United Kingdom an additional separate, and potentially incompatible, constitutional framework; because the Bill fails adequately to respect and maintain the principle of separation of powers between the executive, legislative, and judiciary fundamental in a democratic society and will therefore lead to a further increase in the power of the executive, the diminution of Parliament, and the politicisation of the judiciary; and declines to give the Bill a Second Reading', instead thereof.—(Sir Brian Mawhinney.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr James Cran: 144.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 335.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 332.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr James Cran: 146.

So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Mike O'Brien)—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

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

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Human Rights Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—
(a) the payments out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by a
Minister of the Crown—

(i) in consequence of an award of damages or costs in proceedings under the Act;
(ii) as administrative expenses resulting from the provisions of the Act;
(iii) in connection with judicial training;

(b) the payment out of such money or the Consolidated Fund of sums in respect of any
additional judicial salary, or of contributions or benefits in respect of judicial pensions,
 arising in connection with the appointment of the holder of a judicial office as a judge of
the European Court of Human Rights;

(c) 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
David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

5 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That

(1) the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 be referred to the Northern
Ireland Grand Committee; and

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 26th February the Committee shall consider, pursuant
to Standing Order No. 115, the instrument referred to it under paragraph (1) above.—
(Mr David Clelland)

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Mid-Bedfordshire against building new
homes in the countryside or Green Belt was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon
the Table and to be printed.

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

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock, and the Debate having continued
for half an hour, the 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 or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

dated 12th February 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

2 Northern Ireland,—Education (Student Loans) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998,
No. 258), dated 11th February 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

3 Northern Ireland,—(1) Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Code of
Practice) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 312), and

(2) Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Silent Video Recording of
dated 15th February 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Sea Fisheries,—(1) Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota Measures) Order 1998
(S.I., 1998, No. 268), and

(2) Third Country Fishing (Enforcement) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 269),
dated 11th February 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

5 Urban Development,—London Docklands Development Corporation (Alteration of
[Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Housing (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for
1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland
thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3858] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—Second Report from the Agriculture Committee [CAP Reform: Agenda 2000], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 311] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment.—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, The Dearing Report: some funding issues]; to be printed [No. 557]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 16th February [Disaffected children]; to be printed [No. 498-iv] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken by the Entry Clearance Sub-committee of the Foreign Affairs Committee on 16th February [Entry clearance procedures in overseas Posts (with particular reference to Islamabad and New Delhi) and related matters]; to be printed [No. 515-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 16th February [The Management of Building Projects at English Higher Education Institutions]; to be printed [No. 558-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 16th February [The Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 447-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].
School Buses (Safety) Bill.—Mr Malcolm Bruce accordingly presented a Bill to introduce safety regulations for school buses; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 20th March and to be printed [Bill 122].

Iraq.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the continuing refusal of Iraq to comply with its obligations under the relevant post-ceasefire UN Security Council Resolutions, by allowing UNSCOM to carry out without restrictions the required inspections of its chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programmes; believes that these programmes represent a continuing threat to international peace and stability; fully supports the efforts of the Government to reach a diplomatic solution to the present confrontation with Iraq within the framework of these Security Council Resolutions; and expresses its full support also for the resolve of the Government to use all necessary means to achieve an outcome consistent with these Resolutions—(Mr Secretary Cook);

The Question was amended, in line 8, by leaving out from the word 'Resolutions' to the end of the Question and adding the words 'fully supports the resolve of the Government to use all necessary means to achieve an outcome consistent with these Resolutions; and emphasises the importance of setting the clearest possible objectives linked to any action that might be taken' instead thereof. (Mr Michael Howard.)

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr Jim Dowd: 493.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Tony Benn: 25.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House condemns the continuing refusal of Iraq to comply with its obligations under the relevant post-ceasefire UN Security Council Resolutions, by allowing UNSCOM to carry out without restrictions the required inspections of its chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programmes; believes that these programmes represent a continuing threat to international peace and stability; fully supports the efforts of the Government to reach a diplomatic solution to the present confrontation with Iraq within the framework of these Security Council Resolutions; fully supports the resolve of the Government to use all necessary means to achieve an outcome consistent with these Resolutions; and emphasises the importance of setting the clearest possible objectives linked to any action that might be taken.

Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Financial Provisions (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, which was laid before this House on 16th December, be approved—(Mr David Clelland): It was agreed to.

Construction.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Exclusion Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 18th December, be approved—(Mr David Clelland): It was agreed to.

Construction.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 12th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland): It was agreed to.

Construction (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scheme for Construction Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 19th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland): It was agreed to.

Construction (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Construction Contracts (Scotland) Exclusion Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 19th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland): It was agreed to.

Civil Aviation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment) Order 1998,
which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—
   It was agreed to.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)
   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 Negative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) Order 1998
   (S.I., 1998, No. 308), dated 13th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Water Industry,—Chester Waterworks Company (Constitution and Regulation) Order 1998
   (S.I., 1998, No. 281), dated 11th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Other Papers:

3 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for
   Health on 13th February 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—
   (1) the East Gloucestershire National Health Service Trust, and
   (2) the Hastings and Rother National Health Service Trust
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Public Health,—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of
   1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 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) Order
   [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 17th
   February [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-vii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Food safety]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport
   Committee on 17th February [HMS Cavalier]; to be printed [No. 561-i] [Mr Gerald
   Kaufman].

3 Deregulation,—Second Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the
   Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles) Order 1998]; to be printed together with
   the minutes of the proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report. [No. 559]
   [Mr Peter L. Pike].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the
   Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs
   Committee on 17th February [The Future of Allotments]; to be printed [No. 560-i]
   [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 17th
   February [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-iv] [Mr Donald
   Anderson].

6 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 17th
   February [European and other issues]; to be printed [No. 562-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].
7 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 17th February [Debt Relief]; to be printed [No. 563-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

8 Parliamentary Privilege,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 17th February; to be printed [No. 401-vii] [Mr Bill Michie].

9 Procedure,—First Report from the Procedure Committee [Use of the Welsh Language in Parliamentary Proceedings 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. 461] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

10 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 17th February [The Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 352-vii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

11 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-Third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxiii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

12 Welsh Affairs,—First Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Impact of the Government’s Devolution Proposals on Economic Development and Local Government], 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. 329] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 122.]

Wednesday 18th February 1998.

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—[Jane Kennedy];

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

2 Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill,—Ordered, That the Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th March.

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Special Grant Report (No. 28): Persons From Abroad Children’s Grant (HC Paper No. 478), Special Grant Report (No. 29): Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (HC Paper No. 479), Special Grant Report (No. 30): Asylum Seekers’ Accommodation (HC Paper No. 480), Special Grant Report for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and Children of Asylum Seekers (No. 98/4) (HC Paper No. 491), Special Grant Report for Adult Asylum Seekers’ Assistance (No. 98/3) (HC Paper No. 490) and Special Grant Report (Wales) (HC Paper No. 457).

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

4 European Standing Committee B,—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of Official Journal No. C348 of 18th November 1997, the Annual Report and Statements of Assurance of the European Court of Auditors concerning the financial year 1996, on activities financed from the general budget and of the sixth and seventh European Development Funds, together with the Institutions’ replies; and of European Commission Document No. SEM 2000/3(97) Doc. 5, the SEM 2000 Stage III Second Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Personal Representatives Group on Sound Financial Management; and endorses the Government’s determination to ensure that taxpayers’ money is spent efficiently and effectively in the EC budget and welcomes the priority which the current British Presidency of the EU is giving to this subject.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
5 Water Industry (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make further provision with respect to the water industry: And that Mr David Kidney, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Bradley, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr David Drew, Julia Drown, Dr Brian Iddon, Jacqui Smith, Mr Tom Levitt and Joan Walley do prepare and bring it.

6 Water Industry (Amendment) Bill.—Mr David Kidney accordingly presented a Bill to make further provision with respect to the water industry: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th March and to be printed [Bill 124].

7 Social Security.—Resolved, That the draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Frank Field.)

8 Social Security.—Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Fund Payments) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

9 Pensions.—Resolved, That the draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

10 Social Security.—Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Amendment Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Poole and district for the retention in the National Roads Programme of the proposed new Poole Harbour Bridge 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 Kevin Hughes.)

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Draft Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


5 Road Traffic.—Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 273), dated 9th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Employment Rights.—Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 208(5) of the Employment Rights Act 1996 on Limits on Guarantee Payments [by Act]; to be printed [No. 545] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7 Hillsborough Stadium.—Report by the Rt Hon Lord Justice Stuart-Smith into Scrutiny of Evidence relating to the Hillsborough Football Stadium Disaster [by Command] [Cm. 3878] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on HM Coastguard: Civil Maritime Search and Rescue [by Act]; to be printed [No. 544] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Committee of Selection

Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel).—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had appointed an additional Member to serve on 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 Peter Brand.

APPENDIX III

Standing Committees

1 Pesticides Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Norman Baker, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Andrew George, Mr Robert Jackson, Ms Fiona Jones, Mr Martyn Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Jim Murphy, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr James Paice, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Jeff Rooker, Mr Jonathan Sayeed and Mr Mark Todd.

2 Fireworks Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Sir Richard Body, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Richard Burden, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Howard Flight, Ms Barbara Follett, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr Patrick Hall, Dr Evan Harris, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Andy Love, Kali Mountford, Mr Barry Sheerman, the Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr John M. Taylor and Mrs Betty Williams.

3 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr David Drew, Glenda Jackson, Mr David Lepper, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Andrew Tyrie, Joan Walley and Sir Raymond Whitney.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order and Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tom Brake, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Ms Patricia Hewitt, Ms Fiona Jones, Lynne Jones, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Robert Marshall-Anders, Mr Richard Ottaway and Mr John Randall.

APPENDIX IV

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—Third Report from the Agriculture Committee [The UK Beef Industry], 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. 474] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 18th February [NATO Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 469-iii] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 18th February [Further education]; to be printed [No. 264-viii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

4 Education and Employment, and Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee, and the Health Committee, meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4)(e) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select Committees related to government departments) on 18th February [Disaffected Children; Children looked after by Local Authorities]; to be printed [Nos. 498-v and 319-vii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 18th February [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
6 European Legislation.—Seventeenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xvii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 18th February [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-vii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 18th February [Class XII, Vote 1, Appropriation Account 1996-97: Central Government Administered Social Security Benefits and Other Payments]; to be printed [No. 570-i] [Mr David Davis].

9 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 18th February [Trade and Industrial Relations with Japan]; to be printed [No. 568-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 123.]

Thursday 19th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Scotland 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 Scotland Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 22nd January be further varied so that—

(a) the fifth to eighth days allotted under the Order [13th January] to proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below, and

(b) each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in the third column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings in Committee</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fifth day</td>
<td>Clause 69</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 70</td>
<td>7.45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 71</td>
<td>8.45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 72 to 80</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sixth day</td>
<td>Clauses 81 and 82</td>
<td>5.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 83</td>
<td>8.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clauses 84 to 91</td>
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<td>Schedule 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Clauses 92 and 93</td>
<td>9.45 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Clauses 94 to 109</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seventh and eighth days</td>
<td>Remaining proceedings (according to time limits to be determined by a further report or further reports of the Business Committee)</td>
<td>10.00 p.m. on the eighth day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill,—The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to which this House has disagreed.

Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill,—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to enable local authorities to operate experimental arrangements with respect to the way in which they take decisions, including arrangements with respect to elected mayors and the discharge of functions by single members of authorities; to provide for periodic reviews by local authorities of their decision-making arrangements; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
3 Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords].—The Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 20th March and to be printed [Bill 125].

4 Home Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Home Affairs Committee on 19th February be printed [No. 573].

5 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1998, dated 4th February 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Mr Secretary Dewar);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 241.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Andrew Welsh: 29.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1998, dated 4th February 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.

6 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Resolved, That the Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, dated 4th February 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

7 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (98/1) (Scotland): Local Taxation Collection Grant Scheme 1997–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 550), which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

8 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (98/2) (Scotland): Grant in Aid of Local Authority Revenue Costs and Reinstatement Works at Dunblane Cemetery Resulting from the Dunblane Tragedy (House of Commons Paper No. 531), which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

9 Housing (Scotland).—Resolved, That the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Variation Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 29th January, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

10 Housing (Scotland).—Resolved, That the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 29th January, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

11 Trade and Industry.—Ordered, That Mr Alan Johnson be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Mr Lindsay Hoyle be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Ordered, That Ms Margaret Moran be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Mr Stephen Hesford be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Miss Carol White and other residents of Ipswich for an increase in the severity of sentences available for crimes related to paedophilia was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit twenty-two minutes to Eight o'clock, adjourned till Monday 23rd February.

[Adjourned at 7.38 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(2) Council Tax (Discount Disregards) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 294), and
dated 11th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

2 Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of the British Railways Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Welsh Development Agency,—Direction, dated 18th February 1998, given by the Secretary of State for Wales to the Welsh Development Agency [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ann Winterton and Mr Andrew Welsh Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft London Docklands Development Corporation (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998 and Urban Development Corporations in England (Area and Constitution) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order and Order.

Grand Committees

3 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 26th February.

4 Scottish Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Edinburgh on Monday 2nd March.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 19th February [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 19th February [EU Employment Issues]; to be printed [No. 391-ii] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Home Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1996-97, on Freemasonry in the police and the judiciary]; to be printed [No. 577]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 19th February [Freemasonry in the police and the judiciary]; to be printed [No. 578-i]

[Mr Chris Mullin].

4 Treasury,—(1) Third Report from the Treasury Committee [Confirmation Hearings]; to be printed with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Treasury Committee relating to the Report [No. 571]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 17th and 19th February [The Bank of England February Inflation Report]; to be printed [Nos. 572-i and ii]

[Mr Giles Radice].

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

PRAYERS.

1 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 Act, agreed upon by both Houses:


2 Scotland Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [13th January], that the Order [13th January] relating to Scotland Bill (Programme) be amended by inserting, after paragraph 1, the following paragraph—

'1A. On the fifth allotted day paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for one hour after Ten o'clock'—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

3 Scotland Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), that the further Report [19th February] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, that this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

4 Scotland Bill (Committee) [5th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 69 (Power to fix basic rate for Scottish taxpayers).

Amendment (No. 352) proposed, in page 29, line 7, after the word 'Scottish' to insert the word 'income'.—(Mr Michael Ancrani.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 356) proposed, in page 29, line 23, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3A) The income mentioned in subsection (3) to which section 1A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 applied for that year shall also be treated as income of that kind even where the tax-payers' total income from all sources exceeds £25,500 in that year.

(3B) The income referred to in subsection (2) does not include income from any annuity purchased from a pension fund.'—(Mr Oliver Heald.)

Question put, that the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr James Cran: 130.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 339.

It being after Seven o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [this day], put the Question necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 69.

Clause (No. 69) agreed to.

Clause No. 70 (Supplemental provision with respect to resolutions).

Amendment (No. 408) proposed, in page 30, line 26, to leave out the word 'tax-varying' and insert the word 'tax-increasing', instead thereof.—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

Question proposed, that the Amendment be made;

And it being a quarter to Eight o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 70.

Question, that the Amendment (No. 408) be made, put and negatived.

Clause (No. 70) agreed to.

Clause No. 71 (Scottish taxpayers).
Amendment (No. 344) proposed, in page 30, line 32, to leave out the words 'year of assessment' and insert the words 'complete year of assessment following the passing of this Act', instead thereof. (Mr John Swinney.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being a quarter to Nine o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 71.

Question put, That the Amendment (No. 344) be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Donald Gorrie: 32.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 307.

Clause (No. 71) agreed to.

Clause No. 72 (Changes to income tax structure).

Amendment (No. 381) proposed, in page 31, line 31, to leave out from the word 'Board' to the word 'and' in line 33. (Dr Liam Fox).

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

Another Amendment (No. 390) proposed, in page 32, to leave out lines 9 to 17. (Dr Liam Fox.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Stephen Day: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 328.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 73 (Accounting for additional Scottish tax).

Amendment (No. 399) proposed, in page 32, line 35, at the end, to insert the words 'provided that all costs incurred by the Board and the Inland Revenue in collecting such amounts shall be defrayed from the Scottish Consolidated Fund'. (Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 74 and 75 agreed to.

It being Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of Clauses Nos. 76 to 80.

Clauses Nos. 76 to 80 agreed to.

Clause No. 81 (Scottish representation at Westminster).

Amendment (No. 258) proposed, in page 37, line 32, to leave out from the word 'is' to the end of line 33 and insert the words '120 per cent. of the electoral quota for England', instead thereof. (Dr Liam Fox.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Eleven o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [this day], left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr David Clelland reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

5 Court of Auditors' Report for 1996.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of Official Journal No. C348 of 18th November 1997, the Annual Report and Statements of Assurance of the European Court of Auditors concerning the financial year 1996, on activities financed from the general budget and of the sixth and seventh European Development Funds, together with the Institutions' replies; and of European Commission Document No. SEM 2000/3(97) Doc. 5, the SEM 2000 Stage III Second Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Personal Representatives Group on Sound Financial Management; endorses the Government's determination to ensure that taxpayers' money is spent efficiently and effectively in the
EC budget; and welcomes the priority which the current British Presidency of the EU is giving to this subject—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

6 Local Government Finance. A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 28): Persons from Abroad Children’s Grant (HC 478), which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

7 Local Government Finance. A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 29): Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (HC 479), which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

8 Local Government Finance. A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 30): Asylum Seekers’ Accommodation (HC 480), which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

9 Local Government Finance (Scotland). A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and Children of Asylum Seekers (No. 98/4) (HC 491), which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

10 Local Government Finance (Scotland). A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report for Adult Asylum Seekers’ Assistance (No. 98/3) (HC 490), which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

11 Local Government Finance (Wales). A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (Wales) (HC 457), which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

12 Modernisation of the House of Commons. Ordered, That Mr Joe Ashton be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr Stephen Twigg be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Clelland.)

13 Deregulation. Ordered, That Mr Oliver Letwin be added to the Deregulation Committee.—(Mr David Clelland.)

14 Adjournment. Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Twelve o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 20th February 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):  

1 British Council. —Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute, dated 20th February 1998, concerning the indemnification of works of art lent to the British Council for exhibitions to be held in a number of overseas locations during the first half of the financial year 1998–99 [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 23rd February 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

(2) draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines) Order 1998, and  
[bylet] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
3 Referendum (London).—Draft Greater London Authority (Referendum) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Council Tax (Scotland).—(1) Council Tax (Discounts) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 341), and
   dated 12th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


7 Plant Health.—Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 349), dated 23rd February 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

8 Arts Councils.—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Arts Council of Wales for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Davies].

9 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme [by Act]; to be printed [No. 556] [Clerk of the House].

10 Northern Ireland.—(1) Draft Code of Conduct under section 3 of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 providing guidance to persons organising a public procession or protest meeting and regulating the conduct of persons organising or taking part in a public procession or protest meeting,
    (2) draft Guidelines under section 5 of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 explaining the factors to be taken into account by the Parades Commission in reaching decisions on whether to issue determinations which impose conditions on parades, and
    (3) draft Procedural Rules under section 4 of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 for the exercise of the functions of the Parades Commission [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


12 Planning.—Paper, entitled Planning for the Communities of the Future [by Command] [Cm. 3885] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Statistics of Trade, Production and Construction Inquiries: Summary Volume 1995 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.]

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee B).

2 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E (transferred from Standing Committee D).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Child Support Agency: Client Funds Account 1996–97]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 313]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 23rd February [The Private Finance Initiative: The First Four Design, Build, Finance and Operate Roads Contracts]; to be printed [No. 580–i]

   [Mr David Davis].

2 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 23rd February [The Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 447–iii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 125.]

Tuesday 24th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords]:

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 3rd March.

2 Government of Wales 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 Government of Wales Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

   That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 19th January be varied so that—

   (a) the sixth and seventh days allotted under the Order [15th January] to proceedings in Committee shall be allotted in the manner shown in the following table, and

   (b) each part of the proceedings in Committee on those days shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in relation to that part of the proceedings in the third column of the table.

   TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings in Committee</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sixth day</td>
<td>Amendments to subsection (2) of Clause 118 beginning before line 11 on page 56 of the Bill</td>
<td>6.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Other amendments to subsection (2) of Clause 118</td>
<td>7.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 118, so far as not disposed of</td>
<td>8.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 119, Schedule 9, Clause 120, Schedule 10, Clause 121, Schedule 11, Clauses 122 to 131</td>
<td>9.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Clause 132, Schedule 12, Clauses 133 to 136, Schedule 13, Clauses 137 to 140</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Seventh day</td>
<td>New Clauses standing in the name of Mr Secretary Davies and New Clauses 1 to 13</td>
<td>6.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>New Clause 14</td>
<td>6.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>New Clauses 15 to 21</td>
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<td>New Clauses 22 to 30</td>
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<td>New Clauses 31 to 34</td>
<td>9.35 p.m.</td>
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<td>New Clause 35</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>New Clause 36</td>
<td>10.30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Remaining proceedings</td>
<td>11.00 p.m.</td>
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3 Regional Development Agencies Bill.—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Regional Development Agencies Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 127].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 581].

4 Voluntary Personal Security Cards.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for a system of voluntary personal security cards; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Amess, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Nick Hawkins, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Richard Spring, Miss Ann Widdecombe and Mrs Ann Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

5 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill.—Mr David Amess accordingly presented a Bill to provide for a system of voluntary personal security cards; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th March and to be printed [Bill 126].

6 European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Committee).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the European Parliamentary Elections Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Number of MEPs, electoral regions and electoral system).

Amendment (No. 46) proposed, in page 1, line 8, after the word ‘Kingdom’ to insert the words ‘and Gibraltar’.—(Sir Brian Mawhinney.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Stephen Day: 183.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 315.

Another Amendment (No. 48) proposed, in page 1, line 12, to leave out the word ‘nine’ and insert the word ‘eighteen’.—(Mr John Greenway.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Drew: 345.

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 Jane Kennedy reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy); 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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance.—Special Grant Report (No. 33): Community Care Special Grants for 1998-99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 534] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

2 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism.—Draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Partial Continuance) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Other Papers:

3 National Health Service,—(1) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 20th February 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the Southampton Community Health Services National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson]; and

(2) Treasury Minute concerning the remission of outstanding debt consequent on dissolution and reconfiguration of certain National Health Service Trusts [by Command] [Mr Alistair Darling].

4 Statistics,—Paper, entitled Statistics a Matter of Trust: A Consultation Document [by Command] [Cm. 3882] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 24th February [The Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 547-ii] [Mr John Horam].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 24th February [The Future for Allotments]; to be printed [No. 560-ii];

(2) Memoranda laid before the Sub-Committee [The Future for Allotments]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Sub-Committee [Sustainable Waste Management] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 24th February [Iraq]; to be printed [No. 582-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 24th February; to be printed [No. 401-vii] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-Fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 24th February [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503-iv] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 126.]


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 David Jamieson);

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

2 Tyne Tunnels Bill,—The Tyne Tunnels Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Consolidation, etc., Bills,—Mr Laurence Robertson reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, etc., Bills, to which the Audit Commission Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, was referred, That it had gone through the Bill, and made an Amendment thereunto; 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 25th February.

Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 591-I].

Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 591-II].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 591-II].
4 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 6th March; and to be printed [Bill 131].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 595].

5 International Bribery and Corruption,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create offences of international bribery and corruption; and for connected purposes—(Mr Hugh Bayley);

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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to,

Ordered. That Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Maria Fyfe, Mr Peter L. Pike, Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Charles Clarke, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Dr Ashok Kumar, Helen Jackson, Mr Malcolm Wicks and Ms Rosie Winterton do prepare and bring in the Bill.

6 International Bribery and Corruption Bill,—Mr Hugh Bayley accordingly presented a Bill to create offences of international bribery and corruption; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 128].

7 Government of Wales Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [15th January], That paragraph 1(1) of the Order [15th January] relating to Government of Wales Bill (Programme) be amended by substituting for the words “Ten o’clock on the seventh day” the words “Eleven o’clock on the seventh day; and on that day paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for one hour after Ten o’clock.”—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

Ordered. That paragraph 1(1) of the Order [15th January] relating to Government of Wales Bill (Programme) be amended by substituting for the words “Ten o’clock on the seventh day” the words “Eleven o’clock on the seventh day; and on that day paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for one hour after Ten o’clock.”—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

8 Government of Wales Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the further Report [24th February] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

9 Government of Wales Bill (Committee) [6th allotted day],—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 118 (Extension of functions of the Welsh Development Agency).

Amendment (No. 374) proposed, in page 56, to leave out lines 9 to 13.—(Mr Denzil Davies.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 517) proposed, in page 56, line 11, to leave out from the word ‘Wales’ to the first word ‘and’ insert the words ‘leave out “economic” and insert “sustainable economic, environmental”’, instead thereof.-(Mr Cynog Dafis.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 520) proposed, in page 56, line 13, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2A) After subsection (2) there shall be inserted—

“(2A) The Agency shall establish a department with the responsibility of drawing up and ensuring the implementation of policies in furtherance of the purposes set out in subsection (2) appropriate to rural areas.”’—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

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

And it being half-past Eight o’clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [this day], put the Question necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 118.

Clause (No. 118) agreed to.
Clause No. 119 agreed to.
Schedule No. 9 agreed to.
Clause No. 120 agreed to.
Schedule No. 10 agreed to.
Clause No. 121 agreed to.
Schedule No. 11 (Development Board for Rural Wales).
Amendment (No. 490) made.
Schedule, as amended, agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 122 to 124 agreed to.
Clause No. 125 (Abolition etc. of the Development Board for Rural Wales).
Amendment (No. 274) proposed, in page 59, to leave out lines 18 to 20.—(Mr Dafydd Wigley.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;
And it being Nine o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 125 to 131.
Question, That the Amendment (No. 274) be made, put and negatived.
Clause (No. 125) agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 126 to 131 agreed to.
Clause No. 132 agreed to.
Schedule No. 13 (Audit etc. of Welsh public bodies).
Amendment (No. 510) proposed, in page 118, line 20, at the end, to insert the words—
12. The Arts Council for Wales.
13. The Sports Council for Wales.—(Mr Tinn Collins.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Schedule agreed to.
It being Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of Clauses Nos. 137 to 140.
Clauses Nos. 137 to 140 agreed to.
It being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr David Jamieson reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

10. Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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 twenty-nine minutes to Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.31 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—Draft International Development Association (Eleventh Replenishment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

4 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 588] [Clerk of the House].

5 Education and Employment,—Paper, entitled The Learning Age: a renaissance for a new Britain [by Command] [Cm. 3790] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Reform of Customs Transit in the European Community [by Act]; to be printed [No. 566] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 23rd February 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the Severn National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the First to Fourth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 3880] [Dawn Primarolo].

9 Registration Service,—Mortality Statistics for England and Wales by Cause for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fireworks Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Fireworks Bill to Standing Committee A (transferred from Standing Committee C).

2 Pesticides Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

3 Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Tony Wright from the Committee and appointed in substitution Mr David Lock.

4 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

5 Draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules) Order 1998, draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines) Order 1998, and draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders, viz: Mr Jim Dowd, Maria Eagle, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Adam Ingram, Ms Fiona Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Ms Chris McCafferty, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr William Ross, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr William Thompson, Mr Robert Walter and Mr Charles Wardle.

6 Draft Local Authorities (Transport Charges) Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Tom Brake,
Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Alan Hurst, Glenda Jackson, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Page, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Peter L. Pike and Mrs Betty Williams.

7 Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat (HC No. 549).—The Speaker has allocated the Report to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.

8 Draft Greater London Authority (Referendum) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Paul Burstow, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Harry Cohen, Tom Cox, Mr Geraint Davies, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Keith Hill, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mr Simon Hughes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Andy Love, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Brian Sedgemore.

European Standing Committees

9 European Community Documents Nos. 5140/98, relating to renewable sources of energy: White Paper, and 5562/98, relating to harmonisation of copyright, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Third Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Preservation of Historic Ships: The Case of HMS Cavalier], 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. 561]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Preservation of Historic Ships: The Case of HMS Cavalier]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Fourth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Relationship between TECs and the proposed Regional Development Agencies], 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. 265] [Mr Derek Foster];
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Relationship between TECs and the proposed Regional Development Agencies] [Mr Derek Foster]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 25th February [Further education]; to be printed [No. 264–ix] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 25th February [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation,—Eighteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155–xvii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 25th February [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

6 Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [NIAO Excess Votes]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 592];
   (2) Twenty-third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [NAO Excess Votes]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 593]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 25th February [Metropolitan Police Service: Management of Sickness Absence]; to be printed [No. 594-i] [Mr David Davis]
PRAYERS.

1 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords] 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. 596].

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, referred to it on 16th February, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 430].


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

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

   Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision with respect to interest on the late payment of certain debts arising under commercial contracts for the supply of goods or services; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 132].

6 European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Committee).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the European Parliamentary Elections Bill.

   (In the Committee)

   Clause No. 1 (Number of MEPs, electoral regions and electoral system).

   Another Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 1, line 24, to leave out from the word 'region' to the word 'shall' in line 29 on page 2.——[Mr David Trimble.]

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

   Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 1, line 25, to leave out from the word 'be' to the end of line 26 and insert the words 'an open regional list system.'
3A. An open regional list system is a system which complies with the following requirements, namely—

(a) each electoral region shall be divided into a number of constituencies equal to the number of MEPs to be elected for that region in accordance with subsection 2(4) above and Schedule 1;

(b) each candidate shall nominate on the ballot paper one constituency in the relevant region which he will represent, if elected;

(c) in the event of the same constituency being nominated by more than one successful candidate, the candidate elected first shall represent his nominated constituency;

(d) successful candidates unable to represent their nominated constituency for the reason given in sub-paragraph (c) shall, in the order of their election, choose another constituency to represent, and;

(e) if an elected candidate has nominated a constituency which no candidate elected before him has nominated, he shall represent that constituency even if a candidate elected before him, whose own nominated constituency has been taken, seeks to choose it.’.—(Mr James Clappison.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr James Cran: 100.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 274.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 2, line 8, to leave out from the word ‘number’ to the end and insert ‘shown below.

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Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Adrian Sanders: 19.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 251.

Another Amendment (No. 10) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 22 to 24.—(Sir Brian Mawhinney.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 98.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Greg Pope: 267.

Amendments (Nos. 36, 37 and 29) made.

Another Amendment (No. 12) proposed, in page 3, line 41, after the word ‘State’ to insert the words ‘, provided that the poll shall always be held on Thursday.’.—(Sir Brian Mawhinney.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 95.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr David Jamieson: 223.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 3, line 43, at the end, to add the words—

‘3E.—(1) The Secretary of State shall by regulations prescribe the form of the ballot paper to be used at the poll for the election of representatives to the European Parliament.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the ballot paper shall include, separately from the list of candidates, a brief explanatory statement describing the
method of election and the procedure to be followed by each elector in casting his vote or votes.'—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Question put, the That Clause (No. 1), as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr David Jamieson: 210.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 94.

Clause No. 2 agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Amendments and repeals).

Amendments (Nos. 38 and 39) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 4 agreed to.

Clause No. 5 (Commencement).

Amendment (No. 16) proposed, in page 4, line 22, at the end, to add the words—

'(3) An order under subsection (1) shall not be made unless a draft thereof has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.'—(Sir Brian Mawhinney.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 93.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr David Jamieson: 215.

It being after Ten o’clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Jane Kennedy reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

7 Broadcasting,—Ordered, That Mr Mike Wood be discharged from the Select Committee on Broadcasting and Mr Barry Gardiner be added to the Committee.—(Jane Kennedy.)

8 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

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 twenty-one minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.39 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

4 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 26th February 1998, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1997–98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].
5 Defence (Votes A), 1997–98.—Supplementary estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 466] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Defence (Votes A), 1998–99.—Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 473] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

7 Environmental Protection,—Local Enforcing Authorities Air Pollution Fees and Charges Scheme (England and Wales) 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


9 Public Lending Right,—Report by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Public Lending Right Scheme for 1996–97, incorporating the Registrar’s Annual Review and Summary Financial Statement of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

10 Supply Estimates, 1996–97,—Statement of the sums required to be voted in order to make good excesses on certain grants for 1996–97 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 554] [Dawn Primarolo].

11 Supply Estimates, 1997–98,—Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 511] [Dawn Primarolo].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Public Interest Disclosure Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Public Interest Disclosure Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee C).


Grand Committees

3 Scottish Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams an additional Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Edinburgh on Monday 2nd March.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 26th February [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520-v] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 26th February [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503-v] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 128.]

Friday 27th February 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill,—Ordered, That the Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

2 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Moray for a day hospice was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
3 Adjournment (Government's Priorities for Women).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, with the Question negat.

4 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 5th March, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), the Speaker shall put the Question on the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Straw relating to Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism not later than three hours after the start of proceedings thereon; and the said Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o'clock.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 2nd March.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Rating and Valuation,—Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(2) Devon (Coroners) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 355),


(8) Peterborough (Coroners) Order 1998, (S.I., 1998, No. 362), and


dated 19th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


Other Papers:

7 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the Second Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Millennium Dome [by Command] [Cm. 3886] [Mr Peter Mandelson].
Monday 2nd March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

2 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

3 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

4 Government of Wales Bill (Committee) [7th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill.

(In the Committee)

A Clause (Forestry Commissioners’ finances)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

Another Clause (Sustainable development)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

Another Clause (Abolition of Residuary Body for Wales)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

Another Clause (Documentary evidence)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

A Clause (Private and local legislation)—(Mr Dafydd Wigley)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Power to conduct referenda)—(Mr Cynog Dafis)—brought up and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Advice from United Kingdom government staff)—(Mr Dafydd Wigley)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Consultation with businesses)—(Ms Jackie Lawrence)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Decisions affecting vital interests of a region)—(Mr Michael Ancram)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 144.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr David Jamieson: 271.

Another Clause (Equal opportunities (Welsh public bodies))—(Ms Julie Morgan)—brought up, and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Treasury consent (local government expenditure and council tax))—(Mr Bernard Jenkin)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Assembly to be subject to investigation by Parliamentary Commissioners)—(Mr Bernard Jenkin)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Candidatures)—(Mr Michael Ancram)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Rights of Members of the House of Commons representing parliamentary constituencies in Wales)—(Mr Bernard Jenkin)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Role of Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments)—(Mr Bernard Jenkin)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

A Schedule (Forestry Commissioners)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

Clauses Nos. 141 and 142 agreed to.

Schedule No. 14 (Repeals).

Amendments (Nos. 491, 492 and 515) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 143 agreed to.

Clause No. 144 (Orders and directions).

Amendment (No. 513) proposed, in page 67, line 6, to leave out from the word 'applies' to the end of line 27 and insert the words 'to all orders under this Act', instead thereof.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 542 to 544) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 145 (Interpretation).

Amendment (No. 516) proposed, in page 67, line 41, after the word 'Treasury', to insert the words—

"Secretary of State" means the Secretary of State for Wales.'.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 146 agreed to.

It being Eleven o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [25th February], put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings in Committee.

Clauses Nos. 147 to 149 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jon Owen Jones reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Committee, to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 129.]
5 Home Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Douglas Hogg be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee and Mr Nick Hawkins be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Scottish Affairs,—Ordered, That Rosemary McKenna be discharged from the Scottish Affairs Committee and Ms Sandra Osborne be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Treasury,—Ordered, That Mr Tony Colman be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr David Kidney be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Twelve o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Sugar,—Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 468), dated 27th February 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:

4 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. 574] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 Law Commission,—Report of the Law Commission on Legislating the Criminal Code: Corruption [by Act]; to be printed [No. 524] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

6 Miscellaneous (No. 1, 1998),—European Charter of Local Self-Government, done at Strasbourg on 15th October 1985 [by Command] [Cm. 3884] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Monitoring and Control of Tax Exemptions for Charities [by Act]; to be printed [No. 575] [Clerk of the House].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Scotland on the Petition [20th January] from residents of Glenelg and Armadale communities in support of the Glenelg-Kylerhlea ferry service [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson an additional Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

2 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E (transferred from Standing Committee C).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Third Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Carry-over of Public Bills], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 543] [Mrs Ann Taylor].
2 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Department for Education and Employment; Remploy Limited]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 339]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 2nd March [The Sale of the Stationery Office]; to be printed [No. 599-i]

[Mr David Davis].

[No. 130.]

Tuesday 3rd March 1998.

The House met at half-past Two o'clock

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 10th March.

2 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:
That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 18th December, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

3 School Standards and Framework Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the School Standards and Framework Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
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. 605].

4 Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords],—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 134].
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 604].

5 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords],—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) 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. 603].

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

7 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Anna Winterton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Greater London Authority (Referendum) Order 1998.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 Religious Discrimination and Remedies,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to render unlawful religious discrimination in employment and in the provision of certain types of goods, facilities and services and to make provision for appropriate enforcement; to create new offences relating to incitement to religious hatred; and for related purposes: And that Mr John Austin, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Simon Hughes, Fiona MacTaggart, Mr Terry Rooney and Mr Marsha Singh do prepare and bring it in.

9 Religious Discrimination and Remedies,—Mr John Austin accordingly presented a Bill to render unlawful religious discrimination in employment and in the provision of certain
types of goods, facilities and services and to make provision for appropriate enforcement; to create new offences relating to incitement to religious hatred; and for related purposes:

And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 133].

10 Opposition Day [8th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

ISAs, TESSAs and PEPs.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House welcomes the success of TESSAs and PEPs in extending popular saving and deplores the Government's proposal to abolish them and replace them with Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs); condemns the retrospective taxation of the most prudent savers who have accumulated more than £50,000; believes that ISAs will involve high administrative costs, especially because of the unnecessary and unfair lifetime limit on tax-free saving; and urges the Government to bring forward new proposals that would not involve retrospective taxation, would build on PEPs and TESSAs, would reduce the costs of administering the schemes and would not involve a lifetime limit on the amount that may be invested—(Mr Peter Lilley);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end and add the words ‘welcomes the Government's commitment, set out in the pre-Budget report, to consult on tax proposals, including the proposed ISA; believes that the ISA will extend the opportunity to save and invest and that the Government's proposals will ensure a stable and fair savings environment; commends the Government for its commitment to long-term economic stability and low inflation which is good for savers; and rejects any return to the boom and bust policies of the past which were so damaging to those on low incomes, savers and investors’, instead thereof—(Mr Alistair Darling.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr John M. Taylor: 142.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr John McFall: 320*.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 welcomes the Government’s commitment, set out in the pre-Budget report, to consult on tax proposals, including the proposed ISA; believes that the ISA will extend the opportunity to save and invest and that the Government’s proposals will ensure a stable and fair savings environment; commends the Government for its commitment to long-term economic stability and low inflation which is good for savers; and rejects any return to the boom and bust policies of the past which were so damaging to those on low incomes, savers and investors.

Listening to the Countryside.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House recognises the concern of those marching in London on 1st March that the voice of the countryside should be listened to by all politicians but regrets the attempts by non-attending Agriculture Ministers to undermine the credentials of the march with claims of it being hijacked by political and overseas interests; calls upon Her Majesty's Government, in acknowledging that a viable agricultural industry lies at the heart of a successful rural economy, to recognise properly the fears and concerns of farmers over dramatically falling farm incomes, rising levels of food imports, the continued imposition of the beef ban, the introduction of the Minimum Wage, the Working Time Directive and Agenda 2000, by now making a clear statement of how it proposes to address these concerns; deplores the threat to life in rural Britain resulting from a revenue support grant settlement which has removed resources from rural local authorities; and calls upon the Government not only to strengthen the protection for the countryside while encouraging the renewal of towns and cities, but also to respect the patterns and fabric of rural life by removing the threat to land owners of a statutory right of access—(Mr Michael Jack);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end and add the words ‘condemns the previous administration for its persistent neglect of the countryside over the past eighteen years which resulted in rural unemployment and deprivation and the collapse of the rural transport system; and

* Mr Graham Allen and Mr John M. Taylor, Tellers in the Division, later came to the Table and stated that they had erroneously reported the number of the Noes as 329, instead of 320 which was the correct number. Whereupon the Deputy Speaker directed the Clerk to correct the number in the Journal accordingly, viz.: Ayes 142, Noes 320.
congratulates the Government on its emphatic commitment to comprehensive countryside policies, to reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, to successful, sustainable United Kingdom agriculture, and on its vision for a countryside that is strong, fair and modern, with a programme for social justice, inclusiveness, welfare reform, improving services, the national minimum wage, education and skills which will ensure prosperity for all in rural areas as well as in the towns', instead thereof. (Dr John Cunningham.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question.

Mr James Arbuthnot 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 John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 131.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Graham Allen: 321.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Graham Allen: 265.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 163.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House condemns the previous administration for its persistent neglect of the countryside over the past eighteen years which resulted in rural unemployment and deprivation and the collapse of the rural transport system; and congratulates the Government on its emphatic commitment to comprehensive countryside policies, to reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, to successful, sustainable United Kingdom agriculture, and on its vision for a countryside that is strong, fair and modern, with a programme for social justice, inclusiveness, welfare reform, improving services, the national minimum wage, education and skills which will ensure prosperity for all in rural areas as well as in the towns.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

5 BSE Inquiry,—Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Lord Justice Phillips, the members of his Committee, Counsel to the Inquiry and the Inquiry Secretariat [by Command] [Dr John Cunningham].

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Privatisation of the Rolling Stock Leasing Companies [by Act]; to be printed [No. 576] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) First Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee, on the MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1997?]; to be printed [No. 602];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 3rd March [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331–viii]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Food safety]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation,—Third Report from the Deregulation Committee, [Proposal for the Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 601] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 3rd March [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484–v]
   [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 3rd March [Alternatives to Prison Sentences]; to be printed [No. 486–iv] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 3rd March [Your Right to Know: The Government’s proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 398–v] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

6 Statutory Instruments,—(1) Twenty-fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; and
   (2) Second Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee;
   to be printed [Nos. 33–xxv and 34–ii] [Mr William Ross].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 3rd March [The Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 447–iv] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 131.]

Wednesday 4th March 1998.

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—(Jane Kennedy);
   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 Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Order of the House to resolve itself, on Friday 6th March, into a Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill was read and discharged.
   Committee on Friday 20th March.
3 Pesticides Bill.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Pesticides Bill, and directed her to report the same, without Amendment. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 606].

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Authorities (Transport Charges) Regulations 1998. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Welfare of Broiler Chickens.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to protect the health and welfare of broiler chickens kept in indoor husbandry systems: And that Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Chris Mullin, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Harry Cohen, Angela Smith, Mr Terry Lewis, Sir Richard Body, Mr Roger Gale and Mr Nigel Jones do prepare and bring it in.

6 Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill.—Mr Bill Etherington accordingly presented a Bill to protect the health and welfare of broiler chickens kept in indoor husbandry systems: And the same was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th March and to be printed [Bill 136].

7 Scotland Bill (Committee) [6th allotted day],—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 81 (Scottish representation at Westminster).

Amendment (No. 258) proposed, in page 37, line 32, to leave out from the word 'is' to the end of line 33 and insert the words '120 per cent. of the electoral quota for England'. Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made; And it being half-past Five o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [23rd February], put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 81 and 82.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 258) be made, put and negatived. Clause (No. 81) agreed to.

Clause No. 82 agreed to.

Clause No. 83 (Cross-border public bodies: initial status).

Amendment (No. 96) proposed, in page 38, line 25, after the word 'enactment' to insert the words 'or by Royal Charter.' (Ms Roseanna Cunningham.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made; And it being Eight o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clause No. 83. Question put, That the Amendment (No. 96) be made. The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mr John Swinney: 42.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Kevin Hughes: 287.

Clause (No. 83) agreed to.

Clause No. 84 (Power to adopt cross-border public bodies).

Amendment (No. 461) proposed, in page 38, to leave out lines 32 to 35.-(Dr Liam Fox.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn. Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 85 agreed to.

Clause No. 86 (Maladministration).

Amendment (No. 410) proposed, in page 39, line 34, to leave out the words 'to its members.'—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 87 and 88 agreed to.

Clause No. 89 (Appointment and removal of judges).

Amendment (No. 266) proposed, in page 40, line 35, after '(1)', to insert the words 'Subject to subsection (3).—(Mr Menzies Campbell.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 90 and 91 agreed to.

Schedule No. 6 (Devolution issues).

Amendment (No. 438) proposed, in page 79, line 20, to leave out from the word 'Committee' to the end of line 21.—(Dr Liam Fox.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being a quarter to Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Schedule No. 6 and Clauses Nos. 92 and 93.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 438) be made, put and negatived.

Schedule (No. 6) agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 92 and 93 agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 94 to 100 agreed to.

Clause No. 101 (Subordinate legislation: procedure).

Amendment (No. 39) proposed, in page 44, line 23, after '29', to insert '33,'.—(Mr. A. J. Beith.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Ten o'clock, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings on Clauses Nos. 101 to 109.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 39) be made, put and negatived.

Amendments (Nos. 306, 330, 232, 331 and 308) made.

Clause (No. 101), as amended, agreed to.

Clauses (Nos. 102 to 109) agreed to.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report progress and to ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

8 Referendum (London).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Greater London Authority (Referendum) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from members of the General Synod of the Church of England for classification of churches as public bodies was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—(1) Draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998,
   (2) draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998,
   (3) draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998, and
   (4) draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment Regulations 1998
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Pensions,—(1) Draft Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998, and
   (2) draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Contracted-out Schemes) Order 1998
   [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

   (2) Gaming (Bingo) Act (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 454), and
   (3) Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 455),
   dated 24th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Local Government,—(1) Berkshire County Council (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 450),
   (2) Cambridgeshire County Council (City of Peterborough) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 443),
   (3) Cheshire County Council (Boroughs of Halton and Warrington) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 446),
   (4) Devon County Council (City of Plymouth and Borough of Torbay) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 451),
   (5) Essex County Council (Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 442),
   (6) Hereford and Worcester (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 444),
   (7) Kent County Council (Borough of Gillingham and City of Rochester upon Medway) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 449),
   (8) Lancashire County Council (Boroughs of Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 445),
   (9) Nottinghamshire County Council (City of Nottingham) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 447), and
   (10) Shropshire County Council (District of The Wrekin) (Staff Transfer) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 448),
   dated 25th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rates (Levying) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 519), dated 27th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Sea Fisheries,—(1) Draft Devon Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 1998,
   (2) draft Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 1998, and
   (3) draft Sussex Sea Fisheries District (Constitution of Committee and Expenses) (Variation) Order 1998
   [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].
Other Papers:

8 Pensions,—Reports by the Government Actuary and the Secretary of State for Social Security in accordance with sections 42B(1) and 45A(1) of the Pensions Schemes Act 1993 on the draft Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998, and the draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Contracted-out Schemes) Order 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 3888] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Paper withdrawn:

9 Social Security,—Draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998 [laid 3rd March].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fireworks Bill:

   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Evan Harris from the Committee, and appointed in substitution Norman Baker.

2 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Nick Raynsford from Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, and appointed in substitution Hilary Armstrong.

3 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

4 Public Interest Disclosure Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

5 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

6 Draft Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Frank Doran, Lorna Fitzsimons, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr James Gray, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr John Healey, Lynne Jones, Mr Ian McCartney, Siobhain McDonagh and Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews.

7 Draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr John Gunning, Mr Adam Ingram, Mr Ken Magennis, Gillian Merron, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Archie Norman, Mr William Ross, Joan Ryan, Miss Geraldine Smith, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Phil Woolas and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

8 Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat (HC No. 549):

   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Report; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Denzil Davies, Mr David Faber, Mr Andrew George, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Marsha Singh, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Dr Jenny Tonge and Mr Bowen Wells.
9. Animal Health (Amendment) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee C).

10. Waste Minimisation Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A (transferred from Standing Committee C).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th March [Further education]; to be printed [No. 264-x] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

2. Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Third Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway 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. 286] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 4th March 1998 [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 4th March [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3. European Legislation,—(1) Nineteenth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xix]; and

(2) Twentieth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation [Scrutiny of the EC Budget]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xx] [Mr Jim Marshall].

4. Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Fourth Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Conduct in the Chamber]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 600] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

5. Public Accounts,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 4th March [Construction of the Southampton Oceanography Centre]; to be printed [No. 608-i]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee of Public Accounts [Aid for the Purchase of Helicopters] [Mr David Davis].

6. Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 4th March [The Year 2000 and Computer Compliance]; to be printed [No. 342-vi] [Dr Michael Clark].

7. Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 4th March [The Work of the Scottish Arts Council]; to be printed [No. 442-ii] [Mr David Marshall].

8. Social Security,—(1) Third Report from the Social Security Committee [Tax and Benefits: Pre-Budget Report], 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. 423]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Social Security Committee [Tax and Benefits: Pre-Budget Report] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].
Thursday 5th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Liaison,—Mr Robert Sheldon reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report that it had chosen the Second to Fifth Reports from the Health Committee, Session 1996–97, relating to Children’s Health, and the Third Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation to be debated on Wednesday 25th March, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

2 School Absenteeism Bill,—Ordered, That the School Absenteeism Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

3 Ports of Entry (Special Status) Bill,—Mr Gwyn Prosser, supported by Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Ivan Henderson, Laura Moffatt, Mr Derek Wyatt, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Robert Syms, Mrs Louise Ellman, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr Norman Baker, presented a Bill to make provision for special status for ports of entry to the United Kingdom so far as the law affecting local government and policing is concerned; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 137].

4 Recycled Content of Newsprint Bill,—Mr David Chaytor, supported by Mrs Helen Brinton, John Austin, Mr David Lepper, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Norman Baker, Mr Matthew Taylor, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Cynog Dafis and the Reverend Martin Smyth, presented a Bill to increase the amount of recycled paper used in newsprint in the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 138].

5 European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Committee),—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the European Parliamentary Elections Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 5 and 6 agreed to.

A Clause (Conduct of elections (training of election staff) )—(Mr James Clappison)—brought up, and read the first time.

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


Amendment (No. 59) proposed, in page 6, line 6, to leave out ‘6’ and insert ‘7’. (Mr John Greenway.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 30 to 32) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 2 (Minor and consequential amendments of Schedule 1 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978).

Amendments (Nos. 33 to 35) made.

Amendment (No. 17) proposed, in page 8, line 31, to leave out the word ‘may’ and insert the word ‘shall’. (Mr James Clappison.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 40 to 42) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 3 (Minor and consequential amendments).

Amendment (No. 43) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 4 (Repeals).
Amendment (No. 44) made.
Schedule, as amended, agreed to.
Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Graham Allen reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
Bill, as amended in the Committee, to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 130].

6 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Resolved, That the draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Partial Continuance) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty nine minutes to Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
[Adjourned at 9.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Telecom Ireland Limited) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 509), and
dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

7 Defence Diversification,—Paper, entitled Defence Diversification: Getting the most out of defence technology [by Command] [Cm. 3861] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Greenwich Hospital,—Accounts of the Greenwich Hospital and Travers Foundation for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 609] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

9 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 567] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
10 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—

(1) LCI Telecom UK Limited,
(2) Primetec (UK) Limited,
(3) Sonic Telecommunications International Limited,
(4) Telecom Ireland Limited, and
(5) Telegroup UK Limited

[by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A (transferred from Standing Committee C).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 5th March [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520-vi] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 4th March [Lessons of the Chinook crash on the Mull of Kintyre]; to be printed [No. 611] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 5th March [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environmental Audit.—First Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Pre-Budget Report], 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. 547] [Mr John Horam].

5 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 5th March [Relationship Between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

6 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 5th March [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503-vi] [Mr Malcolm Bruce].

[No. 133.]

Friday 6th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from

(1) the ‘Wealden one hundred’ for recognition of country-dwellers’ concerns; and
(2) residents living in the vicinity of Shooters Hill Fire Station against the closure of that Fire Station

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Fox control in national parks)—(Mr Dale Campbell-Savours)—brought up, and read the first time.
And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

Mr Andrew F. Bennett 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.

Mr Kevin McNamara 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.

Mr Andrew F. Bennett 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;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Neil Gerrard: 186.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 60.

And the Question being accordingly put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 64.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr John Heppell: 187.

Another Clause (Power to amend)—(Mr Peter Luff)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Mr Andrew F. Bennett 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.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 13th March.

3 Welfare of Pigs Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Welfare of Pigs Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

4 Hare Coursing Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July,

5 Police Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 13th February, That the Police Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 8th May.

6 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

7 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 13th March.

8 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

9 Water Industry (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Water Industry (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.
10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday next.

[Adjourned at 3.00 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Coroners,—(1) Berkshire (Coroners) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 466), and


dated 26th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


4 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Members’ Allowances) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 557), dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 National Assistance Services,—(1) National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 497), and

(2) National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 498),

dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 491), dated 26th February 1998,

(2) National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 490), dated 27th February 1998, and


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


(2) Secure Training Centre Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 472), and


dated 27th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committee

Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E (transferred from Standing Committee C).
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

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

Competition Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision about competition and the abuse of a dominant position in the market; to confer powers in relation to investigations conducted in connection with Article 85 or 86 of the Treaty establishing the European Community; to amend the Fair Trading Act 1973 in relation to information which may be required in connection with investigations under that Act; to make provision with respect to the meaning of “supply of services” in the Fair Trading Act 1973; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Competition Bill [Lords].—The Competition Bill [Lords] was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 140].

3 Home Zones Bill.—Ordered, That the Home Zones Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

4 Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill.—Ordered, That the Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

5 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill.—Ordered, That the Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill be read a second time on Friday 13th March.

6 National Minimum Wage Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the National Minimum Wage Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Voluntary workers)—(Mr Ian McCartney)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Information obtained by officers)—(Mrs Barbara Roche)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Information obtained by agricultural wages officers)—(Mrs Barbara Roche)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Company directors)—(Mr Andrew Lansley)—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 M. Taylor, Sir David Madel: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Jim Dowd: 325.

It being after Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

7 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the National Minimum Wage Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

8 National Minimum Wage Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the National Minimum Wage Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (Power of Secretary of State to suspend the national minimum wage in the case of national or local economic emergencies)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

Tuesday 10th March 1998

Question put and negatived.

Another Clause (Operation of agricultural wages orders)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.
Another Clause (Financial Statement and Budget Report)\(^{(\text{Mr Tim Boswell})}\) brought up, and read the first time.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Amendment (No. 43) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 22, at the end, to insert the words—

'except that payment by an employer of pension contributions to a recognised pension fund on behalf of an employee shall be treated as part of a person's remuneration for the purposes of this Act.'—\(^{(\text{Mr Andrew Lansley})}\)

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

Amendments (Nos. 21 to 23) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 55) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 20, after the word 'regulations', to insert the words '(or where it seems appropriate to him any subsequent regulations)'.—\(^{(\text{Mr Tim Boswell})}\)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 28, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2) Regulations made under this section shall require employers to keep records in respect of—

(a) full-time workers;
(b) part-time workers;
(c) home workers;
(d) agency workers; and
(e) such other classes of worker as may be prescribed

and may impose different requirements in respect of different classes of worker.'—\(^{(\text{Mr David Chidgey})}\)

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

Another Amendment (No. 13) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 41) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 18, at the end, to insert the words—

'plus two per cent. above the prevailing Bank of England base rate.'—\(^{(\text{Mr John Bercow})}\)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 14 to 19, 5 to 8, 24, 25, 9, 10 and 26) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 45) proposed to the Bill, in page 19, line 1, to leave out the words 'any question arises' and insert the words 'an officer acting for the purposes of this Act makes a declaration, acting on the basis of his enquiries', instead thereof.—\(^{(\text{Mr Andrew Lansley})}\)

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

Another Amendment (No. 27) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 66) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 39, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3) The Secretary of State shall take all reasonable steps to ensure parity of treatment between those persons serving as members of the naval, military and air forces of the Crown and their civilian equivalents, and shall lay before both Houses of Parliament a report explaining the reasons for any disparity of treatment with such civilians.'—\(^{(\text{Mr Tim Boswell})}\)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 20 and 28) made to the Bill.
Another Amendment (No. 69) proposed to the Bill, in page 34, line 27, at the end, to insert the words—

'Disqualification by Scottish Parliament and National Assembly for Wales

6. A member of the Commission is disqualified from being—
(a) a member of the Scottish Parliament, or
(b) a member of the National Assembly for Wales.'—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 29, 11, 31, 36, 35, 37, 39, 30, 12, 34, 32 and 38) 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 Clive Betts, Mr Kevin Hughes: 214.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 124.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

9 Urban Development,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft London Docklands Development Corporation (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 21st January, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

10 Urban Development,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Urban Development Corporations in England (Area and Constitution) Order 1998, dated 19th January 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

11 Local Government,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Authorities (Transport Charges) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 9th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

12 Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary of State which are attributable to the Act—(Mr David Jamieson);

And it being three quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Graham Allen: 150.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 11.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary of State which are attributable to the Act.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes to Ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 9.53 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Referendum, — Draft Greater London Authority (Referendum) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Social Security, — Draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


5 Health and Safety, — Control of Lead at Work Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 543), dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


(4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (North American Gateway Limited) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 513), and


dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

8 Export Credits Guarantee Department, — Return, made under section 6 of the Export and Investment Guarantees Act 1991, of Commitments and Statutory Limits as at 31st March 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 Gift of Public Property, — Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 9th March 1998, concerning the gifting of vehicles to the HALO Trust [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

10 Law Commission, — Report of the Law Commission on Liability for Psychiatric Illness [by Act]; to be printed [No. 525] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

11 National Audit, — Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Water Pensions: Deficit in the Closed Fund [by Act]; to be printed [No. 590] [Clerk of the House].

12 National Health Service, — Accounts of the Public Health Laboratory Service Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 612] [Clerk of the House].

13 National Health Service, — Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 3rd March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—

(1) Bassetlaw Hospital and Community Services National Health Service Trust,

(2) Central Nottinghamshire Health Care National Health Service Trust,

(3) Community Health Care Services (North Derbyshire) National Health Service Trust,

(4) Community Health Services (Southern Derbyshire) National Health Service Trust,

(5) Cornwall Healthcare National Health Service Trust,

(6) Derby City General Hospital National Health Service Trust.
14 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—

(1) Atlantic Telecommunications Limited,
(2) Easynet Group Plc,
(3) Esprit Telecom UK Limited,
(4) North American Gateway Limited, and
(5) TGC UK Limited

[by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Greg Pope (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat (House of Commons Paper No. 549)); and appointed in substitution Mr Clive Betts.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 9th March [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-ix]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Food safety]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Highlands and Islands Enterprise: Value for Money Review of Performance Measurement]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 325];
(2) Twenty-sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Vacant Office Property]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 395]; and
PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 17th March.

2 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale By Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 26th January, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Frank Cook reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 1998.

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

4 Adoption and Fostering.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require local authorities, when considering adoption or fostering, to make use of married couples unless they can show that no such couples are available who meet the needs of the child; and for connected purposes—(Mr Julian Brazier);

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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business): It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Julian Brazier, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Tom Cox, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mrs Ann Winterton, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr John Burnett, Mr Peter Bottomley and the Reverend Martin Smyth do prepare and bring in the Bill.

5 Adoption and Fostering Bill.—Mr Julian Brazier accordingly presented a Bill to require local authorities, when considering adoption or fostering, to make use of married couples unless they can show that no such couples are available who meet the needs of the child; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th March and to be printed [Bill 141].

6 Opposition Day [9th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business) the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Government’s Record on Taxation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the fact that the Government broke its pledge not to raise taxes by raising 17 taxes in its first Budget; notes that, although the full impact of many of these taxes, such as the Pensions Tax and higher business taxes, was not immediately apparent to the public, these taxes will undermine Britain’s economic success and people’s retirement incomes in the long term; and urges the Government not to introduce any further hidden taxes in the forthcoming Budget—(Mr Peter Lilley);

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 ‘commends the Government for honouring its election promises not to increase the top or basic rate of income tax, to reduce VAT on domestic fuel to five per cent. and to introduce the levy on the windfall profits of the privatised utilities; approves the Government’s determination to put in place a fair tax system, to encourage investment and long-term sustainable growth; believes that
Britain’s interests lie in the pursuit of sound economic policies that will benefit the many and not just the few, and which are in the long-term interests of the whole country; and urges the Government to reject any return to the boom and bust policies of the past which resulted in the 22 tax rises imposed by the previous administration’, instead thereof. —

(Mr Alistair Darling.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Stephen Day: 174.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr John McFall: 298.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 commends the Government for honouring its election promises not to increase the top or basic rate of income tax, to reduce VAT on domestic fuel to five per cent. and to introduce the levy on the windfall profits of the privatised utilities; approves the Government’s determination to put in place a fair tax system, to encourage investment and long-term sustainable growth; believes that Britain’s interests lie in the pursuit of sound economic policies that will benefit the many and not just the few, and which are in the long-term interests of the whole country; and urges the Government to reject any return to the boom and bust policies of the past which resulted in the 22 tax rises imposed by the previous administration.

Effects of the Government’s Policies on Pensioners’ Incomes, — A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with concern the Government’s refusal to rule out means testing the basic state pension; believes the Government Actuary’s advice to change the National Insurance rebates for those contracting out of SERPS is a direct result of the Chancellor’s decision to abolish the ACT dividend tax credit in his July Budget, placing a huge burden on future pensioners, creating turmoil in the pensions market and confusion over pension reform; and calls upon the Government to apologise for devaluing long-term savings and creating fear amongst the most vulnerable members of society—(Mr lain Duncan 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 ‘welcomes the Government’s commitment to maintain the basic state pension as the foundation of pension provision and to uprate it at least in line with prices; welcomes the tough action which is being taken to ensure that victims of pension mis-selling are compensated; welcomes the action the Government has already taken in giving a Winter Fuel Payment to all pensioners with fuel bills to pay and fulfilling its promise to Britain’s pensioners by cutting VAT on fuel to five per cent.; welcomes the Government’s progress in developing pensions policy which will benefit today’s and tomorrow’s pensioners; welcomes the widespread consultation the Government is undertaking and notes that the Government’s Pension Review has received over 2,000 submissions from pension providers, employers, trade unions, pension experts and pensioners’ organisations; notes the widespread support for the Government’s proposals for Stakeholder Pensions; and deplores the previous administration’s policies on pensions, their imposition of VAT on fuel and their attempt to increase VAT on fuel to 17.5 per cent.’, instead thereof.—(Secretary Harriet Harman.)

And the Question being proposed. That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr James Arbuthnot 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 Stephen Day, Mr John Whittingdale: 161.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 294

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 welcomes the Government’s commitment to maintain the basic state pension as the foundation of pension provision and to uprate it at least in line with prices; welcomes the tough action which is being taken to ensure that victims of
pension mis-selling are compensated; welcomes the action the Government has already taken in giving a Winter Fuel Payment to all pensioners with fuel bills to pay and fulfilling its promise to Britain's pensioners by cutting VAT on fuel to five per cent.; welcomes the Government's progress in developing pensions policy which will benefit today's and tomorrow's pensioners; welcomes the widespread consultation the Government is undertaking and notes that the Government's Pension Review has received over 2,000 submissions from pension providers, employers, trade unions, pension experts and pensioners' organisations; notes the widespread support for the Government’s proposals for Stakeholder Pensions; and deplores the previous administration's policies on pensions, their imposition of VAT on fuel and their attempt to increase VAT on fuel to 17.5 per cent.

7 Estimates.—It being after Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions required to be put by Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1998 an additional number not exceeding 975 all ranks be maintained for Service in the Reserve Naval Forces.

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1998 an additional number not exceeding 460 all ranks be maintained for Army Service.

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1999 a number not exceeding 49,965 all ranks be maintained for Naval Service, and a number not exceeding 17,755 for Service in the Reserve Naval and Marine Forces.

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1999 a number not exceeding 132,060 all ranks be maintained for Army Service, a number not exceeding 97,800 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.

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding £195,333,507.98 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to make good excesses of certain grants for Defence Services for the year ended on 31st March 1997, as set out in House of Commons Paper No. 554.

Supplementary Estimates, 1997–98

10 Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords].—The House, according to order, proceeded to consider the Fossil Fuel Levy Bill [Lords], not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Regulations and Orders under section 33)—(Mr John Redwood)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.
10th March 1998

Question put and negatived.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes to One o'clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.37 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Hovercraft,—Draft Hovercraft (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims (Amendment)) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Merchant Shipping,—Draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Referendum,—Draft Greater London Authority (Referendum Arrangements) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6 Forestry,—Forestry (Exceptions from Restrictions of Felling) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 603), dated 5th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


9 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Light Dues) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 495), dated 26th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


11 National Health Service,—(1) Glan Hafren National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 541),

(2) Glan-y-Môr National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 540), and

(3) Rhondda Health Care National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 539),
dated 6th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

12 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Functions of Health Authorities) (Prescribing Incentive Schemes) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 632), dated 10th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

13 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 609), dated 6th March 1998, and

(2) National Health Service (Dental Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 610), dated 2nd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

(2) Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 530), dated 4th March 1998, and


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Pensions,—(1) Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 366), and

dated 20th February 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


19 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.,—Adopted Persons (Contact Register) (Fees) (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 615), dated 9th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

20 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 528), dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


(2) Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 562), dated 4th March 1998,


[by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

22 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Suspension from Work on Maternity Grounds (Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 587), dated 9th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


24 Water (Scotland),—Surface Waters (Dangerous Substances) (Classification) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 250), dated 27th January 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

25 British Museum,—Report of the Natural History Museum for 1996-97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

27 National Audit. Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Purchase of the Read Codes and the Management of the NHS Centre for Coding and Classification [by Act]; to be printed [No. 607] [Clerk of the House].


Papers withdrawn:

29 Referendum,—Draft Greater London Authority (Referendum) Order 1998 [laid 9th March].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committee

Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee E Mrs Anne Campbell and Mr Alan Simpson (nominated in respect of the Bill); and appointed in substitution Mr Tony Clarke and Christine Russell.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Fourth Report from the Deregulation Committee, [Proposal for the Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale By Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 614] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee on 10th March [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263–ix] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 10th March [Alternatives to Prison Sentences and other prisons issues]; to be printed [Nos. 486–v and 615–i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 10th March; to be printed [No. 401–ix] [Mr Alan Williams].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-Sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33–xxvi] [Mr William Ross].

6 Treasury,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on the Barnett Formula]; to be printed [No. 619]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 10th March [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503–vii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 136.]

Wednesday 11th March 1998.

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 David Clelland);

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

2 Public Interest Disclosure Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Public Interest Disclosure Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
47 Euz. II

11th March 1998

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 144].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 622].

3 Fireworks Bill.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Fireworks Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 20th March and to be printed [Bill 142].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 623].

4 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill.—Mr Bowen Wells reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 20th March.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 624].

5 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1998.

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

6 Door Supervisors (Registration) Bill.—The Order for reading the Door Supervisors (Registration) Bill a second time on Friday 13th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

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

Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision for the establishment of General Teaching Councils for England and Wales and with respect to the registration, qualifications and training of teachers and the inspection of such training; to make new provision with respect to grants and loans to students in higher or further education and fees payable by them, and provision with respect to the funding of higher education institutions in respect of expenditure of connected institutions; to enable young persons to have time off work for study or training; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

8 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords],—The Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 145].

9 Housing Service Charges (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Housing Act 1996 to enable certain county court cases initiated on or before 1st September 1997 to transfer to a leasehold valuation tribunal: And that Mr Barry Gardiner, Miss Anne Begg, Mr David Lepper, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Andrew Dismore, Ms Karen Buck and Kali Mountford do prepare and bring it in.

10 Housing Service Charges (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Barry Gardiner accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Housing Act 1996 to enable certain county court cases initiated on or before 1st September 1997 to transfer to a leasehold valuation tribunal: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 20th March and to be printed [Bill 143].

11 Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill;

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (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.

12 School Standards and Framework Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the School Standards and Framework Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended, be considered in the following order, namely, New Clauses relating to Part I, amendments relating to Clauses 1 to 19 and Schedule 1, New Clauses relating to Parts II to IV, amendments relating to Clauses 20 to 106 and
Schedules 2 to 25, New Clauses relating to Parts V to VII, amendments relating to Clauses 107 to 130 and Schedules 26 to 31, Remaining New Clauses, New Schedules.—(Mr Secretary Blankett.)

A Clause (Infant class sizes)—(Mr Stephen Dorrell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr James Cran: 130.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Kevin Hughes: 333.

Another Clause (Education development plan)—(Mrs Angela Browning)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Additional provision with respect to targets)—(Mr Don Foster)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendments (Nos. 79 and 80) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 121) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 7, to leave out from the word 'purpose' to the end of line 9 and insert the words—

(a) with the consent of the governing body of every school which it is proposed should be a participating school, and

(b) where the LEA is not making the application, with evidence that it has been consulted by the proposers, with a view to being a partner in the Education action zone.', instead thereof.—(Mr Don Foster.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Phil Willis: 48.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Kevin Hughes: 284.

Another Amendment (No. 85) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 88) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 13, at the end, to insert the words—

(3A) In discharging any function transferred to it under the provisions of subsection (2) of this section an Education Action Forum may enter a contract for the performance of that function with any party, whether from the public or private sector, who, in the opinion of the Education Action Forum, is a fit and proper party to discharge the function or functions covered by the contract.

(3B) Any party with whom the Education Action Forum enters a contract under the terms of subsection (3A) of this section (hereinafter referred to as "the contractor") shall be responsible for delivering the service defined in the contract with the Education Action Forum to the standard defined in the said contract and shall be permitted to acquire, employ, and manage, on terms to be determined by the contractor, such equipment, staff and other resources as he believes to be necessary to perform the duties defined in the contract.'.—(Mr Stephen Dorrell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Kevin Hughes: 328.

Another Amendment (No. 86) made to the Bill.

A Clause (Arrangements for government of new schools)—(Mr Stephen Byers)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Rating of maintained schools)—(Mr Stephen Byers)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Control of disposals or changing use of school playing fields)—(Mr Secretary Blankett)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (Grant maintained schools)—(Mr Stephen Dorrell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr James Cran: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Clive Betts: 327.

It being after Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

13 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the School Standards and Framework Bill and the Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.

14 School Standards and Framework Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the School Standards and Framework Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

15 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Access to information)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Efficient use of the electro-magnetic spectrum)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

Thursday 12th March 1998

Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Report of Director General of Telecommunications on use of electro-magnetic spectrum)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Differential levels of fees)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

16 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the Northern Ireland economy, being a matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration; and

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 26th March—

(i) the Committee shall consider, pursuant to Standing Order No. 116(1)(f) (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), the matter referred to under paragraph (1) above, and

(ii) at the completion of those proceedings a motion for the adjournment of the committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to Standing Order No. 116 (1)(h) (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).—(Mr Clive Betts.)

17 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nineteen minutes past Three o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 3.19 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Building Societies,—Building Societies (General Charge and Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 675), dated 11th March 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

2 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 532), dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Council Tax (Scotland),—Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 561), dated 2nd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

   (2) Local Education Authority (Behaviour Support Plans) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 644), dated 9th March 1998, and
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Education,—Education (Grant-maintained and Grant-maintained Special Schools) (Finance) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 591), dated 6th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

6 Environmental Protection,—(1) Controlled Waste (Registration of Carriers and Seizure of Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 605), dated 9th March 1998,
   (2) Environmental Protection (Controls on Hexachloroethane) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 545), dated 3rd March 1998,
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Environmental Protection,—Financial Assistance for Environmental Purposes Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 538), dated 8th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Friendly Societies,—Friendly Societies (General Charge and Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 673), dated 11th March 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

9 Industrial and Provident Societies,—(1) Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment of Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 676), and
   (2) Industrial and Provident Societies (Credit Unions) (Amendment of Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 672),
dated 11th March 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

10 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Civil Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 664),
   (2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 663), and
   (3) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 662),
dated 10th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

   (2) Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 602), dated 9th March 1998,
[by Act][Mr Secretary Prescott].


14 Medicines.—Medicines for Human Use and Medical Devices (Fees and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 574), dated 5th March 1998 [by Act][Mr Secretary Dobson].

15 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 531), dated 3rd March 1998 [by Act][Mr Secretary Prescott].


(2) National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 682), dated 11th March 1998,


(4) National Health Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 666), dated 10th March 1998,


(8) National Health Service (Remuneration and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 564), dated 5th March 1998, and

[by Act][Mr Secretary Dobson].

17 National Health Service (Scotland).—(1) National Health Service (Choice of Medical Practitioner) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 659), dated 9th March 1998,

(2) National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 658), dated 9th March 1998,

(3) National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 660), dated 9th March 1998,

(4) National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 642), dated 5th March 1998, and

(5) National Health Service (Service Committees and Tribunal) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 657), dated 9th March 1998,
[by Act][Mr Secretary Dewar].


(2) National Crime Squad (Discipline) (Senior Police Members) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 637),


(4) NCIS (Complaints) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 641),

(5) NCIS (Discipline) (Senior Police Members) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 636),
(6) NCIS (Senior Police Members) (Appeals) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 640), and
(S.I., 1998, No. 633),
dated 9th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

20 Police (Scotland),—Police Grant (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 611), dated
11th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

21 Public Health (Scotland),—Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Amendment
Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 661), dated 9th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Dewar].

22 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc,—Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces
[Mr Secretary Dewar].

23 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles Registration Fee Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 572), dated
4th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

No. 563), dated 4th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

25 Water Supply (Scotland),—(1) Domestic Sewerage Charges (Reduction) (Scotland)
Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 635), and
(2) Water Services Charges (Billing and Collection) (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998,
No. 634),
dated 10th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

26 Dartford-Thurrock Crossing,—Report and Accounts of Dartford River Crossing Limited
for the period 1st October 1996 to 30th September 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

27 Employment Equality (Northern Ireland),—Paper, entitled Partnership for Equality: The
Government’s proposals for future legislation and policies on Employment Equality in
Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 3890] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

28 Parliamentary Ombudsman (Northern Ireland),—Annual Report of the Parliamentary
Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Commissioner for
Complaints for 1997 [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 597] [Secretary
Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Waste Minimisation Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to
serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Norman Baker, Mr Ian
Cawsey, Mr David Chaytor, Mr David Drew, Julia Drown, Angela Eagle, Mrs Eileen
Gordon, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Barry Sheerman,
Debra Shipley, Mr Alan Simpson, Angela Smith, Mr Andrew Stunell and Mr Tim Yeo.

2 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen
Members to serve on Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger,
Mr Graham Brady, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Cynog Dafis, Caroline Flint, Mr Mike Hall,
Mr John Heppell, Mr George Howarth, Helen Jones, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr David
Maclean, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Bob Russell, Helen Southworth, Mr Richard Spring
and Mr Alan Williams.

3 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve
on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill, viz.: Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Burnett,
Mr David Chaytor, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Tony Colman, Angela Eagle, Mr Clive Efford,
Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr John Horam, Ms Chris McCallery, Laura Moffatt, Mr Keith
Simpson, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Robert Symns and Joan
Walley.

4 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from
Standing Committee D Mr Elliot Morley (nominated in respect of the Bill); and has
appointed in substitution Mr Jeff Rooker and Mr Richard Burden.
5 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill, viz.: Mr John Austin, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr John Cryer, Mr Cynog Dafis, Julia Drown, Angela Eagle, Maria Eagle, Mr Clive Efford, Jim Fitzpatrick, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Adrian Sanders and Mr Tim Yeo.

6 Draft Greater London Authority (Referendum Arrangements) Order 1998:—

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee; viz., Mr Graham Allen, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Paul Burstow, Sir Sydney Chapman, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Simon Hughes, Ms Oona King, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Richard Ottaway, Ms Linda Perham, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Gareth R. Thomas.

7 Special Grant Report (No. 33): Community Care Special Grants for 1998–99 (HC 534):—

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Report to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Paul Boateng, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Howard Flight, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Stephen Hesford, Ms Beverley Hughes, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Peter Luff, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Patrick Nicholls and Bridget Prentice.

8 Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1998:—

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Desmond Browne, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Maria Fyfe, Mr Norman A. Godman, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Sir Robert Smith and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

9 European Community Document No. 13035/97, Annexes I, IV and VI, relating to the Energy Framework Programme (1998–2002), has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 11th March [DERA performance and future plans]; to be printed [No. 621-i] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 11th March [Further education]; to be printed [No. 264-xi] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 10th March [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484-vii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th March [UK Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 360-v] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th March [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation,—Twenty-First Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 155-xxi] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Second Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland], 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. 316] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 366]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 11th March [Reliability and Verification of Information on Passenger Train Services]; to be printed [No. 625-i]

[Mr David Davis].

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 137.]

Thursday 12th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Greater London Authority (Referendum Arrangements) Order 1998.

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

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat (House of Commons Paper No. 549).

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

3 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 Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords].

4 European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the European Parliamentary Elections Bill, as amended in the Committee.

A Clause (Review of alternative voting systems)—(Mr James Clappison)—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 Nigel Waterson, Mr James Cran: 103.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr David Jamieson: 290.

Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 15, after '(4)', to insert the words 'Subject to subsection (4A) below'.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 41, after the word 'state', to insert the words 'save that the day appointed by the Secretary of State shall not be a day of the week or a date of special religious significance on which the holding of an election would be incompatible with the historic teaching and practices of any Christian or other principal religious tradition represented in Great Britain'.—(Sir Brian Mawhinney.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 96.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Janet Anderson: 222.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 5, line 24, at the end, to insert the words 'but no such order shall be made until the Secretary of State has submitted a report to both Houses of Parliament giving details of the calculations carried out in the course of the procedure mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(a) above.'—(Mr John Greenway.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 9, to leave out lines 15 to 28.—(Mr John Greenway.)

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, Bridget Prentice, Janet Anderson: 198.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr Nigel Waterson: 87.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

5 Northern Ireland, — A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 2nd March, be approved—(Bridget Prentice) — It was agreed to.

6 Terms and Conditions of Employment, — A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 18th February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice) — It was agreed to.

7 Public Petitions, — A Public Petition from Mrs Shirley Carter and the people of Long Sutton in Lincolnshire to ask the House to introduce legislation to prevent those convicted of serious offences from contacting their victims was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment, — A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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

9 Adjournment, — Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr George Mudie.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.20 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Services, — Draft Institute of Legal Executives Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Legal Aid and Advice, — (1) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 1998, No. 90), dated 10th March 1998,
(2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 1998, No. 91), dated 4th March 1998,

(3) Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 1998, No. 89), dated 10th March 1998, and

[by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


Other Papers:

5 Coal Authority,—Department of Trade and Industry Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the transfer of British Coal property liabilities to the Coal Authority [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Government Executive Agencies,—Paper, entitled Next Steps Report 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3889] [Dr David Clark].

7 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 10th March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—

(1) Leicester Ambulance & Paramedic Service National Health Service Trust,
(2) Northern General Hospital National Health Service Trust,
(3) Oxford Radcliffe National Health Service Trust,
(4) Queen's Medical Centre Nottingham University Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(5) St Helier National Health Service Trust,
(6) Trecare National Health Service Trust,
(7) Wiltshire Health Care National Health Service Trust, and
(8) Winchester & Eastleigh Healthcare National Health Service Trust
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Waste Minimisation Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

3 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

4 Special Grant Report (No. 33): Community Care Special Grants for 1998–99 (HC 534),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Report.

5 Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

6 Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat (HC 549),—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Andrew Mackinlay (nominated in respect of the Report), and appointed in substitution Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 12th March [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-ii] [Mr Derek Foster].
PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from

(1) Daventry against building new homes in the countryside or green belt;
(2) Kite’s Nest Farm, Broadway, for exemption from the requirement to cull cows;
(3) Colchester for legislation to ban hunting with dogs; and
(4) Haverhill for restoration of the twenty-four hour emergency ambulance service were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 6th March, on consideration of the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Clause (Power to amend) be now read a second time.

And the Question being again proposed, The House resumed the adjourned Debate;

Mr Andrew F. Bennett 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;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Joe Benton: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Owen Paterson: 42.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question, That the Clause be read a second time, being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Owen Paterson: 44.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Joe Benton: 136.

Another Clause (Mink)—(Kate Hoey)—brought up, and read the first time.

And the Question being put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Owen Paterson: 42.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Joe Benton: 139.

Another Clause (Gun packs)—(Mr Lembit Opik)—brought up, and read the first time.

And the Question being put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Owen Paterson: 43.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Joe Benton: 138.

Another Clause (Hunting beginning in the Republic of Ireland)—(Mr Ken Maginnis)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

Mr Andrew F. Bennett 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.

Mr Kevin McNamara 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.
Mr Andrew F. Bennett 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;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Joe Benton: 150.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Owen Paterson: 40.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question, That the Clause be read a second time, being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Owen Paterson: 31.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Gray, Mr Richard Spring: 154.

Another Clause (Circumstances in which shooting is unsafe or impractical)—(Mr Peter Luff)—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 Edward Leigh, Mr Peter Atkinson: 42.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Kevin McNamara: 128.

Another Clause (Local referendums)—(Mr Lembit Öpik)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Debate to be resumed on Friday 20th March.

3 Water Charges (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Water Charges (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

4 Elections (Visually Impaired Voters) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Elections (Visually Impaired Voters) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

5 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

6 Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Welfare of Broiler Chickens Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

7 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

8 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 3rd July.

9 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

10 Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.
11 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 20th March.

12 Waste Minimisation Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Waste Minimisation Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Waste Minimisation 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 Jim Dowd);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Bridget Prentice: 55.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Eric Forth: 3.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Waste Minimisation 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.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes to Four o’clock, adjourned till Monday 16th March.

[Adjourned at 3.38 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Gaming (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order (Northern Ireland) 1998 (S.R. (N.I.), 1998, No. 56), dated 26th February 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


3 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Fund-holding Practices) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 693), dated 12th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Special Parking Areas) (The London Borough of Wandsworth) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 575), dated 5th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

5 Law Reform (Scotland),—Scottish Conveyancing and Executry Services Board Management Statement [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 12th March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—

(1) East Berkshire National Health Service Trust, and

(2) Plymouth Hospitals National Health Service Trust

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Public Accounts,—Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on the Fifth and Sixth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997-98 [by Command] [Cm. 3893] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 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.

National Lottery Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make further provision in relation to the National Lottery; to make provision for and in connection with the establishment of a body corporate to be endowed out of the National Lottery Distribution Fund and to be known as the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 National Lottery Bill [Lords].—The National Lottery Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 146].

3 Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill.—Mr Norman Baker, supported by Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Bill Etherington, Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Harry Cohen, Ms Tess Kings, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Nigel Jones, Dr Nick Palmer and Sir Teddy Taylor, presented a Bill to protect the health and welfare of fur-bearing animals by prohibiting the farming of such animals for fur; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th March and to be printed [Bill 147].

4 Housing Service Charges (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill.—Mr Barry Gardiner, supported by Miss Ann Begg, Mr David Lepper, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Andrew Dismore, Ms Karen Buck and Kali Mountford, presented a Bill to provide for the transfer of certain county court cases to a leasehold valuation tribunal; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 20th March and to be printed [Bill 146].

5 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Teaching and Higher Education 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, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House, whilst welcoming the enhanced provisions in the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] to establish general teaching councils with the powers to take effective action in cases of professional misconduct, and, whilst also welcoming the Bill’s new provisions to protect means-tested maintenance grants for students from low-income families and to ensure that first degree students from all parts of the United Kingdom will be treated on the same basis, nevertheless declines to give the Bill a Second Reading because it fails to implement the Dearing Committee’s proposal for an independent review body to advise on any future changes in tuition fees’, instead thereof. (Mr Stephen Dorrell.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Sir David Madel: 139.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 357*.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Clive Betts: 290.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Adrian Sanders: 51.

So the Question was agreed to.

* Mr David Jamieson and Mr John M. Taylor, Tellers in the Division, later came to the Table and stated that they had erroneously reported the number of the Noes as 347, instead of 357 which was the correct number. Whereupon the Deputy Speaker directed the Clerk to correct the number in the Journal accordingly, viz.: Ayes 139, Noes, 357.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Greg Pope)—It was agreed to.

7 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) any sums required for the making by the Secretary of State of grants or loans under the Act;
(2) any other expenses of the Secretary of State under the Act; and
(3) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable by virtue of any other Act—(Mr Greg Pope);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 251.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Edward Davey: 50.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) any sums required for the making by the Secretary of State of grants or loans under the Act;
(2) any other expenses of the Secretary of State under the Act; and
(3) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable by virtue of any other Act.

8 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

9 Referendum (London).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Greater London Authority (Referendum Arrangements) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

10 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 32): Special Grant for Accommodation for Evacuees from Montserrat (House of Commons Paper No. 549), which was laid before this House on 11th February, be approved—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

11 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill [Ways and Means].—Resolved. That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the charging of fees payable by the holders of licences granted under the Act;
(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund.—(Jane Kennedy.)

12 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State which is attributable to the Act—(Mr John McFall);

The House divided.
Mr John McFall and Mr Jon Owen Jones were appointed Tellers for the Ayes; but there being no Tellers for the Noes the Deputy Speaker declared that the Ayes had it.

Resolved. That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State which is attributable to the Act.

13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John McFall);

Tuesday 17th March 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till four minutes past Twelve o'clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.04 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—(1) Advice and Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 724), and

(2) Civil Legal Aid (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 725), dated 11th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Representation of the People,—(1) Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 585), and

(2) Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 578), dated 4th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


6 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Control of Interference from Videosenders) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 722), dated 10th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

7 Probation Board,—Accounts of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 628] [Clerk of the House].

8 Social Security,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee preceded by a statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 680) [by Command] [Cm. 3892] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Police (Northern Ireland) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Butterfill an additional Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.
[No. 140.]

Tuesday 17th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 24th March.

2 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill,—Mr Barry Jones reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Police (Northern Ireland) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 149].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 632].

3 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 Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

4 Adoption and Fostering Bill,—The Order for reading the Adoption and Fostering Bill a second time on Friday 27th March was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

5 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill,—The Order for further considering the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, as amended, on Friday 20th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be further considered on Friday 27th March.

6 Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill,—The Order for reading the Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill a second time on Friday 20th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

7 Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1998,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House a copy of the Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1998, as laid before this House by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer when opening the Budget.—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.)

8 Ways and Means,—Provisional Collection of Taxes,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 51 (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) Sparkling wine, made-wine and cider (rates of duty) (Motion No. 3);
(b) Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duties and rebates) (Motion No. 8);
(c) Hydrocarbon oil (ultra low sulphur diesel) (Motion No. 9);
(d) Hydrocarbon oil (mixing of heavy oil) (Motion No. 10); and
(e) Amusement machine licence duty (rates of duty) (Motion No. 13)—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer)—It was agreed to.

9 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);
And it being Ten o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.
10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Horsham against building new homes in the countryside or Green Belt was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice); 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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Hovercraft.—Draft Hovercraft (Application of Enactments) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Value Added Tax.—(1) Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 764), and
   (2) Value Added Tax (Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 762),
   dated 17th March 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Income Tax.—(1) Retirement Benefits Schemes (Restriction on Discretion to Approve) (Excepted Provisions) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 729), and
   (2) Retirement Benefits Schemes (Restriction on Discretion to Approve) (Small Self-administered Schemes) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 728),
   dated 17th March 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

4 Value Added Tax.—(1) Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 765),
   (2) Value Added Tax (Cars) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 759),
   (4) Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 761),
   (5) Value Added Tax (Place of Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 763), and
   dated 17th March 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

5 Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1998.—New Ambitions for Britain: Financial Statement and Budget Report March 1998 [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 620] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 Foreign and Commonwealth Office Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Wilton Park Executive Agency for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 523] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Merchant Shipping.—Report by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions of exemptions granted under section 294 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 during 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Audit of Assumptions for the Budget March 1998, and
   (2) The Distribution of Lottery Funds by the English Sports Council [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 616 and 617] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 17th March [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484-vii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 17th March [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-v] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 17th March [Alternatives to Prison Sentences and other criminal justice issues]; to be printed [Nos. 486-vi and 629-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 17th March; to be printed [No. 401-x] [Mr Alan Williams].

5 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 17th March [Report of the Northern Ireland Ombudsman for 1997]; to be printed [No. 630] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

6 Standards and Privileges,—Thirteenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Appeal Procedures: A Consultative Document], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 633] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

[No. 141.]

Wednesday 18th March 1998.

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 Clive Betts);

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

2 Waste Minimisation Bill,—Dr Michael Clark reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Waste Minimisation Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 24th April.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 644].

3 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Local Authority Tenders Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 20th March;

and to be printed [Bill 151].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 639].

4 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Animal Health (Amendment) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 27th March.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 640].

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Special Grant Report (No. 33): Community Care Special Grants for 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 534).

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

6 Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill,—The Order for reading the Energy Efficiency (Information) Bill a second time on Friday 27th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 24th April.
7 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 Act 1998
- Fossil Fuel Levy Act 1998
- Wireless Telegraphy Act 1998
- Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Act 1998.

8 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in 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 persons and any carer: And that Mr Huw Edwards, Chris McCafferty, Mr David Amess, Mrs Betty Williams, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr Malcolm Wicks, Mr Steve McCabe, Mr Anthony D. Wright and Laura Moffatt do prepare and bring it in.

9 Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks) Bill,—Mr Huw Edwards accordingly 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 persons and any carer: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 150].

10 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. Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned. (Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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 1

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 Civil List,—List of pensions granted under the Civil List Act 1972 for 1997–98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

3 Insolvency,—Accounts prepared pursuant to section 409 of the Insolvency Act 1986 of the sums received and paid by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 403, and of the sums credited and debited to the Investment Account by the National Debt Commissioners for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 642] [Clerk of the House].

4 Local Government (Scotland),—Scottish Local Government Financial Statistics for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Sale of AEA Technology [by Act]; to be printed [No. 618] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Colin Pickthall from the Committee and appointed in substitution Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.

2 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

3 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee E), and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Angela Eagle from the Committee and appointed in substitution Hilary Armstrong.

4 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Christine Butler, Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Vernon Coaker, Valerie Davey, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Don Foster, Mr John Hayes, Dr Kim Howells, Mr David Jamieson, Ms Melanie Johnson, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mr Tony McNulty, Sir David Mawell, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr John Randall, Mr Andrew Reed, Jacqui Smith, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr David Willetts, Mr Phil Willis and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

5 Draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment Regulations 1998; draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations; draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998; and draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Committee; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Lynda Clark, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Tam Dalyell, Dr Liam Fox, Mr Christopher Gill, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Martin O'Neill, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Sir Robert Smith and Mr James Wray.

6 Draft Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998; and draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money-Purchase Contracted-out Schemes) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O'Hara Chairman of the Committee; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Simon Burns, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr John Denham, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Kevin Hughes, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Bill Olner, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Steve Webb, Mr Malcolm Wicks, Mr Alan W. Williams and Mr James Wray.

7 Draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Committee; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harold Best, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Alan Howarth, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr David Maclean, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Bill O'Brien, Mr Giles Radice, Joan Ryan, Mr Robert Walter and Steve Webb.

8 Draft International Development Association (Eleventh Replenishment) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of the Committee; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Colin Burgon, Mr David Faber, Mr George Foulkes, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Chris Mullin, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr Llew Smith, Dr Jenny Tonge, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr Stephen Twigg, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Alan Williams and Mr Shaun Woodward.

Grand Committees

9 Northern Ireland Grand Committee:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Committee in respect of its meeting on Tuesday 26th March; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Grogan from the Committee and appointed in substitution Mr Tony Colman.

European Standing Committees

10 European Standing Committee A:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Committee in respect of European Community Document No. 5357/98, relating to bananas;

(2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Laura Moffatt from the Committee and appointed in substitution Mrs Janet Dean; and

(3) European Community Documents Nos. 6150/98, relating to assistance for traditional ACP suppliers of bananas (together with 5357/98 already so recommended); and 6123/98, relating to fisheries monitoring under the Common Fisheries Policy, have been referred to the Committee.

11 European Standing Committee B:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ann Winterton Chairman of the Committee in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 11165/97 and 11167/97, relating to Aid to Shipbuilding; and

(2) European Community Documents Nos. 13035/97 Annex V relating to Energy Framework Programme: Save II and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 16th March 1998, relating to renewable sources of energy; Council Resolution together with 5140/98 and 13035/97 Annexes I, IV and VI (already so recommended), have been referred to the Committee.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Third Report from the Defence Committee [NATO Enlargement], 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. 469]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 18th March [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed (No. 138-viii)

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Second Special Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 645]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 18th March [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-v]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 European Legislation,—Twenty-Second Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxii]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 International Development,—(1) Second Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee: The Development White Paper]; to be printed [No. 643]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 18th March [Debt Relief]; to be printed [No. 563-ii]

[Mr Bowen Wells].
Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 18th March [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-ix] [Mr Peter Brooke].

Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 18th March [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 626-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 18th March [The Government’s Housing Policy]; to be printed [No. 638-i] [Mr David Marshall].

Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 18th March [Disability Living Allowance]; to be printed [No. 641-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

Standards and Privileges.—Fourteenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Tony Blair], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 634] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 18th March [Coal]; to be printed [No. 404-iv] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill (changed to Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill),—Mr George Stevenson reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 27th March; and to be printed [Bill 152].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 650].

Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1998.

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

Petroleum Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, an Act to consolidate certain enactments about petroleum, offshore installations and submarine pipelines; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Audit Commission Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, an Act to consolidate Part III of the Local Government Finance Act 1982 and other enactments relating to the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Petroleum Bill [Lords].—The Petroleum Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 153].

Audit Commission Bill [Lords].—The Audit Commission Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 154].

Ways and Means—Amendment of the law,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [17th March], 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.

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


2 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, made by the Governing Body of Clare College, Cambridge, on 10th November 1997, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

3 Animal Health,—Return of Expenditure Incurred and Prosecutions taken under the Animal Health Act 1981, and Incidences of Disease in Imported Animals for 1997 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

4 Civil Aviation Authority,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 17th March 1998 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Civil Aviation Authority from the National Westminster Bank plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the Apple and Pear Research Council for 1996–97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

6 Local Government (Scotland),—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 17th March 1998 on borrowing by—
(1) The East of Scotland Water Authority,
(2) The North of Scotland Water Authority, and
(3) The West of Scotland Water Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 London Regional Transport,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 17th March 1998 in respect of temporary borrowing by London Regional Transport from Midland Bank plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 New Roads and Street Works (Scotland),—New Roads and Street Works Act 1991: Report on Toll Roads and Toll Orders in Scotland for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Race Relations,—Account of the Commission for Racial Equality for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 648] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 19th March [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520–vii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee on 19th March [Pathways into work for women]; to be printed [No. 646–i] [Mr Derek Foster].
3 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 19th March [The situation in Kosovo]; to be printed [No. 649i] [Mr Ernie Ross].

4 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 19th March [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586iv] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 19th March [The 1998 Budget]; to be printed [No. 647i] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 143.]

Friday 20th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time; And it being Eleven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings). And the Question being again proposed; And the Question being put:—It was agreed to. The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

2 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Committee. A Clause (Matters proved on evidence before the tribunal)—(Mr Andrew Lansley)—brought up, and read the first time. Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn. Amendment (No. 14) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out lines 7 to 10.—(Mr Edward Garnier). Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn. Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 46, to leave out from the word ‘means’ to the word ‘consent’ in line 48.—(Mr Andrew Lansley.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn. Another Amendment (No. 18) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 19, at the end, to insert the words—(6D) In this section a “legal officer” means (a) as respects England and Wales, a barrister of not less than two years call (whether in practice as such or employed to give legal advice), a solicitor admitted for not less than two years who holds a practising certificate, or a person other than a barrister or solicitor who is an authorised Advocate or authorised litigator (within the meaning of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990) (b) as respects Scotland, an advocate of more than two years standing (whether in practice as such or employed to give legal advice), or a solicitor of more than two years standing who holds a practising certificate.’.—(Mr Edward Leigh.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn. A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time; And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned. Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 27th March.

3 Fireworks Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Fireworks Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.
The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee;

Orders, That the Bill be considered on Friday 24th April.

5 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Local Authority Tenders Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee;

Orders, That the Bill be considered on Friday 27th March.

6 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Order of the day being read for the Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill;

Resolutions, That this House will resolve itself into the said Committee on Friday 27th March.

7 Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords];

Orders, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

8 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Orders, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

9 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Orders, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

10 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill;

Orders, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th March.

11 Housing Service Charges (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the Day being read, for the Second Reading of the Housing Service Charges (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill;

Orders, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

12 Office Costs etc. Allowances,—Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the following provisions should have effect—

(1) The limit on the office costs allowance in relation to Miss Anne Begg should be 1.33 times that determined in accordance with paragraph (1) of Part A of the Resolution of the House of 13th July 1994 for any quarter beginning with 1st January 1998;

(2) The limit on the additional costs allowance in relation to Miss Anne Begg should be 1.33 times that determined in accordance with paragraph (1) of Part C of the Resolution of the House of 13th July 1994 for any year beginning with 1st April 1997;

(3) The limit on the Members' staff travel in relation to Miss Anne Begg should be thirty four return journeys determined in accordance with paragraph (f) of the Resolution of the House of 19th July 1983 in the period of 12 months beginning with 1st January 1998.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

13 Bicycle Allowance,—Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the following provision should be made for the payment of a bicycle allowance to honourable Members in respect of journeys which they have undertaken by bicycle while on Parliamentary duties within the United Kingdom—

(1) In respect of journeys commenced in the year starting with 1st April 1998, the allowance shall be paid at a rate of 6.2 pence per mile increased by the percentage (if any) by which the retail prices index for March 1998 has increased compared with the index for March 1997.

(2) For each subsequent year starting with 1st April, the rate shall be increased by the percentage (if any) by which the retail prices index for the previous March has increased compared with the index for the March before that.

(3) The rate shall be calculated to the nearest tenth of a penny (with exactly one twentieth being rounded up).

(4) Arrangements shall be made by the Fees Office for ensuring that claims are supported by appropriate particulars.

(5) In this Resolution 'the retail price index' means the general index of retail prices (for all items) published by the Office for National Statistics (or any index or figures published by that Office in place of that index).—(Mr Jim Dowd.)
14 Welsh Language in Parliamentary Proceedings in Wales.—Resolved, That this House approves the First Report from the Procedure Committee on use of the Welsh Language in Parliamentary Proceedings in Wales, Session 1997–98 (House of Commons Paper No. 461).—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

15 Scottish Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 100 (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet on Tuesday 7th April at half-past Ten o'clock at Westminster to consider a substantive Motion for the adjournment of the Committee pursuant to Standing Order No. 100 (1) (c) (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings))—(Mr Jim Dowd);—It was agreed to.

16 Adjournment (Easter).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Wednesday 8th April, do adjourn till Monday 20th April—(Mr Jim Dowd)—It was agreed to.

17 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);

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 23rd March.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals.—Cattle Identification Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 871), dated 19th March 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:


4 National Health Service.—(1) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 17th March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—

(i) BHB Community Health Care National Health Service Trust,
(ii) East Yorkshire Community Healthcare National Health Service Trust,
(iii) South Durham Health Care National Health Service Trust,
(iv) Southampton University Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(v) Wakefield and Pontefract Community Health National Health Service Trust, and
(vi) York Health Services National Health Service Trust; and

(2) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 18th March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—

(i) Luton and Dunstable National Health Service Trust, and
(ii) North Durham Health Care National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Registration Service.—Birth Statistics: Review of the Registrar General on births and patterns of family building in England and Wales for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

6 Representation of the People.—European Parliamentary Elections (Day of By-election) (Yorkshire South Constituency) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 802), dated 16th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Monday 23rd March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Concessionary Television Licence (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create greater flexibility in the definition of sheltered housing that is eligible for concessionary television licences, to reflect developments within the structure and management of sheltered housing: And that Mr John Swinney, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Dalydd Wigley, Mr James Wallace, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Peter Bottomley, the Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Paul Keetch and Mr Alasdair Morgan do prepare and bring it in.

2 Concessionary Television Licence (Amendment) Bill,—Mr John Swinney accordingly presented a Bill to create greater flexibility in the definition of sheltered housing that is eligible for concessionary television licences, to reflect developments within the structure and management of sheltered housing: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 155].

3 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the law—The Order of the Day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [17th March], 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 the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

   The Speaker then, pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 51 (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. Beer (rate of duty)

The Question being put, That provision may be made increasing the rate of duty set out in section 36(1) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Clive Betts: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Oliver Heald: 147.

So the Question was agreed to.

3. Sparkling wine, made-wine and cider (rates of duty)

Resolved, That the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 shall be amended as follows—
   (1) In Part I of the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1, in column 2 of the fourth entry, for “201.50” there shall be substituted “161.20”.
   (2) In section 62(1A)(a), for “£37.54” there shall be substituted “£45.05”.
   (3) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o'clock in the evening of 17th March 1998.

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. Wine and made-wine (rates of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in the Table in Schedule 1 to the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

5. Cider (rates of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in section 62(1A) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

6. Beer (drawback)

Resolved, That provision may be made repealing section 42 of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979.

7. Hydrocarbon oil (production in the United Kingdom)

Resolved, That provision may be made charging excise duty on hydrocarbon oil produced in the United Kingdom.

8. Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duties and rebates)

The Question being put, That—

(1) In section 6(1A) of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979—
   (a) in paragraph (a), for “0.4510” there shall be substituted “0.4926”; and
   (b) in paragraph (b), for “0.3928” there shall be substituted “0.4299”; and
   (c) in paragraph (c), for “0.4028” there shall be substituted “0.4499”.

(2) In section 11(1) of that Act—
   (a) in paragraph (a), for “£0.0200” there shall be substituted “£0.0218”; and
   (b) in each of paragraphs (b) and (ba), for “£0.0258” there shall be substituted “£0.0282”.

(3) In section 13A(1A) of that Act—
   (a) in paragraph (a), for “£0.0150” there shall be substituted “£0.0050”; and
   (b) in paragraph (b), for “£0.0482” there shall be substituted “£0.0527”.

(4) In section 14(1) of that Act, for “£0.0200” there shall be substituted “£0.0218”.

(5) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 17th March 1998.

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 Jon Owen Jones, Mr Clive Betts: 302.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Oliver Heald: 197.

So the Question was agreed to.

9. Hydrocarbon oil (ultra low sulphur diesel)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 1 of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979, for subsection (6) there shall be substituted the following subsection—

   “(6) ‘Ultra low sulphur diesel’ means gas oil—
   (a) the sulphur content of which does not exceed 0.005 per cent. by weight or is nil;
   (b) the density of which does not exceed 835 kilograms per cubic metre at a temperature of 15° C; and
   (c) of which not less than 95 per cent. by volume distils at a temperature not exceeding 345° C.”

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 17th March 1998.

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. Hydrocarbon oil (mixing of heavy oil)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 20AAA of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979, after subsection (2) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

"(2A) Where—

(a) a mixture of heavy oils is produced in contravention of Part IIA of Schedule 2A to this Act, and

(b) the mixture is not produced as a result of approved mixing,

a duty of excise shall be charged on the mixture."

(2) In subsection (3) of that section, after "subsection (1)" there shall be inserted "or (2A)".

(3) In section 20AAB of that Act, in subsection (1), after "section 20AAA(1)" there shall be inserted "or (2A)".

(4) In Schedule 2A to that Act, after paragraph 7 there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

"PART IIA

UNREBATED HEAVY OIL

7A. A mixture of heavy oils is produced in contravention of this paragraph if such a mixture is produced by mixing—

(a) ultra low sulphur diesel in respect of which, on its delivery for home use, a declaration was made that it was intended for use as fuel for a road vehicle; and

(b) heavy oil of any other description in respect of which, on its delivery for home use, such a declaration was made."

(5) In paragraph 9 of that Schedule, after sub-paragraph (1) there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraph—

"(1A) Subject to paragraph 10 below, duty charged under subsection (2A) of section 20AAA of this Act shall be charged at the rate for heavy oil in force at the time when the mixture is produced."

(6) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 17th March 1998.

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.

11. Tobacco products (rates of duty)

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates of duty set out in the Table in Schedule 1 to the Tobacco Products Duty Act 1979.

12. Rates of gaming duty

Resolved, That provision may be made increasing the rates at which gaming duty is charged.

13. Amusement machine licence duty (rates of duty)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 23 of the Betting and Gaming Duties Act 1981, for the Table in subsection (2) there shall be substituted the following Table—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) Period (in months) for which licence granted</th>
<th>(2) Machines that are not gaming machines</th>
<th>(3) Gaming machines that are small-prize machines or are five-penny machines without being small-prize machines</th>
<th>(4) Other machines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>£30</td>
<td>£80</td>
<td>£220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>1,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>1,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>1,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>615</td>
<td>1,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>1,815</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(2) This Resolution shall apply in relation to any amusement machine licence for which an application is received by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise after 17th March 1998.

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.

14. Amusement machine licence duty (excepted machines)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 21(3A) of the Betting and Gaming Duties Act 1981, for paragraphs (b) and (c) there shall be substituted the following paragraphs—

"(b) a five-penny machine which is a small prize machine; or
(c) a thirty-five-penny machine which is not a prize machine or which, if it is a prize machine, is not a gaming machine."

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to the provision of an amusement machine at any time on or after 1st April 1998.

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.

15. Vehicle excise duty (old vehicles)

Resolved, That provision may be made confining the exemption in paragraph 1A of Schedule 2 to the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 to vehicles constructed before 1st January 1973.

16. Vehicle excise duty (payments in respect of void licences)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 35A of the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994.

17. Assessments for excise duty purposes

Resolved, That provision may be made about assessing and recovering amounts for purposes of excise duty.

18. Value added tax (deemed supplies)

Resolved, That—

(1) Paragraph 5 of Schedule 4 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994 shall be amended as follows.

(2) In sub-paragraph (2)(a), for “is” there shall be substituted “of acquiring or, as the case may be, producing the goods was”.

(3) After sub-paragraph (2) there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraph—

"(2A) For the purposes of determining the cost to the donor of acquiring or producing goods of which he has made a gift, where—

(a) the acquisition by the donor of the goods, or anything comprised in the goods, was by means of a transfer of a business, or a part of a business, as a going concern,
(b) the assets transferred by that transfer included those goods or that thing, and
(c) the transfer of those assets is one falling by virtue of an order under section 5(3) (or under an enactment re-enacted in section 5(3)) to be treated as neither a supply of goods nor a supply of services,

the donor and his predecessor or, as the case may be, all of his predecessors shall be treated as if they were the same person."

(4) In sub-paragraph (5), for “is” there shall be substituted “or any of his predecessors is a person who (disregarding this paragraph) has or will become”.

(5) After that sub-paragraph there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraph—

"(5A) In relation to any goods or anything comprised in any goods, a person is the predecessor of another for the purposes of this paragraph if—

(a) that other person is a person to whom he has transferred assets of his business by a transfer of that business, or a part of it, as a going concern;
(b) those assets consisted of or included those goods or that thing; and
(c) the transfer of the assets is one falling by virtue of an order under section 5(3) (or under an enactment re-enacted in section 5(3)) to be treated as neither a supply of goods nor a supply of services;
and references in this paragraph to a person's predecessors include references
to the predecessors of his predecessors through any number of transfers."

(6) The preceding provisions of this Resolution apply to any case where the time when
the goods, services, or property or as the case may be, put to use, used or made
available for use is on or after 17th March 1998.

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.

19. Value added tax (place of supply orders)

Resolved, That

(1) In the Value Added Tax Act 1994 the following section shall be inserted after
section 97—

97A.—(1) This section shall have effect for the purpose of giving effect to
any order made on or after 17th March 1998 under section 7(11), if—
(a) the order provides for services of a description specified in the
order to be treated as supplied in the United Kingdom;
(b) the services would not have fallen to be so treated apart from
the order;
(c) the services are not services that would have fallen to be so treated
under any provision re-enacted in the order; and
(d) the order is expressed to come into force in relation to services
supplied on or after a date

(2) Invoices and other documents provided to any person before the
 commencement date shall be disregarded in determining the time of the
 supply of any services which, if their time of supply were on or after the
 commencement date, would be treated by virtue of the order as supplied in
 the United Kingdom.

(3) If there is a payment in respect of any services of the specified
description that was received by the supplier before the commencement
date, so much (if any) of that payment as relates to times on or after that
date shall be treated as if it were a payment received on the
 commencement date.

(4) If there is a payment in respect of services of the specified description
that is or has been received by the supplier on or after the commencement
date, so much (if any) of that payment as relates to times before that date
shall be treated as if it were a payment received before that date.

(5) Subject to subsection (6) below, a payment in respect of any services
shall be taken for the purposes of this section to relate to the time of the
performance of those services.

(6) Where a payment is received in respect of any services the
performance of which takes place over a period a part of which falls before
the commencement date and a part of which does not—
(a) an apportionment shall be made, on a just and reasonable basis,
of the extent to which the payment is attributable to so much of the
performance of those services as took place before that date;
(b) the payment shall, to that extent, be taken for the purposes of this
section to relate to a time before that date; and
(c) the remainder, if any, of the payment shall be taken for those
purposes to relate to times on or after that date."

(2) In section 6 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, after subsection (14) there shall be
inserted the following subsection—

“(14A) In relation to any services of a description specified in an order under
section 7(11), this section and any regulations under this section or section 8(4)
shall have effect subject to section 97A.”

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 amending section 36 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

21. Value added tax (long leases in Scotland)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 96 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

22. Income tax (charge and rates for 1998–99)

The Question being put, That income tax shall be charged for the year 1998-99, 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.

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 Jon Owen Jones, Mr Clive Betts: 300.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Andrew Stunell: 43.

So the Question was agreed to.

23. Income tax (additional relief in respect of children)

Resolved, That—

(1) In subsection (1)(c) of section 259 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, for “man” and “wife” there shall be substituted, respectively, “individual” and “spouse”.

(2) In subsection (4) of that section, after “relief under this section” there shall be inserted “by virtue of subsection (1)(a) above”.

(3) In section 261A(3) of that Act, for “a man” there shall be substituted “an individual”.

(4) This Resolution has effect for 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.

24. Corporation tax (charge and rate for 1998)

Resolved, That, for the financial year 1998, corporation tax shall be charged at the rate of 31 per cent.

25. Corporation tax (small companies rate for 1998)

Resolved, That, for the financial year 1998—

(a) the small companies’ rate shall be 21 per cent.; and

(b) the fraction mentioned in section 13(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be one fortieth.

26. Corporation tax (due and payable date)

The Question being put, That provision may be made for and in connection with altering the date on which corporation tax and amounts treated as corporation tax become due and payable;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr Jim Dowd: 339.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Oliver Heald: 147.

So the Question was agreed to.

27. Advance corporation tax and tax credits

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to—

(a) the set-off of advance corporation tax against liability to corporation tax; and

(b) tax credits.
28. Interest payable under the Tax Acts

Resolved. That provision may be made imposing charges to tax in relation to interest payable under the Tax Acts to companies.

29. Rents and other receipts from land

Resolved. That provision may be made about the taxation of rents and other receipts from land.

30. Computation of profits and losses

Resolved. That provision may be made as to the computation of profits and losses for tax purposes.

31. Remuneration in the form of shares or securities

Resolved. That provision may be made about shares or securities acquired by a person as a director or employee.

32. Sub-contractors in the construction industry


33. Construction workers supplied by agencies

Resolved. That—

(1) In section 134 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, subsection (5)(c) shall cease to have effect.

(2) In section 559 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, in subsection (1), for "subsection (2) below" there shall be substituted "the following provisions of this section"; and after subsection (1) there shall be inserted the following subsection—

"(1A) Subsection (1) above shall not apply to any payment made under the contract in question that is chargeable to income tax under Schedule E by virtue of section 134(1)."

(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) above have effect in relation to—

(a) any payments made on or after 6th April 1998 other than any made in respect of services rendered before that date; and

(b) any payments made before 6th April 1998 in respect of services to be rendered on or after that date.

(4) Subject to paragraph (9) below, paragraph (5) below applies if—

(a) a construction trade is being carried on by a person ("the sub-contractor") at the end of the year 1997-98; and

(b) there are receipts of that trade which, but for section 134(5)(c) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, would have fallen to be treated for the year 1997-98 as the emoluments of an office or employment.

(5) Where this paragraph applies, then, subject to paragraphs (7) and (8) below—

(a) the trade shall be deemed to have been permanently discontinued at the end of the year 1997-98; and

(b) to the extent (if any) that the trade includes activities in addition to the rendering of services falling by virtue of this Resolution to be treated as the duties of an office or employment, a new trade shall be deemed to have been set up and commenced on 6th April 1998.

(6) Paragraph (7) below applies if—

(a) a construction trade ("the old trade") is deemed by virtue of paragraph (5)(a) above to have been permanently discontinued; and

(b) a construction trade ("the new trade")—

(i) is deemed by virtue of paragraph (5)(b) above to have been set up and commenced; or

(ii) (where sub-paragraph (i) above does not apply) is actually set up and commenced in the year 1998-99.

(7) Where this paragraph applies then, notwithstanding the deemed discontinuance, the old trade and the new trade shall be treated as the same for the purposes of section 385 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

(8) An officer of the Board shall not become entitled by virtue of anything in this Resolution to give a direction under paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 20 to the Finance Act 1994 in the case of a person whose trade is deemed under paragraph (5) above to cease on 5th April 1998.
(9) Paragraph (5) above does not apply if the sub-contractor by notice to an officer of the Board otherwise elects.

(10) An election under paragraph (9) above—

(a) if it relates to a trade carried on by an individual, must be included in a return under section 8 of the Taxes Management Act 1970 which is made and delivered in that individual’s case on or before the day on which it is required to be made and delivered under that section; and

(b) if it relates to a trade carried on by persons in partnership, must be included in a return under section 12AA of that Act which is made and delivered in the partners’ case, or in the case of any one or more of them, on or before the day specified in relation to that return under subsection (2) or (3) of that section.

(11) In this Resolution “construction trade” means a trade consisting in or including the rendering of services under contracts relating to construction operations (within the meaning of Chapter IV of Part XIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988).

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.

34. Employment termination benefits and retirement benefits

Resolved, That provision may be made about the taxation of benefits received—

(a) in connection with the termination, or a change in the duties of, an office or employment; or

(b) under a non-approved retirement benefits scheme.

35. Benefits in kind (car fuel)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 158 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, for the Tables in subsection (2) there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cylinder capacity of car in cubic centimetres</th>
<th>Cash equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,400 or less</td>
<td>£1,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 1,400 but not more than 2,000</td>
<td>£1,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 2,000</td>
<td>£1,890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cylinder capacity of car in cubic centimetres</th>
<th>Cash equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,000 or less</td>
<td>£1,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 2,000</td>
<td>£1,890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall have effect for the year 1998–99 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.

36. Travelling expenses

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 198(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and related provisions.

37. Profit-related pay

Resolved, That provision may be made about cases where profit periods for the purposes of profit-related pay overlap or are to be taken to overlap.

38. Foreign earnings deduction

Resolved, That—

(1) Section 193(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall cease to have effect.
Foreign earnings deduction for seafarers.

192A.—(1) Where in any year of assessment—

(a) the duties of an employment as a seafarer are performed wholly or partly outside the United Kingdom, and

(b) any of those duties are performed in the course of a qualifying period (within the meaning of Schedule 12) which falls wholly or partly in that year and consists of at least 365 days,

then, in charging tax under Case I of Schedule E on the amount of the emoluments from that employment attributable to that period, or to so much of it as falls in that year of assessment, there shall be allowed a deduction equal to the whole of that amount.

(2) In subsection (1) employment ‘as a seafarer’ means an employment consisting of the performance of duties on a ship (or of such duties and others incidental to them).

(3) For the purposes of this section a ‘ship’ does not include—

(a) any offshore installation within the meaning of the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971, or

(b) what would be such an installation if the references in that Act to controlled waters were to any waters.

(4) Schedule 12 has effect for the purpose of supplementing this section."

(3) The references in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 to section 193(1) shall be amended as follows—

(a) in section 19(1), in Case I of Schedule E, the words from “and to section 193(1)” to the end shall be omitted;

(b) in paragraph 10 of Schedule 11, after “193(1)” there shall be inserted “or 192A”;

(c) in section 132(3) and paragraphs 1, 1A, 2(1), 3(1) and (3), 5 and 6 of Schedule 12, for “193(1)” there shall be substituted “192A”.

(4) In Schedule 12 to that Act

(a) in paragraph 3(2)

(i) in paragraph (a) for “62” there shall be substituted “183”, and

(ii) in paragraph (b) for “one-sixth” there shall be substituted “one-half”;

(b) in paragraph 5

(i) for “vessel or aircraft” there shall be substituted “ship (within the meaning of section 192A)”, and

(ii) in paragraphs (a) and (b) for “voyage or journey” there shall be substituted “voyage”; and

(c) paragraphs 3(2A) and 7 shall be omitted.

(5) Paragraphs (1) to (4) of this Resolution shall have effect in relation to—

(a) emoluments attributable to qualifying periods beginning on or after 17th March 1998, and

(b) emoluments attributable to qualifying periods beginning before 17th March 1998 which are received on or after that date.

(6) Nothing in those paragraphs shall affect the question what deduction (if any) falls to be made under section 193(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 in the case of emoluments attributable to a qualifying period beginning before 17th March 1998 and received before that date.

(7) For the purposes of paragraphs (5) and (6) of this Resolution the question whether emoluments are attributable to a qualifying period beginning before 17th March 1998 shall be determined without reference to any arrangements entered into on or 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.

Resolved, That—

(1) In relation to any asset provided on or after 2nd July 1997 and before 6th April 1998, section 203F of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall have effect with the following two modifications.
(2) The first modification is the insertion in subsection (2), before the word "and" at the end of paragraph (b), of the following paragraph—

"(ba) an asset not falling within paragraph (a) or (b) above which consists in the rights of an assignee, or any other rights, in respect of a trade debt that is or may become due to the employer;".

(3) The second modification is the insertion in subsection (3), before the word "and" at the end of paragraph (a), of the following paragraph—

"(aa) in the case of an asset falling within subsection (2)(ba) above, the amount of the debt;".

(4) The preceding provisions of this Resolution shall be deemed, in accordance with paragraphs (5) and (6) below, to have come into force on 2nd July 1997.

(5) Subject to paragraph (6) below, this Resolution shall not be taken to have changed—

(a) the amounts which were deductible by any person under section 203 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 at any time on or before 17th March 1998; or

(b) the amounts which should have been accounted for to the Board under section 203J(3) of that Act at any time on or before 5th April 1998.

(6) Where, by virtue of this Resolution, any employer would (but for paragraph (5) above) be treated as having been under an obligation at any time on or before 17th March 1998 to make deductions from payments made by the employer of, or on account of, an employee's assessable income—

(a) sections 203 and 203J of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, and

(b) the provisions of any regulations under section 203 of that Act,

shall have effect as if the employer were obliged (subject to section 203J(3) of that Act) to make those deductions from any payments that are so made on or after 24th March 1998 and before 6th April 1998.

(7) Expressions used in paragraph (6) above and in section 203J of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 have the same meanings in that paragraph as in that section.

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. PAYE (non-cash benefits etc.)

Resolved, That provision may be made—

(a) extending the circumstances in which a person is to be treated for the purposes of PAYE regulations as having made a payment; and

(b) amending section 144A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

41. Enterprise investment scheme etc


42. Venture capital trusts

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending section 842AA of, and Schedules 15B and 28B to, the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.
43. Relief for loan to buy interest in close company

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 360 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

44. Relief for losses on certain unlisted shares


45. Group relief

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made about relief under Chapter IV of Part X of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

46. Life policies etc

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to policies of life insurance, contracts for life annuities and capital redemption policies.

47. Insurance companies (provisional repayments)

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to Schedule 19AB to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

48. Pension schemes etc

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made about—

(a) the approval of schemes for the purposes of Part XIV of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988; and

(b) cases in which an approval for those purposes has been given or has ceased to have effect.

49. Futures and options

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending Schedule 5AAA to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

50. Exchanges of securities etc

Resolved, That provision may be made—

(a) for sections 471 and 472 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 to cease to have effect; and

(b) for section 473 of that Act to apply in relation to shares instead of securities.

51. Double taxation relief on foreign interest and dividends

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Chapter II of Part XVIII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

52. Notification of adjustment of foreign tax

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 806 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, after subsection (2) there shall be inserted the following subsections—

"(3) Subject to subsection (5) below, where—

(a) any credit for foreign tax has been allowed to a person under any arrangements, and

(b) the amount of that credit is subsequently rendered excessive by reason of an adjustment of the amount of any tax payable under the laws of a territory outside the United Kingdom,

that person shall give notice in writing to an officer of the Board that an adjustment has been made that has rendered the amount of the credit excessive.

(4) A notice under subsection (3) above must be given within one year from the time of the making of the adjustment.

(5) Subsections (3) and (4) above do not apply where the adjustment is one the consequences of which in relation to the credit fail to be given effect to in accordance with regulations made under—

(a) section 182(1) of the Finance Act 1993 (regulations relating to individual members of Lloyd's); or

(b) section 229 of the Finance Act 1994 (regulations relating to corporate members of Lloyd's).

(6) A person who fails to comply with the requirements imposed on him by subsections (3) and (4) above in relation to any adjustment shall be liable to a penalty of an amount not exceeding the amount by which the credit allowed has been rendered excessive by reason of the adjustment."
(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to adjustments made on or after 17th March 1998.

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.

53. Transfer pricing (new regime)

Resolved, That provision for the purposes of income tax and corporation tax may be made, in place of sections 770 to 773 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, in relation to cases where provision is made or imposed as between any two persons which would not have been made as between independent enterprises.

54. Exchange gains and losses and financial instruments


55. Controlled foreign companies

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to controlled foreign companies.

56. Corporation tax (change of ownership)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made for the payment of unpaid tax, by persons other than the company liable, in cases where there has been a change in the ownership of a company and corporation tax assessed on that company or an associated company remains unpaid.

57. Corporation tax self-assessment, etc

Resolved, That provision may be made about corporation tax self-assessment and other matters relating to the management of that tax.

The references in this Resolution to corporation tax include any amount treated as if it were corporation tax.

58. Chargeable gains (rate for trustees etc)

Resolved, That provision may be made about the rate of capital gains tax in respect of gains accruing to trustees and personal representatives.

59. Chargeable gains (indexation and taper relief)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992—

(a) to restrict entitlement to indexation allowance; and

(b) for purposes connected with the introduction of taper relief, to restrict the availability of other reliefs.

60. Chargeable gains (pooling and identification)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992—

(a) limiting the circumstances in which different assets are to be treated as parts of a single asset; and

(b) setting out new rules for the identification of assets disposed of.

61. Chargeable gains (stock dividends)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 about stock dividends.

62. Chargeable gains (non-residents)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of capital gains tax in relation to individuals who, having ceased to be resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, again become so resident or ordinarily resident.

63. Chargeable gains (offshore settlements)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made imposing charges under the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 on the beneficiaries and settlors of settlements where there has been a time when the trustees of the settlement, or of a settlement from which property comprised in the settlement directly or indirectly derives—

(a) have not been resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, or

(b) have fallen for the purposes of any double taxation relief arrangements to be regarded as resident in a territory outside the United Kingdom.
64. Chargeable gains (transfers within a group etc.)

Resolved, That provision may be made, for the purposes of the taxation of chargeable gains, about—

(a) the persons who are companies for the purposes of sections 170 to 181 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992;
(b) transfers between companies within a group; and
(c) schemes of reconstruction or amalgamation involving the transfer of a business.

65. Chargeable gains (abolition of reliefs)

Resolved, That provision may be made repealing Chapter IA of Part V and sections 254 and 255 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

66. Chargeable gains (pre-entry gains)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 so as to restrict the amounts which, where a company has joined a group, may be set against chargeable gains accruing to the company before it joined the group.

67. Inheritance tax (property of historic interest etc)

Resolved, That provision may be made about—

(a) the designation of property for the purposes of any exemption under the Inheritance Tax Act 1984 or for the purposes of section 258 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992;
(b) the undertakings given for any of those purposes or for the purposes of any exemption under the Finance Act 1976 or the Finance Act 1975; and
(c) the conditions for exemption under section 27 of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984.

68. Inheritance tax (gifts for public benefit)

Resolved, That provision may be made repealing section 26 of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984.

69. Insurance premium tax

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of insurance premium tax—

(a) in relation to premiums taxable at the higher rate; and
(b) in relation to taxable intermediaries.

70. Landfill tax

Resolved, That provision may be made applying section 1 of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968 to landfill tax.

71. Stamp duty (conveyances and transfers on sale)

Resolved, That the following provisions shall have effect for the period beginning 24th March 1998 and ending 31 days after the earliest of the dates mentioned in section 50(2) of the Finance Act 1973—

1. Section 55 of the Finance Act 1963 and section 4 of the Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 1963 shall each be amended in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) below.

2. In subsection (1)(d), for “£1.50p” there shall be substituted “£2”.

3. In subsection (1)(e), for “£2” there shall be substituted “£3”.

4. This Resolution shall apply to instruments executed on or after 24th March 1998, except where the instrument in question is executed in pursuance of a contract made on or before 17th March 1998.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of section 50 of the Finance Act 1973.

72. Gas valuation

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending paragraph 3A of Schedule 3 to the Oil Taxation Act 1975, paragraph 12 of Schedule 2 to the Oil Taxation Act 1983 and section 493 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

73. European single currency

Resolved, That provision may be made for the modification, in connection with the adoption of a single currency by other member States of the European Community, of enactments and subordinate legislation relating to matters under the care and management of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.
74. 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 the following provisions taking effect in a future year—

(a) provision modifying the effect of sections 256, 257C and 347B of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
(b) provision for charging corporation tax for the financial year 1999 and with respect to the rates of that tax for that year and the fraction mentioned in section 13(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
(c) provision for and in connection with the abolition of advance corporation tax;
(d) provision for the repeal of sections 26 and 27 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
(e) provision as to the computation of profits and losses for tax purposes;
(f) provision for reducing, in the case of cars capable of running on road fuel gas, the cash equivalents of the benefits chargeable to tax under section 157 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
(g) provision preventing the opening of tax-exempt special savings accounts after 5th April 1999;
(h) provision relating to tax credits;
(i) provision relating to the taxation of payments representative of dividends and other distributions of companies;
(j) provision about the attribution of gains to the settlors of settlements created before 19th March 1991;
(k) provision phasing out retirement relief under sections 163 and 164 of, and Schedule 6 to, the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

Finance (No. 2) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Finance (No. 2) Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act of the present Session relating to finance, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) 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;
(b) the making out of the Consolidated Fund of repayments of gas levy and of payments of interest on such repayments;
(c) any increase attributable to any provision of that Act relating to the Debt Management Account in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament;
(d) any increase attributable to any provision of that Act relating to that Account in the sums payable out of or into the National Loans Fund or the Consolidated Fund;
(e) payments out of or into that Account.

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 Prescott, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Secretary Dobson, Secretary Harriet Harman, Mr Alistair Darling, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Geoffrey Robinson and Mrs Helen Liddell do prepare and bring it in.

4 Finance (No. 2) Bill,—Dawn Primarolo 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 156].

5 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) Cuffley and Northaw against residential development in the countryside and the green belt; and
(2) Bolton against any reduction in benefits to disabled and mentally disadvantaged people
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.25 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Environmental Protection (Prescribed Processes and Substances) (Amendment) (Hazardous Waste Incineration) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 767), dated 12th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

4 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions for the Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 19th March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by—

(1) Carlisle Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(2) East Anglian Ambulance National Health Service Trust,
(3) East Yorkshire Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(4) Havering Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(5) Huddersfield Health Care Services National Health Service Trust,
(6) Isle of Wight Healthcare National Health Service Trust,
(7) Leicestershire Mental Health Services National Health Service Trust,
(8) North Hampshire Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(9) Pinderfields & Pontefract Hospitals National Health Service Trust,
(10) Portsmouth Healthcare National Health Service Trust,
(11) Priority Healthcare Wearside National Health Service Trust, and
(12) South Tees Acute Hospitals National Health Service Trust
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 National Lottery,—Accounts of the National Lottery Distribution Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 654] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998 and draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class I Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Contracted-out Schemes) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Jim Dobbin and Mr James Wray (nominated in respect of the draft Orders), and appointed in substitution Mr Andrew Reed and Mr Allan Rogers.
2 Draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr lain Coleman (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations), and appointed in substitution Mr Ivan Lewis.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees:

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 23rd March [The Purchase of Read Codes and the Management of the NHS Centre for Coding and Classification]; to be printed [No. 657-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 145.]

Tuesday 24th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords]:

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 31st March.

2 Government of Wales 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 Government of Wales Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That—

(a) proceedings on Consideration of the Bill shall be taken in the following order, namely, New Clauses, amendments to Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1, Clauses 3 to 22, Schedule 2, Clauses 23 to 29, Schedule 3, Clauses 30 to 73, Schedule 4, Clauses 74 to 104, Schedule 5, Clause 105, Schedule 6, Clauses 106 to 109, Schedule 7, Clauses 110 and 111, Schedule 8, Clauses 112 to 120, Schedule 9, Clauses 121 and 122, Schedule 10, Clause 123, Schedule 11, Clause 124, Schedule 12, Clauses 125 to 135, Schedule 13, Clauses 136 to 139, Schedule 14, Clauses 140 to 146, Schedule 15, Clauses 147 to 153, New Schedules; and

(b) the two days allotted under the Order [15th January] to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be allotted in the manner shown in the following table and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in relation to that part of the proceedings in the third column of the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>New Clause 20 to New Clause 24</td>
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<td>New Clause 16 to New Clause 18</td>
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<td>New Clause 19, New Clause 27 and New Clause 31</td>
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<td>New Clause 1 to New Clause 4</td>
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<td>Remaining New Clauses</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 1 and 2, Schedule 1, Clauses 3 to 22 and Schedule 2</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 23 to 29, Schedule 3 and Clauses 30 to 61</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
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<td>Second Day</td>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 62 to 73, Schedule 4 and Clauses 74 to 78</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 79 to 104</td>
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<td>Remaining Amendments</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>10:00 p.m.</td>
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Report to lie upon the Table.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee on 24th March to lie upon the Table.
3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Frank Cook reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment Regulations 1998, the draft Advice and Assistance (Amended by: Wales of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998, the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 and the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998.

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

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998, and the draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998.

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

5 Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords] be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

6 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill.—The Order for further considering the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, as amended, on Friday 27th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be further considered on Friday 24th April.

7 Crown Estate (Amendment),—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Crown Estate Commissioners to exercise their functions with due regard to the non-commercial interests of local communities; to regulate the granting of sea-bed leases by the Crown Estate Commissioners and establishing the rent therefor; to amend section 4 of the Crown Estate Act 1961; and for connected purposes: And that Mr James Wallace, Mr Robert MacIennan, Mr John Home Robertson, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Charles Kennedy, Mrs Margaret Ewing and Mr Andrew George do prepare and bring it in.

8 Crown Estate (Amendment) Bill,—Mr James Wallace accordingly presented a Bill to require the Crown Estate Commissioners to exercise their functions with due regard to the non-commercial interests of local communities; to regulate the granting of sea-bed leases by the Crown Estate Commissioners and establishing the rent therefor; to amend section 4 of the Crown Estate Act 1961; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 157].

9 School Standards and Framework Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the School Standards and Framework Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (Teachers’ pay and conditions)—(Mr Stephen Dorrell)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Discontinuance of maintained rural primary schools)—(Mrs Angela Browning)—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 James Cran, Sir David Madel: 138.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 319.

Another Clause (Reinstitution of standards for educational premises)—(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 Adrian Sanders, Mr Edward Davey: 39.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 279.

Other Amendments (Nos. 47 to 51, 31, 65 and 70 to 73) made to the Bill. Another Amendment (No. 161) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 9, at the end, to insert the words—

"(d) a person nominated by other appropriate religious and local community groups."—(Mr Cynog Dafis.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 89) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 21, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) Any vacancy for a post of adjudicator shall be advertised publicly;

(1B) Any advertisement issued under the terms of subsection (1A) of this section shall set out the qualifications sought in successful candidates for appointment as adjudicators and shall state the process by which decisions will be made about which applicants are appointed as adjudicators.'.—(Mr Stephen Dorrell.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 162) proposed to the Bill, in page 23, line 9, at the end, to insert the words—

'(bb) requiring that agreement of the draft plan by the school organisation committee in respect of denominational school provision shall be by unanimity.'.—(Miss Ann Widdecombe.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr James Cran: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 308.

Another Amendment (No. 164) proposed to the Bill, in page 24, line 35, to leave out the words 'contain such information' and insert the words 'be required to seek approval against the following criteria;

(i) open to all irrespective of colour, creed, intellectual ability, social class or economic status;

(ii) offering a broad and balanced curriculum;

(iii) agreement to inspection and/or submissions to SATs or other relevant evaluation procedures;

(iv) equal opportunities for girls and boys;

(v) no corporal punishment;

(vi) establishment of a mission statement for the ethos, beliefs, values and admissions basis of the school;

(vii) minimum requirement for the number of teachers with QTS and a qualified head;

(viii) premises or potential premises that comply with health and safety standards;

(ix) a minimum number of children and statements of intent from parents', instead thereof.—(Mr Cynog Dafis.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 98 to 102, 4, 5, 9, 1, 81, 56 to 62, 82, 63, 64 and 6 to 8) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 150) proposed to the Bill, in page 54, line 40, at the end, to insert the words

'(bb) the governing bodies of city technology colleges,'.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 147) proposed to the Bill, in page 67, line 40, to leave out from the word 'ability' to the word 'any' in line 43.—(Mr Don Foster.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr Andrew Stunell: 44.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Jane Kennedy: 284.

Another Amendment (No. 90) proposed to the Bill, in page 69, line 28, to leave out the words 'Subject to subsection (2).'.—(Mrs Angela Browning.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 131.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Jane Kennedy: 331.

It being after Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

10 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the School Standards and Framework Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

11 School Standards and Framework Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the School Standards and Framework Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Amendment (No. 175) proposed to the Bill, in page 70, line 23, to leave out the word ‘had’ and insert the word ‘has’, instead thereof.—(Mr Stephen Dorrell.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Wednesday 25th March 1998

Amendment, by leave withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 177), proposed to the Bill, in page 70, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(3A) Regulations may make provision that where a maintained school is not a grammar school,—

(a) the admission authority for a school may submit an application to the Secretary of State to change the admission arrangements of the school so that the school will qualify for designation as a grammar school under this section;

(b) when the Secretary of State receives an application under this subsection he shall arrange for a ballot of parents who would qualify to vote in a ballot under section 97 and if a majority of those parents support the application of the admission authority, the admission authority shall secure that the admission arrangements of the school are revised in accordance with its proposal.’—(Mr Stephen Dorrell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 279.

Another Amendment (No. 125) proposed to the Bill, in page 74, line 25, after the word ‘adopt’, to insert the words ‘and from time to time review.’—(Mr Don Foster.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—(Mr Don Foster.)

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 3, 32 to 38, 25, 52, 53, 39 to 42, 12 to 22, 66, 67, 11, 23, 24, 68, 69, 26, 43, 29, 44 to 46, 30, 54, 103 to 110, 55, 111, 77 and 27) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (Partnership schemes)—(Mr Stephen Dorrell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr John Whittingdale: 45.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 220.

Another Clause (Parliamentary scrutiny of Annual Report of the Chief Inspector for England)—(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 Paul Keetch, Mr Edward Davey: 48.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Clive Betts: 194.

Another Clause (Requirement for recoupment to be paid for primary and secondary education)—(Mr Paul Burstow)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Clause (Making and approval of code of practice for local education authorities and maintained schools)—(Mr Phil Willis)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Corporal punishment)—(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 (Abolition of corporal punishment in schools etc.)—(Kali Mountford)—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 Adrian Sanders, Helen Jones: 211.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Andrew Robathan: 15.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 116) proposed to the Bill, in page 80, line 20, at the end, to insert the words—

`2A In Wales, the partnership shall have regard to the need for Welsh-medium nursery education to be accessible to all pupils.'—(Mr Cynog Dafis.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 144, 76, 10, 2, 87, 171, 74, 75, 83, 28, 78, 172, 84, 173, 174 and 112) 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 Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 208.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mr John Whittingdale: 19.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

12 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 33): Community Care Special Grants for 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 534), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

13 Rating and Valuation (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 27th February, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

14 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

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 sixteen minutes to Seven o’clock on Wednesday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 6.44 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance,—Special Grant Report (No. 34): Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 656] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Dentists,—European Primary and Specialist Dental Qualifications Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 811), dated 17th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Education (Scotland),—(1) Teachers (Compensation for Premature Retirement and Redundancy) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 719), and

(2) Teachers' Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 718),
dated 4th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

5 Explosives,—Report of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Explosives for Northern Ireland for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 598] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [18th February] from Poole and district for the retention in the National Roads Programme of the proposed new Poole Harbour Bridge [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Reserve Forces,—Order, dated 18th March 1998, amending the Territorial Army Regulations 1978 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

Paper withdrawn:

8 Deregulation,—Proposal for the Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998 [laid 23rd March].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 24th March; to be printed [No. 401-xi] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

2 Procedure,—Second Report from the Procedure Committee [Resource Accounting and Budgeting], 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. 438] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

3 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-Seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxvii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

4 Trade and Industry,—(1) Fourth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Coal], 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. 404]; and

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, Session 1997-98, on the Coordination of Inward Investment]; to be printed [No. 659]
[Mr Martin O'Neill].

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 24th March [The 1998 Budget]; to be printed [No. 647-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

6 Welsh Affairs,—Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 19th January [Emergency Funding for the NHS Trusts in Wales]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Evidence [No. 464] [Mr Martyn Jones].
47 Euz. II 25th March 1998

[No. 146.]

Wednesday 25th March 1998.

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 Jon Owen Jones);

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

2 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill.—Miss Ann Widdecombe reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 160].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 661].

3 Energy Efficiency Bill.—Mr Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Energy Efficiency Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 162].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 664].

4 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 161].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 663].

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998.

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

6 European Standing Committee A.—Mr John Maxton reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 5357/98, a draft Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 404/93 on the common organisation of the market in bananas and a draft Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate with countries having a substantial interest in the supply of bananas to the EU, and European Community Document No. 6150/98, a draft Regulation establishing a special framework of assistance for traditional ACP suppliers of bananas; and supports the Government's position that these proposals together represent a serious attempt to meet the EU's international obligations under the WTO and the Lomé Convention, that revised arrangements must take full account of the interests of those Caribbean countries which have traditionally supplied the UK with bananas and that aid to the Caribbean Commonwealth producers has an important part to play in assisting general adaptation to more competitive market conditions.

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

7 European Standing Committee B.—Mrs Ann Winterton reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 11165/97, two draft Regulations on aid to shipbuilding, and 11167/97, a Commission Communication: Towards a new shipbuilding policy (as they relate to new rules on Community aids to shipbuilding); and approves the Government's support for the Commission's proposals to end operating aid for shipbuilding and to focus remaining aids on improving the competitiveness of the industry, as providing a good basis for reaching agreement and fully taking account of the UK's shipbuilding interests subject to the Government being satisfied that the aid limits and monitoring provisions are sufficiently rigorous.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
8 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Data Protection Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make new provision for the regulation of the processing of information relating to individuals, including the obtaining, holding, use or disclosure of such information; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

9 Data Protection Bill [Lords].—The Data Protection Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 158].

10 Local Exchange Trading Schemes.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend social security regulations with respect to local exchange trading schemes; and for connected purposes: And that Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr David Drew, Mr David Lepper, Mr Paul Goggans, Mr Andrew Love, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mrs Joan Humble, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Cynog Dafis and Ms Maria Eagle do prepare and bring it in.

11 Local Exchange Trading Schemes Bill.—Mrs Linda Gilroy accordingly presented a Bill to amend social security regulations with respect to local exchange trading schemes; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 159].

12 Government of Wales Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [15th January], That paragraph 2 of the Order [15th January] be further amended by inserting at the end "; and on the first allotted day paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for two hours after Ten o'clock."—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

13 Government of Wales Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), that the further Report [24th March] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to. And the Question being put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jim Dowd: 277.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John M. Taylor: 136.
So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution.

14 Government of Wales Bill (Consideration) [1st allotted day].—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Government of Wales Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Mr Michael Ancram moved, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned, but the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 35 (Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House), declined to propose the Question thereupon to the House.

The House proceeded to consider the Bill.

A Clause (Assembly First Secretary and Assembly Secretaries)—(Mr Secretary Davies) brought up, and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;
And it being half-past Seven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Clause (Assembly First Secretary and Assembly Secretaries) was read a second time.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

The Clause (Assembly First Secretary and Assembly Secretaries) was added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Executive Committee)—(Mr Jon Owen Jones) brought up, read the first time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Subject committees)—(Mr Jon Owen Jones) brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Delegation of functions)—(Mr Jon Owen Jones) brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Exercise of functions by Assembly staff)—(Mr Jon Owen Jones) brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (Status of Welsh public records)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being a quarter to Eight o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Clause (Status of Welsh public records) was read a second time.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

The Clause (Status of Welsh public records) was added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Transfer of responsibility)—(Mr Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Meaning of “Welsh public records”—(Mr Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Consultation with business)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Power to promote and oppose private bills)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being half-past Eight o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Clause (Power to promote and oppose private bills) was read a second time.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

The Clause (Power to promote and oppose private bills) was added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Polls for ascertaining views of the public)—(Mr Secretary Davies)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Subordinate legislation)—(Mr Nigel Evans)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being Nine o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Another Clause (Power to enter into concordat)—(Mr Michael Ancram)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 309.

Amendment (No. 74) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 183) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 38, to leave out from the word 'have' to the end of line 2 on page 3 and insert the words 'one vote (referred to in this Act as a constituency vote).

(2) The constituency vote is to be given for a candidate to be the Assembly member for the Assembly constituency.

(3) There shall also be calculated an additional member vote for each registered political party which has submitted a list of candidates to be Assembly members for the Assembly electoral region in which the Assembly constituency is included.

(3A) The additional member vote for each party shall be the same as the constituency vote of the candidate of the party in that constituency.'; instead thereof.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 119.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 272.

Another Amendment (No. 75) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 212) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 36, to leave out the words 'in which they appear on the list' and insert the words 'of the number of votes cast for the candidates', instead thereof.—(Mr Richard Livsey.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Edward Davey: 25.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 248.

It being after Eleven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 153, 76 to 79, 122, 123, 80 and 81) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 235) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 38) proposed to the Bill, in page 76, line 12, at the end, to insert the words—

'SC. The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.'—(Mr Dafydd Wigley.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Thursday 26th March 1998

And it being Midnight, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 38) be made, put and negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 83, 154 to 160, 236, 124 to 129, 161 to 163, 130, 164, 131, 165 and 132) made to the Bill.

It being after Midnight, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Bill to be further considered this day.

15 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jon Owen Jones);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock on Wednesday 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 Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.32 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (New Grant-maintained Schools) (Finance) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 798), dated 25th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Police,—Police Grant (No. 2) (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 891), dated 23rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

3 Chelsea Hospital,—Account of the Royal Hospital Chelsea: Army Prize Money and Legacy Funds, &c. for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 662] [Clerk of the House].
4 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions for the Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Government Annuities,—Account of Government Annuities and Insurances for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Robinson].

6 Governance of London,—Paper, entitled A Mayor and Assembly for London: The Government’s proposals for modernising the governance of London [by Command] [Cm. 3897] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Law Commission (Scotland),—Reports of the Scottish Law Commission on—
   (1) Boundary Walls, and
   (2) the Law of the Tenement
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 584 and 583] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Obtaining a Benefit for Electricity Customers from the Flotation of the National Grid [by Act]; to be printed [No. 651] [Clerk of the House].

9 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Seventh, Eighth and Tenth to Twelfth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 3894] [Dawn Primarolo].

10 Utility Regulation,—Paper, entitled A Fair Deal for Consumers: Modernising the Framework for Utility Regulation [by Command] [Cm. 3898] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook and Mr Roger Gale Chairmen of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft International Development Association (Eleventh Replenishment) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Alan Williams from the Fourth Standing Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and appointed in substitution Mr Bob Laxton.

Grand Committees

3 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie and Mr Andrew Welsh Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Tuesday 7th April.

European Standing Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 13035/97, Annexes I, IV, V and VI, relating to the Energy Framework Programme (1998–2002); and 5140/98, relating to renewable sources of energy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 25th March [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-ix] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 25th March [The Future for Allotments]; to be printed [No. 560-iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 25th March [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
4 Public Accounts.—(1) Twentieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Charity Commission. Regulation and Support of Charities]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 408]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 25th March [The Management of Growth in the English Further Education Sector]; to be printed [No. 665-i]

[Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology.—(1) First Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research], 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. 303]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Science and Technology Committee [The Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Research]

[Dr Michael Clark].

6 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 25th March [Disability Living Allowance]; to be printed [No. 641-ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

7 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 25th March [Trade and Industrial Relations with Japan]; to be printed [No. 568-iii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

MEMORANDUM

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) the Speaker nominated Mr Alex Salmond to be a member of the Business Committee in respect of the Scotland Bill, in place of Mr Andrew Welsh.

[No. 147.]

Thursday 26th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Scotland 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 Scotland Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 22nd January be further varied so that—

(a) the seventh and eighth days allotted under the Order [13th January] to proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below, and

(b) each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) on the expiry of the allotted period (calculated from the time when the House resolves itself into a Committee on the Bill) specified in the third column of the Table.
### TABLE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings in Committee</th>
<th>Allotted period</th>
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<td><strong>Seventh day</strong></td>
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Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Donald Anderson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft International Development Association (Eleventh Replenishment) Order 1998.

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

3 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Northern Ireland economy, referred to it on 11th March, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 430].

4 Electro-Convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use) Bill.—The Order for reading the Electro-Convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use) Bill a second time on Friday 27th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 24th April.
5 Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill.—The Order for reading the Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill a second time on Friday 27th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

6 Government of Wales Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Government of Wales Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed to the Bill, in page 30, line 35, to leave out from the word 'for' to the end of line 43 and insert the words—'each of the regions of Wales. (2) These regions shall be the same as the electoral regions at the last ordinary election.'.—(Mr Nigel Evans.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 133 to 136, 166, 137 to 140 and 167) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 53) proposed to the Bill, in page 77, line 17, at the end, to insert the words—

'7A. The British Council.'.—(Mr Cynog Dafis.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 84 and 85) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 38, to leave out lines 26 and 27.—(Sir Teddy Taylor.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Seven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [15th January] and Resolution [yesterday], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

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

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 86 to 88, 141, 168, 89, 169, 90, 170, 91 and 171) made to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 106 to 111 and 180) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 21) proposed to the Bill, in page 53, line 17, to leave out the words 'or limiting'.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 150 to 152, 112, 92 and 142) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 226) proposed to the Bill, in page 56, line 42, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2) The Treasury shall reimburse the Assembly for any costs in providing information under this section.'.—(Dr John Marek.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 113) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 182) proposed to the Bill, in page 92, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

'The Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 (c. 80)

In section 1 to the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 (bank holidays), after the end of subsection (5) insert—

"(5A) Subject to subsection (5B), the powers conferred on Her Majesty by subsections (2) and (3) above may, as respects Wales, be exercised by the National Assembly for Wales ('the Assembly').

(5B) A proclamation by the Assembly in reliance on its powers under subsection (5A) shall be made by order.

(5C) Section 66 of the Government of Wales Act 1998 (disapplication of procedural requirements) shall not apply in a order under subsection (5B).".'.—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.
And it being Eight o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

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

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 114, 181, 115, 93 to 96, 116, 117, 97, 172 to 177, 98, 118 to 121, 99, 100, 178, 237, 101, 179, 143 to 149 and 102 to 105) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

7 Adjournment. Resolution, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past 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 (Scotland),—Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area [by Act]; to be printed [No. 660] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Video Recordings, Video Recordings (Labelling) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 852), dated 18th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


Other Papers:

4 British Waterways Board, —Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 25th March 1998 in respect of temporary borrowing by the British Waterways Board from the National Westminster Bank plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

5 Criminal Injuries Compensation, —(1) Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 631]; and

(2) Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3921]

[Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Social Security (Administration), —Account of the Social Fund for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 666] [Clerk of the House].

7 Welfare Reform, —Paper, entitled New ambitions for our country: a new contract for welfare [by Command] [Cm. 3805] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture, —(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 26th March [Food safety]; to be printed [No. 331-x]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Food safety]

[Mr Peter Luff]

2 Culture, Media and Sport, —Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 26th March [Audio-visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 520-viii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment, —(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 26th March [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-iii]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 26th March [Pathways into work for women]; to be printed [No. 646-ii] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 26th March [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-v] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Treasury.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 12th March [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503-viii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 26th March [The 1998 Budget]; to be printed [No. 647-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 148.]

Friday 27th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Kingston and Surbiton, Richmond Park and Twickenham for regulation of London’s minicab industry was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [20th March], That the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords] be now read the third time.

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

The Bill was read the third time and passed, with an Amendment.

3 Pesticides Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Pesticides Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Restriction on application of regulations)—(Mr David Maclean)—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 20, at the end, to insert the words ‘which shall not include the cost of original research on the pesticide, nor the costs of collating the information for Government departments or the manufacturer’s own use.’—(Mr James Paice.)

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

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

4 Animal Health (Amendment) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Animal Health (Amendment) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

5 Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill (changed from Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill), as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Needs of the elderly and families with young children)—(Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Vehicle Excise Duty and Hydrocarbon Oil Duty)—(Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up, and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Reports under Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997) (Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 13) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Friday 24th April.

6 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Local Authority Tenders Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out lines 8 to 12.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

It being half-past Two o'clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Bill to be further considered on Friday 24th April.

7 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Order of the day being read for the Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill;

Resolved, That this House will resolve itself into the said Committee on Friday 24th April.

8 Public Records (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [30th January], That the Public Records (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 24th April.

9 School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax Bill);

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

10 Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

11 Door Supervisors (Registration) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Door Supervisors (Registration) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

12 Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

13 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

14 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

15 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th April.

16 Regional Development Agencies Bill (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the Regional Development Agencies Bill:

1. The proceedings on consideration shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at half-past Ten o’clock on Wednesday 1st April and proceedings on Third Reading shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at midnight on that day; and paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for two hours after Ten o’clock.
2. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill.

3. For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by or under this Order—

(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith 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 Schedule which has been read a second time, the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill);

(c) the Question that any remaining new Clauses or new Schedules standing in the name of a member of the Government be added to the Bill;

(d) the Question that all remaining amendments standing in the name of a member of the Government be made; and

(e) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour. (Mr Jim Dowd.)

17 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 30th March.

[Adjourned at 3.02 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (Grant-maintained and Grant-maintained Special Schools) (Finance) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 799), dated 26th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

2 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 900), dated 26th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

3 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 868), dated 13th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales: Review of Educational Provision in Wales, 1996–97 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 653] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 Trinidad and Tobago (No. 1, 1998),—Agreement, done at Port of Spain on 5th January 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago concerning Mutual Assistance in Relation to Crime [by Command] [Cm. 3900] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Fourth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [UK Air Traffic Control], 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. 360] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
Monday 30th March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill,—Ordered, That the Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill, as amended on consideration, be printed [Bill 163].

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:—
   The Lords have agreed to the Bank of England Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
   The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendment made by this House to the Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords].

3 Bank of England Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Bank of England Bill to be considered tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 164].

4 Scotland Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [15th January], That the Order [15th January] relating to Scotland Bill (Programme) be further amended as follows:
   (a) In paragraph 1, by leaving out 'at Ten o'clock' and inserting 'six hours and thirty minutes after the House resolves itself into a Committee on the Bill', and
   (b) By inserting after paragraph 1A the following paragraph—
      '1B. On the seventh and eighth allotted days paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for any part of the period of six hours and thirty minutes after the House resolves itself into a Committee on the Bill which falls after Ten o'clock'—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

5 Scotland Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the further Report [26th March] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

   Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

6 Scotland Bill (Committee) [7th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

   (In the Committee)

   Schedule No. 5 (Reserved matters).

   Amendments (Nos. 509 to 511) made.

   Amendment (No. 345) proposed, in page 59, to leave out line 17.—(Ms Roseanna Cunningham).

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

   Other Amendments (Nos. 512 to 522) made.

   Another Amendment (No. 72) proposed, in page 59, line 45, at the end, to insert the words—
      '(c) dealings directly related to international agreements affecting devolved matters.'—(Mrs Margaret Ewing).

   Question put, That the Amendment be made.

   The Committee divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Andrew Welsh: 5.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 285.

   Two hours and ten minutes having elapsed since the start of proceedings in Committee on the Bill this day, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution this day put the Question necessary to dispose of proceedings required to be disposed of at that hour.

   Another Amendment (No. 523) made.
Another Amendment (No. 407) proposed, in page 60, line 39, to leave out the words 'and non-domestic rates)' and insert the words ') but not locally raised business or non-domestic rates or any local sales or local tourist industry tax.'—(Dr Liam Fox.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 467) proposed, in page 60, to leave out lines 41 to 44.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 320) proposed, in page 61, line 3, at the end, to insert the words—

'Exception from reservation

The issue of bank notes by Scottish banks.'—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 469) proposed, in page 61, to leave out line 23.—(Mr Nick Hawkins.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 464) made.

Another Amendment (No. 502) proposed, in page 63, line 30, at the end, to insert the words—

'(c) regulation of business trusts in relation to land ownership and land use.'—(Ms Roseanna Cunningham.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 525) made.

Another Amendment (No. 476) proposed, in page 66, to leave out lines 1 to 3.—(Mr John Hayes.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 332 and 526) made.

Six and a half hours having elapsed, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings required to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 527 to 532) made.

The Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

7 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

8 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

9 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

10 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Legal Aid and Advice (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.
Legislation), That the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 4th March, be approved—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

11 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 9th March, be approved—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

12 Aid to Shipbuilding,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 11165/97, two draft Regulations on aid to shipbuilding, and 11167/97, a Commission Communication: Towards a new shipbuilding policy (as they relate to new rules on Community aids to shipbuilding); and approves the Government's support for the Commission's proposals to end operating aid for shipbuilding and to focus remaining aids on improving the competitiveness of the industry, as providing a good basis for reaching agreement and fully taking account of the UK's shipbuilding interests, subject to the government being satisfied that the aid limits and monitoring provisions are sufficiently rigorous—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

13 Bananas,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 5357/98, a draft Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 404/93 on the common organisation of the market in bananas and a draft Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate with countries having a substantial interest in the supply of bananas to the EU, and European Community Document No. 6150/98, a draft Regulation establishing a special framework of assistance for traditional ACP suppliers of bananas; and supports the Government's position that these proposals together represent a serious attempt to meet the EU's international obligations under the WTO and the Lomé Convention, that revised arrangements must take full account of the interests of those Caribbean countries which have traditionally supplied the UK with bananas and that aid to the Caribbean Commonwealth producers has an important part to play in assisting general adaptation to more competitive market conditions—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.36 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Customs and Excise,—Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 899), dated 26th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Education,—Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 903), dated 30th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Other Papers:

7 Criminal Procedure (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Costs, Sentencing Profiles and the Scottish Criminal Justice System, 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
8 Criminal Statistics,—Statistical Bulletin: Criminal Proceedings in Scottish Courts, 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


10 Law Commission,—Report of the Law Commission on the Rules against Perpetuities and Excessive Accumulations [by Act]; to be printed [No. 579] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

11 Local Government Finance,—Accounts of the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales for the period 1st April to 31st October 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 668] [Clerk of the House].

12 Superannuation,—(1) Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1998, and (2) Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1998 [by Act] [Dr David Clark].

13 Telecommunications,—Report of the Director General of Telecommunications for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 652] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

14 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Report of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) for 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs & Excise: Checking Large Traders’ VAT Liability]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 445];

(2) Thirtieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Prison Service: Prison Catering]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 419]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 30th March [Ministry of Defence: Appropriation Accounts 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 671-i] [Mr David Davis].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Regional Development Agencies Bill).

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) The Speaker nominated Mr Graham Allen, Jackie Ballard, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr David Clelland, Mr Stephen Day, Angela Eagle, Mr Keith Hill and Mr Tim Yeo to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Regional Development Agencies Bill.

[No. 150.]

Tuesday 31st March 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Tamar Bridge Bill,—A Motion being made, That the Tamar Bridge Bill be now read the third time;

Dr Gavin Strang, by her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purpose 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.

2 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the second reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday 20th April at Seven o’clock.
3 Regional Development Agencies 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 Regional Development Agencies Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That each part of the proceedings on Consideration shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Programme Order of 27th March) at the time specified in the following Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clause 2 and New Clause 1</td>
<td>5.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Clause 3</td>
<td>7.15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remaining New Clauses and Amendments to Clauses 1 to 19</td>
<td>8.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 20 to 23</td>
<td>9.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining Amendments</td>
<td>10.30 p.m</td>
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Report to lie upon the Table.

4 Millennium Conformity.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision with respect to the capability of computer systems and other goods and related services to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999; to require certain invoices to be paid promptly; to make 31st December 1999 a bank holiday; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Atkinson, Mr David Amess, Frank Cook, Mr Tam Dalyell, Lynne Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Charles Kennedy, Mr Robert Sheldon, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr John Townend and Mr Dafydd Wigley do prepare and bring it in.

5 Millennium Conformity Bill.—Mr David Atkinson accordingly presented a Bill to make provision with respect to the capability of computer systems and other goods and related services to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999; to require certain invoices to be paid promptly; to make 31st December 1999 a bank holiday; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 165].

6 Scotland Bill (Committee)[8th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Scotland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Schedule No. 5 (Reserved matters).

Another Amendment (No. 495) proposed, in page 68, to leave out lines 33 and 34.—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 533 to 544) made.

Another Amendment (No. 406) proposed, in page 71, line 15, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 7 on page 72.—(Mr Oliver Heald.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

One hour and forty minutes having elapsed since the start of proceedings in Committee on the Bill this day, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [yesterday] put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

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

The Chairman then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 545 to 550) made.

Another Amendment (No. 412) proposed, in page 73, line 38, at the end, to add the words ‘Laws of procedure and evidence in disciplinary hearings.’.—(Mr James Wallace.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 551 to 554) made.
Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 75, to leave out lines 2 to 4.—(Dr Liam Fox.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And three hours and thirty minutes having elapsed, the Chairman put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 159.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Jane Kennedy: 278.

The Chairman then put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 555 to 557) made.

Another Amendment (No. 19) proposed, in page 76, to leave out lines 14 to 20.—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 347) proposed, in page 76, to leave out lines 21 to 39.—(Ms Roseanna Cunningham.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Donald Gorrie: 39.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Jane Kennedy: 284.

Four hours and forty five minutes having elapsed, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings required to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 558 and 559) made.

Another Amendment (No. 484) proposed, in page 77, to leave out line 10.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Schedule (No. 5), as amended, agreed to.

A Clause (Sex discrimination in selection of candidates)—(Maria Fyfe)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And five hours and forty minutes having elapsed, the Chairman put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Sir Robert Smith: 38.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Janet Anderson: 272.

Another Clause (Register of concordats)—(Mr Michael Ancram)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 120.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 272.

More than six hours and thirty minutes having elapsed, the Chairman proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Clause No. 110 agreed to.

Schedules Nos. 7 and 8 agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 111 to 113 agreed to.

Clause No. 114 (Commencement).

Amendment (No. 560) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 115 and 116 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Greg Pope reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be considered to-morrow and be printed [Bill 166].

7 Pensions,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

8 Pensions,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Contracted-out) Schemes Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.—(Mr Greg Pope);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Kevin Hughes: 271.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 119.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Contracted-out) Schemes Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 4th March, be approved.

9 Overseas Development and Co-operation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft International Development Association (Eleventh Replenishment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 20th February, be approved.—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

10 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for an end to research into xenotransplantation was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

Wednesday 1st April 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes past Twelve o'clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.07 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Dangerous Drugs,—(1) Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 882), and

dated 23rd March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


[Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Trade Marks,—Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 925), dated 30th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

5 Housing Corporation,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 31st March 1998 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Housing Corporation from Barclays Bank plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 Law Commission (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Law Commission on Diligence on the Dependence and Admiralty Arrestments [by Act]; to be printed [No. 585] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Saville Inquiry,—Northern Ireland Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Lord Saville, Sir Edward Somers and William Hoyt, Counsel to the Inquiry and the Inquiry Secretariat [by Command] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

8 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Report of the Certification Officer for 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 Treasury Solicitor,—Crown’s Nominee Account for 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 31st March [Audio-Visual Communications and the Regulation of Broadcasting]; to be printed [Nos. 520-ix and -x] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 31st March [Sustainable Waste Management]; to be printed [No. 484-viii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 31st March [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-ii] [Mr John Horam].

4 European Legislation,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 31st March [Role of the European Court of Auditors]; to be printed [No. 672] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 International Development Committee,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 31st March [Debt Relief]; to be printed [No. 563-iii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 31st March; to be printed [No. 401-xii] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 31st March [Your Right to Know: The Government’s proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 398-vii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Standards and Privileges,—Fifteenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr John Prescott], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 669] [Mr Robert Sheldon].
9 Statutory Instruments.—(1) Twenty-Eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxviii]; and
   (2) First Special Report from the Committee; together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 673]
   [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 30th March [Energy Policy]; to be printed [No. 471-v] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

11 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 31st March [The 1998 Budget]; to be printed [No. 647-iv] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 151.]

Wednesday 1st April 1998.

PRAYERS.

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

2 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 5140/98, a Commission White Paper entitled Energy for the Future: Renewable Sources of Energy, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum on the Council Resolution on Renewable Sources of Energy submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 16th March 1998, and European Community Document No. 13035/97, Annex I (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual framework programme for actions in the energy sector (1998–2002)), Annex IV (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual framework programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources in the Community: ALTENER II (1998–2002)), Annex V (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual programme for the promotion of energy efficiency (1998–2002): SAVE II), and Annex VI (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual programme of technological actions promoting the clean and efficient use of solid fuels: CARNOT (1998–2002)); and supports the Government’s view that actions should be taken to promote a greater use of renewable energy within Europe, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, and that measures to promote renewables should be compatible with the need to restrain public expenditure and avoid disproportionate costs for consumers and industry and supports the Government’s view that EU spending programmes with an energy component should, as far as practicable, be brought together in a framework programme to improve co-ordination and transparency.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Tyne Tunnels Bill, without Amendment.

Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision for preventing crime and disorder; to create certain racially-aggravated offences; to abolish the rebuttable presumption that a child is doli incapax and to make provision as to the effect of a child’s failure to give evidence at his trial; to abolish the death penalty for treason and piracy; to make changes to the criminal justice system; to make further provision with respect to remands and committals for trial and the release and recall of prisoners; to amend Chapter I of Part II of the Crime (Sentences) Act 1997 and to repeal Chapter I of Part III of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Act 1997; to make amendments designed to facilitate, or otherwise desirable in connection with, the consolidation of certain enactments; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—The Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 167].
5 Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Secretary Dewar, supported by Mr Henry McLeish, presented a Bill to amend, with retrospective effect, the law in relation to intermediate diets in summary criminal proceedings in Scotland: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 168].

6 Legal Reform.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to constitute a national community legal service; to create a right to legal services and legal representation; to establish a legal service of employed lawyers and legal advisers throughout England and Wales under the superintendence of a legal services commission; to set up a Ministry of Justice; to modernise the judiciary, legal services and the legal professions; to curtail the power of courts martial; and for related purposes: And that Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Tony Benn, Mr Nick Harvey, Lynne Jones, Mr Gordon Prentice and Mr Alan Simpson do prepare and bring it in.

7 Legal Reform Bill.—Mr Austin Mitchell accordingly presented a Bill to constitute a national community legal service; to create a right to legal services and legal representation; to establish a legal service of employed lawyers and legal advisers throughout England and Wales under the superintendence of a legal services commission; to set up a Ministry of Justice; to modernise the judiciary, legal services and the legal professions; to curtail the power of courts martial; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 169].

8 Regional Development Agencies Bill [Money] (No. 2).—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Regional Development Agencies Bill [Money] (No. 2):

Resolved, That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Regional Development Agencies Bill it is expedient to authorise any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under the Superannuation Act 1972. —(Mr David Clelland.)

9 Regional Development Agencies Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [31st March] from the Business Committee be now considered.—(Mr David Clelland): It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

10 Regional Development Agencies Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Regional Development Agencies Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Stamp duty)—(Mr Richard Caborn)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Activities of agencies in rural areas)—(Mr Tim Yeo)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being half-past Five o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [27th March] and Resolution [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 166.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Clive Betts: 295.

Another Clause (Access to meetings etc. of regional development agencies)—(Mrs Jackie Ballard)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being a quarter-past Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Donald Gorrie: 163.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr John McFall: 283.
Another Clause (Responsibility for Training and Enterprise Councils)—(Mr Andrew F. Bennett)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 7) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 32) proposed to the Bill, in page 9, line 35, to leave out from the word 'agreement' to the end of line 39.—(Mr Tim Yeo.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Oliver Heald: 114.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Graham Allen: 289.

Other Amendments (Nos. 4, 9 to 11, 25 and 13) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 28) proposed to the Bill, in page 18, line 33, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) The Secretary of State shall once in every financial year lay before both Houses of Parliament a statement listing the property, rights and liabilities of the Urban Regeneration Agency which have not been subject of any directions under subsection (1).'—(Mr David Curry.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 14) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed to the Bill, in page 21, line 10, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2) No statutory instrument may be made under subsection (1) until the Secretary of State has laid before Parliament a copy of any concordat reached between Her Majesty's Government, the regional development agencies in England, the Scottish Executive and the National Assembly for Wales (or any of them) in relation to regional assistance.'—(Mr David Curry.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 26 and 12) 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 David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 270.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 127.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

11 Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) (Scotland) Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) (Scotland) 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.—(Jane Kennedy.)

12 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Solihull in favour of an earnings-related state pension was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.47 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Commonwealth Development Corporation,—Report and Accounts of the Commonwealth Development Corporation for 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

4 Development of Tourism,—Statement by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport of salaries of the Chairman and Members of the Board of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Grants to Voluntary Bodies [by Act]; to be printed [No. 655] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 27th March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Avalon,
   (2) East Suffolk Local Health Services,
   (3) East Wiltshire Health Care,
   (4) Gateshead Health,
   (5) Gloucestershire Royal,
   (6) Hinchingbrooke Healthcare,
   (7) Leeds Teaching Hospitals,
   (8) Mid Cheshire Hospitals,
   (9) Norfolk Mental Health Care,
   (10) Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre,
   (11) Phoenix,
   (12) Portsmouth Hospitals,
   (13) South Buckinghamshire,
   (14) Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals,
   (15) Stoke Mandeville Hospital,
   (16) Swindon & Marlborough, and
   (17) West Dorset General Hospitals
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Institute of Legal Executives Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr John Burnett, Mr Edward Garnier, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Jane Kennedy, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Andy King, Ms Tess Kingsham, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr David Lock, Bob Russell and Mr Shaun Woodward.
2 Special Grant Report (No. 34) Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1998–99 and Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Reports to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Roger Casale, Ms Judith Church, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Neil Gerrard, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Henry McLeish, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mr Ernie Ross, Sir Robert Smith, Mr David Stewart, Mr Ian Taylor, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr John Townend.

3 Value Added Tax (Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Oliver Letwin, Sir Peter Lloyd, Dan Norris, Sir Raymond Powell, Ms Dawn Primarolo, Mr Robert Sheldon, Mr Ian Stewart and Mr Desmond Turner.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Norman Baker, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Andrew George, Glenda Jackson, Mr Austin Mitchell, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Richard Puge, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Ms Claire Ward and Audrey Wise.

European Standing Committees

5 European Community Document No. 13289/97, relating to convergence of the telecommunications, media and information technology sectors, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence and Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence and Trade and Industry Committees meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4)(e) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) on 1st April [Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy]; to be printed [No. 675-i] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Fifth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Disaffected Children], 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. 498]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee [Disaffected Children]

[Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 1st April [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-vi] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 1st April [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-v] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Legislation,—Twenty-third Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxiii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].
6 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 1st April [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-vi] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 1st April [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337-x] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 1st April [Intervention Board Executive Agency: Appropriation Account 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 676-i] [Mr David Davis].

9 Science and Technology,—(1) Second Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Year 2000—Computer Compliance], 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. 342];
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Science and Technology Committee [The Year 2000—Computer Compliance]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 1st April [Glaxo Wellcome]; to be printed [No. 627-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

10 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 1st April [The Operation and Policy of the Scottish Water Authorities]; to be printed [No. 674] [Mr David Marshall].

11 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 1st April [Disability Living Allowance]; to be printed [No. 641-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Scotland Bill)

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), the Speaker nominated Mr Andrew Welsh to be a member of the Business Committee in respect of the Scotland Bill, in place of Mr Alex Salmond.

[No. 152.]

Thursday 2nd April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Maze Prison (Narey Inquiry).—Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there will be laid before this House a Return of the Report of an inquiry by Martin Narey, Director of Regimes of the Prison Service of England and Wales, into the escape of a prisoner from HM Prison Maze on 10th December 1997 and the shooting of a prisoner on 27th December 1997.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

2 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill, without Amendment.

3 Opposition day [4th allotted day—2nd part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.
   International Arms Trade,—Resolved, That this House, mindful of the conclusions of the Scott Report, commends Her Majesty’s Government for its efforts to obtain agreement for a European Union Code of Conduct on the arms trade; and urges Her Majesty’s Government to ensure that any such code sets high common standards governing arms exports for all Member States, and, in particular, to insist that export guidelines are transparent, unambiguous and pay due regard to human rights.—(Mr Menzies Campbell.)
4 Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) (Scotland) Bill.—The Criminal Procedure. (Intermediate Diets) (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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr John McFall 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 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till Monday 6th April.

[Adjourned at 7.48 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 National Health Service,—Lewisham and Guy’s Mental Health National Health Service Trust (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 895), and

(2) Lincolnshire Ambulance and Health Transport Service National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 896),

dated 25th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

2 Criminal Statistics,—Statistical Bulletin: Recorded Crime in Scotland, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Education,—Paper, entitled Learning is for Everyone [by Command] [Cm. 3924] [Mr Secretary Davies].

4 Maze Prison (Narey Inquiry),—Return to an Address to Her Majesty this day for a Return of the Report of an inquiry by Martin Narey, Director of Regimes of the Prison Service of England and Wales, into the escape of a prisoner from HMP Maze on 10th December 1997 and the shooting of a prisoner on 27th December 1997; to be printed [No. 658] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

5 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the Wallace Collection for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 677] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 31st March 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts.

(1) Andover District Community Health Care,
(2) Chase Farm Hospitals,
(3) Dewsbury Health Care,
(4) Harrogate Health Care,
(5) Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals,
(6) Norfolk and Norwich Health Care,
(7) Northallerton Health Services,
(8) Northampton General Hospital, and

(9) Oxfordshire Mental Healthcare

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 569] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland,—Report of the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland for 1990 [by Command] [Cm. 3891] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Institute of Legal Executives Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Piara S. Khabra and Ms Tess Kingham from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and appointed in substitution Mr John McDonnell, Mr Jim Dobbin and Mr Clive Efford.

2 Special Grant Report (No. 34) Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant for 1998-99 and Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Judith Church from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Report); and appointed in substitution Mr Harry Cohen.

3 Value Added Tax (Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 762),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Eric Illsley and Dr Desmond Turner from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order); and appointed in substitution Mr Kevin Barron and Mr James Plaskitt.

4 Draft Hovercraft (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 1998, draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 1998 and draft Hovercraft (Application of enactments) (Amendment) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Claire Ward from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and appointed in substitution Yvette Cooper.

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 13289/97, relating to Convergence of the Telecommunications, Media and Information Technology sectors.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Food safety] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee on 2nd April [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-iv] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 2nd April [Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 503-ix] [Mr Giles Radice].

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

PRAYERS.

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

Business Improvement Districts Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for the establishment and administration of business improvement districts; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Electricity Generation Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to extend the obligation to generate electricity from certain fuel sources; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Opposition Day [10th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Trade Union Recognition.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House urges the Government to define its policy on trade union recognition; and urges it to require the support of 50 per cent. of the total workforce, rather than 50 per cent. of those voting in ballots, to determine whether union recognition should be compulsory, given the Government's rejection of the Official Opposition's policy of leaving the law unchanged—(Mr Stephen Dorrell);

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 for acting quickly and effectively to redress the damaging culture of low pay, job insecurity and the sweatshop economy inherited from the previous Government by adopting a partnership approach to set decent minimum standards for all workers; notes that good standards at work are essential for competitiveness and business success and that the Government has, as part of its strategy for ensuring decent minimum standards and labour market flexibility, involved employers' and workers' representatives on the Low Pay Commission and in discussions on trade union recognition, and in addition has restored union rights at GCHQ, signed the European Social Chapter and made rapid progress on the National Minimum Wage Bill; and further notes that the Government is also committed, as part of that strategy, which enjoys wide support, to implementing the Directives on Working Time, Young Workers, European Works Councils and Part-Time Work, and to fulfilling the Government's commitment to enable workers to enjoy union recognition where a majority of the relevant workforce vote in a ballot for the union to represent them', instead thereof—(Mr Ian McCartney.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Sir David Madel: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 316.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 congratulates the Government for acting quickly and effectively to redress the damaging culture of low pay, job insecurity and the sweatshop economy inherited from the previous Government by adopting a partnership approach to set decent minimum standards for all workers; notes that good standards at work are essential for competitiveness and business success and that the Government has, as part of its strategy for ensuring decent minimum standards and labour market flexibility, involved employers' and workers' representatives on the Low Pay Commission and in discussions on trade union recognition, and in addition has restored union rights at GCHQ, signed the European Social Chapter and made rapid progress on the National Minimum Wage Bill; and further notes that the Government is also committed, as part of that strategy, which enjoys wide support, to implementing the Directives on Working Time, Young Workers, European Works Councils and Part-Time Work, and to fulfilling the Government's commitment to enable workers to enjoy union recognition where a majority of the relevant workforce vote in a ballot for the union to represent them.
Manufacturing Industry,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, This this House notes the TUC forecast of 200,000 job losses in manufacturing resulting from this Government’s economic policies, the fact that so many manufacturers have to make representations about export and trading problems, the absence of a stable and competitive exchange rate, the damage done by tax increases imposed on business and the forthcoming wage and labour relations problems coming from the Government’s social and labour law agenda; and urges the Government to put the interests of manufacturing business higher up its agenda, changing policies before factories close and jobs are lost—(Mr John Redwood).

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 ‘deplores the Opposition’s attempt to criticise the economic management of the Government as a feeble attempt to cover up their own appalling record of economic mis-management; notes that under the Conservatives Britain slumped in the world prosperity league, saw the slowest period of growth since World War II, saw higher average inflation than in any other major industrialised country bar Italy, and had the lowest level of investment of the 24 OECD countries; also notes that the Conservatives left office with manufacturing investment lower than it was when they came to power, left Britain’s share of world trade at its lowest ever, gave Britain a deficit on manufacturing trade for the first time ever, saw thousands of manufacturing firms go under due to their boom and bust policies, more than doubled the level of unemployment in their period in office, and left behind not a golden economic legacy, but an economy and public finances facing real difficulties; congratulates the Government on its prompt actions such as promoting the competitiveness agenda and fostering investment in R & D and innovation, and creating an open and transparent framework for monetary and fiscal policy to secure a platform of stability for growth and employment; and notes that the Government is addressing the problems which the Conservative Government left behind with positive practical proposals to take the nation into the 21st century’, instead thereof.—(Secretary Margaret Beckett.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Oliver Heald: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 333.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments)—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House deplores the Opposition’s attempt to criticise the economic management of the Government as a feeble attempt to cover up their own appalling record of economic mis-management; notes that under the Conservatives Britain slumped in the world prosperity league, saw the slowest period of growth since World War II, saw higher average inflation than in any other major industrialised country bar Italy, and had the lowest level of investment of any of the 24 OECD countries; also notes that the Conservatives left office with manufacturing investment lower than it was when they came to power, left Britain’s share of world trade at its lowest ever, gave Britain a deficit on manufacturing trade for the first time ever, saw thousands of manufacturing firms go under due to their boom and bust policies, more than doubled the level of unemployment in their period in office, and left behind not a golden economic legacy, but an economy and public finances facing real difficulties; congratulates the Government on its prompt actions such as promoting the competitiveness agenda and fostering investment in R & D and innovation, and creating an open and transparent framework for monetary and fiscal policy to secure a platform of stability for growth and employment; and notes that the Government is addressing the problems which the Conservative Government left behind with positive practical proposals to take the nation into the 21st century.

3 Energy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 5140/98, a Commission White Paper entitled Energy for the Future: Renewable Sources of Energy, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum on the Council Resolution on Renewable Sources of Energy submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 16th March 1998; and European Community Document No. 13035/97, Annex I (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual framework programme for actions in the energy sector (1998–2002)), Annex II (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual framework programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources in the Community: ALTENER II (1998–2002)), Annex III (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual framework programme for the promotion of energy efficiency (1998–2002): SAVE II), and Annex VI (a draft Decision adopting a multiannual framework of technological actions promoting the clean and efficient use of solid fuels: CARNOT (1998–2002)); and supports the Government’s view that actions should be taken to
promote a greater use of renewable energy within Europe, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, and that measures to promote renewables should be compatible with the need to restrain public expenditure and avoid disproportionate costs for consumers and industry and supports the Government's view that EU spending programmes with an energy component should, as far as practicable, be brought together in a framework programme to improve co-ordination and transparency—(Mr Graham Allen).—It was agreed to.

4 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 8th April, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

5 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from East Surrey against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.35 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 3rd April 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 European Communities (No. 1, 1998),—Protocol, done at Brussels on 30th October 1997, to the Agreement on Cooperation and Customs Union between the European Economic Community and the Republic of San Marino consequent upon the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union, with Final Act [Cm. 3899] [Mr Secretary Cook].


(1) Chancellor of the Exchequer's Departments (including Net Payments to European Community Institutions) [Cm. 3917] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer];

(2) Department for Culture, Media and Sport [Cm. 3911] [Mr Secretary Smith];

(3) Department for Education and Employment and Office for Standards in Education [Cm. 3910] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and

(4) Department of Health: The Health and Personal Social Services Programmes [Cm. 3912] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 Public Expenditure,—Paper, entitled Public Expenditure: Statistical Analyses 1998–99 [Cm. 3901] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 3rd April 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Agriculture,—(1) Fertilisers (Mammalian Meat and Bone Meal) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 954), and

(2) Fertilisers (Mammalian Meat and Bone Meal) (Conditions of Manufacture) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 955), dated 2nd April 1998 [Dr John Cunningham].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 6th April 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

7 Contracting Out.—Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


9 National Health Service.—Special Trustees for University College Hospital (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 897), dated 25th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


Other Papers:

11 Agricultural Marketing.—Report on Agricultural Marketing Schemes for 1995–96 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


(1) HM Customs and Excise [by Command] [Cm. 3918] [Dawn Primarolo];
(2) Home Office [by Command] [Cm. 3908] [Mr Secretary Straw];
(3) Inland Revenue [by Command] [Cm. 3919] [Dawn Primarolo]; and
(4) Department of Trade and Industry [by Command] [Cm. 3905] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

13 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Countering Anti-competitive Behaviour in the Telecommunications Industry [by Act]; to be printed [No. 667] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Health Service.—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health:

(1) on 1st April 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by Fosse Health National Health Service Trust; and
(2) on 3rd April 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts:

(i) Bath Mental Health Care,
(ii) Lifecare,
(iii) Merton & Sutton Community, and
(iv) Weston Area Health
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

15 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Petition [13th March] from Kite’s Nest Farm, Broadway, for exemption from the requirement to cull cows [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 762).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Sir Raymond Powell and Mr Robert Sheldon from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order); and appointed in substitution Mr Andy King and Dr Rudi Vis.

2 Draft Hovercraft (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 1998, draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 1998 and draft Hovercraft (Application of Enactments) (Amendment) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Derek Foster and Dr Nick Palmer from the Fourth Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and appointed in substitution Mr Jim Murphy and Mr Gwyn Prosser.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Future for Allotments] to be printed [No. 560-iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

[No. 154.]
Tuesday 7th April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Ann Widdecombe reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Institute of Legal Executives Order 1998.

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

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 34) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant 1998–99) (House of Commons Paper No. 656) 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. 660).

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

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 762).

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

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

The Lords have agreed to the Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) (Scotland) Bill, without Amendment.

5 Licensing (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Paul Truswell presented a Bill to amend section 169 of the Licensing Act 1964 so that any person selling alcohol to persons under the age of 18 on licensed premises commits an offence: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 170].

6 Football Sponsorship Levy,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a Football Levy Board with powers to impose levies on football organisations and to allocate sums for the benefit of association football: And that Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Lembit Öpik and Mrs Teresa Gorman do prepare and bring it in.

7 Football Sponsorship Levy Bill,—Gillian Merron accordingly presented a Bill to establish a Football Levy Board with powers to impose levies on football organisations and to allocate sums for the benefit of association football: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 171].

8 National Lottery Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the National Lottery Bill [Lords]:

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jim Dowd: 309.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 135.

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

9 National Lottery Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to National Lottery Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the National Lottery Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure of the Director General of the National Lottery which is attributable to the Act;
   (b) any expenditure of the National Lottery Commission established by the Act; and
   (c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other enactment; and

(2) the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jim Dowd: 300.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Dominic Grieve: 14.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purpose of any Act resulting from the National Lottery Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure of the Director General of the National Lottery which is attributable to the Act;
   (b) any expenditure of the National Lottery Commission established by the Act; and
   (c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other enactment; and

(2) the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund.

10 Social Security.—Ordered, That the Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 911) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Harborough against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt 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 Robert Ainsworth.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.50 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting.—Draft Broadcasting (Percentage of Digital Capacity for Radio Multiplex Licence) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Fishing Vessels (Life-Saving Appliances) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 927),

   (2) Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 928), and
(3) Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) (Fishing Vessels) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 929), dated 30th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 National Health Service,—East London and The City Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 977), dated 6th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


Other Papers

5 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 7th April 1998, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the estimates for 1998–99 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 European Parliamentary Constituencies,—Supplementary Review of the European Parliamentary Constituencies by the Boundary Commission for Wales [by Command] [Cm. 3896] [Mr Secretary Straw].

   (1) Cabinet Office, Privy Council Office and Parliament [by Command] [Cm. 3920] [Dr David Clark];
   (2) Department for International Development [by Command] [Cm. 3907] [Secretary Clare Short];
   (3) Department of Social Security [by Command] [Cm. 3913] [Secretary Harriet Harman];
   (4) Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, Ordnance Survey, Officer of Passenger Rail Franchising, Office of the Rail Regulator and Office of Water Services [by Command] [Cm. 3906] [Mr Secretary Prescott];
   (5) Foreign & Commonwealth Office [by Command] [Cm. 3903] [Mr Secretary Cook];
   (6) Lord Chancellor’s & Law Officers’ Departments [by Command] [Cm. 3909] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon];
   (7) Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Intervention Board [by Command] [Cm. 3904] [Dr John Cunningham];
   (8) Ministry of Defence [by Command] [Cm. 3902] [Mr Secretary Robertson];
   (9) Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 3916] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam]; and
   (10) Welsh Office and the Office of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales [by Command] [Cm. 3915] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Supply Estimates, 1998–99,—(1) Estimates (Classex IXVIII) for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 635] [Dawn Primarolo];
   (2) Estimates (Class XVIII, A, House of Commons) for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 636] [The Speaker]; and
   (3) Estimates (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1: National Audit Office) [by Command]; to be printed [No. 637] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

APPENDIX II

European Standing Committees

1 The unnumbered Explanatory Memoranda submitted by HM Treasury on 2nd April 1998, relating to Economic and Monetary Union, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 7th April [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-i] [Mr John Horam].
2 European Legislation,—Twenty-fourth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Home Affairs,—Second Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on police disciplinary and complaints procedures]; to be printed [No. 683] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 7th March [Debt Relief]; to be printed [No. 563-iv] [Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Parliamentary Privilege,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 7th April; to be printed [No. 401-xiii] [Sir Patrick Cormack].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 7th April [Your Right to Know: The Government’s Proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 398-vii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 7th April [Disability Living Allowance]; to be printed [No. 641-iv] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxix] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 7th April [The Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 447-vi] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 155.]

Wednesday 8th April 1998.

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—(Bridget Prentice);

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

2 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:

Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Act 1998
Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) (Scotland) Act 1998

3 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 13289/97, a Commission Green Paper on the convergence of the telecommunications, media and information technology sectors, and the implications for regulation: Towards an Information Society Approach; shares the Commission’s assessment of the importance of convergence to support the development of the information society; welcomes the Commission’s recognition that the development of convergence provides substantial opportunities for job creation and growth; and notes that the Government intends shortly to launch a consultation on the future regulation of broadcasting and telecommunications in the United Kingdom.

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

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Hovercraft
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 British Museum (Lindisfarne Gospels).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the transfer of the Lindisfarne Gospels from the British Museum to a location in the North East Region of England—(Mr Fraser Kemp);

And the Question 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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business);—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Denis Murphy and Mr Jim Dobbin do prepare and bring in the Bill.

6 British Museum (Lindisfarne Gospels) Bill,—Mr Fraser Kemp accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the transfer of the Lindisfarne Gospels from the British Museum to a location in the North East Region of England: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 172].

7 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—The Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time, and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

8 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure of a Minister of the Crown incurred under or by virtue of the Act; and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided; and

(2) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of any sums received by a Minister of the Crown under or by virtue of the Act—(Jane Kennedy).—It was agreed to.

9 Education,—Ordered, That the Nursery Education (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 655) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Jane Kennedy.)

10 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Putney against a further terminal at Heathrow Airport was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till Monday 20th April, pursuant to Resolution [20th March].

[Adjourned at 10.28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Antarctica,—Antarctic (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1007), dated 19th March 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Cook].

2 Channel Tunnel,—Channel Tunnel (Carriers' Liability) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1015), dated 8th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Consumer Credit,—(1) Consumer Credit (Further Increase of Monetary Amounts) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 997), dated 31st March 1998, and
[by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Environmental Protection.—Financial Assistance for Environmental Purposes (No. 3) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1001), dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Food.—Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 994), dated 6th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


7 Immigration.—(1) Immigration (Transit Visa) (Amendment No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1014), dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Local Government.—(1) National Crime Squad Service Authority (Members' Interests) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1003), and
(2) National Crime Squad Service Authority (Standing Orders) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1002),
dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Northern Ireland.—Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1004), dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

(2) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1005),
(3) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1006),
(4) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1000), and
(5) Road Vehicles Registration Fee (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 995),
dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


12 Sheriff Court (Scotland).—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 999), dated 1st April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Social Services.—Residential Care Homes and the Nursing Homes and Mental Nursing Homes (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 902), dated 27th March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

14 Local Government (Scotland).—Accounts of the Accounts Commission for Scotland for the period 1st April to 31st October 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 685] [Clerk of the House].

15 Miscellaneous (No. 2, 1998).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 16th December 1997, to the North Atlantic Treaty on the Accession of the Republic of Poland [by Command] [Cm. 3929] [Mr Secretary Cook].

16 Miscellaneous (No. 3, 1998).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 16th December 1997, to the North Atlantic Treaty on the Accession of the Czech Republic [by Command] [Cm. 3930] [Mr Secretary Cook].

17 Miscellaneous (No. 4, 1998).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 16th December 1997, to the North Atlantic Treaty on the Accession of the Republic of Hungary [by Command] [Cm. 3931] [Mr Secretary Cook].
18 Reserve Forces.—Report, dated 3rd April 1998, under section 54(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 on the making of a call-out order under section 54(1) of that Act [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

19 Treaty Series (No. 81, 1997).—Fourth Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3923] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 National Lottery Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr Joe Benton Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Janet Anderson, Mr Tony Banks, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Damian Green, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Robert Maclean, Fiona Mactaggart, Laura Moffatt, Mr Jim Murphy, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr David Prior, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Gareth R. Thomas and Mr Nigel Waterson.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Jackie Ballard, Mr Graham Brady, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr John Cryer, Mr John Cummins, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mrs Theresa May, Estelle Morris, Mr Peter Snape, Rachel Squire, Mr Nick St Aubyn, Mr Mark Todd, Mr Phil Willis and Derek Wyatt.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 8th April [Strategic Defence Review] [No. 138-x]; to be printed [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 8th April [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-x] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 2nd and 8th April [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-vi and -vii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].


5 Treasury.—(1) Fourth Report from the Treasury Committee [The 1998 Budget], 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. 647]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Treasury Committee [The 1998 Budget]

[Mr Giles Radice]
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Local Exchange Trading Schemes Bill.—The Order for reading the Local Exchange Trading Schemes Bill a second time on Friday 24th April was read and discharged.
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

2 Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill.—The Order for reading the Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill a second time on Friday 24th April was read and discharged.
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

3 War Memorials Preservation Bill.—The Order for reading the War Memorials Preservation Bill a second time on Friday 24th April was read and discharged.
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

4 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), That the matter of the rural economy in Wales, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration.—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

5 Bank of England Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Bank of England Bill.
   Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 4 were agreed to.
   Lords Amendment No. 5.
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment.—(Mr Alistair Darling);
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 231.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Stephen Day: 107.
   So the Question was agreed to.
   The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
   Lords Amendments Nos. 6 to 16 were agreed to.
   Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 5.—(Mrs Helen Liddell.)
   Ordered, That Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr David Hanson, Mrs Helen Liddell and Mr John Whittingdale be members of the Committee.—(Mrs Helen Liddell.)
   Ordered, That three be the Quorum of the Committee.—(Mrs Helen Liddell.)
   Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mrs Helen Liddell.)

6 Data Protection Bill [Lords].—The Data Protection Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Data Protection Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Data Protection Bill [Lords][Money];
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Data Protection Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any increase attributable to the Act in—
      (i) the expenses of the Data Protection Registrar (renamed the Data Protection Commissioner by the Act),
      (ii) any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State in respect of the Data Protection Tribunal or the members of the Tribunal, and
      (iii) any expenses incurred by a government department in complying with the requirements imposed on data controllers,
(b) any administrative expenses of the Secretary of State attributable to the Act, and
(c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable out of money so provided—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

8 Data Protection Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That any Act resulting from the Data Protection Bill [Lords] may—

(a) require the payment of fees in connection with notification by, and the renewal of registration of, data controllers under the Act; and

(b) provide for the payment of those fees and other sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

9 Legal Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Institute of Legal Executives Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 12th March, be approved—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

10 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Supply of Services) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 762), dated 17th March 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 17th March, be approved—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

11 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area (House of Commons Paper No. 660), which was laid before this House on 26th March, be approved—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

12 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area (House of Commons Paper No. 660), which was laid before this House on 26th March, be approved—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

13 Deregulation.—Ordered, That Mr David Lock be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Mr Andy King to be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie.)

14 European Legislation.—Ordered, That Norman Baker be discharged from the European Legislation Committee and Mr Colin Breed be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie.)

15 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Welsh Grand Committee shall meet at County Hall, Carmarthen, on Tuesday 5th May at Eleven o'clock to take questions under Standing Order No. 103 (Welsh Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and to consider the matter of the rural economy in Wales under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), proceedings being interrupted at half-past Four o'clock—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

16 Welsh Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones be discharged from the Welsh Affairs Committee and Mr Elfyn Llwyd be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

17 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and committed.

18 Bank of England Bill.—Mrs Helen Liddell reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 5 to the Bank of England Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed her to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to the Amendment made by the Lords in page 6, line 8, for the following Reason:

Because the members of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England are appointed solely for their monetary policy expertise. It is for the Committee to collect from across the whole of the United Kingdom the information it needs for monetary policy purposes, and for the court of directors of the Bank to ensure that it does.
The Reason was agreed to.
Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendment.

19 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

Papers presented by Her Majesty's Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Financial Reporting to Parliament,—Departmental Reports for 1998: the Government's expenditure plans for 1998–99 for the Departments of the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Forestry Commission [Cm. 3914] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Libraries,—Paper, entitled New Library: the People's Network: the Government's Response [Cm. 3887] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Northern Ireland,—Paper, entitled The Belfast Agreement: An Agreement Reached at the Multi-Party Talks on Northern Ireland [Cm. 3883] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Treaty Series (No. 16, 1998),—Exchange of Notes, done at Montevideo on 8th December 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay concerning the Transfer of the Hut Located in Hope Bay (Bahia Esperanza) in the Antarctic Peninsula [Cm. 3932] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

9th April 1998

5 Plant Breeders' Rights,—(1) Plant Breeders' Rights (Farm Saved Seed) (Specification of Species and Groups) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1025),
(2) Plant Breeders' Rights (Farm Saved Seed) (Specified Information) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1026),
(3) Plant Breeders' Rights (Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1021),
(5) Plant Breeders' Rights (Information Notices) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1024), and
dated 8th April 1998 [Dr John Cunningham].

6 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Road Works (Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1029), dated 7th April 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


15th April 1998

8 Agriculture,—(1) Feeding Stuffs (Establishments and Intermediaries) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1049), and
(2) Feedingstuffs (Zootechnical Products) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1047),
dated 9th April 1998 [Dr John Cunningham].

(3) Medicines (Exemptions for Merchants in Veterinary Drugs) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1044), and
dated 9th April 1998 [Dr John Cunningham].


17th April 1998

11 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—(1) Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 962), and
(2) Gaming Clubs (Hours and Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 961),
dated 2nd April 1998 [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 20th April 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

12 Northern Ireland.—(1) Draft Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996 (Cessation of Section 3) Order 1998, and
(2) draft Northern Ireland Negotiations (Referendum) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

13 Fire Services.—Firemen’s Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1010),
dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

14 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection: Large Ships) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1012), and
dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

15 Housing.—Account of Grants and Loans to the Housing Action Trusts for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 690] [Clerk of the House].

16 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Performance of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme in England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 678] [Clerk of the House].


[No. 157.]

Tuesday 21st April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Mental Health Act 1983 to provide greater access to hospital accommodation for mentally ill people; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords].—The Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 175].
3 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill.—The Order for further considering the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, as amended, on Friday 24th April was read and discharged.

Bill to be further considered on Friday 3rd July.

4 Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill.—Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Robertson, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr Paul Murphy, presented a Bill to make provision for the establishment of the New Northern Ireland Assembly and for the election of its members: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 173].

5 Deregulation of Racecourses,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the deregulation of racecourses: And that Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Richard Page, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr James Paice, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Lindsay Hoyle and Mr Richard Spring do prepare and bring it in.

6 Deregulation of Racecourses Bill,—Mr Laurence Robertson accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the deregulation of racecourses: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 174].

7 Finance (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Finance (No. 2) 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 (No. 2) Bill because it increases business taxation, reduces the incentive to save, increases the incentive for cross-border shopping in duty-paid goods, adds to the complexity of the taxation system, fails to deliver an environmental strategy, and threatens to turn a golden economic legacy into a Work to Welfare programme’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Nigel Waterson: 144.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Janet Anderson: 350.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Janet Anderson: 298.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Oliver Heald: 190.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Ordered, That—

(1) Clauses 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147 be committed to a Committee of the whole House;

(2) the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee; and

(3) 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.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

Committee to-morrow.

8 European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, Section 5,—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 1998–99 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993—(Mrs Helen Liddell);

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. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents).
The House proceeded to a Division.

Mr Clive Betts and Jane Kennedy were appointed Tellers for the Ayes, but no Member being willing to act as Teller for the Noes, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Ayes had it.

So the Question was agreed to.


Wednesday 22nd April 1998

9 Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill.—Ordered. That, in respect of the Northern Ireland (Elections) 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.—(Jane Kennedy.)

10 Hovercraft.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Hovercraft (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims (Amendment)) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

11 Merchant Shipping.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

12 Hovercraft.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Hovercraft (Application of Enactments) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 17th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

13 Telecommunications, Media and Information Technology.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 13289/97, a Commission Green Paper on the convergence of the telecommunications, media and information technology sectors, and the implications for regulation: Towards an Information Society Approach; shares the Commission's assessment of the importance of convergence to support the development of the information society; welcomes the Commissions's recognition that the development of convergence provides substantial opportunities for job creation and growth; and notes that the Government intends shortly to launch a consultation on the future regulation of broadcasting and telecommunications in the United Kingdom—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Twelve o'clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.30 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Marine Pollution,—Draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Department for Culture, Media and Sport Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon future maintenance costs of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Football Spectators,—Report and Accounts of the Football Licensing Authority for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].
4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors for 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 679] [Clerk of the House].

5 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Nursery Education (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 655).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Peter Snape from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations; and appointed in substitution Dr Howard Slooate.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 21st April [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-iv] [Mr John Horam].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 21st April [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-vii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 21st April [Alternatives to Prison Sentences]; to be printed [No. 486-vii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 21st April [Welfare Reform Green Paper and the Department of Social Security Departmental Report]; to be printed [No. 587-ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Thirtieth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxx] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 21st April [Regional Funding]; to be printed [No. 697-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 21st April [The Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 447-vii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 158.]

Wednesday 22nd April 1998.

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 Jim Dowd); and it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Nursery Education (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 655).

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

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

Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend section 12 of the Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1996; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
4 Registered Establishments (Scotland) Bill.—Dr Lynda Clark, supported by Rosemary McKenna, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr David Stewart, Mr Frank Roy, Miss Anne Begg, Ms Sandra Osborne, Mr James Wallace, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Russell Brown and Mr John Home Robertson, presented a Bill to add to the classes of establishment which require to be registered under section 61 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 24th April and to be printed [Bill 176].

5 Children's Nurseries (Safety).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Children Act 1989 to improve the registration and inspection procedures in nurseries by introducing stricter safety guidelines for registration and more frequent and unannounced inspections: And that Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Frank Cook, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mrs Helen Brinton, Christine Russell, Ms Candy Atherton, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Lawrence Robertson, Mr David Amess and Mr David Chaytor do prepare and bring it in.

6 Children's Nurseries (Safety) Bill,—Mr Lindsay Hoyle accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Children Act 1989 to improve the registration and inspection procedures in nurseries by introducing stricter safety guidelines for registration and more frequent and unannounced inspections: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 177].

7 Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the following provisions shall apply to proceedings on the Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill:

Timing of proceedings

1.—(1) Proceedings on the Bill shall be completed at the sitting on Wednesday 22nd April.

(2) Proceedings on Second Reading shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion four hours after the commencement of proceedings on this motion.

(3) Remaining proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion seven hours after the commencement of proceedings on this motion.

(4) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at the sitting on 22nd April.

2.—(1) When the Bill has been read a second time—

(a) it shall, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), stand committed to a Committee of the whole House without any Question being put; 

(b) proceedings on the Bill shall stand postponed while the Question is put, in accordance with Standing Order No. 52(1) (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), on any financial resolution relating to the Bill; and

(c) on the conclusion of proceedings on any financial resolution relating to the Bill, proceedings on the Bill shall be resumed and the Speaker shall leave the Chair whether or not notice of any instruction has been given.

(2) On the conclusion of proceedings in Committee the Chairman shall report the Bill to the House without putting any Question; and if he reports the Bill with Amendments, the House shall proceed to consider the Bill as amended without any Question being put.

Questions to be put

3.—(1) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 the Chairman or Speaker shall forthwith put the following Questions (but no others)—

(a) any Questions already proposed from the Chair;

(b) any Question necessary to bring to a decision a Question so proposed;

(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown; and

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded;

and on a Motion for a new Clause or Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(2) If two or more Questions would fall to be put by the Chairman under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to successive provisions of the Bill, the Chairman shall instead put a single Question in relation to those provisions.
Miscellaneous

4. If at the sitting on 22nd April—
   (a) a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24
      (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent
      consideration) stands over to Seven o’clock, and
   (b) proceedings on the Bill have begun before that time,

the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be
postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion.

5.—(1) No Motion shall be made to alter the order in which any proceedings on the
      Bill are taken.

   (2) No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, proceedings on the Bill shall
      be made except by a Minister of the Crown; and the Question on any such Motion shall
      be put forthwith.

   (3) 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.

6. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to this Order.

7.—(1) The proceedings on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying
       or supplementing the provisions of this Order shall, if not previously concluded, be
       brought to a conclusion one hour after they have been commenced; and Standing Order
       No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings.

   (2) If at the sitting on 22nd April the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended,
       before the time at which any proceedings are to be brought to a conclusion under
       paragraph 1, no notice shall be required of a Motion made by a Minister of the Crown
       for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order—(Mrs Ann Taylor);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr John McFall: 350.
Tellers for the Noes, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr William Thompson: 11.

So the Question was agreed to.

8 Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill,—The Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill was, according to
Order, read a second time.

The Bill stood committed to a Committee of the whole House, pursuant to Order
[this day].

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed.

9 Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been
signified to the proposed Motion relating to Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing
Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with
bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Northern Ireland (Elections)
Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any
costs incurred by a government department in relation to the election to the New
Northern Ireland Assembly or the filling of vacancies—(Mr Jim Dowd)—It was agreed
to.

10 Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill,—The House, pursuant to Order [this day], resumed
proceedings on the Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill; and the Deputy Speaker left the
Chair.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (The Assembly).

Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 1, line 13, to leave out ‘108’ and insert ‘90’,
instead thereof.—(Mr William Ross.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Roy Beggs: 5.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 274.

Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 2 (The election).

Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 1, line 25, to leave out the word ‘local’ and insert the word ‘Parliamentary’, instead thereof.—(Mr William Ross.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 12 and 13.—(Mr William Ross.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Vacancies).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 21 to 23 and insert the words—

'(2) An order under subsection (1) above may—

(a) require a seat last filled by a member of a registered party to be filled by another member nominated by that party (without a by-election);

(b) provide for a by-election to be held;

(c) prescribe such other method of filling vacancies as the Secretary of State thinks fit; and different provision (including provision that a vacancy shall not be filled) may be made for different circumstances.

(3) In this section “registered party” means any party registered under any enactment providing for the registration of political parties.’, instead thereof.—(Mr Andrew Mackinlay.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 4 (Disqualification).

Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 2, line 27, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) A person is disqualified for membership of the Assembly if he belongs to a party which—

(a) is attached to a proscribed organisation which is listed in Schedule 2 to the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996, and which—

(i) has not declared, and is not presently honouring, a permanent and total cessation of violence; and

(ii) has not surrendered its illegal weaponry; and

(iii) has not dismantled its paramilitary structure, and

(b) has not made an unequivocal declaration of its acceptance of the six principles contained in the Report of the International Commission on Decommissioning, which establish a commitment to—

(i) exclusively peaceful means; and

(ii) abide by the democratic process.’.—(Mr Peter Robinson.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr William Thompson, Mr Peter Robinson: 10.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Janet Anderson: 174.

Another Amendment (No. 12) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 35 and 36.—(Mr William Ross.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being seven hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill (Programme), the Chairman put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 12) be made, put and negatived.

The Chairman then put forthwith the other Question necessary for the disposal of business to be concluded at that hour.
Clauses Nos. 4 to 9 and the Schedule agreed to.
Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill to the House.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, without Amendment.

Question put, That the Bill be now read the third time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 178.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr William Thompson: 10.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

11 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Northern Ireland Negotiations (Referendum) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 20th April, be approved—(Mr Paul Murphy);

Thursday 23rd April 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland Negotiations (Referendum) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 20th April, be approved.

12 Northern Ireland.—Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc.) Act 1996 (Cessation of Section 3) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 20th April, be approved.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes to One o'clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Harbours, Docks etc.—Ports (Levy on Disposals of Land, etc.) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 1998, No. 148), dated 7th April 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

2 Compliance Cost Assessments,—List of Compliance Cost Assessments for 1st July to 31st December 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3938] [Dr David Clark].

3 European Community Finances,—Statement on the 1998 EC Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement [by Command] [Cm. 3937] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Investigation of Misconduct at Glasgow Caledonian University [by Act]; to be printed [No. 681] [Clerk of the House].

5 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [27th March] from citizens of Kingston and Surbiton, Richmond Park and Twickenham concerning regulation of London’s minicab industry [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].


7 Treaty Series (No. 14, 1998),—1983 Amendments, adopted at London on 17th June 1983, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (MSC.6(48)) Volume 1 [by Command] [Cm. 3927] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B, and has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara and Mrs Ray Michie Chairmen; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr James Clappison, Mr James Cran, Mr David Crausby, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Nick Hawkins, Ms Sally Keeble, Jane Kennedy, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Colin Pickthall, Angela Smith, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Paddy Tipping and Mr Stephen Twigg.

2 Data Protection Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh and Mr George Stevenson Chairmen; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated seventeen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Stephen Day, Mr John Greenway, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr George Howarth, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Nigel Jones, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Robert Symns, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Derek Twigg, Ms Claire Ward and Mr Brian White.

3 Finance (No. 2) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147) to Standing Committee E, and has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody and Mr John Butterfill Chairmen; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated thirty-nine Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Yvette Cooper, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr Alan Johnson, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Andy Love, Dr Lewis Moorie, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr James Plaskitt, Ms Dawn Primarolo, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr David Ruffley, Miss Geraldine Smith, Helen Southworth, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West), Mr Don Touhig, Mr Derek Twigg, Mr John Whittingdale and Mr Shaun Woodward.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr David Borrow, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr John Gunnell, Helen Jones, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Mark Oaten, Bridget Prentice, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr David Rendel, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Ms Dari Taylor.

Grand Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meeting in Carmarthen on Tuesday 5th May.

European Standing Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Documents Nos. 7531/97 and 12929/97, relating to Water Policy, and European Community Documents Nos. 6177/94 and 12591/97, relating to bathing water.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Fourth Report from the Agriculture Committee [Food Safety], 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. 331]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Flood and coastal defence; vitamin B6]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 22nd April [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-xi] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 22nd April [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-vii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 22nd April [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-viii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Legislation,—Twenty-fifth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxv] [Mr Jim Marshall].

6 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Fifth Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Consultation Paper on Voting Methods]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 699] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs,—First Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee on Northern Ireland Public Expenditure: Current Plans and Priorities]; to be printed [No. 700] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 22nd April [SmithKline Beecham plc]; to be printed [No. 627-ii] [Dr Lynne Jones].

9 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 22nd April [Inward Investment into Scotland]; to be printed [No. 698-i] [Mr David Marshall].

10 Treasury,—(1) Fifth Report from the Treasury Committee [The UK and Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union], 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. 503]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Treasury Committee [The UK and Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]

[Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 159.]

Thursday 23rd April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

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

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Bank of England Bill, to which this House has disagreed.

2 Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 179].

3 Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill,—Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, supported by Secretary Harriet Harman, Mr Alistair Darling, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Geoffrey Robinson and Mrs Helen Liddell presented (under Standing Order No. 50 (Procedure upon bills whose main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue)) a Bill to authorise the incurring of expenditure in connection with the replacement of certain
4 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 Act, agreed upon by both Houses:


5 Adjournment (Royal Air Force).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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

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

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 Marine Pollution.—Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1056), dated 16th April [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 National Health Service.—Special Trustees for the Middlesex Hospital (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1104), dated 21st April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

3 Development Board for Rural Wales.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 22nd April 1998 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Development Board for Rural Wales from Barclays Bank plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

4 Sea Fisheries.—Reports by—

(1) the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the proceedings under Sections 1-5 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967, for—

(i) 1995, and

(ii) 1996

[by Act] [Dr John Cunningham]; and

(2) the Secretary of State for Wales on the proceedings under Sections 1-5 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967, for—

(i) 1995, and

(ii) 1996

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].


dated 22nd April 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].
APPENDIX II

European Standing Committees

European Community Documents Nos. 7161/98 and 7188/98, relating to Economic and Monetary Union, have been referred to European Standing Committee B in place of the unnumbered Explanatory Memoranda submitted by HM Treasury on 2nd April, which were referred on 7th April.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 23rd April [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-v] [Mr John Horam].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 23rd April [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-vii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

[No. 160.]

Friday 24th April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of mid-Worcestershire against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill,—The Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill (changed from Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill) was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed.

3 Public Interest Disclosure Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Public Interest Disclosure Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Compensation for unfair dismissal)—(Cheryl Gillan)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, line 29, to leave out from the beginning of the line to the end of line 32 and insert the words—

“(4) Part IVA and sections 47B and 103A do not have effect in relation to categories of employment and certain employees employed in the security service, the Secret Intelligence Service or the Government Communications Headquarters, in respect of which there is in force a certificate issued by or on behalf of a Minister of the Crown certifying that employment of a description specified in the certificate, or the employment of a particular person so specified, is (or at a time specified in the certificate, was) required to be excepted from those provisions for the purpose of safeguarding national security.” instead thereof—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 8, line 39, to leave out from the beginning of the line to the end of line 4 on page 9. (Mr David Maclean.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Waste Minimisation Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Waste Minimisation Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 1, line 18, at the end, to insert the words ‘and
shall also consult those whom the authority believes are the principal generators of controlled waste.'—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

A Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 3rd July.

5 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 3rd July.

6 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 3rd July.

7 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Friday 3rd July.

8 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Energy Efficiency Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 3rd July.

9 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Committee on the Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill;

Resolved, That this House will resolve itself into the said Committee on Friday 3rd July.

10 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill;

Resolved, That this House will resolve itself into the said Committee on Friday 3rd July.

11 Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

12 Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

13 Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

14 Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd January, That the Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 3rd July.

15 Recycled Content of Newsprint Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Recycled Content of Newsprint Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

16 Water Industry (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Water Industry (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.
17 Home Zones Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Home Zones Bill:

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

18 Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

19 Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

20 Public Records (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th January, That the Public Records (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 3rd July.

21 Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

22 Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on 3rd July.

23 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

24 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

25 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

26 Millennium Conformity Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Millennium Conformity Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

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

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

28 Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 3rd July.

29 Registered Establishments (Scotland) Bill,—The Registered Establishments (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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Mike Hall):—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.
The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jim Dowd 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.

30 Economic and Monetary Union,—Ordered, That European Community Documents Nos. 7188/98 and 7161/98, relating to Economic and Monetary Union, shall not stand referred to European Standing Committee B.— (Mr Jim Dowd.)

31 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 30th April, Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to Economic and Monetary Union, and the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings thereon not later than Seven o'clock.— (Mr Jim Dowd.)

32 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic Adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 30th April, do adjourn till Tuesday 5th May— (Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

33 Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill,—Ordered, That, in respect of the Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) 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 Jim Dowd.)

34 Data Protection,—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Data Protection;

Resolved, That the following provision shall be made with respect to the salary of the Data Protection Registrar:

(1) In respect of salary for service in the period starting with 1st April 1996 and ending with 31st March 1997 the Data Protection Registrar shall be paid the additional sum of £483.

(2) In respect of salary for services in the period starting with 1st April 1997 and ending with 31st March 1998 the Data Protection Registrar shall be paid the sum of £62,001.

(3) In respect of service in the period starting with 1st April 1998 and ending with 30th November 1998 the salary of the Data Protection Registrar shall be £63,549 per annum.

(4) In respect of service in the period starting with 1st December 1998 and ending with 31st March 1999 the salary of the Data Protection Registrar shall be £64,484 per annum.— (Mr Jim Dowd.)

35 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.— (Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 27th April.

[Adjourned at 3.08 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:


2 Treaty Series (No. 18, 1998),—1991 Amendments, adopted at London on 23rd May 1991, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (MSC.22(59)) [by Command] [Cm. 3934] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 19, 1998),—International Code, adopted at London on 23rd May 1991, for the Safe Carriage of Grain in Bulk (MSC.23(59)) [by Command] [Cm. 3935] [Mr Secretary Cook].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—Ordered, That the Local Authority Tenders Bill, as amended, be further considered on Friday 3rd July.

2 Ports of Entry (Special Status) Bill.—The Ports of Entry (Special Status) Bill was withdrawn.

3 Finance (No. 2) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147),—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance (No. 2) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147).

(In the Committee)
Ordered, That the order in which proceedings in Committee of the whole House on the Finance (No. 2) Bill are to be taken shall be: Clause No. 30, Clause No. 75, Clause No. 147, Clause No. 1, Clause No. 7, Clause No. 10, Clause No. 11, Clause No. 119, Clause No. 25 and Clause No. 27.—(Mr Geoffrey Robinson.)

Clause No. 30 (Corporation tax: due and payable date).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 15, line 25, at the end, to insert the words—

`Provided that a draft of the first set of regulations made under this section shall be laid before Parliament and the regulations shall not be made until the draft has been approved by resolution of the House of Commons.'.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 16, line 29, at the end, to insert the words—

`(c) for special payment arrangements for companies making seasonal profits, enabling such companies to pay instalments based on actual tax-adjusted results for the previous six month period.'.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 16, to leave out lines 37 and 38.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

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

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jim Dowd: 275.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Nigel Waterson: 121.

Clause No. 75 (Use of PEPs powers to provide for accounts).

Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 60, line 30, to leave out the word 'subsection' and insert the word 'subsections', instead thereof.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 275.

Another Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 60, line 32, after the word 'account', to insert the words 'which may (if the investor so wishes) be retained for the remainder of his life'.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 147 (Stamp duty on conveyance or transfer on sale).

Amendment (No. 10) proposed, in page 136, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—
47 ELIZ. II  

27th April 1998  

‘(4A) This section shall not apply to properties which are subject to uniform business rate.’.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

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

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 285.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Nigel Waterson: 119.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr John McFall.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr John McFall 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.

4 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom supporting the legalisation of cannabis for medical use was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.33 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Banks and Banking.—(1) Draft Bank of England (Information Powers) Order 1998, and
(2) draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 1998
[by Act] [Mr Alistair Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Plant Health,—Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1121), dated 24th April 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

4 Drugs,—Paper, entitled Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain: The Government’s Ten-Year Strategy for Tackling Drugs Misuse [by Command] [Cm. 3945] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Underpayments to Public Service Pensioners on Invalidity Benefit [by Act]; to be printed [No. 681] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Health Service,—Summarised Accounts of Health Authorities, NHS Trusts in Wales, the Welsh Health Common Services Authority, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales, and of Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales and NHS Trusts in Wales for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 691] [Clerk of the House].

7 Welsh Office Executive Agencies,—Accounts of the Training and Enterprise Councils in Wales for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 701] [Mr Secretary Davies].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts.—(1) Thirty-First Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Inland Revenue: Employer Compliance Reviews]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 357];

(2) Thirty-Second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Cataract Surgery in Scotland]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 546]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 27th April [Department for Education and Employment: Appropriation Account 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 704-i]

[Mr David Davis].

2 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 27th April [Care of the Young Chronically Sick in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 703] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 162.]

Tuesday 28th April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—Mr Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 181].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 713].

2 Town and Country Planning (Amendment), Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law with respect to town and country planning: And that Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones and Mr Cynog Dafis do prepare and bring it in.

3 Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, Mr Elfyn Llwyd accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law with respect to town and country planning: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 180].

4 Finance (No. 2) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147), The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance (No. 2) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Rate of duty on beer).

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Clelland: 293.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 123.

Clause No. 7 (Rates of duties and rebates).

Amendment (No. 12) proposed, in page 3, line 39, to leave out ‘0.4926’ and insert ‘£0.48’. (Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr James Cran: 139.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Clelland: 271.
Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 10 (Rates of tobacco products duty).

Amendment (No. 13) proposed, in page 5, to leave out lines 24 to 30 and insert the words—

`1. Cigarettes
2. Cigars
3. Hand Rolling tobacco
4. Other tobacco products

An amount equal to 22 per cent. of the retail price plus £75.46 per thousand cigarettes.
£112.62 per kilogram.
£87.74 per kilogram.
£49.52 per kilogram.'

(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Stephen Day: 106.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr John McFall: 303.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 11 (Rates of gaming duty).

Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 5, line 33, to leave out subsection (1) and insert the words—

'(1) In the Table in section 11(2) of the Finance Act 1997 (rates of gaming duty) the figures in the left-hand column under the heading “Part of gross gaming yield” shall be increased on 1 April each year in line with the increase in the retail index of prices over the previous twelve months'.

(Mr Michael Fallon.)

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

Clause agreed to.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Robert 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.

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.36 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Apple and Pear Orchard Grubbing Up Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1131), dated 23rd April 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

2 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Control of River Pollution in Northern Ireland [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 693] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

3 British Library,—Accounts of the British Library Board for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 708] [Clerk of the House].

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Corporate Governance and Financial Management in the Scottish Further Education Sector [by Act]; to be printed [No. 682] [Clerk of the House].

5 National Health Service (Scotland),—Summarised Accounts of Health Boards, the Common Services Agency, NHS Trusts, the State Hospital Management Committee, State
Hospital, Carstairs, the Health Education Board for Scotland, the Scottish Council for Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 692] [Clerk of the House].

6 Police (Northern Ireland).—Report and Accounts of the Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland for 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 670] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture. — (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 28th April [Flood and coastal defence]; to be printed [No. 707–i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Flood and coastal defence; vitamin B6]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Deregulation Committee on 28th April [The Deregulation Order-Making Process]; to be printed [No. 709–i] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 28th April [Implementation of the Best Value Framework]; to be printed [No. 705–i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 28th April [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517–vi] [Mr John Horam].

5 Foreign Affairs. —Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 28th April [Hong Kong]; to be printed [No. 710–i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 28th April [Department for International Development: Departmental Report 1998]; to be printed [No. 711–i] [Mr Dennis Canavan].

7 Parliamentary Privilege.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege on 28th April; to be printed [No. 401–xiv] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

8 Public Administration.—Second Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1996–97]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 352] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

9 Statutory Instruments.—Thirty-First Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 28th April and Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33–xxxii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 28th April [The Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 447–viii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Scotland Bill)

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), the Speaker nominated Mr Sam Galbraith and Mr David Stewart to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Scotland Bill, in place of Mr Henry McLeish and Mrs Anne McGuire.
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 David Clelldach);
   And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 911).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee A.—Mr John Maxton reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7531/97, a draft Directive establishing a framework for Community action on water policy, and 12929/97, the Commission's proposed amendments to this draft Directive; and endorses the Government's proposed approach to negotiations on the proposal in the Council; that the Committee also takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 6177/94, a draft Directive concerning the quality of bathing water, and 12591/97, an amended draft Directive on the quality of bathing water; and endorses the Government's approach to the proposal.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Building Societies (Joint Account Holders).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to secure equal rights for second-named and subsequent-named account holders of building society joint accounts in respect of distribution of assets on the takeover or conversion of a building society; And that Mr John Healey, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Austin Mitchell, Joan Walley, John Austin, Dr Brian Iddon, Ms Rosie Winterton, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr Michael Wills and Mr Ernie Ross do prepare and bring it in.

5 Building Societies (Joint Account Holders) Bill.—Mr John Healey accordingly presented a Bill to secure equal rights for second-named and subsequent-named account holders of building society joint accounts in respect of distribution of assets on the takeover or conversion of a building society: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 182].

6 Finance (No. 2) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance (No. 2) Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147).
   (In the Committee)
   Clause No. 119 (Taper relief for capital gains tax).
   Amendment (No. 16) proposed, in page 109, line 18, column 2, to leave out '25' and insert 'nil'.(Mr Peter Lilley.)
   Question put, That the Amendment be made;
   The Committee divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Whittingdale, Sir David Madel: 149.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Bridget Prentice: 251.

   Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed, in page 110, line 9, to leave out '1998-99' and insert '1999-2000'.—(Dr Vincent Cable.)
   Question put, That the Amendment be made.
   The Committee divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Edward Davey, Sir Robert Smith: 34.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Bridget Prentice: 240.
   Clause agreed to.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 248.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Norman Baker: 28.

Clause No. 27 (Income Tax: Married couple’s allowance etc. in and after 1999-00).

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Jane Kennedy: 275.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 123.

Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147) to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Robert Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147) and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147), not amended in the Committee, do lie upon the Table.

7 Liaison,—Ordered, That Mr Richard Allan be added to the Liaison Committee.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

8 Finance and Services,—Ordered, That Mr Richard Allan be added to the Finance and Services Committee.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

9 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert 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 seventeen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.43 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Bovines and Bovine Products (Trade) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1135), dated 29th April 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

2 Belgium (No. 1, 1998),—Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium relating to the Transmission of Natural Gas through a Pipeline between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Belgium [by Command] [Cm. 3943] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the provision of a new Joint Services Command and Staff College at Watchfield, Shrivenham [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Merchant Shipping,—(1) International Labour Organisation Conventions, adopted on 22nd October 1996, concerning:—

(i) Inspection of Seafarers’ Working and Living Conditions (No. 178),

(ii) Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (No. 179), and

(iii) Seafarers’ Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships (No. 180),

(2) International Labour Organisation Protocol of 1996, adopted on 22nd October 1996, to the Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1976, and
(3) Recommendations of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation, adopted on 22nd October 1996, concerning:

   (i) Inspection of Seafarers’ Working and Living Conditions (No. 185),
   (ii) Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (No. 186), and
   (iii) Seafarers’ Wages and Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships (No. 187)

[by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Disposal of Forest
Land [by Act]; to be printed [No. 688] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health
on 27th April 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by Rotherham General Hospitals
National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Ninth and Thirteenth to Twentieth Reports from
the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 3936] [Dawn
Primarolo].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by:

   (1) the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the
Petitions [16th February, 13th March, 23rd March, 6th April and 7th April] from
residents of Mid-Bedfordshire, Daventry, Horsham, Cuffley and Northaw, East Surrey,
and Harborough against residential development in the countryside and green belt, and

   (2) the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Petition [23rd March] from Bolton
against any reduction in benefits to disabled and mentally disadvantaged people
[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

9 Treaty Series (No. 17, 1998),—Notes, exchanged at Dar es Salaam on 20th and 23rd January
1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania concerning certain
commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Tanzanian Debt Agreement No. 5 (1997)) [by
Command] [Cm. 3933] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Data Protection Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing
Committee D Mr Derek Twigg and Mr Ross Cranston (nominated in respect of the Bill); and
appointed in substitution Mr Ben Bradshaw and Mr David Lock.

2 Finance (No. 2) Bill (except specified Clauses).—The Committee of Selection has discharged
from Standing Committee E Mr Quentin Davies, Ms Sally Keeble and Mr Michael
Moore (nominated in respect of the Bill); and appointed in substitution Mr John Burnett,
Mr Tim Loughton and Mr Ian Stewart.

3 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Roger Berry, Mr John Burnett, Mr Dennis
Canavan, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Hilton
Dawson, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr James Gray, Mr David Hanson,
Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Michael Moore and Mr Lawrie Quinn.

4 Draft Broadcasting (Percentage of Digital Capacity for Radio Multiplex Licence) Order
1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation and has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
Committee, viz.: Janet Anderson, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Colin Breed,
Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Keith Darvill, Mrs Janet
Dean, Mr Mark Fisher, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr
Stephen McCabe, Mr Richard Spring and Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West).
5 Welsh Grand Committee.—The Committee of Selection has nominated two additional Members to serve on the Welsh Grand Committee for the remainder of the Session, unless otherwise ordered by the Committee of Selection, viz.: Mr Nigel Evans and Mr Owen Paterson.

European Standing Committees

6 European Community Document No. 7073/98, relating to Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

7 European Community Documents Nos. 7046/98, relating to Agenda 2000: The Financial Perspective 2000–2006 and 7221/98, relating to Agenda 2000: The Interinstitutional Agreement of 29th October 1993, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 29th April [Pathways into work for women]; to be printed [No. 646-iii] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 29th April [Green Taxation and the Budget]; to be printed [No.706-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 29th April [London Underground]; to be printed [No. 715-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation.—Twenty-Sixth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 29th April [The Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts,—(1) Thirty-Third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Crown Prosecution Service]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 526]; and

    (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 29th April [HM Customs & Excise Appropriation Accounts 1996-97, Volume 16, Class XVI, Vote 3: HM Customs & Excise: Administration]; to be printed [No. 717-i] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 29th April [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 626-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 29th April [European Funding in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 714] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Standards and Privileges,—Memorandum laid before the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Employment Agreements] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

MEMORANDUM

Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel).—Mr Paul Tyler reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had appointed five additional Members to 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: John Austin, Mr Nigel Beard, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr John McDonnell and Mr Syd Rapson.
Thursday 30th April 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Economic and Monetary Union.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7161/98 and 7188/98, consisting of reports from the European Monetary Institute and European Commission in accordance with Article 109j of the Treaty—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 4, at the end, to add the words ‘but regrets the Government's failure to deliver on the Prime Minister's pledge to the House on 4th June 1997 that “the criteria for monetary union should not be fiddled, fudged or botched in any way”, and also the Government's failure during the British Presidency of the European Union to press for a strict interpretation of the Treaty requirements governing the eligibility of member states to join a single European currency, with consequential damage to British manufacturing industry through the perceived weakness of the euro and the resulting strength of sterling.’.—(Mr Peter Lilley.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 138.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Jim Dowd: 287.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Jim Dowd: 196.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 35.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7161/98 and 7188/98, consisting of reports from the European Monetary Institute and European Commission in accordance with Article 109j of the Treaty.

2 Scotland Bill (Programme).—Ordered, That the Order [13th January] relating to Scotland Bill (Programme) be further amended—

(a) in paragraph 2, by leaving out ‘at Ten o'clock’ and inserting ‘six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill’;

(b) by inserting, after paragraph 2,—

‘2A. On each such allotted day paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the bill for any part of the period of six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill which falls after Ten o'clock’;

and

(c) in paragraph 4, by inserting after sub-paragraph (3)—

‘(3A) If, on consideration, two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (1)(c) on amendments moved or motions made by a Minister of the Crown, the Speaker shall instead put a single Question in relation to those amendments or motions’.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

3 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Scottish Grand Committee shall meet—

(1) on Wednesday 20th May at half-past Four o'clock at Westminster to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee, the proceedings to be interrupted at Seven o'clock;

(2) on Tuesday 16th June at half-past Ten o'clock at Westminster to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee;

(3) on Monday 6th July at half-past Ten o'clock at New Parliament House, Edinburgh, to take Questions for oral answer and to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee; and

(4) on Tuesday 14th July at half-past Ten o'clock at Westminster to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts.)
4 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the residents of Southend West against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes to Nine o'clock, adjourned till Tuesday 5th May, pursuant to Resolution [24th April].

[Adjourned at 8.44 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education (Scotland),—Academic Awards and Distinctions (Queen Margaret College) (Scotland) Order of Council 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1148), dated 21st April 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].


3 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 3) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1123), dated 22nd April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Pilot Schemes—Health Service Bodies) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1136), dated 28th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

5 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Independent Television Commission for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 House of Commons Members’ Fund,—Accounts of the House of Commons Members' Fund for the period 1st October 1996 to 30th September 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 718] [Clerk of the House].

7 Law Commission (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Law Commission on Leasehold Casualties [by Command] [Cm. 3940] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed merger between Fresenius AG and Caremark Limited [by Command] [Cm. 3925] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Broadcasting (Percentage of Digital Capacity for Radio Multiplex Licence) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Richard Spring from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and appointed in substitution Mr John Whittingdale.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence and Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence and Trade and Industry Committees meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4)(e) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) on 30th April [Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy]; to be printed [No. 675-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 30th April [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-viii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Scotland 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 Scotland Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That—

(a) proceedings on Consideration of the Bill shall be taken in the following order, namely, New Clauses and New Schedules tabled on or before 30th April, amendments to Clause 1, Schedule 1, Clauses 2 to 20, Schedule 2, Clause 21, Schedule 3, Clauses 22 to 28, Schedule 4, Clauses 29 to 91, Schedule 6, Clauses 92 to 109 and Schedule 5, remaining New Clauses and New Schedules, amendments to Clause 110, Schedules 7 and 8 and Clauses 111 to 116,

(b) the three days allotted under the Order [13th January] to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below, and

(c) each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order, as amended on 30th April) on the expiry of the allotted period (calculated from the commencement of proceedings on the Bill) specified in the third column of the Table.

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<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Allotted period</th>
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<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>New Clause 1</td>
<td>6 hours 30 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second and third days</td>
<td>Remaining proceedings (according to time limits to be determined by a further report or further reports of the Business Committee)</td>
<td>Second day and 6 hours and 30 minutes on the third day.</td>
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</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, that it had considered the matter of the Rural Economy in Wales, referred to it on 20th April, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 96].

3 Registration of Dogs.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a scheme for the compulsory registration of dogs; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Richard Allan, Jackie Ballard, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Tim Loughton, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Ivor Caplin and Mr Phil Willis do prepare and bring it in.

4 Registration of Dogs Bill.—Mr Richard Allan accordingly presented a Bill to establish a scheme for the compulsory registration of dogs; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 183].

5 Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

6 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

7 Water Policy and Bathing Water.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), that this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7531/97, a draft Directive establishing a framework for Community action on water policy, and 12929/97, the Commission’s proposed amendments to this draft Directive; endorses the Government’s proposed approach to negotiations on the proposal in the Council, also takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 6177/94, a draft Directive concerning the quality of bathing water, and 12591/97, an amended draft Directive on
the quality of bathing water; and endorses the Government's approach to the proposal—
(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until two minutes past Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.02 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 1st May 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1128), dated 27th April 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Tuesday 5th May 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

2 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998, together with a statement from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—(1) Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1078), dated 22nd April 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor]; and


4 Hong Kong,—Hong Kong (Overseas Public Servants) (Pension Supplements) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1066), dated 22nd April 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

Other Papers:

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Forensic Science Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 689] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 1st May 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by North Tees Health National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [31st March] from citizens of the United Kingdom for an end to research into xenotransplantation [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

8 Scottish Affairs,—Government Response to the First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on Welfare to Work in Scotland: the New Deal [by Command] [Cm. 3947] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Broadcasting (Percentage of Digital Capacity for Radio Multiplex Licence) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Joe Ashton from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and appointed in substitution Barbara Follett.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Second Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Observations on the Second Report from the Committee, on CAP Reform: Agenda 2000]; to be printed [No. 719];

   (2) Third Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, on the UK Beef Industry]; to be printed [No. 720];
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 5th May [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1998]; to be printed [No. 721-i]; and
(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1998]
[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 5th May [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-vii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 5th May [Alternatives to Prison Sentences and other prisons issues]; to be printed [Nos. 486-viii and 722-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 International Development,—(1) Third Report from the International Development Committee [Debt Relief], 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. 563]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 5th May [Montserrat]; to be printed [No. 726-i]
[Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Public Administration,—Third Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Responses to the First Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration (Session 1997–98) on Public Appointments]; to be printed [No. 723][Mr Rhodri Morgan].

6 Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-Second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxxii][Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 166.]

Wednesday 6th May 1998.

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—(Janet Anderson); And it being Two o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Ann Widdecombe reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Broadcasting (Percentage of Digital Capacity for Radio Multiplex Licence) Order 1998.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Protection of Animals (Amendment),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the cost of keeping an animal pending a court case to be met; and for connected purposes: And that Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Tim Loughton, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Norman Baker, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Ian Cawsey and Mrs Liz Blackman do prepare and bring it in.

4 Protection of Animals (Amendment) Bill,—Dr Nick Palmer accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the cost of keeping an animal pending a court case to be met; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 184].

5 Scotland Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the further Report [5th May] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.
Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.
6 Scotland Bill (Consideration and Third Reading) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Scotland Bill, as amended in the Committee.

A Clause (Review of role of Scottish Members of the House of Commons)—(Mr Michael Ancram)—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 Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 136.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 277.

It being more than six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned, pursuant to Resolution this day.

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 21st May, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr John McFall.)

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from employees of firms in the Furness Peninsula in favour of the High-Low Newton by-pass 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 John McFall.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.23 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Building and Buildings.—Draft Noise Insulation (Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

3 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Sale of British Energy [by Act]; to be printed [No. 694] [Clerk of the House].

4 Port of London.—Report and Accounts of the Port of London Authority for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F and appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated seventeen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harold Best, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Roger Casale, Mr David Chidgley, Mr Brian Cotter, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Eric Forth, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr John Hutton, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Richard Page, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr Chris Ruane and Mr John M. Taylor.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Roger Berry, Christine Butler, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Ivor Caplin, Ms Judith Church, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Michael Fallon, Caroline Flint, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Geoffrey Robinson and Mr Nick St. Aubyn.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Fourth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Multi-Media Revolution], 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. 520]; and

(2) Third Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Preservation of Historic Ships: The Case of HMS 'Cavalier': Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 727]

[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 6th May [Strategic Defence Review] [No. 138-xii]; to be printed [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee on 6th May [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-i] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 6th May [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-viii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 6th May [London Underground]; to be printed [No. 715-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

6 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 6th May [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-vii] [Mr John Horam].

7 European Legislation,—Twenty-seventh Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxvii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

8 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 6th May [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-ix] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

9 Public Accounts,—(1) Thirty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Irregular Payments at the British Embassy in Amman, Jordan]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 553]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 6th May [Inland Revenue: The Monitoring and Control of Tax Exemptions for Charities]; to be printed [No. 728-i]

[Mr David Davis].

10 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 6th May [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 626-iii] [Dr Michael Clark].

11 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 6th May [The Work of the Scottish Sports Council and Inward Investment into Scotland]; to be printed [Nos. 738 and 698-ii] [Mr David Marshall].

12 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 6th May [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 712-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Scotland Bill)

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) the Speaker nominated Mr Henry McLeish and Mrs Anne McGuire to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Scotland Bill, in place of Mr Sam Galbraith and Mr David Stewart.
PRAYERS.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Social Security Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Social Security Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Social Security Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 185].

3 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at this day’s sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

4 Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill,—The Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

5 Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill [Money];—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred under the Act—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

6 Police (Northern Ireland) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Police (Northern Ireland) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 54) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 20, after the word 'is' to insert the word 'impartial'.—(Mr Phil Willis.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 2 to 4) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 55) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 27, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2A) The Chief Constable shall consult the Police Authority before purchasing any novel or contentious equipment.'—(Mr Phil Willis.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 5 to 24) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 41) proposed to the Bill, in page 25, line 20, to leave out the word 'a' and insert the words 'an Independent', instead thereof.—(Mr Phil Willis.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 25) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 45) proposed to the Bill, in page 25, line 41, at the end, to insert the words—

'(aa) make reasonable effort to ensure that the complainant is informed that his complaint is being considered.'—(Mr Phil Willis.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Other Amendments (Nos. 26 and 27, 58 and 28 to 38) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

7 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 Act agreed upon by both Houses:


8 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill.—The Order for the House to resolve itself into a Committee on the Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill on Friday 3rd July was read and discharged.

Ordered, That the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.47 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1166), dated 5th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Magistrates’ Courts,—(1) Magistrates’ Courts Committees (Merseyside) Amalgamation Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1175), and


dated 7th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

3 Packaging,—Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1165),
dated 2nd May 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

4 Ancient Monuments,—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 696] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 6th May 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(1) Kent Ambulance,

(2) Kent and Canterbury Hospitals, and

(3) Surrey and Sussex

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

[No. 168.]

Friday 8th May 1998.

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Walton-on-the-Hill for measures to reduce noise levels on part of the M25 motorway was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Adjournment (Hillsborough),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

The Motion was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn.
3 Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.—Ordered, That European Community Document No. 7073/98, relating to Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, shall not stand referred to European Standing Committee A. (Mr Jim Dowd.)

4 Road Traffic.—Ordered, That the Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1008) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. (Mr Jim Dowd.)

5 Adjournment (Spring). A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 21st May, do adjourn till Monday 1st June. (Mr Jim Dowd): It was agreed to.

6 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords], the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet. (Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

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 Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continue to sit till twenty-one minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 11th May.

[Adjourned at 2.39 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Fees and Charges.—Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) (Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1177), dated 7th May 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Immigration.—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Command] [Cm. 3953] [Mr Secretary Straw].


5 Road Traffic.—Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Sutton) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1134), dated 27th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


7 Trade Descriptions.—Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1169), dated 6th May 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

8 Japan (No. 1, 1998).—Agreement, done at Tokyo on 25th February 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Japan for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, with Agreed Minutes [by Command] [Cm. 3948] [Mr Secretary Cook].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Scotland 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 Scotland Bill, which it had directed him to report to the House:

That the Resolution of the Committee reported to the House on 5th May be varied so that—

(a) the second and third days allotted under the Order (13th January) to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below, and

(b) each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order, as amended on 30th April) on the expiry of the allotted period (calculated from the commencement of proceedings on the Bill) specified in the third column of the Table.

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<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
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<td>Second day</td>
<td>New Clause 2 and New Clause 4</td>
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<td>New Clause 12 and New Clause 15</td>
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<td>New Clause 17</td>
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<td>New Clause 18</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clause 1, Schedule 1 and Clauses 2 to 19</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clause 20, Schedule 2, Clause 21, Schedule 3 and Clause 22</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 23 to 28, Schedule 4 and Clauses 29 to 32</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clause 33</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
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<td>Third day</td>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 34 to 45</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 46 to 75</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 76 to 85</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 86 to 91, Schedule 6 and Clauses 92 to 109</td>
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<td>Amendments to Schedule 5 up to and including line 14 on page 59 of the Bill</td>
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<td>Amendments to Schedule 5 from line 15 on page 59 of the Bill up to and including line 13 on page 76</td>
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<td>Remaining amendments to Schedule 5, remaining New Clauses and New Schedules, amendments to Clause 110, Schedules 7 and 8 and Clauses 111 up to and including line 28 on page 50 of the Bill</td>
<td>4 hours 30 minutes</td>
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<td>Remaining amendments Third Reading</td>
<td>6 hours 30 minutes</td>
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Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Competition Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Competition 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, 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 Competition Bill [Lords] because the Government has failed to spell out the consequences for a whole range of business that will result from this legislation, and specifically has failed to tackle the problem of independent community pharmacies; expresses its concern at the decision of the Office of Fair Trading to commence legal proceedings to end retail price maintenance on over-the-counter medicines at a time when the Government is already seeking to review this agreement in the Bill; notes that the loss of retail price maintenance on over-the-counter medicines could lead to the closure of many independent community pharmacies, an outcome which would seriously undermine the Government’s health strategy and increase the burden on GPs; and calls
on the Government to ensure that a nationwide network of community pharmacies remains in place to serve the needs of the community, in particular the elderly, the infirm and mothers of young children, before proceeding with the Bill", instead thereof. (Mr John Redwood.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 169.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Janet Anderson: 314.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Janet Anderson: 345.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 134.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

3 Competition Bill [Lords] [Money], Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Competition Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Competition Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any—

(a) expenses incurred by a Minister of the Crown under or in consequence of that Act, or

(b) increase attributable to that Act in the sums so payable under any other enactment—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

4 Competition Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means], A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Competition Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the setting by the Director General of Fair Trading of fees in respect of the exercise of certain functions under the Act and the charging of such fees;

(b) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

5 Broadcasting, A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Broadcasting (Percentage of Digital Capacity for Radio Multiplex Licence) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 7th April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

6 Adjournment, Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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 Defence,—Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft New Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Civil Aviation,—Aviation Security (Air Cargo Agents) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1152), dated 30th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


6 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1191), dated 7th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

7 Medicines,—Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1178), dated 6th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 National Health Service,—Special Trustees for the Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1186), dated 7th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1188), dated 7th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Sea Fisheries,—Cod (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1195) dated 8th May 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


(2) Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 4) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1174), dated 7th May 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other papers:

12 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence Major Projects 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 695] [Clerk of the House].

13 Social Exclusion,—Report by the Social Exclusion Unit on Truancy and School Exclusion [by Command] [Cm. 3957] [The Prime Minister].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe an additional Chairman of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—(1) Thirty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors for 1996]; to be printed [No. 729];

(2) Thirty-sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Regulating and Monitoring the Quality of Service Provided to Customers by the Water Industry in England and Wales]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 483];

(3) Thirty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Contingent Liabilities in the Dependent Territories]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 435];

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 11th May [Treasury Controls]; to be printed [No. 730-i]; and

(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 11th May [Resource Accounting and Budgeting]; to be printed [No. 731-i]

[Mr David Davis].
Tuesday 12th May 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 25th March, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That the draft Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th May, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 National Lottery Bill [Lords].—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the National Lottery Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 187].

Minutes of proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 736].

3 Rural and Community Hospitals,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish procedures to place restrictions on the closure of rural and community hospitals: And that Mr David Prior, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Mr John MacGregor, Mr Keith Simpson, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Damian Green, Mr James Gray, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr John Bercow and Mr Shaun Woodward do prepare and bring it in.

4 Rural and Community Hospitals Bill,—Mr David Prior accordingly presented a Bill to establish procedures to place restrictions on the closure of rural and community hospitals: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 186].

5 Scotland Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the further Report [11th May] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

6 Scotland Bill (Consideration and Third Reading) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Scotland Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Another Clause (Corruption or maladministration in local government)—(Dr Liam Fox)—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 Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Bridget Prentice: 323.

Another Clause (Concordats)—(Mr Michael Ancram)—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 Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 166.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Bridget Prentice: 278.

Another Clause (Cross-border reserved bodies)—(Ms Roseanna Cunningham)—brought up and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Constitutional Court)—(Mr Alex Salmond)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.
And two and a half hours having elapsed since the start of proceedings on consideration of the Bill this day, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question put, That the Clause (Constitutional Court) be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alisdair Morgan, Mr Andrew Welsh: 8.

Tellers for the Noes, Ms Janet Anderson, Mr Jim Dowd: 388.

Amendment (No. 61) proposed to the Bill, in page 53, line 9, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) The parliamentary constituencies to which paragraph 1(c) applies are those determined by the Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order 1995, or those Scottish Parliamentary constituencies determined following a report of the Boundary Commission for Scotland as determined by paragraph 3 of this Schedule, except a parliamentary constituency including either of those islands referred to in paragraphs 1(a) and 1(b).'(Mr James Wallace.)

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

Amendment (No. 26) made to the Bill.

And three and a half hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions necessary to dispose of remaining Amendments moved by a Minister to Clauses Nos. 2 to 19.

Other Amendments (Nos. 27 to 38 and 128) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 39) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 106) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 5, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3) The standing orders shall include a requirement for every member elected to the Scottish Parliament to be requested to make the following affirmation:

“I do hereby acknowledge the sovereign right of the Scottish people to determine the form of Government best suited to their needs, and do hereby declare and pledge that in all our actions and deliberations their interests shall be paramount.”.

and no other affirmation or oath shall be required of members of the Scottish Parliament.’.—(Mr Dennis Canavan.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 111) proposed, in page 57, line 39, after the word 'sub-committees' to insert the words 'other than regional committees and regional sub-committees.'.—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And more than four and a half hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 111) be made, put and negatived.

Other Amendments (Nos. 129 and 41 to 45) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 130) proposed to the Bill, in page 14, line 6, at the end, to insert the words 'or confer or remove functions exercisable otherwise than in or as regards Scotland'.—(Mr Secretary Dewar.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And five and a half hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Amendment (No. 130) made to the Bill.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of remaining Amendments moved by a Minister to Clause No. 28, Schedule No. 4 and Clauses Nos. 29 to 32.

Other Amendments (Nos. 131 and 132, 223 to 229 and 256) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 16, to leave out lines 11 to 34.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.
Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 16, line 12, to leave out the words '...which the Secretary of State' and insert the words '...having taken legal advice, ...' instead thereof. (Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Oliver Heald: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr Jim Dowd: 296.

More than six and a half hours having elapsed since the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned, pursuant to Resolution this day.

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John McFall.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.45 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland.—Draft Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Consumer Credit,—Consumer Credit Licensing (Appeals) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1203), dated 10th May 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

5 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Hong Kong Locally Engaged Ratings’ Service Pensions Increases) Order 1998, dated 22nd April 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 12th May [Flood and coastal defence]; to be printed [No. 707-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence; vitamin B6] [Mr Peter Luff].

Deregulation,—Fifth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998 and the draft Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 732] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 12th May [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517-viii] [Mr John Horam].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 12th May [Implementation of the Best Value Framework]; to be printed [No. 705-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].
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—(Ms Joyce Quin);

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

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 1998 and the draft Bank of England (Information Powers) Order 1998.

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

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

The Lords have agreed to the Animal Health (Amendment) Bill, without Amendment.

4 Registration of Political Parties Bill.—Mr Secretary Straw, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr George Howarth, presented a Bill to make provision about the registration of political parties: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 188].

5 School Transport.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make new provision with respect to home to school transport for pupils in maintained schools; to provide for the payment of grants to defray the costs incurred by local education authorities; and for connected purposes: And that Dr George Turner, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Anthony D. Wright, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Phil Willis, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr David Drew, Mr Cynog Dafis and Mr Charles Clarke do prepare and bring it in.

6 School Transport Bill.—Dr George Turner accordingly presented a Bill to make new provision with respect to home to school transport for pupils in maintained schools; to provide for the payment of grants to defray the costs incurred by local education
authorities; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 189].

7 Social Security Bill [Money] [No. 2].—Her Majesty Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Social Security Bill [Money] [No. 2]:

Resolved. That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Social Security Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred under the Act by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

8 Social Security Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Social Security Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 60 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 61 was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 62 and 63 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 64.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 4, to leave out the word 'subsections' and insert the word 'subsection', instead thereof.—(Mr John Denham).

Question put, That the Amendment be made to the Lords Amendment;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Greg Pope: 328.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr James Cran: 123.

And it being after Ten o'clock, further consideration of the Lords Amendments stood adjourned.

9 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, consideration of the Lords Amendments to the Social Security Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

10 Social Security Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Social Security Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 64.

Another Amendment ((b)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 65 to 81 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in relation to Lords Amendments Nos. 65 and 74 to 78.

Lords Amendment No. 82.

Question put, That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 257.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr Oliver Heald: 119.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 83 to 165 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 166.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 167 to 184 were agreed to.

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Mr David John Gillings against the abolition of duty-free sales 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 David Clelland.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.34 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 Law Reform (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 686] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Managing the Millennium Threat II [by Act]; to be printed [No. 724] [Clerk of the House].

4 Treaty Series (No. 20, 1998),—Notes, exchanged at Skopje on 5th September 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Macedonian Government concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Macedonia Debt Agreement No. 1 (1995)) [by Command] [Cm. 3951] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Competition Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee G, and appointed Mr John Maxton and Mr Peter Atkinson Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-nine Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nigel Beard, Mr John Bercow, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Borrow, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Frank Doran, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr John Grogan, Dr Ashok Kumar, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Andrew Lansley, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Jan McCartney, Dan Norris, Mr John Redwood, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr David Stewart, Mr John M. Taylor, Ms Claire Ward and Mr Michael Wills.

2 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Brady, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Gordon Marsden, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Page, Mr Stephen Pound, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Ms Gisela Stuart and Dr Rudi Vis.

3 Draft New Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Chaytor, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Ian Coleman, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr Andrew Hunter, Gillian Merron, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr William Ross and The Reverend Martin Smyth.

Grand Committees

4 Scottish Grand Committee.—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Committee in respect of its meeting on Wednesday 20th May.
APPENDIX III

1 Defence,—Fourth Report from the Defence Committee [Lessons of the Chinook Helicopter Crash on the Mull of Kintyre], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee relating to the Report [No. 61] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 13th May [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-ii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 13th May [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-ix] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 13th May [London Underground]; to be printed [No. 715-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Legislation,—Twenty-eighth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxviii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 13th May [The Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716-ii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 13th May [HM Coastguard: Civil Maritime Search and Rescue]; to be printed [No. 741-i] [Mr David Davis].

8 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 13th May [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 626-iv] [Dr Lynne Jones].

9 Social Security,—(1) Fourth Report from the Social Security Committee [Disability Living Allowance], 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. 641]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Disability Living Allowance] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 13th May [Regional Funding]; to be printed [No. 697-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 172.]

Thursday 14th May 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Contingencies Fund 1996–97,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Accounts of the Contingencies Fund, 1996–97, showing:

(1) The receipts and payments in connection with the Fund in the year ended the 31st day of March 1997;

(2) The distribution of the capital of the Fund at the commencement and close of the year, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

2 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—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 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] 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.
3 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—Mr Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee F, that it had gone through the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 190]. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 743].

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft New Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 1998. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill (Committee).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Authorisation of expenditure).

Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 1, line 6, after the word 'expenditure', to insert the words 'up to a limit of £20 million'.—(Mr Michael Fallon.) Question, That the Amendment be made, put and negatived.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 6, to leave out the words 'in doing anything which in his or their opinion is appropriate.'—(Mr Michael Fallon.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed, in page 1, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

'(e) an assessment of the compliance costs involved in (c) and (d).')—(Mr Quentin Davies.) Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Sir David Madel: 119.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 227.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, to leave out lines 17 and 18.—(Mr Michael Fallon.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 2 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Bridget Prentice 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.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Eight o'clock, adjourned till Monday 18th May.

[Adjourned at 7.33 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Housing.—Draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Housing (Scotland).—Draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) (Scotland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education.—Education (Grants to Aided and Special Agreement Schools) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1216), dated 13th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


6 Marine Pollution,—Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1153), dated 27th April 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

8 Contingencies Fund, 1996–97,—Accounts of the Contingencies Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 746] [Dawn Primarolo].


10 Northern Ireland,—Northern Ireland Trading and Other Accounts for 1996–97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 702] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

11 Public Health (Wales),—Paper, entitled Better Health, Better Wales [by Command] [Cm. 3922] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Data Protection Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe an additional Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Finance (No. 2) Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale an additional Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

3 Late Payment of Commercial Debts Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook an additional Chairman of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 6123/98, relating to Fisheries Monitoring under the Common Fisheries Policy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 14th May [Objectives and Performance of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport]; to be printed [No. 742-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Memoranda laid before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Part-time Working]; to be printed [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 14th May [The Public Expenditure Plans of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1998–99]; to be printed [No. 745-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 14th May [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 712-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.
Monday 18th May 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

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

The Lords agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to certain of their Amendments to the Social Security Bill.

2 Opposition Day [11th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Sierra Leone.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the muddle of government policy towards Sierra Leone over the last year; notes the contradictory statements made on this matter by the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and the Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office; stresses the importance of establishing what knowledge and involvement there was on the part of government ministers, officials and officers of the intelligence services of and in the activities of Sandline International, including possible breaches of both international and United Kingdom law; and calls on the Government to announce without delay that it will establish a public inquiry into this question, presided over by a judge to be nominated by the Lord Chief Justice (Mr Michael Howard);

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 the Government’s consistent policy of support for the restoration of President Kabbah and recognition of him as the elected and legitimate President of Sierra Leone and welcomes the success of that policy and the overthrow of the brutal and repressive military regime; applauds the open and proper manner in which the Government have responded to allegations of a breach of the UN arms embargo; and congratulates the Government on its commitment to an urgent outside investigation and publication of a full report’, instead thereof. (Mr Secretary Cook).

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 287.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 notes the Government’s consistent policy of support for the restoration of President Kabbah and recognition of him as the elected and legitimate President of Sierra Leone and welcomes the success of that policy and the overthrow of the brutal and repressive military regime; applauds the open and proper manner in which the Government have responded to allegations of a breach of the UN arms embargo; and congratulates the Government on its commitment to an urgent outside investigation and publication of a full report.

Territorial Army.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House views with concern recent reports that the size of the Territorial Army may be reduced to 40,000 and that it may be stripped of many of its combat units; recognises the role of the Territorial Army both in complementing the role of the regular army on active service in places such as Bosnia and in providing a strategic reserve of trained combat and supporting units in case of wider conflict; applauds the work of the Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Associations around the country in providing opportunities for young people to volunteer in the reserves and cadets, and in building bridges between local communities and the armed forces; and urges the Government to use the Strategic Defence Review to develop rather than undermine the role of this important national resource. (Sir George Young);

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 ‘supports the Government in its determination to ensure that the United Kingdom has armed forces that are modern, capable, relevant and structured for the new post Cold War strategic realities; considers
that the Territorial Army, like the rest of the armed forces, should continue to adapt to these realities; welcomes the valuable role played by the Territorial Army in the wider life of the nation; and is confident that the outcome of the Strategic Defence Review will be capable, relevant and even more usable reserve forces to help support Britain's foreign and security policies. — (Mr Secretary Robertson.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question.

Mr James Arbuthnot 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, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr John M. Taylor: 154.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jim Dowd: 286.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 supports the Government in its determination to ensure that the United Kingdom has armed forces that are modern, capable, relevant and structured for the new post Cold War strategic realities; considers that the Territorial Army, like the rest of the armed forces, should continue to adapt to these realities; welcomes the valuable role played by the Territorial Army in the wider life of the nation, and is confident that the outcome of the Strategic Defence Review will be capable, relevant and even more usable reserve forces to help support Britain's foreign and security policies.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 15th May 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (Partnership Grant) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1222), dated 12th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 18th May 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

3 Deregulation.—Draft Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998, together with a statement by the Scottish Office [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Broadcasting.—Broadcasting (Local Delivery Services) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1240), dated 15th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].


Other Papers:

7 National Loans.—Accounts relating to issues from the National Loans Fund for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 744] [Clerk of the House].

8 Public Petitions.—Observations by—

(1) the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [8th April] from Putney against a further terminal at Heathrow Airport, and

(2) the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Petition [1st April] from residents of Solihull in favour of an earnings-related state pension [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

9 Sea Fisheries.—Reports by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State responsible for Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries in Scotland on proceedings under sections 1 to 5 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 for—

(1) 1995, and

(2) 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Competition Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee G Mr Michael Wills (nominated in respect of the Bill); and appointed in substitution Barbara Follett.

2 Data Protection Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones an additional Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill, in place of Miss Ann Widdecombe.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts.—(1) Thirty-eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Industrial Research and Technology Unit (NI)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 427];

(2) Thirty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [MAFF: Protecting Environmentally Sensitive Areas]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 513];

(3) Fortieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Management of Building Projects at English Higher Education Institutions]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 558]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 18th May [Department of Trade and Industry: Sale of AEA Technology]; to be printed [No. 749-i] [Mr David Davis].
Tuesday 19th May 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Concessionary Travel Schemes (Scotland),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require Scottish local authorities to make reciprocal arrangements for the operation of bus and rail concessionary travel schemes for visually impaired and blind people within their areas; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mr John McAllion, Mr John Swinney and Mr Michael Moore do prepare and bring it in.

2 Concessionary Travel Schemes (Scotland) Bill,—Mr Alasdair Morgan accordingly presented a Bill to require Scottish local authorities to make reciprocal arrangements for the operation of bus and rail concessionary travel schemes for visually impaired and blind people within their areas; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 191].

3 Scotland Bill (Consideration and Third Reading) [3rd allotted day],—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Scotland Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 16, line 35, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 7 on page 17 and insert the words:—

‘(1) Each Bill considered by the Parliament shall comprise the following stages—

(a) a general debate and vote on the principles of the Bill;
(b) a committee stage for members of the Parliament to consider and vote on the detail of the bill and for interested bodies to make representations to the Parliament;
(c) a further stage for interested bodies to make representations to the Parliament;
(d) a report stage to consider any amendments subsequent to the committee stage in subsection (1)(b) and the further stage for representations in subsection (1)(c);
(e) a final debate and vote on the Bill at which the Parliament can either pass or reject it.

(2) A period of not less than three calendar months shall separate the stages of the Bill mentioned in subsections (1)(b) and (1)(d) unless otherwise provided for by a resolution supported by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the total number of seats for members of the Parliament.’, instead thereof. (Mr Michael Ancram.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Oliver Heald: 116.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Kevin Hughes: 303.

Other Amendments (Nos. 46 and 133 to 146) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 147) proposed to the Bill, in page 26, to leave out lines 31 to 32 and insert—‘( ) The Fund shall be held with the Paymaster General.’ instead thereof. (Mr Henry McLeish.)

And one and a quarter hours having elapsed since the start of proceedings on consideration of the Bill this day, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [13th January] and Resolution [12th May], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Amendment (No. 147) made to the Bill.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Questions on remaining Amendments moved by a Minister to Clauses Nos. 46 to 75.

Other Amendments (Nos. 272, 148, 273 to 279, 47 and 48) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed to the Bill, in page 35, line 24, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘Subject to subsections (6) and (8) below.’—(Mr Laurence Robertson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And one and a half hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question put, That the Amendment (No. 22) be made.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Oliver Heald: 121.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Clelland: 308.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Questions on remaining Amendments moved by a Minister to Clauses Nos. 76 to 85.

Other Amendments (Nos. 151, 49 and 152 to 180) made to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 181, 182 and 50 to 56) made to the Bill.

Two and a quarter hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Questions on remaining Amendments moved by a Minister to Clauses Nos. 96 to 109.

Other Amendments (Nos. 183 to 186, 258 to 261, 187, 188, 262, 263, 189, 280, 190 to 203 and 281) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 73) proposed to the Bill, in page 59, line 6, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 7, and insert the words—

'1. The following aspects of the constitution are reserved matters, that is—

(a) the Crown, including succession to the Crown and a regency,

(b) the Union of the Kingdoms of Scotland and England,

(c) the Parliament of the United Kingdom,

(d) the continued existence of the High Court of Justiciary as a criminal court of first instance and of appeal,

(e) the continued existence of the Court of Session as a civil court of first instance and of appeal,' instead thereof.—(Mr Henry MeLeish.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And three and a quarter hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Amendment (No. 73) made to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 231 and 232) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 59) proposed to the Bill, in page 60, line 43, at the end, to insert the words ', provided that any power conferred on local authorities in relation to taxes on businesses shall be framed so as to be exercisable with the effect of either increasing or reducing the overall burden of local taxation in the area of a local authority.'—(Dr Liam Fox.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 282, 269 and 270) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 267) proposed to the Bill, in page 68, line 27, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 35.—(Ms Roseanna Cunningham.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Welsh, Mr Alasdair Morgan: 6.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Clive Betts: 289.

More than four and a quarter hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Questions on remaining Amendments moved by a Minister to Schedule No. 5, remaining New Clauses and New Schedules, and such Amendments to Clause No. 110, Schedules Nos. 7 and 8 and Clause No. 111 up to and including line 28 on page 50 of the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 233 and 234) made to the Bill.

A Clause (Agreed re-distribution of transferred functions) brought up and added to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 235 to 252, 57, 253 to 255, 204 to 207, 264, 209 to 211, 265, 266, 213 to 218, 220, 221, 268 and 271) made to the Bill.

Title accordingly amended, as follows: A Bill to provide for the establishment of a Scottish Parliament and Administration and other changes in the government of Scotland; to provide for changes in the constitution and functions of certain public authorities; to provide for the variation of the basic rate of income tax in relation to income of Scottish taxpayers in accordance with a resolution of the Scottish Parliament; to amend the law about parliamentary constituencies in Scotland; and for connected purposes.
The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) that the draft New Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 11th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland).—It was agreed to.

5 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords]—

Report and Third Reading

1.(1) Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be completed in two allotted days and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill on the second of those days.

(2) On the first such allotted day, paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for any part of the period of six hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill which falls after Ten o'clock.

Business Committee

2. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill.

3. No Motion shall be made to alter the order in which proceedings on consideration of the Bill are taken, but the resolutions of the Business Committee may include alterations in that order.

Conclusion of proceedings

4. For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by or under this Order—

(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith 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;

(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(3) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (1)(c) on amendments moved or Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, the Speaker shall instead put a single Question in relation to those amendments or Motions.

(4) On a Motion for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Speaker shall put only the question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(5) If on an allotted day a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) stands over from an earlier day or to Seven o'clock—

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

(b) paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for the period after Ten o'clock for which sub-paragraph (a) permits them to continue.

Supplemental orders

5. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order and if an effect of the Motion would be to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

6. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of further proceedings on the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced.

Interpretation

7. In this Order 'allotted day' means any day on which the Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day.—(Mr David Clelland.)
6 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);

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 five minutes past Eleven o'clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 11.05 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Town and Country Planning (Scotland),—Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1226), dated 12th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

3 Childcare,—Paper, entitled Meeting the Childcare Challenge: a framework and consultation document [by Command] [Cm. 3959] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Childcare (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Meeting the Childcare Challenge, a Childcare Strategy for Scotland: a framework and consultation document [by Command] [Cm. 3958] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


6 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 15th May 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(1) The Royal Surrey County Hospital, and
(2) Thanet Healthcare
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson]

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [27th April] from residents of the United Kingdom supporting the legalisation of cannabis for medical use [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 19th May [Vitamin B6]; to be printed [Nos. 753–i and –ii] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Sixth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Further Education], 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. 264]; and
(2) Fifth Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, The Relationship between TECs and the proposed Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 752]
[Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 19th May [Greening Government]; to be printed [No. 517–ix] [Mr John Horam].

4 Public Administration,—(1) Third Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Your Right to Know: the Government's Proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 398–i]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Your Right to Know: the Government's Proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 398-II]
[Mr Rhodri Morgan].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxxiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Welsh Affairs,—(1) Second Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, on the Impact of the Government's Devolution Proposals on Economic Development and Local Government in Wales]; to be printed [No. 750]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 19th May [The Welsh Office's Departmental Report 1998]; to be printed [No. 751]
[Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 175.]

Wednesday 20th May 1998.

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

2 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] be read the third time to-morrow.

3 European Standing Committee A,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 6123/98, a Commission Communication on Fisheries monitoring under the Common Fisheries Policy; also notes that the Communication builds on an undertaking given by the Commission to the Prime Minister at the Amsterdam European Council in June 1997; and endorses action being taken by the Government to secure more effective and consistent standards of enforcement across the Community.
Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Ports of Entry (Special Status) (No. 2),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for special status for ports of entry to the United Kingdom so far as the law affecting local government and policing is concerned; and for related purposes: And that Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Ivan Henderson, Laura Moffatt, Derek Wyatt, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Robert Symns, Mrs Louise Ellman, Dr Alan Whitehead and Norman Baker do prepare and bring it in.

5 Ports of Entry (Special Status) (No. 2) Bill,—Mr Gwyn Prosser accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for special status for ports of entry to the United Kingdom so far as the law affecting local government and policing is concerned; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 192].

6 Human Rights Bill [Lords],—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].
(In the Committee)
Clause No. 1 (The Convention and the First Protocol).
Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 8 to leave out '12 and'.—(Sir Nicholas Lyell.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 111) proposed, in page 1, line 9, at the end, to insert the words 'and—
(c) Articles 1 and 2 of the Sixth Protocol.'—(Mr Kevin McNamara.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Maria Fyfe, Ms Jenny Jones: 294.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Cran, Mr Oliver Heald: 136.

Another Amendment (No. 137A) proposed, in page 1, line 12, to leave out from the beginning to the word 'any'.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

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 Jane Kennedy reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

7 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the Human Rights Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

8 Human Rights Bill [Lords].—The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (The Convention and the First Protocol).

Question again proposed, That the Amendment (No. 137A) be made.

Question put;

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 308.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 128.

Amendment (No. 118) made.

Question put, That the Clause, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 303.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale: 128.

Ordered, That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Jane Kennedy.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Jane Kennedy reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that she was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

9 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—

(1) the Matter of a regional strategic framework for Northern Ireland as set out in the discussion paper 'Shaping our Future', being a matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration; and

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 4th June—

(i) after any statement which may be made by a Minister of the Crown pursuant to Standing Order No. 112(1) (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (ministerial statements)), the Committee shall consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

(ii) at the completion of these proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown pursuant to Standing Order No. 116(5) (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings))—(Jane Kennedy.)

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.51 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Monopolies and Mergers,—Restriction on Agreements and Conduct (Specified Domestic Electrical Goods) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1271), dated 19th May 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

3 Bank of England,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Bank of England for the year ending 28th February 1998 [by Command]; and
   [Mr Alistair Darling].

4 Commonwealth Scholarship,—Report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom for the year ending 30th September 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

5 Gas,—Report of the Director General for Gas Supply: Office of Gas Supply (Ofgas) for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 739] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 18th May 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Royal Berkshire & Battle Hospitals,
   (2) Scunthorpe Community Health Care, and
   (3) United Bristol Healthcare
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Twenty-first, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 3955] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Treaty Series (No. 22, 1998),—Notes, exchanged at Addis Ababa on 19th July and 8th October 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Ethiopia Debt Agreement No. 2 (1997)) [by Command] [Cm. 3952] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline (Continuation) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr David Clelland, Tom Cox, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr David Heath, Mr Robert Key, Dr John Marek, Laura Moffatt, Dr John Reid, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr John Smith and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

2 Draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Damian Green, Mr John Horam, Glenda Jackson, Sir Geofffrey Johnson Smith, Mr Austin Mitchell, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Doug Naysmith, Mr Richard Ottaway, Sir Robert Smith and Dr Alan Whitehead.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Christopher Chope, Ann Clwyd, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr John Hayes, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Ms Beverley Hughes, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Nick Raynsford, Miss Geraldine Smith, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Michael Wills and Mr Phil Woolas.

4 Draft Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Paul Clark, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr David Lepper, Alice Mahon, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Cecil Walker, Mr Phil Willis and Mr Tony Worthington.

5 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Austin Mitchell and Mr Lawrie Quinn (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Andrew Dismore, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr John Grogan, Mr Christopher Leslie, Angela Smith, Mr Bill O’Brien and Ms Claire Ward.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 20th May [Objectives and Performance of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport]; to be printed [No. 742-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 20th May [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-iii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 20th May [Welfare of former British child migrants]; to be printed [No. 755-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 20th May [The Performance of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme in England]; to be printed [No. 757-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 20th May [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 626-v] [Dr Lynne Jones].

6 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 20th May [The Work of Scottish Natural Heritage]; to be printed [No. 754] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 176.]

Thursday 21st May 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 4th June.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the European Communities (Amendment) Bill, with an Amendment; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
3 European Communities (Amendment) Bill,—Lords Amendment to the European Communities (Amendment) Bill to be considered on Monday 1st June; and to be printed [Bill 193].

4 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:

Animal Health (Amendment) Act 1998
Social Security Act 1998
Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) Act 1998
Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Act 1998.

5 Common Agricultural Policy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 7073/98, relating to reform of the Common Market Organisations for beef, cereals and milk and for the development of rural development policy in the European Union, and the Second Report from the Agriculture Committee, Session 1997–98, ‘CAP Reform: Agenda 2000’ (House of Commons Paper No. 311) and the Government response thereto (House of Commons Paper No. 719); and supports the Government’s intention to negotiate an outcome which takes account of the interests of UK producers, consumers and taxpayers alike and of developing countries and to press for a reformed Common Agricultural Policy with substantially reduced overall costs, which is more economically rational, which reduces the bureaucratic burden on farmers, which provides a better framework for targeted environmental and rural development support, which contains fair and common rules to ensure that the UK’s farm and food industries can exploit their competitive advantage in European and world markets, which facilitates the accession of associated countries and which offers the medium-term prospect of benefits to developing countries—(Dr John Cunningham);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 6, to leave out from ‘(House of Commons Paper No. 719)’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘albeit against the background of the Government’s failed stewardship of British agriculture which has seen farm incomes plummet by 45 per cent., a rise in rural job losses, and a failure to utilise fully all the resources available to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the benefit of farmers; urges the Government to negotiate an outcome that works to the advantage of Britain’s efficient farming industry as well as to the interests of United Kingdom producers, consumers and taxpayers, and of developing countries and to press for a reformed Common Agricultural Policy with substantially reduced overall costs, which does not act against farms larger than the European average, which is more economically rational, which reduces the bureaucratic burden on farmers, which provides a better framework for targeted environmental and rural development support, which contains fair and common rules to ensure that the United Kingdom’s farm and food industries can exploit their competitive advantage in European and world markets, which facilitates the accession of associated countries and which offers the medium-term prospect of benefits to developing countries; but regrets the fact that, so far in the discussions on Agenda 2000, the United Kingdom Government has not advanced proposals designed to allow Britain’s farming industry to realise its full potential under the revised arrangements,’ instead thereof.—(Mr Michael Jack.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [18th May].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John M. Taylor: 151.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr David Jamieson: 230.

So the Question was negatived.

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

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 7073/98, relating to reform of the Common Market Organisations for beef, cereals and milk and for the development of rural development policy in the European Union, and the Second Report from the Agriculture Committee, Session 1997–98, ‘CAP Reform: Agenda 2000’ (House of Commons Paper No. 311) and the Government response thereto (House of Commons Paper No. 719); and supports the Government’s intention to negotiate an outcome which takes account of the interests of UK producers, consumers and taxpayers alike and of developing countries and to press for a reformed Common Agricultural Policy with substantially reduced overall costs, which is more economically rational, which reduces the bureaucratic burden on farmers, which provides a better framework for targeted environmental and rural development support, which contains fair and common rules to ensure that the UK’s farm and food industries can exploit their competitive advantage.
advantage in European and world markets, which facilitates the accession of associated
countries and which offers the medium-term prospect of benefits to developing countries.

6 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to
Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft
Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions) Order 1998 be approved—
(Mr Greg Pope);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Janet Anderson: 221.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Oliver Heald: 100.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft Deregulation (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions)
Order 1998 be approved.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Nine o'clock,
adjourned till Monday 1st June, pursuant to Resolution [8th May].
[Adjourned at 8.57 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Animals,—Draft Welfare of Livestock (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Dr John
Cunningham].

2 Civil Aviation,—Draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Local Government Finance,—Special Grant Report (No. 35) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 758]
[Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Food,—Food (Cheese) (Emergency Control) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1277), dated 20th
May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

1284), dated 21st May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Housing (Scotland),—Right to Purchase (Prescribed Persons) (Scotland) Amendment Order

7 Road Traffic,—Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles)
(Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1217), dated 14th May 1998 [by Act][Mr
Secretary Prescott].

8 Sea Fisheries,—Razor Shells, Trough Shells and Carpet Shells (Specified Sea Area)
[Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:

[Mr Secretary Smith].

10 Employment,—Paper, entitled Fairness at Work [by Command] [Cm. 3968] [Secretary
Margaret Beckett].

11 Metropolitan Police,—Account of the Metropolitan Police Fund for 1995-96, with the
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3949][Mr
Secretary Straw].

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:

[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1998,—(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Committee Mr Crispin Blunt and Mr Robert Key (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Gerald Howarth and Mr John Wilkinson.

2 Draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1008),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

4 Draft Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Miss Ann Widdecombe Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

5 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Donald Anderson Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

6 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 4th June.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 21st May [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-v] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 Foreign Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Sierra Leone: Exchange of Correspondence with the Foreign Secretary]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 760]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 21st May [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-ix] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 International Development,—(1) Fourth Report from the International Development Committee [Renegotiation of the Lome Convention], 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. 365] [Mr Bowen Wells]; and
   (2) Memorandum laid before the International Development Committee [Commonwealth Development Corporation]; to be printed [No. 766].

4 Social Security,—(1) First Special Report from the Social Security Committee [Tax and Benefits; Pre-Budget Report—The Government's Response to the Committee's Third Report of Session 1997-98]; to be printed [No. 756]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 21st May [Active Modern Service]; to be printed [No. 587-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 21st May [Bank of England May Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 759-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords])

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) the Speaker nominated Mr Stephen Byers, Valerie Davey, Mr Don Foster, Mr David Jamieson, Sir David Madel, Mr Andrew Reed, Rachel Squire and Mr David Willetts to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].
[No. 177.]

Monday 1st June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Petroleum Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Petroleum Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58 (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, That the Bill be not committed—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, 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, without Amendment.

2 Audit Commission Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Audit Commission Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58 (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, That the Bill be not committed—(Mr John McFall):—It was agreed to.

And a Motion being made, 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, without Amendment.

3 National Lottery Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the National Lottery Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Additionality)—(Mr Richard Spring)—brought up and read the first time.

And the Question being put, That the Clause be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Stephen Day: 121.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Jane Kennedy: 276.

Another Clause (Winding up of funds allocated under section 22(3)(c))—(Mr Robert Maclennan)—brought up and read the first time.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 43, at the end, to insert the words—

'6A In section 28 of the 1993 Act (power to amend section 22) in subsection (2)(a) for "5 per cent." there shall be substituted "13\% per cent".—(Mr Peter Ainsworth.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr John M. Taylor: 120.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 277.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 17, line 36, to leave out from the word 'potential' to the word 'and' in line 40.—(Mr Richard Spring.)

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

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 David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 278.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Stephen Day: 129.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

4 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr Clive Betts).—It was agreed to.

5 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 1, to leave out the words 'made with the consent of the Treasury'.—(Mrs Cheryl Gillan.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 8 and 9) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, line 5, at the beginning, to insert the words 'Subject to subsection (2A) below'.—(Mrs Cheryl Gillan.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

6 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 4th June, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mrs Ann Taylor relating to Modernisation of the House of Commons not later than Ten o'clock, and such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

7 Fisheries Monitoring.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 6123/98, a Commission Communication on Fisheries monitoring under the Common Fisheries Policy; also notes that the Communication builds on an undertaking given by the Commission to the Prime Minister at the Amsterdam European Council in June 1997; and endorses action being taken by the Government to secure more effective and consistent standards of enforcement across the Community.—(Mr Clive Betts.)—It was agreed to.

8 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to proceedings on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].

Committee of the whole House

1. (1) The remaining proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be completed in four allotted days and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill on the fourth of those days.

(2) On each such allotted day, paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for any part of the period of six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill which falls after Ten o'clock.

Business Committee

2. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill.

3. No Motion shall be made to alter the order in which proceedings on consideration of the Bill are taken, but the resolutions of the Business Committee may include alterations in that order.

Conclusion of proceedings

4. For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by or under this Order:—

(1) The Chairman 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;
(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided though opposed, at any hour.

(3) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (1)(c) on amendments moved or Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, or under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to successive provisions of the Bill, the Chairman shall instead put a single question in relation to those amendments, Motions or provisions.

(4) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chairman shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(5) If on an allotted day a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) stands over from an earlier day or to Seven o’clock—

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

(b) paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for the period after Ten o’clock for which sub-paragraph (a) permits them to continue.

Supplementary

5. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order and if an effect of the Motion would be to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill, the Question on that Motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

6. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of further proceedings on the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and proceedings on the Motion, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced.

Interpretation

7. In this Order 'allotted day' means any day on which the Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts);

Tuesday 2nd June 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes past Twelve o’clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.20 a.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. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Police,—Metropolitan Police Fund Estimates for 1997–98 and 1998–99 [Cm. 3956] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Treaty Series (No. 82, 1997),—Index to Treaty Series 1997 [Cm. 3941] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 23, 1998),—Agreement, done at Brussels on 15th December 1993, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the French Republic concerning Rail Traffic between Belgium and the United Kingdom using the Channel Fixed Link, with Protocol [Cm. 3954] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

**Friday 22nd May 1998**


**Wednesday 27th May 1998**


(3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Breckland) Designation (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1306),


(16) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (The Broads) Designation (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1299), and


dated 19th May 1998 [Dr John Cunningham].


11 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1229), dated 14th May 1998 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Thursday 28th May 1998


Friday 29th May 1998

13 Education,—(1) The Bolton Sixth Form College (Government) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1332), and


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 1st June 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

20 Broadcasting,—Report and Financial Statements of Channel Four Television Corporation for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

21 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

22 Glidewell Report,—Papers, entitled—
(1) Review of the Crown Prosecution Service: a Report, and
(2) Review of the Crown Prosecution Service: Summary of Report, with Conclusions and Recommendations [by Command] [Cm. 3960 and 3972] [Mr Attorney General].

23 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Sales of the Royal Dockyards [by Act]; to be printed [No. 748] [Clerk of the House].

24 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 22nd May 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the North West Anglia Healthcare National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Bernie Grant and Dr Doug Naysmith (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Jamie Cann and Mr David Lepper.

2 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Angela Smith (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Nigel Beard.

3 Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas and Dr John Marek (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Tony McWalter and Dr George Turner.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 1st June [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-vi] [Mr Derek Foster].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Human Rights Bill [Lords])

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) the Speaker nominated Mr James Clappison, Mr James Cran, Jane Kennedy, Mr Robert Maclean, Mr Mike O'Brien, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Stephen Twigg to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Human Rights Bill [Lords].

[No. 178.]

Tuesday 2nd June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale By Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 18th May 1998, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Business Committee),—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Business Committee, That it had come to a Resolution in respect of the Human Rights Bill [Lords], which it had directed him to report to the House:

That the days which under the Order [1st June] are allotted to remaining proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below:—

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<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
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<td>First day</td>
<td>Clauses 2 to 4</td>
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<td>Second day</td>
<td>Clauses 5 and 6</td>
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<td>Third day</td>
<td>Clauses 7 to 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth day</td>
<td>Remaining proceedings</td>
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Report to lie upon the Table.
3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1998.

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

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998.

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

5 Cities (Process and Criteria for Designation).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a process and criteria for places to be designated as cities; and for connected purposes: And that Jane Griffiths, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Michael Wills and Mr Martin Salter do prepare and bring it in.

6 Cities (Process and Criteria for Designation) Bill,—Jane Griffiths accordingly presented a Bill to establish a process and criteria for places to be designated as cities; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 194].

7 Opposition Day [12th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business) the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Britain's Electoral System,—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House affirms the strength and fairness of Britain's current electoral system; recognises that it meets the criteria laid down for the Independent Commission on the Voting System better than any alternative; believes that the current terms of reference of the Commission prevent a fair and balanced assessment being made; urges the Government to change the remit of the Commission to allow it to examine equally all systems of voting; and believes that, in these circumstances, the Commission would recommend the status quo—(Mr Michael Ancram);

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 its constitutional reform programme; welcomes the creation of the Independent Commission on the Voting System and its remit; and supports the commitment of the Government to consult the people of the United Kingdom by a referendum on the appropriate electoral system to be used to elect this House', instead thereof.(Mr Secretary Straw.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Oliver Heald: 137.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr John McFall: 339.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 congratulates the Government on its constitutional reform programme; welcomes the creation of the Independent Commission on the Voting System and its remit; and supports the commitment of the Government to consult the people of the United Kingdom by a referendum on the appropriate electoral system to be used to elect this House.

8 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Warrington North against the construction of a prison on the site of Winwick hospital 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 David Jamieson.)

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. Church of England (General Synod) (Measures).—Measure passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, entitled National Institutions Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 771] [Clerk of the House].

2. Income Tax.—(1) Draft Double Taxation Relief (Air Transport) (Hong Kong) Order 1998, (2) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Order 1998, and (3) draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman) Order 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6. Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1281), dated 19th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7. Water (Scotland).—Surface Waters (Dangerous Substances) (Classification) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1344), dated 26th May 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

8. Charities.—Report and Financial Statements of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales for 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 737] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9. Church of England (General Synod) (Measures).—Report by the Ecclesiastical Committee on the National Institutions Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 772] [Clerk of the House].

10. European Union.—Paper, entitled Developments in the European Union, July to December 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3961] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, in place of Mr Frank Cook.

2. Draft Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.—The Speaker has appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, in place of Miss Ann Widdecombe.

3. Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Bill O’Brien (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr David Kidney.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Deregulation.—Sixth Report from the Deregulation Committee, [The draft Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 767] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

2. Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs
Committee on 2nd June [Implementation of the Best Value Framework]; to be printed [No. 705-iii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [English Nature]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 2nd June [European Council Meeting, Cardiff, 15th-16th June 1998, and the UK Presidency of the European Union, (January-June 1998)]; to be printed [No. 387-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 2nd June [Electoral law and administration]; to be printed [No. 768-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 Procedure,—First Special Report from the Procedure Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on Resource Accounting and Budgeting]; to be printed [No. 773] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 2nd June [Government Information and Communications Service]; to be printed [No. 770-i] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Standards and Privileges,—Seventeenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr. Tony Banks], together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 769] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-Fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxxv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

9 Trade and Industry,—(1) Fifth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Energy Policy], 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. 471];

(2) Sixth Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Second Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, on Progress in the Liberalisation of the Gas Market]; to be printed [No. 747]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 2nd June [Small and Medium Sized Enterprises]; to be printed [No. 774-i]

[Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 179.]

Wednesday 3rd June 1998.

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—[Janet Anderson];

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

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1008).

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

3 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Donald Anderson reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
Electricity Generation Bill [Lords].—The Electricity Generation Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 197].

Drinks Containers (Redemption).—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the redemption of certain drinks containers; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Christopher Leslie, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Helen Southworth, Maria Eagle, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Angela Smith and Mr Norman Baker do prepare and bring it in.

Drinks Containers (Redemption) Bill.—Mr Christopher Leslie accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the redemption of certain drinks containers; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time: and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 195].

Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [2nd June] from the Business Committee be now considered.—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Committee) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 2 (Interpretation of Convention Rights).

Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 2, line 2, to leave out the word ‘must’ and insert the word ‘may’, instead thereof.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 119 and 137) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Legislation).

Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 2, line 37, to leave out the word ‘possible’ and insert the word ‘reasonable’, instead thereof.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 17) proposed, in page 2, line 46, to leave out from the word ‘legislation’ to the end of line 2 on page 3.—(Mr James Clappison.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Tim Collins: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr John McFall: 324.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 4 (Declaration of incompatibility).

Amendment (No. 15) proposed, in page 3, line 7, at the end, to insert the words ‘setting out the nature and extent thereof in so far as it arises from the nature of the case before the court.’—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Tim Collins: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Dowd: 320.

Another Amendment (No. 107) proposed, in page 3, line 24, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(f) in Jersey, the Royal Court or the Court of Appeal;

(g) in Guernsey, the Royal Court or the Court of Appeal;

(h) in the Isle of Man, the High Court.’—(Mr Austin Mitchell.)

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

Ordered, That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Kevin Hughes 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.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.40 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution.


3 Road Traffic,—Alterations in the provisions of the Highway Code proposed to be made by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions pursuant to section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Broadcasting,—(1) Financial Report and Accounts, and

(2) Report of S4C for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Dentists,—Accounts of the General Dental Council for 1997 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor]

6 Local Government Finance,—Account of the Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in England for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 778] [Clerk of the House].

7 Reserve Forces,—Change 1 to the Regulations for the Royal Naval Reserve (BR60) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 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:


[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Competition Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee G Mr John M. Taylor (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Tim Collins.

2 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Chaytor, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Stephen Hesford, Ms Beverley Hughes, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Adam Ingram, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr David Trimble.

4 Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Tony Colman, Tom Cox, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Iain Forsyth, Mr Andrew Hunter, Ms Jenny Jones, Mrs Tess Kingham, Mr Malcolm Moss, Sir Raymond Powell, Mr Andrew Robathan, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Cecil Walker, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr Tony Worthington.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 3rd June [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-iv] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 3rd June [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-ix] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Legislation.—Twenty-ninth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxix] [Mr Jim Marshall].

4 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 3rd June [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; to be printed [No. 369-x] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Sixth Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Voting Methods]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 779] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Second Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Response by the Government to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 781] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on Wednesday 3rd June [Privatisation of the Rolling Stock Leasing Companies]; to be printed [No. 782-i] [Mr David Davis].

8 Science and Technology.—(1) Third Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Glaxo-Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham: The Merger Proposals]; 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. 627]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 3rd June [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 626-vi] [Mr Alan W. Williams].

9 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 3rd June [Success Measures]; to be printed [No. 777-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

**PRAYERS.**

1. **Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].**—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];
   
   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 11th June.

2. **Liaison,**—Mr Robert Sheldon reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report that it had chosen the Fourth Report from the Social Security Committee, Session 1997–98, on Disability Living Allowance and the First Report from the Defence Committee, Session 1997–98, on Peace Support Operations in Bosnia Herzegovina to be debated on Wednesday 17th June, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

3. **Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] (Business Committee).**—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Business Committee, That it had come to a Resolution in respect of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], which it had directed him to report to the House:
   
   That—
   
   (a) Proceedings on consideration of the Bill shall be taken in the following order, namely, Amendments to Clauses 12 to 21, Amendments to Schedule 2, New Clauses 5, 6 and 8, Amendments to subsection (1) of Clause 22 relating to treatment of students resident in different parts of the United Kingdom, remaining Amendments to Clause 22 and Amendments to Clauses 23 to 28 and remaining New Clauses and New Schedules relating to Part II, Amendments to Clauses 1 to 11, Amendments to Schedule 1, Remaining New Clauses, remaining New Schedules, remaining Amendments, and
   
   (b) the two days allotted under the Order (19th May) to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be allotted in the manner shown in the following Table and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) on the expiry of the allotted period (calculated from the commencement of proceedings on the Bill on that day) specified in the third column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Allocated period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 12 to 21 and Schedule 2</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
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<td></td>
<td>New Clauses 5, 6 and 8</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
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<td>Amendments to subsection 1 of Clause 22 relating to treatment of students resident in different parts of the United Kingdom</td>
<td>3½ hours</td>
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<td>Remaining Amendments to Clause 22, Amendments to Clauses 23 to 28 and remaining New Clauses and New Schedules relating to Part II</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second day</td>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 1 to 11 and Schedule 1, remaining New Clauses, remaining New Schedules and remaining Amendments</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

4. **Data Protection Bill [Lords].**—Mr George Stevenson reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Data Protection Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 198].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 784].
5 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

6 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of a regional strategic framework for Northern Ireland as set out in the discussion document 'Shaping our Future', referred to it on 20th May, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 430].

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

Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make further provision for the regulation and protection of part of the Square in the borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham; and for other purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

8 Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords].—The Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

9 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill,—Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Dewar and Mr Adam Ingram, presented a Bill to make provision about the release on licence of certain persons serving sentences of imprisonment in Northern Ireland: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 196].

10 Registration of Political Parties Bill,—The Registration of Political Parties Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

11 Registration of Political Parties Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Registration of Political Parties Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Registration of Political Parties Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) 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, and

(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

12 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Resolved, That this House approves the Third and Fourth Reports from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons on Carry-over of Public Bills and Conduct in the Chamber (House of Commons Paper Nos. 543 and 600).—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

13 Short Speeches,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 47 (Short speeches) be amended, as follows:

Line 1, after the word ‘at’, insert the words ‘or before’;

Line 4, leave out the words ‘for not more than ten minutes’;

Line 6, after the word ‘debate’, insert the words ‘for no longer than any period she may specify (which shall not be less than eight minutes)’;

Line 11, leave out the words ‘ten minutes’ and insert the words ‘that period’;

Line 12, at end, add the words—

‘Provided that, in calculating that period, the Speaker may disregard the time taken by interventions’.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

14 Suspension of Members,—Ordered, That—

(1) the following Standing Order (Suspension of salary of Members suspended) be made:

‘The salary of a Member suspended from the service of the House shall be withheld for the duration of his suspension.’;
(2) Standing Order No. 45 (Members suspended, &c., to withdraw from precincts) be amended, as follows:
   Line 3, leave out from the word 'House' to the word 'shall' in line 4;
   Line 5, leave out from the word 'House' to the end of line 8; and
(3) paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 44 (Order in debate) be transferred to the end of Standing Order No. 45.——(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

15 Withdrawal of Strangers from House,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 163 (Withdrawal of strangers from House) be amended, as follows:
   Line 2, leave out from the word 'Member' to the word 'and' in line 5 and insert the words 'moves "That the House sit in private" the Speaker or the chairman shall forthwith put the question "That the House sit in private"'.
   Line 7, at the end insert the words 'but such a Motion may be made no more than once in any sitting'.
   Line 10, leave out the word 'strangers' and insert the words 'those other than Members or officers'.
   Line 11, leave out the words 'that strangers do withdraw' and insert the words 'under paragraph (1) of this order'.——(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

16 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of North East Hertfordshire against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

17 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn——(Mr Kevin Hughes);
   And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

18 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.——(Mr Kevin Hughes.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.23 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 Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1376), dated 1st June 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

Other Papers:
4 Bank of England,—Remit for the Monetary Policy Committee [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees
1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Fifth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Objectives and Performance of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 742] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th June [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-vii] [Mr Derek Foster].
3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 4th June [Welfare of former British child migrants]; to be printed [No. 755-ii] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].
Friday 5th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment (Government support for sport),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes); and it being half-past Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

2 Finance and Services,—Ordered, That Mr Peter Ainsworth be discharged from the Finance and Services Committee and Mr Patrick McLoughlin be added to the Committee.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

3 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered, That Mrs Gillian Shephard be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Sir George Young be added to the Committee.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 8th June.

[Adjourned at 2.55 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Food,—Food Labelling (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1398), dated 3rd June 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Sea Fisheries,—Fisheries and Aquaculture Structure (Grants) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1365), dated 2nd June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

5 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 28th May 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(i) Central Scotland Healthcare,
(ii) Dundee Healthcare, and
(iii) Moray Health Services, and

(2) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 2nd June 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(i) Dumfries & Galloway Acute & Maternity Hospitals, and
(ii) Stirling Royal Infirmary

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee B Mr James Cran (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Nigel Waterson.
Monday 8th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Selection,—Ordered, That Mr Peter Ainsworth be discharged from the Committee of Selection and Mr James Cran be added to the Committee.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

2 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [4th June] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr Jon Owen Jones):—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

3 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] (Consideration and Third Reading) [1st allotted day],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendments (Nos. 84, 12, 13 and 85 to 97) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 13, line 8, after the word ‘appropriate’, to insert the words ‘following consultation with the relevant institutions on the contents of any such reports, oral and written’.—(Mr Don Foster.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And one hour having elapsed since the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 3) be made, put and negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question on Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to Clause No. 20 and Schedule No. 2.

Other Amendments (Nos. 98 and 14 to 33) made to the Bill.

A Clause (Supply of information in connection with student loans: Scotland)—(Dr Kim Howells)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And one and a half hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The Clause was read a second time.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question necessary to bring to a decision the Question previously decided.

The Clause was added to the Bill.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question on Motions made by a Minister of the Crown which were required to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Clauses (Transfer or delegation of functions relating to student support) and (Supply of information in connection with student loans)—(Mr David Jamieson)—brought up, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 102) proposed to the Bill, in page 15, line 12, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(1A) No regulations may be made under this section if their effect would be to disadvantage students by reason of their residence in one part of the United Kingdom as opposed to their residence in any other part.’.—(Mr David Willetts.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 172.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Greg Pope: 300.

Another Amendment (No. 35) proposed to the Bill, in page 15, line 12, at the end, to insert the words—
‘(1A) Regulations under this section shall make provision requiring the Secretary of State to pay maintenance grants to eligible students whose income or parental income is less than a prescribed amount.’—(Mr Dennis Canavan.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Maria Fyfe, Mr John McDonnell: 176.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 313.

More than six hours having elapsed, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Question on Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to Clauses Nos. 22 and 26 to 28.

Amendments (Nos. 69, 71, 76, 65, 66, 70, 67, 72, 77 and 40 to 54) made to the Bill.

Further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

4 Contracting Out,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 6th April, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 296.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Bercow, Mr Eric Forth: 56.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 6th April, be approved.

5 Marine Pollution,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 21st April, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 307.

Tellers for the Noes, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Eric Forth: 10.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 21st April, be approved.

6 Defence,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 11th May, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

7 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 12th May, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

8 Home Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Richard Allan be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee and Bob Russell be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

Tuesday 9th June 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes past Twelve o’clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.22 a.m.]
APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Council Tax,—Draft Council Tax Limitation (Derbyshire County Council) (Maximum Amount) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2. Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles) Order 1998, together with a statement by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3. Northern Ireland,—Draft Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


5. Social Security,—Draft Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and Adjustment of Rates) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

11. National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Cost Over-runs, Funding Problems and Delays on Guy's Hospital Phase III Development [by Act]; to be printed [No. 761] [Clerk of the House].


[No. 183.]

Tuesday 9th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

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

   The Lords have agreed to the Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Bill, without Amendment.

2. Youth Parliament.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a parliament of young people in the United Kingdom; to make provisions for the powers and functions of that parliament; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Andrew Rowe, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Giles Radice and Mr Anthony Steen do prepare and bring it in.

3. Youth Parliament Bill.—Mr Andrew Rowe accordingly presented a Bill to establish a parliament of young people in the United Kingdom; to make provisions for the powers and functions of the parliament; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 199].
Another Amendment (No. 120) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, to leave out lines 15 to 26 and to insert the words—

'(2) Those matters are:
(a) the standards of professional conduct of teachers;
(b) the standards of medical fitness required to teach;
(c) the powers which it needs to perform its functions under section 2 of this Act;
(d) recruitment to the teaching profession;
(e) the training and career development of teachers;
(f) methods of teaching;
(g) methods of assessing the performance of individual teachers; and
(h) methods of assessing the effectiveness of different methods of teaching.' instead thereof.—(Mrs Theresa May.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 82, 83, 10 and 11) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (Scottish Further Education Funding Council: “relevant body” for purposes of section 19(5) of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995)—(Mr Brian Wilson)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Unauthorised use of “university” in title of educational institution, etc)—(Dr Kim Howells)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (University college, etc., not to be treated as university)—(Dr Kim Howells)—brought up, read the first time and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Charitable status of further and higher education corporations)—(Dr Kim Howells)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Compensation of employers)—(Mr Damian Green)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And two hours having elapsed since the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [8th June], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question on Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to the remainder of the Bill.

Amendments (Nos. 55 to 57, 73, 99, 75, 58 to 61, 68, 74, 62 and 63, 78 to 81 and 64) made to the Bill.

Title accordingly amended, as follows: An Act to make provision for the establishment of General Teaching Councils for England and Wales and with respect to the registration, qualifications and training of teachers and the inspection of such training; to make new provision with respect to grants and loans to students in higher or further education and fees payable by them; to make provision with respect to the funding of higher education institutions and certain further education, and other matters relating to further and higher education institutions; to enable the higher and further education funding councils in Scotland to discharge certain functions jointly; to enable young persons to have time off work for study or training; to make provision with respect to the inspection of training and careers services provided in pursuance of arrangements or directions under the Employment and Training Act 1973; to provide that the Scottish Further Education Funding Council shall be a relevant body for the purposes of section 19(5) of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995; and for connected purposes.

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 David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 307.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 174.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.
5 European Communities (Amendment) Bill [Allocation of time].—Ordered, That the Order of the House of 17th December 1997 be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendment

1.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration of the Lords Amendment shall be completed at this day’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Order.

(2) For the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion the Speaker shall put forthwith the Question already proposed from the Chair (and any other Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings).

Stages subsequent to first Consideration of Lords Amendment

2.—(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 concluded, be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

(3) For the purpose of bringing those proceedings to a conclusion the Speaker shall put forthwith any Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings.

Reasons Committee

3.—(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.

Miscellaneous

4.—(1) In the case of proceedings on Consideration of the Lords Amendment, on any further Message from the Lords or on a Motion relating to a Committee to draw up Reasons—

(a) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply,

(b) the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House,

(c) no dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, the proceedings shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown (in which case the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith),

(d) if the proceedings are interrupted by a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on the Motion shall be added to the period allowed for the interrupted proceedings, and

(e) if the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the proceedings are concluded, no notice shall be required of a Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order.—(Mr Doug Henderson.)

6 European Communities (Amendment) Bill (Consideration of Lords Amendment),—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment to the European Communities (Amendment) Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment.—(Mr Doug Henderson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jim Dowd: 330.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 134.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment.

That Mr Doug Henderson, Mr Denis McShane, Sir David Madel, Mr Patrick Nicholls and Mr Greg Pope be members of the Committee;

That Mr Doug Henderson be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Jane Kennedy.)
7 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill.—The Order for the House to resolve itself into a Committee on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill on Friday 3rd July was read and discharged.

Ordered, That the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee. — (Jane Kennedy.)

8 European Communities (Amendment) Bill.—Mr Doug Henderson reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment to the European Communities (Amendment) Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to the Amendment made by the Lords after Clause No. 1, for the following Reason:

Because it would not be appropriate to restrict commencement of the Act in the way proposed.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason with the Bill and Amendment.

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. — (Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.39 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Local Government (Scotland).—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1422),

(2) Local Government Act 1988 (Exemption for Works Contracts) (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1423), and

(3) Local Government (Exemption from Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1421),
dated 5th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 National Debt.—Draft Government Stock (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Helen Liddell].

3 Road Traffic.—Driving Licenses (Community Driving Licence) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1420), dated 6th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


[by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

Other Papers:

5 Local Government (Scotland).—Security and Emergency Measures (Water and Sewerage Authorities) (Scotland) Direction 1998, dated 4th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Scottish Land Court.—Report as to the proceedings of the Scottish Land Court for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3970] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Ms Jenny Jones (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Kelvin Hopkins.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 9th June [Flood and coastal defence]; to be printed [No. 707-iii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence; vitamin B6] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 9th June [English Nature]; to be printed [No. 790-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 9th June [The Public Expenditure Plans of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1998-99]; to be printed [No. 745-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 9th June [Electoral law and administration]; to be printed [No. 768-ii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 9th June [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Seventh Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [The Scrutiny of European Business], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 791] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xxxvi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Trade and Industry,—Sixth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises], 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. 774] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 184.]

Wednesday 10th June 1998.

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 Jim Dowd)],

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 Bills [Lords] (No Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable),—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from one of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the following Bill, originating in the Lords and referred after the First Reading thereof, no Standing Order not previously inquired into is applicable thereto, viz:

Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords].

Bill to be read a second time.

3 Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill (changed to Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill),—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows: A Bill to make provision concerning the approval of company or business names containing the expression 'chamber of commerce' or any related expression; and for connected purposes.
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 202].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 792].

4 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 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

5 Preventative Health Care and Home Insulation Bill.—Mr Simon Hughes presented a Bill to require certain health bodies to draw up reports on ways in which home insulation may assist persons living in fuel poverty to heat their homes, in order to reduce ill-health and unnecessary demand for health services; and for related purposes; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 200].

6 Restoration of Damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest,—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to require the owners and occupiers of land notified as sites of special scientific interest who commit an offence under section 28 of the Act to restore that interest of the site lost, damaged or degraded as a result of the offence or offences: And that Ms Candy Atherton, Jackie Ballard, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr David Drew, Julia Drown, Ms Tess Kingham, Mr David Prior, Mr John Randall, Dr Phyllis Starkey and Mr John Austin do prepare and bring it in.

7 Restoration of Damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest Bill.—Ms Candy Atherton accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to require the owners and occupiers of land notified as sites of special scientific interest who commit an offence under section 28 of the Act to restore that interest of the site lost, damaged or degraded as a result of the offence or offences: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 201].

8 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr Greg Pope: 343.


So the Question 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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Jane Kennedy): It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

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

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State by virtue of the Act—(Jane Kennedy): It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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 Negative Resolution:


(2) Inheritance Tax (Delivery of Accounts) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1998 (S.I. 1998, No. 1429), and
47 Euz. II
10th June 1998 607

(3) Inheritance Tax (Delivery of Accounts) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1430),
dated 9th June 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].


(2) Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1433), dated 9th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (Service Committees and Tribunal) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1424), dated 4th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Social Security,—(1) New Deal (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1425), and
dated 9th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

7 Monopolies and Mergers,—(1) Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the proposed transfer to Johnston Press plc of the newspapers of Home Counties Newspapers Holdings plc [by Command] [Cm. 3962]; and
(2) Consent by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the transfer of newspapers following a report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

8 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-eighth to Thirtieth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, 1997-98 [by Command] [Cm. 3973] [Dawn Primarolo].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Competition Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee G Mr Oliver Letwin (nominated in respect of the Bill): and nominated in substitution Mr John Hayes.

2 Registration of Political Parties Bill:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Christopher Fraser, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr John Greenway, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr George Howarth, Lynne Jones, Jane Kennedy, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Bob Russell, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr David Watts and Mr Mike Wood.

3 Draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1998:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee, and appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Andrew Hunter, Helen Jackson, Shona McIsaac, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr William Ross, Mr Brian Sedgemore and Mr Phil Willis.

4 Draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) Order 1998 and draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) (Scotland) Order 1998:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Ms Candy Atherton, Jackie Ballard, Ann Clwyd, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Tom Cox, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Keith Hill, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Calum Macdonald, Judy Mallaber, Dr John Marek, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Tim Yeo.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Sixth Standing Committee; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mr David Amess, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Eric Clarke, Maria Fyfe, Mr Sam Galbraith, Mr Andrew George, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Malcolm Savidge and Mr James Wallace.

6 Draft Welfare of Livestock (Amendment) Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Draft Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Norman Baker, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Richard Burden, Mr Ross Cranston, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Andrew George, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr James Gray, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mr Eric Ilsley, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr James Paice, Sir Raymond Powell and Ms Gisela Stuart.

7 Special Grant Report (No. 35) (HC 758):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Report to the Eighth Standing Committee; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Norman Baker, Mr Iain Coleman, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Bernie Grant, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Tim Loughton, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Tim Yeo.

8 Draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Glenda Jackson, Ann Keen, Mr Andrew Love, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Bill O'Brien, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr David Prior, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Jonathan Sayeed and Sir Robert Smith.

European Standing Committees

9 European Community Documents Nos. SEC (98) 800, relating to the 1999 Preliminary Draft Budget, and 8328/98, relating to the Social Action Programme 1998–2000, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 10th June [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-v] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 10th June [Regional Air Services]; to be printed [No. 589-x] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Legislation,—(1) Thirtieth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxx]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 10th June [The 22nd June Research Council]; to be printed [No. 794] [Mr Jim Marshall].

4 Public Accounts,—(1) Forty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Construction of the Southampton Oceanography Centre]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 608].
(2) Forty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Skye Bridge]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report, and Memorandum laid before the Committee [No. 349];

(3) Forty-third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Privatisation of Belfast International Airport]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 427];

(4) Forty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Northern Ireland Social Security Agency: The Administration of Disability Living Allowance]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 527];

(5) Forty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: The Home Energy Efficiency Scheme]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 613];

(6) Forty-sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Contract to Develop and Operate the Replacement National Insurance Recording System]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report, and Memorandum laid before the Committee [No. 472];

(7) Forty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Private Finance Initiative: The First Four Design, Build, Finance and Operate Roads Contracts]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 580]; and

(8) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th June [Major Projects Report 1997]; to be printed [No. 795–i] [Mr David Davis].

Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 10th June [The Government’s Housing Policy in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 638–ii] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 185.]

Thursday 11th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 18th June.

2 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 203].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 797].

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1998.

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 do not insist on their Amendment to the European Communities (Amendment) Bill to which this House has disagreed.
Royal Assent.—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1867, that His Majesty had signified His Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

- Petroleum Act 1998
- Audit Commission Act 1998
- Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Act 1998
- Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998

Adjournment (Cardiff European Council).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

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

Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the proceedings on the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill:

Committee of the whole House

1.—(1) Proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be completed at two sittings.

(2) The following proceedings shall be brought to a conclusion, unless previously concluded, in accordance with the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time, after commencement of proceedings in Committee at the first sitting, at which proceedings to be concluded.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments up to page 2, line 22</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments up to page 2, line 47, other than amendments inserting words at the end of line 47.</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments inserting words at end of line 47.</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining proceedings on Clause 3 and proceedings on Clauses 4 to 7.</td>
<td>6½ hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Proceedings in Committee shall be brought to a conclusion, unless previously concluded, 3 hours after the commencement of proceedings in Committee at the second sitting.

(4) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings in Committee for any part of the periods of—

(a) 6½ hours, at the first sitting, and

(b) 3 hours, at the second sitting,

which fall after Ten o’clock.

Report and Third Reading

2.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be completed at one sitting and shall, unless previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion three hours after commencement.

(2) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings for any part of the period of three hours after commencement which falls after Ten o’clock.

Conclusion of proceedings

3.—(1) For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by this Order, the Chairman or 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;

(c) the Question on any Amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.
(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(3) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(4) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (1)(c) on Amendments moved or Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, or under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to successive provisions of the Bill, the Chairman or Speaker shall instead put a single question in relation to those Amendments, Motions or provisions.

Miscellaneous

4. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill.

5. No Motion shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown, to alter the order in which proceedings on the Bill are taken.

6. If on an allotted day a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) stands over from an earlier day or to Seven o’clock—

(a) the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which under or by virtue of this Order are to be brought to a conclusion after that time shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on the Motion, and

(b) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for the period after Ten o’clock for which sub-paragraph (a) permits them to continue.

7.—(1) If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order and an effect of the Motion would be to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(2) If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of further proceedings on the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced.—(Bridget Prentice.)

9. Adjournment.—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Ten o’clock, adjourned till Monday 15th June.

[Adjourned at 10.01 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1. Export and Investment Guarantees,—Draft Export and Investment Guarantees (Limit on Foreign Currency Commitments) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution


Other Papers:

5 Economic and Fiscal Strategy,—Paper, entitled Stability and Investment for the long term: Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 3978] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

6 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the Horticultural Development Council for 1996-97 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

7 London Underground,—Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Minute concerning contingent liability in respect of a contract to give financial advice to London Regional Transport and the Government on a public-private partnership for London Underground [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Registration of Political Parties Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Competition Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe an additional Chairman of Standing Committee G in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) Order 1998 and draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) (Scotland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

4 Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1342),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

5 Special Grant Report (No. 35) (House of Commons Paper No. 758),—The Speaker has appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report.

6 Scottish Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of its meeting in Westminster on Tuesday 16th June.

7 Draft Welfare of Livestock (Amendment) Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Joe Benton (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Dr Lewis Moonie.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Fifth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Future for Allotments], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 560-I]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th June [Housing]; to be printed [No. 495-x]

   [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 11th June [Welfare of former British child migrants]; to be printed [No. 755-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill (Committee) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Sentence Review Commissioners).

Amendment (No. 45) proposed, in page 1, line 7, to leave out the words 'and one of them shall be appointed chairman' and insert the words 'and shall appoint one of the legally qualified Commissioners as the Chairman'.—(Mr William Ross.)

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

Amendment (No. 18) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause (No. 2) agreed to.

Clause (No. 3) (Applications).

Amendment (No. 50) proposed, in page 1, line 24, to leave out the word 'shall' and insert the word 'may'.—(Mr William Ross.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 34) proposed, in page 1, line 26, to leave out the words 'the first three of the following four' and insert the words 'all of the following five'.—(The Reverend Ian Paisley.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr William Ross, Mr Peter Robinson: 7.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Janet Anderson: 257.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 23 to 40 and insert the words—

"(8) A terrorist organisation is an organisation which—

(a) has been concerned in terrorism, or in promoting it, and

(b) has not established or is not maintaining a complete and unequivocal ceasefire.

(9) The Secretary of State may specify by order that an organisation is not a terrorist organisation if on application by that organisation he believes that it—

(a) is committed to the use now and in the future of only democratic and peaceful means to achieve its objectives;

(b) is not involved in any acts of violence or of preparation for violence;

(c) is not directing, assisting or promoting acts of violence committed or planned by other people;

(d) is committed to the total disarmament of all paramilitary organisations and the achievement of the decommissioning of all paramilitary arms, including any of its own, by 22nd May 2000, and

(e) is co-operating fully with any Commission of the kind referred to in section 7 of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 in the Implementation of the Belfast Agreement of 10th April 1998 published as Cm 3883,'—(Mr Andrew MacKay.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 125.

Tellers for the Noes, Janet Anderson, Mr David Jamieson: 274.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 2, line 47, at the end, to insert the words—

'(11) The Secretary of State shall in particular review the list of organisations specified under this section after 22nd May 2000 in the light of the reports of any Commission of the kind referred to in section 7 of the Northern Ireland Decommissioning Act 1997.'—(Mr Andrew MacKay.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Nigel Waterson: 125.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 278.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 221


Clauses Nos. 4 to 7 agreed to.

Ordered, That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Jim Dowd.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd 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.

2 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 1st June, be approved.—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

3 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 1st June, be approved.—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

4 Agriculture.—Ordered, That Mr Tim Collins be discharged from the Agriculture Committee and Mr David Curry be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

5 Catering.—Ordered, That Mr Keith Simpson be discharged from the Catering Committee and Miss Julie Kirkbride be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Trade and Industry.—Ordered, That Mr David Prior be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Mr John Bercow be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Treasury.—Ordered That Mr Quentin Davies be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr Nick Gibb be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Somerset against cuts in expenditure on schools in the county was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

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 Greg Pope.)

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 delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 12th June 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 15th June 1998.

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Mental Health,—Mental Health Review Tribunals (Regions) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1460), dated 12th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) Health Boards (Membership and Procedure) (No. 2) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1459), and

   (2) National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1458),

dated 9th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

5 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for the Deregulation (Pipe-lines) Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Industrial Training,—Report and Accounts of the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence: Identifying and Selling Surplus Property [by Act]; to be printed [No. 776] [Clerk of the House].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by—

   (1) the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Petition [11th November] from citizens of the United Kingdom for controls on media exploitation of sex and violence, and

   (2) the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [8th May] from residents of Walton-on-the-Hill for measures to reduce noise levels on part of the M25 motorway

   [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Fifth Report from the Agriculture Committee [Vitamin B6], 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. 753]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence; Vitamin B6] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) Forty-eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Sale of the Married Quarters Estate]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 518];
(2) Forty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Sale of the Stationery Office]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 599], and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 15th June [Managing the Millennium Threat II]; to be printed [No. 816-i]

[Mr David Davis].

3 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 15th June [Georgian Nuclear Material at Dounreay]; to be printed [No. 815-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 187.]

Tuesday 16th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords].—The Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) Order 1998 and the draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) (Scotland) Order 1998.

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

3 Legal Aid (Reform),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to place restrictions on the granting of legal aid to persons resident outside, or not paying tax in, the United Kingdom: and for connected purposes: And that Mr John Bercow, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Nick Hawkins, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr David Prior, Mr Lawrence Robertson, Mr David Ruffley and Sir Teddy Taylor do prepare and bring it in.

4 Legal Aid (Reform) Bill,—Mr John Bercow accordingly presented a Bill to place restrictions on the granting of legal aid to persons resident outside, or not paying tax in, the United Kingdom: and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 204].

5 Opposition Day [13th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

National Health Service Waiting Lists,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with regret the increase in National Health Service hospital waiting lists since May 1997; deplores the failure of Her Majesty's Government to achieve implementation of its promise of an early reduction of such lists; notes that current Government policies in respect of hospital closures and bed reductions are likely to increase the lists further; notes that the proposals to abolish fundholding and reduce flexibility for general practitioners in purchasing health care for their patients will also add to the lists; and urges the Government to reconsider these changes—(Miss Ann Widdecombe);

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 with pleasure the £2 billion increase in National Health Service spending since 1st May 1997; welcomes the allocation of £500 million to cut waiting lists by the end of this Parliament to 100,000 below the record levels inherited from the last Conservative Government; notes that as a result of record increases in waiting list surgery the National Health Service will be opening around 2,000 extra beds and keeping open around a further 1,000 in marked contrast to the cuts under the last Government; notes that by March 1998 no-one in England was waiting over 18 months for treatment, meaning that this Government has already achieved what the Conservative Government never achieved; and further welcomes the ending of two-tier care by the introduction of primary care groups which puts doctors and nurses in the driving seat of modernisation', instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Dobson.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 133.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Greg Pope: 327.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 notes with pleasure the £2 billion increase in National Health Service spending since 1st May 1997; welcomes the allocation of £500 million to cut waiting lists by the end of this Parliament to 100,000 below the record levels inherited from the last Conservative Government; notes that as a result of record increases in waiting list surgery the National Health Service will be opening around 2,000 extra beds and keeping open around a further 1,000 in marked contrast to the cuts under the last Government, notes that by March 1998 no-one in England was waiting over 18 months for treatment, meaning that this Government has already achieved what the Conservative Government never achieved; and further welcomes the ending of two-tier care by the introduction of primary care groups which puts doctors and nurses in the driving seat of modernisation.

Scottish Local Government,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that Scotland requires financial stability and ethically sound local government, recognises the need for public confidence in advance of the establishment of the Scottish Parliament; and therefore calls on Her Majesty's Government to initiate an independent inquiry into the conduct of local government in Scotland—(Dr Liam Fox);

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 with concern losses in a number of direct labour organisations within Scottish councils; and commends the swift action taken by the Secretary of State for Scotland to deal with them', instead thereof.——(Mr Secretary Dewar.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 113.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 322.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 274.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Andrew Welsh: 31.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House notes with concern losses in a number of direct labour organisations within Scottish councils and commends the swift action taken by the Secretary of State for Scotland to deal with them.

6 Council Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Council Tax Limitation (Derbyshire County Council) (Maximum Amount) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved—(Hilary Armstrong);

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. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents),

The House proceeded to a Division.
Wednesday 17th June 1998

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Graham Allen: 214.
Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 152.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Council Tax Limitation (Derbyshire County Council) (Maximum Amount) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved.

7 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998 be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

8 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] (Programme).—Ordered. That the following provisions shall apply to proceedings on the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].

Report and Third Reading

1. (1) Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be completed at two sittings and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion six and a half hours after commencement of proceedings at the second sitting.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to those proceedings for any part of the period of six and half hours after commencement which falls after Ten o’clock.

Business Committee

2. Standing Order No. 82 (Business committee) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill.

3. No Motion shall be made to alter the order in which proceedings on the Bill are taken, but the resolutions of the Business Committee may include alterations in that order.

Conclusion of proceedings

4. (1) For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by or under this Order, 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;

(c) the Question on any Amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(3) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(4) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (1)(c) on Amendments moved or Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, the Speaker shall instead put a single question in relation to those Amendments or Motions.

Miscellaneous

5. If at any sitting a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) stands over from an earlier day or to Seven o’clock—

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

(b) paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for the period after Ten o’clock for which sub-paragraph (a) permits them to continue.

6. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order and an effect of the Motion would be to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.
7. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of further proceedings on the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced. (Mr David Jamieson.)

9. Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr David Jamieson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until twenty-five minutes to One o'clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.35 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Northern Ireland.—Draft Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

2. Defence.—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 16th June 1998, concerning the gifting of historic aircraft to the Royal Air Force Museum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

3. Equal Opportunities.—Report of the Equal Opportunities Commission for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4. Insolvency.—Report on Insolvency for 1997 under section 379 of the Insolvency Act 1986 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5. Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance.—Report of the Law Society of Northern Ireland on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland in 1996–97, with the Report of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 765] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

6. National Health Service (Scotland).—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 8th June 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

   (1) Fife Healthcare,
   (2) Glasgow Dental Hospital & School, and
   (3) Raigmore Hospital

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1342).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order, in place of Mr Nicholas Winterton.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Administration.—First Report from the Administration Committee [Childcare Facilities Survey], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 825] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2. Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 16th June [Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom]; to be printed [No. 818-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3. Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs
Committee on 16th June [English Nature]; to be printed [No. 790-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 16th June [Electoral law and administration]; to be printed [No. 768-iii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 16th June [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787-ii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Memoranda laid before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 337] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Public Administration,—(1) Fourth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Ministerial Responsibility and Parliamentary Questions], together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 820]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 16th June [The Government Information and Communication Service]; to be printed [770-ii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 16th June [Success Measures]; to be printed [No. 777-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xvii [S.C. 1998, No. 364]].

10 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 16th June [Confirmation Hearings]; to be printed [Nos. 822-i and -ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

11 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 16th June [Investment in Industry in Wales]; to be printed [No. 821-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 188.]

Wednesday 17th June 1998.

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 Kevin Hughes);

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

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1342).

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

3 Disposal and Re-use of White Goods,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to mitigate the environmental problems of disposal of white goods by means of a point-of-sale deposit system to encourage re-use or responsible disposal; and for connected purposes; And that Dr Alan Whitehead, Mr Martin Linton, Ms Margaret Moran, Miss Melanie Johnson, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Mark Oaten and Mr Stephen Hesford do prepare and bring it in.

4 Disposal and Re-use of White Goods Bill,—Dr Alan Whitehead accordingly presented a Bill to mitigate the environmental problems of disposal of white goods by means of a point-of-sale deposit system to encourage re-use or responsible disposal; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 205].
5 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Committee) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 5 (Right of Crown to intervene).

Amendments (Nos. 120 to 124) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 6 (Acts of public authorities).

Amendment (No. 106) proposed, in page 4, line 7, at the beginning, to insert the words—

'( ) A public authority is any person or body which—

(a) is established and regulated by statute; or

(b) has ministerial appointments on its governing body;

and for the purposes of this Act such a person or body under paragraph (a) above is only a public body when acting in the discharge of its statutory functions.'—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 41 and 138) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Ordered, That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Graham Allen 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 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill (Committee) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 8 (Application to revoke declaration).

Amendment (No. 22) proposed, in page 4, line 27, at the end, to insert the words 'and the Secretary of State shall make such an application if the condition in section 3(8)(b) is not satisfied'.—(Mr Andrew Hunter.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 41 and 138) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Ordered, That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Graham Allen.)
Amendment (No. 82) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clause (No. 10) (Accelerated release).
Amendment (No. 83) made.
Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 5, line 43, at the end, to add the words 'and in particular shall ensure that the accelerated release date for any prisoner is not before the decommissioning of all illegal arms by any organisation of which he is a member or supporter has been verified by any Commission of the kind referred to in section 7 of the Northern Ireland Decommissioning Act 1997.'—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 84) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clause No. 11 (Notice of decisions).
Amendment (No. 24) proposed, in page 6, line 17, at the end, to add the words—
'(6) Notwithstanding subsection (5), the Commissioners shall not have to give reasons where the decision to refuse is based on information received from the Royal Ulster Constabulary or Security Services and where these organisations warrant that revealing the information would be prejudicial to national security or put at risk the lives of individuals.'—(Mr David Maclean.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 12 agreed to.
Clause No. 13 (Inadmissibility).
Amendments (Nos. 85 to 87) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clause No. 14 agreed to.
Clause No. 15 (Sentences passed outside Northern Ireland).
Amendment (No. 91) proposed, in page 8, to leave out lines 6 and 7.—(Mr Jeremy Corbyn.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause disagreed to.
Clause No. 16 agreed to.
Clause No. 17 (Orders and rules).
Amendments (Nos. 14 to 17) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clause No. 18 agreed to.
Clause No. 19 (Extent).
Amendment (No. 89) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 20 and 21 agreed to.
And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill this day, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [11th June], put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.
Clauses (Information for victims), (Revocation of declaration) and (Sentences passed outside Northern Ireland)—(Mr Adam Ingram)—added.
Schedule No. 1 agreed to.
Schedule No. 2 (Commissioners' Procedure).
Amendment (No. 90) made.
Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

A Schedule (Sentences passed outside Northern Ireland)—(Mr Adam Ingram)—added.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Committee, to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 206].

7 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) (No. 2) Order 1998 be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) the Order of the House of 6th November relating to sittings of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall be varied by substituting for the words ‘and Thursday 2nd July at half past Ten o’clock’ the words ‘at half past Ten o’clock, and on Thursday 2nd July at Ten o’clock.’

(3) at the sitting on Thursday 2nd July, the Committee shall take questions for oral answer and shall then consider the draft instrument referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

(4) in respect of the sitting on Thursday 2nd July—

(i) Standing Order No. 115 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (delegated legislation)) shall have effect with the substitution in paragraph (2) of the Order, for the words ‘two and a half’, of the word ‘three’; and

(ii) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees) and Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings at half past One o’clock.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

8 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2),—Ordered, That the Order [1st June] relating to Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Programme) be amended as follows:

(i) in sub-paragraph 1(1), by leaving out from ‘completed’ to the end of the sub-paragraph and inserting ‘at four sittings and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill at the fourth of those sittings’;

(ii) in sub-paragraph 1(2), by leaving out ‘On each such allotted day’ and inserting ‘At each of those sittings except the fourth’;

(iii) by inserting after sub-paragraph 1(2)—

‘(3) At the fourth of those sittings, paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill for any part of the period of three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill which falls after Ten o’clock’; and

(iv) by leaving out paragraph 7.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.17 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance,—Special Grant Report (No. 36) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 823] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Town and Country Planning.—Channel Tunnel Rail Link (Qualifying Authorities) Order 1998 (S.I. 1998 No. 1445), dated 10th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Electricity,—Report of the Director General for Electricity Supply: Office of Electricity Regulation (Offer) for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 788] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Registration of Political Parties Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee A Mrs Linda Gilroy and Lynne Jones (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr John Cummings and Jim Fitzpatrick.

2 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Tom Brake, Mr Roger Casale, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Keith Hill, Ms Margaret Hodge, Glenda Jackson, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Ottaway, Ms Linda Perham, Dr Jenny Tonge and Sir George Young.

3 Draft Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979 Statutory Sum Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Joe Ashton, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Ross Cranston, Valerie Davey, Mr John Denham, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr John Horam, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr David Rendel, Mrs Marion Roe, Christine Russell, Mr Peter Snape, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Mr David Tredinnick.

4 Value Added Tax (Reduced Rate) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1375):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Peter Bradley, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr George Galloway, Mr Bruce George, Jane Griffiths, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Johnson, Ms Dawn Primarolo, Mr David Ruffley, Helen Southworth and Mr John Whittingdale.

5 Draft Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and Adjustment of Rates) (Amendment) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen members, viz.: Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Tim Collins, Mr David Faber, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Mark Oaten, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr David Rendel, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Ms Rosie Winterton.

6 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman), (Air Transport) (Hong Kong), and (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Orders 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Terry Davis, Mr David Drew, Julia Drown, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mr Alan Johnson, Gillian Merron, Ms Dawn Primarolo, Mr Barry Sheerman and Mr Shaun Woodward.
7 Draft Export and Investment Guarantees (Limit on Foreign Currency Commitments) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr Clive Betts, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Colin Breed, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr John Hayes, Ms Melanie Johnson, Ms Ruth Kelly, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr Ted Rowlands, Mr David Winnick and Mr Mike Wood.

8 Special Grant Report (No. 35) (HC 758),—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Eighth Standing Committee Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas (nominated in respect of the Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Andrew Mackinlay.

9 Draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Ninth Standing Committee Mr Andrew Love (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Tony Clarke.

10 Draft Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Tenth Standing Committee; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz.: Mr John Austin, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Andrew Hunter, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Desmond Turner, Mr Robert N. Wareing, Mr Alan Williams, Mr Alan W. Williams, Mr Phil Willis and Mr Tony Worthington.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 17th June [Flood and coastal defence]; to be printed [No. 707–iv] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Sixth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Sustainable Waste Management], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 484–i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Memorandum laid before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 17th June [The Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716–iii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Public Accounts,—(1) Fiftieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Management of Sickness Absence in the Metropolitan Police Service]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 594];

(2) Fifty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence Appropriation Accounts 1996–97]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 671];

(3) Fifty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Intervention Board Executive Agency: Qualification of Appropriation Account 1996–97]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 676]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 17th June [NHS (Scotland) Summarised Accounts 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 830–i]
[Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—(1) Third Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98 (The Implications of the Dearing Report for the Structure and Funding of University Education)]; to be printed [No. 799]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 17th June [Scientific Advisory System]; to be printed [No. 796–i]
[Dr Michael Clark].
7 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 17th June [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 826-i] [Mr David Marshall].

8 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 17th June [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 827-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

9 Trade and Industry,—Seventh Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Reform of European Structural Funds], 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. 697] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords])

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) the Speaker has nominated Mr Richard Allan, Mr James Clappison, Mr Andrew Dismore, Ms Sally Keeble, Jane Kennedy, Mr Alun Michael, Paddy Tipping and Mr Nigel Waterson to be members of the Business Committee in respect of the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].

[No. 189.]

Thursday 18th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered. That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 25th June.

2 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] (Business Committee).—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Business Committee, That it had come to a Resolution in respect of the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], which it had directed him to report to the House:

That—

(1) the order in which proceedings on Consideration are to be taken shall be, New Clause 10, New Clause 11, New Clause 1, remaining New Clauses, Amendments to Clauses, new Schedules, Amendments to Schedules;

(2) the days allotted under the Order [16th June] to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be allotted in the manner shown in the following Table and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion (in accordance with the Order) at the time specified in relation to that part of the proceedings in the third column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>TABLE</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>New Clause 10, New Clause 11</td>
<td>Three and a half hours after commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Clause 1 (including any Amendments to it selected by the Speaker)</td>
<td>Six and a half hours after commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second day</td>
<td>Remaining New Clauses, Amendments to Clauses, new Schedules, Amendments to Schedules, Third Reading</td>
<td>Six and a half hours after commencement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

3 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 35) (House of Commons Paper No. 758).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill (Consideration and Third Reading) [allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Amendment (No. 2) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 40, after the words last inserted, to insert the words—

'(e) has already decommissioned a substantial proportion of its illegally held firearms, ammunition and explosives in accordance with the provisions of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 and is fulfilling a decommissioning timetable which will ensure that it has completed decommissioning before 22nd May 2000.'.—(The Reverend Ian Paisley.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr William Thompson: 12.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 260.

Other Amendments (Nos. 3 and 4) 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 Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 215.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 116.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

Church of England (General Synod) (Measure).—Resolved, That the National Institutions Measure, passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for Royal Assent in the form in which the said Measure was laid before Parliament.—(Mr Stuart Bell.)

Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.51 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance,—Account of the Legal Aid Fund (Northern Ireland) for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 834] [Clerk of the House].

2 Low Pay Commission,—Paper, entitled the National Minimum Wage, First Report of the Low Pay Commission [by Command] [Cm. 3976] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Fourth Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1997–98, Access to Official Information—Volume 1 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 804] [Clerk of the House].

4 Water,—Report of the Director General of Water Services for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 740] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from Standing Committee D Sir Sydney Chapman (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mrs Eleanor Laing.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Treasury.—Sixth Report from the Treasury Committee [Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England: Confirmation Hearings]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 822]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 18th June [Confirmation Hearings]; to be printed [No. 822-iii]

[Mr Giles Radice].

MEMORANDUM

Business Committee (Human Rights Bill [Lords])

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) the Speaker nominated Mr Nigel Waterson to be a member of the Business Committee in respect of the Human Rights Bill [Lords], in place of Mr James Cran.

[No. 190.]

Friday 19th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

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

Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to provide for the transfer to Alliance & Leicester plc of the undertakings of Girobank plc and Alliance & Leicester Personal Finance Limited; and for related purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

3 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from friends and users of the Harlow Music Schools for action to protect and promote music education was presented and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Adjournment (The small business sector).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);

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

5 Deregulation.—Ordered, That Mr Stephen Hesford be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Dr Doug Naysmith be added to the Committee.—(Janet Anderson.)

6 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Janet Anderson.)

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Janet Anderson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 22nd June.

[Adjourned at 2.57 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Environmental Information (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1447), dated 11th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

4 British Council,—Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute, dated 18th June 1998, concerning the indemnification of works of art lent to the British Council for an exhibition to be held overseas from 31st July to 20th September 1998 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Reports and Accounts for 1997-98 of the following Development Corporations:—
   (1) Birmingham Heartlands,
   (2) Black Country,
   (3) London Docklands,
   (4) Merseyside,
   (5) Plymouth, and
   (6) Trafford Park
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Public Expenditure,—Public Expenditure 1997-98: Provisional Outturn [by Command] [Cm. 3988] Mr Alistair Darling.

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979 Statutory Sum Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Value added Tax (Reduced Rate) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1375),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

5 Draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.
Monday 22nd June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 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 National Lottery Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

2 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), That the matter of the New Economic Agenda for Wales, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

3 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the Report [18th June] from the Business Committee be now considered—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution—It was agreed to.

4 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] (Consideration and Third Reading) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Football Behaviour Order)—(Sir Norman Fowler)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Reduction in age at which certain sexual acts are lawful)—(Ann Keen)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 336.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Edward Leigh, Dr Julian Lewis: 129.

The Speaker then put forthwith the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Amendment (a) proposed to the proposed Clause, in line 2, after the word 'sixteen', to insert the words 'except when one party is in a position of authority, influence or trust in relation to the other, in which case both parties must have attained the age of eighteen.'—(Mr Joe Ashton.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Gerald Bermingham: 194.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 234.

The Speaker then put forthwith the Question necessary to bring to a decision the Questions previously decided.

Clause added.

Further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

5 Housing (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 14th May, be approved—(Bridget Prentice)—It was agreed to.
6 Housing.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 14th May, be approved.—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

7 Public Health.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1342), dated 29th May 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 2nd June, be approved.—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

8 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 35) (House of Commons Paper No. 758), which was laid before this House on 21st May, be approved.—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

9 Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Welsh Grand Committee shall meet at the Civic Centre, Merthyr Tydfil on Monday 13th July at Eleven o’clock to take questions under Standing Order No. 103 (Welsh Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and to consider the matter of the New Economic Agenda for Wales under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), proceedings being interrupted at half past Four o’clock.—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

10 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Mr Quentin Davies be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Sir Alastair Goodlad be added to the Committee.—(Bridget Prentice.)

11 Administration.—Ordered, That Mr James Cran be discharged from the Administration Committee and Mr Oliver Heald be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Catering.—Ordered, That Mr Stephen Day be discharged from the Catering Committee and Mrs Jacqui Lait be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

13 Culture, Media and Sport.—Ordered, That Mr Damian Green be discharged from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee and Mr David Faber be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

14 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Philip Hammond be discharged from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee and Mrs Eleanor Laing be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Science and Technology.—Ordered, That Mrs Caroline Spelman be discharged from the Science and Technology Committee and Mrs Jacqui Lait be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Trade and Industry.—Ordered, That Joan Walley be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Ms Linda Perham be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

17 Welsh Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr John Bercow be discharged from the Welsh Affairs Committee and Dr Julian Lewis be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

18 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Harrow against lowering the age of consent for homosexual activity was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

19 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.17 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Draft Houses in Multiple Occupation (Charges for Registration Schemes) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Road Traffic,—Draft Community Drivers' Hours and Recording Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) (Additional Voluntary Contributions) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1451), dated 1st June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

4 Broadcasting,—Accounts of the Broadcasting Standards Commission for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 835] [Clerk of the House].

5 Childcare (Wales),—Paper, entitled The National Childcare Strategy in Wales: a consultation document [by Command] [Cm. 3974] [Mr Secretary Davies].

6 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 785] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale an additional Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Welfare of Livestock (Amendment) Regulations 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee in respect of the draft Regulations.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 22nd June [Countering Anti-Competitive Behaviour in the Telecommunications Industry]; to be printed [No. 842-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 22nd June [Investment in Industry in Wales]; to be printed [No. 821-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 192.]

Tuesday 23rd June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Ivan Lewis reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 8th June 1998, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (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 Human Rights Bill [Lords], which it had directed him to report to the House:
That the allotted sittings at which under the Order [1st June] as amended [17th June] remaining proceedings in Committee of the whole House are to be completed shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below.

<table>
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<th>Proceedings</th>
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<td>Clauses 7 to 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth day</td>
<td>Remaining proceedings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report to lie upon the Table.

3 Registration of Political Parties Bill.—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Registration of Political Parties Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 208].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 851].

4 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill.—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 3rd July; and to be printed [Bill 210].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 861].

5 Finance (No. 2) Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147),—Mr John Butterfill reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Finance (No. 2) Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1, 7, 10, 11, 25, 27, 30, 75, 119 and 147), and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, not amended in Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 207].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 862].

6 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979 Statutory Sum Order 1998.

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

7 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

8 Temporary Classrooms.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reduce the reliance on temporary classroom accommodation in local authority and grant maintained schools; to place a duty upon the Secretary of State to report to Parliament on the number of temporary classrooms in current use; to require the Secretary of State to lay before Parliament plans for the replacement of such accommodation, other than that necessary for normal fluctuation in pupil numbers, with permanent school buildings; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Heath, Mr Bob Russell, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Terry Davies, Mr Andrew George, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Martin Bell, Jackie Ballard and Steve Webb do prepare and bring it in.

9 Temporary Classrooms Bill.—Mr David Heath accordingly presented a Bill to reduce the reliance on temporary classroom accommodation in local authority and grant maintained schools; to place a duty upon the Secretary of State to report to Parliament on the number of temporary classrooms in current use; to require the Secretary of State to lay before Parliament plans for the replacement of such accommodation, other than that necessary for normal fluctuation in pupil numbers, with permanent school buildings; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 209].

10 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] [Consideration and Third Readings] [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (Interaction with sentences of detention)—(Mr Alun Michael)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (Football spectators: failure to comply with reporting duty)—(Mr Alun Michael)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Drug treatment sentence)—(Mr Humfrey Malins)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 74) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 12, to leave out '10' and insert '16', instead thereof.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

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

Amendment (No. 13) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 75) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 42, after the word 'area' to insert the words 'including the behaviour of those under the age of criminal responsibility'.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 159, 14 and 15) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 83) proposed to the Bill, in page 19, line 20, after the word 'tenant' to insert the words 'as being a person whom the tenant could reasonably be expected to control.'—(Sir Robert Smith.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 16, 17 and 160) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 10) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 33, after the word 'race', to insert the word 'religion'.—(Mr James Clappison.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 146.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 268.

Other Amendments (Nos. 102 and 103) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 63) proposed to the Bill, in page 26, to leave out lines 16 to 20.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 18 and 19) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 64) proposed to the Bill, in page 43, to leave out lines 10 to 16.—(Mr John Greenway.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 20, 47 to 50, 21, 22, 51, 23 to 25, 88 and 26 to 28) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 149) proposed to the Bill, in page 65, line 44, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 1 on page 66.—(Ms Roseanna Cunningham.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 104 to 108) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 72) proposed to the Bill, in page 81, line 7, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 19 on page 82.—(Mr John Greenway.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 161, 169 to 112, 29, 113, 1, 114 to 116, 162, 2, 3, 163 to 165, 30, 52 to 57, 31, 32, 89, 58, 59, 33, 4, 34 to 36, 60, 90 to 95, 38 to 41, 117, 96, 97, 118 to 120, 42 to 44, 122, 121, 123 to 142, 166, 45, 46, 143 to 146 and 5) made to the Bill.

Title accordingly amended, as follows:

An Act to make provision for preventing crime and disorder; to create certain racially-aggravated offences; to abolish the rebuttable presumption that a child is doli incapax and to make provision as to the effect of a child's failure to give evidence at his trial; to reduce the age at which certain sexual acts are lawful; to abolish the death penalty for treason.
and piracy; to make changes to the criminal justice system; to make further provision for dealing with offenders; to make further provision with respect to remands and committals for trial and the release and recall of prisoners; to amend Chapter I of Part II of the Crime (Sentences) Act 1997 and to repeal Chapter I of Part III of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Act 1997; to make amendments designed to facilitate, or otherwise desirable in connection with, the consolidation of certain enactments; and for connected purposes.

A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being six and a half hours after commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [22nd June], put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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 nineteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 10.41 p.m.]

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—Draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Transport,—Railways (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I. 1998, No. 1519), dated 22nd June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Defence,—List of exceptions to—

(1) the Air Force Regulations,

(2) the Army Regulations, and

(3) the Navy Regulations

as to pensions for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Duchy of Cornwall,—Financial Statements of the Duchy of Cornwall for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 803] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 Police and Criminal Evidence,—Account of the Police Complaints Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 849] [Clerk of the House].

7 Prisons,—Report of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales for the period April 1996 to November 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 763] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers withdrawn:

8 Civil Aviation,—Draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998 [laid 21st May].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Seventh Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles) Order 1998]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 847] [Mr Ivan Lewis].

2 Education and Employment,—Sixth Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, on Disaffected Children]; to be printed [No. 859] [Ms Margaret Hodge].
3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Third Special Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report of the Committee, on Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 843] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 23rd June [DETR Annual Report 1998 and Expenditure Plans 1998–99]; to be printed [No. 844–3] [Mr Bill Olner].

4 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Second Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Sierra Leone: Further Exchanges of Correspondence with the Foreign Secretary], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 852]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 23rd June [Public Expenditure Plans of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1998–99] [No. 745–iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 23rd June [Electoral law and administration]; to be printed [No. 768–iv] [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development Committee.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 23rd June [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787–iii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Procedure.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 23rd June [Financial Procedure]; to be printed [No. 848–I] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

8 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 23rd June [The Government Information and Communication Service]; to be printed [No. 770–iii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

9 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 23rd June [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 827–ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

10 Statutory Instruments.—Thirty-eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33–xxxviii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 193.]

Wednesday 24th June 1998.

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—[Janet Anderson];
And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Mr Andrew Tyrie reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, &c., Bills, to which the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, was referred, That it had gone through the Bill, and made an Amendment thereunto; 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 24th June.
Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 865-I].
Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 865-II].
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 865-II].

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Reduced Rate) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1375).
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Welfare of Livestock (Amendment) Regulations 1998.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
5 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998.

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:

The Lords have disagreed to one of the Amendments made by this House to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; they have disagreed to one other such Amendment, for which disagreement they assign their Reason; and they have agreed to the remaining Amendments, without Amendment.

Building Regulations (Energy Rating Information) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Building Regulations 1991 and the Building (Approved Inspectors etc.) Regulations 1985 to secure the provision of further information to purchasers and certain other occupiers of dwellings with respect to the energy rating of dwellings; and for connected purposes; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to amend the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 in respect of several fisheries; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Sale of Alcohol to Young Persons (Prohibition),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of 18 by any person on licensed premises; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Harold Best, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Fabian Hamilton and Mr John Gunnell do prepare and bring it in.

8 Sale of Alcohol to Young Persons (Prohibition) Bill,—Mr Paul Truswell accordingly presented a Bill to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of 18 by any person on licensed premises; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 211].

9 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee), That the further Report [23rd June] from the Business Committee be now considered.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones): It was agreed to.

Question put forthwith, That this House agrees with the Committee in its Resolution:—It was agreed to.

10 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Committee) [3rd allotted day],—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 7 (Proceedings).

Amendment (No. 47) proposed, in page 4, line 39, to leave out the words 'or tribunal'.—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 50) proposed, in page 4, line 42, at the end, to insert the words 'or he can demonstrate that he is acting on behalf of a victim or potential victim of an unlawful act'.—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 51) proposed, in page 4, line 42, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) Proceedings under subsection (1)(a) above may be brought without the leave of the court within three months of the commission of the unlawful act and otherwise may be brought only with the leave of the court.'—(Mr Robert Maclennan.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 42) proposed, in page 5, line 4, to leave out lines 4 to 6 and insert the words—

'(3) Nothing in subsection (1) shall prevent an applicant from bringing an application for judicial review provided that the court considers that he has a sufficient interest in the matter to which the application relates.'—(Mr Robert Maclennan.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr John Burnett: 35.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Greg Pope: 243.

Another Amendment (No. 125) proposed, in page 5, line 9, at the end, to insert the words—

'( ) Proceedings under subsection (1)(a) must be brought before the end of—

(a) the period of one year beginning with the date on which the act complained of took place; or

(b) such longer period as the court or tribunal considers equitable having regard to all the circumstances,

but that is subject to any rule imposing a stricter time limit in relation to the procedure question.'—(Mr Mike O'Brien.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Greg Pope: 232.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Andrew Stunell: 34.

Another Amendment (No. 54) proposed, in page 5, to leave out line 18.—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 44 and 126 to 128) made.

Clause, as amended. agreed to.

Clause No. 8 (Judicial remedies). Amendment (No. 129) made.

Amendment (No. 61) proposed, in page 6, line 32, at the end, to insert the words 'and
the court may take into account the conduct of the applicant in relation to the unlawful
act giving rise to the proceedings'.(Mr Edward Gamier.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 130) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 9 agreed to.

Clause No. 10 (Power to take remedial action). Amendment (No. 62) made.

Amendment (No. 64) proposed, in page 7, to leave out lines 33 to 45 and insert the words—

'(2) The Secretary of State shall, within 15 sitting days, lay before each House of
Parliament a statement setting out the grounds of the incompatibility and each House of
Parliament shall—

(a) in the case of a declaration of incompatibility under section 4, by resolution
signify its agreement or disagreement with the declaration;

(b) in any other case, debate the statement.

(3) If either House of Parliament by resolution under subsection (2)(a) signifies its
disagreement with a declaration of incompatibility, the case in relation to which the
declaration was made shall stand in abeyance, save for any appeal to the European Court
of Human Rights.

(3A) If both Houses of Parliament by resolution under subsection (2)(a) signify their
agreement with a declaration of incompatibility, or when both Houses have debated a
statement under subsection(3)(b), as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall lay
before Parliament a report containing proposals for amending legislation to remedy the
incompatibility.

(3B) In any case where it is necessary to amend primary legislation in order to remedy
the incompatibility, amending legislation shall take the form of an Act of Parliament
unless the Secretary of State considers that there are exceptional reasons which make it
impracticable to proceed by Act of Parliament; and in that case he shall state those
reasons in the report, and may by order make such amendments to the primary legislation
as he considers appropriate.
(3C) An order under subsection (3B) above shall not be made until a draft of it has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament., instead thereof.—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 144 to 147, 131 and 132) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 11 disagreed to.

It being six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill this day, the Chairman, pursuant to Orders [1st June and this day], put forthwith the Questions necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Clause No. 12 disagreed to.

Clauses Nos. 13 to 20 agreed to.

Clause No. 21 (Interpretation, etc.) Amendments (Nos. 133 to 135) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 22 (Short title, commencement, application and extent).

Amendment (No. 136) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

The Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Jane Kennedy reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

11 Public Petitions,—A public petition from residents of Vale of York against the decision to allow electricity pylons to be erected in the constituency was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.38 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1537), dated 22nd June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


3 Education,—Education (Grants for Education Support and Training) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1489), dated 20th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Other Papers:


5 Miscellaneous (No. 7, 1998),—Convention, done at Oslo on 18th September 1997, on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 3990] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman), Air Transport (Hong Kong), and (Taxes and Income) (Kazakhstan) Orders 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Fifth Standing Committee, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Julia Drown and Ms Dawn Primarolo (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Greg Pope and Angela Smith.

2 Draft Export and Investment Guarantees (Limit on Foreign Currency Commitments) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee Mr Rhodri Morgan (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mrs Sandra Osborne.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 24th June [The Reserves Call Out Order 1998, Etc]; to be printed [No. 868-i] [Mr Bruce George].

2 European Legislation,—Thirty-first Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxxi] [Mr Jim Marshall].

3 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 24th June [Sudan]; to be printed [No. 872-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

4 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 24th June [Distribution of Lottery Funds by the English Sports Council]; to be printed [No. 873-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 24th June [The Operation of Multi Layer Democracy]; to be printed [No. 460-iii] [Mr David Marshall].

6 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 24th June [Pension Sharing on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 869-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

7 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 24th June [Electricity Liberalisation]; to be printed [No. 871-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 194.]


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

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (No Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable).—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from one of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the following Bill, originating in the Lords and referred after the First Reading thereof, no Standing Order not previously inquired into is applicable thereto, viz.:—

Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].

Bill to be read a second time.

2 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 2nd July.
3 Liaison.—Mr Robert Sheldon reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (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 allotted days in the present Session):

First allotted day: That a day not later than 5th August be allotted for the consideration of the following Estimates for the financial year 1998-99:

1. Class IX, Vote 1: Department for Education and Employment: programmes and central services in so far as it relates to further education,
2. Class XVII, Vote 1: Cabinet Office: Office of Public Service in so far as it relates to the Government’s proposals for a Freedom of Information Act

and that debate on the first Estimate be interrupted not later than three hours after its commencement.

Second allotted day: That a day not later than 5th August be allotted for the consideration of the following Estimates for the financial year 1998-99:

1. Class IV, Votes 1 and 2: Intervention Board-Executive Agency and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in so far as they relate to the UK Beef Industry,
2. Class V, Vote 2, Department of Trade and Industry: science in so far as it relates to the structure and funding of university research

and that debate on the first Estimate be interrupted not later than three hours after its commencement.

Report to lie upon the Table.

4 Competition Bill [Lords],—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from Standing Committee G, That it had gone through the Competition Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 213].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 880].

5 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and adjustment of rates) (Amendment) Regulations 1998.

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

6 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords],—Lords Amendment in lieu of a Commons Amendment, and Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 212].

7 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 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 214].

8 Opposition day [14th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the second largest opposition party, in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Sitting on Friday 3rd July,—Resolved, That this House supports the Energy Efficiency Bill and the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, as amended and properly scrutinised in Standing Committee; trusts that they can now complete all remaining stages on Friday 3rd July; and urges the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons to re-examine the procedure for Private Members’ Bills.—(Mr Paul Tyler.)

Government Strategy for Social Welfare,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that Britain spends less on welfare as a percentage of GDP than many of its European partners; believes that economic growth and enterprise must be matched by policies designed to promote equality and social justice, and in this light expresses concern over the Government’s recent actions in respect of benefits for single parents and claimants of disability living allowance; and calls on the Government to ensure that any further reform of the welfare system focuses on the needs of the most vulnerable in society rather than the demands of the Treasury and is neither discriminatory, economically inept, morally repugnant or spiritually bereft—(Mr John Swinney);

An Amendment was proposed, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end and add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s comprehensive approach to welfare reform around the principle of work for those who can, security for those who cannot, which was set out in the Welfare Reform Green Paper; notes the Government’s commitment to consultation with organisations of, and for, disabled people, and the substantial safeguards included in the Benefit Integrity Project; notes the Government’s commitment to helping today’s and tomorrow’s pensioners and welcomes the
establishment of the Pensions Review and the action taken already to help today's pensioners through cutting VAT on fuel and paying winter fuel payments to all pensioners; notes that the New Deals for Lone Parents, for the Young and Long-Term Unemployed and for Disabled People are the largest assault on worklessness and social exclusion ever undertaken in Britain; and welcomes the action taken by the Government in the Budget to support families and children through increasing child benefit and the family premium in income support and by the proposals to introduce a working family tax credit and a disabled person's tax credit', instead thereof.—(Mr Frank Field).

Question, That the original words stand part of the Question, put and negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 welcomes the Government's comprehensive approach to welfare reform around the principle of work for those who can, security for those who cannot, which was set out in the Welfare Reform Green Paper; notes the Government's commitment to consultation with organisations of, and for, disabled people, and the substantial safeguards included in the Benefit Integrity Project; notes the Government's commitment to helping today's and tomorrow's pensioners and welcomes the establishment of the Pensions Review and the action taken already to help today's pensioners through cutting VAT on fuel and paying winter fuel payments to all pensioners; notes that the New Deals for Lone Parents, for the Young and Long-Term Unemployed and for Disabled People are the largest assault on worklessness and social exclusion ever undertaken in Britain; and welcomes the action taken by the Government in the Budget to support families and children through increasing child benefit and the family premium in income support and by the proposals to introduce a working family tax credit and a disabled person's tax credit.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Eight o'clock, adjourned till Monday 29th June.

[Adjourned at 8.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Animals,—Draft Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Local Government Finance (Wales),—Special Grant Report (No. 3) (Wales) 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 832] [Mr Secretary Davies].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—(1) Education (Baseline Assessment) (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1551), and


6 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Scheme Administration) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1494), dated 18th June 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

7 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Road Humps (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1448), dated 7th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

8 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 25th June 1998, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the votes specified in the Revised Estimates,
Summer Supplementary Estimates and New Estimates for 1998–99 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

9 Crown Agents,—(1) Accounts of the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board for 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 831] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report of the Chairman of the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board for 1997 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

10 Education,—Account of the Education Assets Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 875] [Clerk of the House].

11 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Account of the Grants and Loans made to the Urban Development Corporations by the Secretary of State for the Environment for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 876] [Clerk of the House].

12 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Prisons Complaints Commission for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3983] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Sierra Leone Arms Investigation,—Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Sir Thomas Legg KCB QC, Sir Robin Ibbs KBE and the Secretariat of the Investigation [by Command] [Mr Secretary Cook].


   (2) United Nations Arms Embargoes (Channel Islands) (Amendment) (Sierra Leone) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1507),
   (3) United Nations Arms Embargoes (Dependent Territories) (Amendment) (Sierra Leone) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1502), and
   (4) United Nations Arms Embargoes (Isle of Man) (Amendment) (Sierra Leone) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1508),
   dated 24th June 1998 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman) Order 1998, draft Double Taxation Relief (Air Transport) (Hong Kong) Order 1998 and draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

2 Draft Export and Investment Guarantees (Limit on Foreign Currency Commitments) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 2nd July.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Treasury,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [The Government’s Response to the Committee’s Fourth Report, on The 1998 Budget] [No. 877]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 25th June [Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 712-iii]
   [Mr Giles Radice]
Monday 29th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Fireworks Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Opposition Day [15th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

The Economy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the last Government left a golden economic legacy of low inflation, steady and sustainable growth and falling unemployment; that, since the General Election, there have been 17 tax rises and 6 increases in interest rates, leaving the typical family £1,000 a year worse off; that the economy is becoming dangerously unbalanced, with manufacturing in recession, the claimant count rising and the savings ratio falling to its lowest level since 1990 as a result of the Government’s attack on pensions and savings; further notes that, at the same time, inflation has risen to its highest level for six years and believes that the Chancellor’s decision to abandon control of public spending and to reverse his plans to repay national debt risks adding further inflationary pressure; concludes that the Government has created boom and bust at the same time; and deplores the Government’s mishandling of the economy—(Mr Francis Maude);

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 Government inherited an economy in which the current Budget was in deficit by £21 billion, inflation was set to rise because of the failure of the previous Government to take the necessary action on interest rates and nearly one in five households of working age had nobody working; recalls that the previous Government presided over a boom and bust economy with interest rates peaking at 15 per cent. and the two worst recessions since the war, doubled the national debt in the 1990s, doubled unemployment during its time in office, worsened inequality and failed to tackle the weaknesses in the British economy; commends the actions of the Government in its first year, which has established a credible framework for monetary policy that has led to the lowest long-term interest rates in 33 years, set two clear fiscal rules which provide for both prudent public finance and strong public services in the years ahead, taken action to reduce government borrowing such that the current Budget was in surplus by £1 billion in 1997–98, supported British business through cuts in corporation tax and small business tax to their lowest levels ever, launched the New Deal, the biggest employment programme for decades, reformed the tax and benefit system to tackle the unemployment and poverty traps and invested in education and skills; and notes that Britain now has a government which will ensure that the country does not return to the boom and bust and 15 per cent. interest rates of the late 1980s and early 1990s and instead has an economic policy based on stability, enterprise, employment and fairness’, instead thereof.(Mr Alistair Darling.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 139.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Jane Kennedy: 310.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 notes that the Government inherited an economy in which the current Budget was in deficit by £21 billion, inflation was set to rise because of the failure of the previous Government to take the necessary action on interest rates and nearly one in five households of working age had nobody working; recalls that the previous Government presided over a boom and bust economy with interest rates peaking at 15 per cent. and the two worst recessions since the war, doubled the national debt in the 1990s, doubled unemployment during its time in office, worsened inequality and failed to tackle the weaknesses in the British economy; commends the actions of the Government in its first year, which has established a credible framework for monetary
policy that has led to the lowest long-term interest rates in 33 years, set two clear fiscal rules which provide for both prudent public finance and strong public services in the years ahead, taken action to reduce government borrowing such that the current Budget was in surplus by £1 billion in 1997-98, supported British business through cuts in corporation tax and small business tax to their lowest levels ever, launched the New Deal, the biggest employment programme for decades, reformed the tax and benefit system to tackle the unemployment and poverty traps and invested in education and skills; and notes that Britain now has a government which will ensure that the country does not return to the boom and bust and 15 per cent. interest rates of the late 1980s and early 1990s and instead has an economic policy based on stability, enterprise, employment and fairness.

Class Sizes.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that primary class sizes have increased since the Government came to power, and that almost half a million pupils at Key Stage 1 are now in classes of 31 or more; condemns the Government’s failure to deliver its early pledge to reduce infant class sizes; believes that while reducing class sizes is a desirable objective, this should not be done at the expense of parental choice or by creating more mixed-age classes; and condemns the Government’s inability to implement its pledge in a way consistent with raising educational standards—(Mr David Willetts);

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 ‘congratulates the Government on the excellent progress it has already made towards honouring its pledge that no child of 5, 6 or 7 will be in a class of over 30 by the end of this Parliament, which will mean that 100,000 fewer infants will be in large classes from this September and the pledge will be met ahead of schedule by September 2001; and notes the Opposition’s continuing hostility to class size reduction, having presided over year-on-year increases since 1988’, instead thereof.(Mr Stephen Byers.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Clive Betts: 297.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It 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 excellent progress it has already made towards honouring its pledge that no child of 5, 6 or 7 will be in a class of over 30 by the end of this Parliament, which will mean that 100,000 fewer infants will be in large classes from this September and the pledge will be met ahead of schedule by September 2001; and notes the Opposition’s continuing hostility to class size reduction, having presided over year-on-year increases since 1988.

3 Animals.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Welfare of Livestock (Amendment) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 21st May, be approved—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

4 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 1st June, be approved—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

5 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Reduced Rate) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1375), dated 3rd June 1998, which was laid before this House on 3rd June, be approved—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

6 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and Adjustment of Rates) (Amendment) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 8th June, be approved—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.

7 Public Health.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979 Statutory Sum Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved—(Janet Anderson):—It was agreed to.
8 Civil Aviation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Air Carrier Liability Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 23rd June, be approved.—(Janet Anderson);—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Janet Anderson.)

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 delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 26th June 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Hong Kong (No. 3, 1998),—Agreement, done at Hong Kong on 25th July 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China concerning Air Services, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 3996] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Miscellaneous (No. 5, 1998),—Terms of Reference of the International Copper Study Group, done at New York on 24th February 1989, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 3993] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 25, 1998),—Agreement, done at Kampala on 10th December 1993, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Uganda concerning Air Services [Cm. 3985] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 26th June 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 29th June 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

5 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998, together with a statement by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


7 Medical Profession,—Human Organ Transplants (Establishment of Relationship) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1428), dated 8th June [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


10 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1567), dated 28th June 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Young Offender Institutions,—Young Offender Institution (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1545), dated 20th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

13 Courts and Legal Services.—Report of the Legal Services Ombudsman for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 793] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

14 Fair Trading.—Report of the Director General of Fair Trading: Office of Fair Trading for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 762] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

15 Industrial Training.—Report and Accounts of the Construction Industry Training Board for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

16 Police.—Report of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis for 1997-98 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

17 Telecommunications.—Amendments to the Convention and the Operating Agreement relating to the International Mobile Satellite Organisation (Inmarsat) [by Command] [Cm. 3995] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Tenth Standing Committee Mr Alan Williams (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Simpson.

[No. 196.]

Tuesday 30th June 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Future of Lyric Theatre in London (Eyre Review).—Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there will be laid before this House a Return of the Report of the inquiry of the future of lyric theatre in London by Sir Richard Eyre.—(Bridget Prentice.)

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

The Lords have agreed to the Public Interest Disclosure Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Pesticides Bill, with an Amendment, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Fireworks Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Fireworks Bill to be considered on Friday and to be printed [Bill 216].

4 Pesticides Bill.—Lords Amendment to the Pesticides Bill to be considered on Friday and to be printed [Bill 217].

5 Unsolicited Facsimile Messages.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit the sending of facsimile messages offering for sale goods or services or seeking answers by questionnaire without prior permission of the recipient; And that Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr David Atkinson, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr James Gray, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Robert Walter do prepare and bring it in.

6 Unsolicited Facsimile Messages Bill.—Mr Christopher Fraser accordingly presented a Bill to prohibit the sending of facsimile messages offering for sale goods or services or seeking answers by questionnaire without prior permission of the recipient: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday and to be printed [Bill 215].

7 Finance (No. 2) Bill [Ways and Means].—Stamp duty reserve tax (exchange of securities).—Resolved, That provision may be made in the Finance (No. 2) Bill for and in connection with restricting relief under sections 95(3) and 97(4) of the Finance Act 1986.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

8 Finance (No. 2) Bill [Ways and Means].—Capital Allowances.—Resolved, That provision may be made in the Finance (No. 2) Bill—
(a) amending section 22A of the Capital Allowances Act 1990; and
(b) repealing section 76(3) of that Act.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

9 Finance (No. 2) Bill (Consideration).—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Finance (No. 2) Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Depository receipts and clearance services: exchanges of shares)—(Mr Geoffrey Robinson)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (First-year allowances for investment in Northern Ireland)—(Mr Geoffrey Robinson)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (First-year allowances: consequential amendments etc.)—(Mr Geoffrey Robinson)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Repayment of dividend tax credit to non-taxpayers)—(Mr Michael Fallon)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 171.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 284.

Another Clause (Special regard to trading patterns of the retail industry)—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 175.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 276.

Another Clause (Definition of national debt)—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause—(Stamp duty on transfers of land to dealers in or developers of land)—(Mr John Whittingdale)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Amount of inheritance tax charged in heritage chattels which do not meet the amended higher threshold test)—(Mr Shaun Woodward)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Tax credit compensation for charities with investments in mixed funds)—(Mr Michael Fallon)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 171.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 279.

Another Clause (Capital allowances for sea going vessels)—(Mr John Burnett)—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 Andrew Stunell, Mr Donald Gorrie: 37.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 272.

Ordered, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.
10 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert 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 seven minutes to Twelve o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.53 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Draft Security for Private Road Works (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 4) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1574), dated 25th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 National Health Service,—(1) Special Health Authorities (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1576), and

(2) Special Health Authorities (Establishment and Constitution Orders) Amendment Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1577),
dated 29th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


Other Papers:

6 Financial Services,—Report and Accounts of the Financial Services Authority for 1997–98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

7 Future of lyrical theatre in London (Eyre Review),—Return to an Address to Her Majesty this day for a Return of the Report of an inquiry by Sir Richard Eyre CBE on the future of lyrical theatre in London; to be printed [No. 858] [Mr Secretary Smith].


9 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Reports of the Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members and for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action for 1997–98 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Observations on the Fourth Report from the Committee, on Food Safety]; to be printed [No. 889];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 30th June [CAP reform: rural development]; to be printed [No. 890-i]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence; CAP reform; rural development]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Deregulation Committee on 30th June [The Deregulation Order-Making Process]; to be printed [No. 709-i] [Mr Peter L. Pike].
3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 30th June [DfEE's expenditure plans 1998-99]; to be printed [No. 897-i] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

4 Environmental Audit,—(1) Second Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Greening Government Initiative], 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. 517]; and 

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 30th June [Climate Change]; to be printed [No. 899] 
[Mr John Horam].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 30th June [DETR Annual Report 1998 and Expenditure Plans 1998-99]; to be printed [No. 844-ii]; and 

(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee [Implentation of the Best Value Framework]; to be printed [No. 705-II] 
[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

6 Foreign Affairs,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 30th June [The Public Expenditure Plans of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1998-99]; to be printed [No. 745-iv] [Mr Donald Anderson].

7 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 30th June [Confidentiality of Police Settlements of Civil Claims]; to be printed [No. 894-i][Mr Chris Mullin].

8 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 30th June [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787-iv] [Mr Bowen Wells].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 53-xxxix] [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 30th June [Industrial and Trade Relations with Central Europe]; to be printed [No. 893-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

11 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 30th June [Investment in Industry in Wales]; to be printed [No. 821-iii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 197.]


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 Jim Dowd);

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

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Export and Investment Guarantees (Limit on Foreign Currency Commitments) Order 1998. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Access to the Countryside Bill,—The Order for reading the Access to the Countryside Bill a second time on Friday 3rd July was read and discharged. 

Bill withdrawn.

4 Co-ordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords],—The Order for reading the Co-ordinated Universal Time Bill [Lords] a second time on Friday 3rd July was read and discharged.
5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill, without Amendment.

6 Local Government (Consultation with Young People).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to give local authorities powers to consult with minors on the provision of, and budgetary strategies for, services designed to benefit minors: And that Dr Ashok Kumar, Fiona MacTaggart, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Alan Campbell, Dr Ian Gibson, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Peter Luff, Mr David Prior and Mr Andrew Rowe do prepare and bring it in.

7 Local Government (Consultation with Young People) Bill.—Dr Ashok Kumar accordingly presented a Bill to give local authorities powers to consult with minors on the provision of, and budgetary strategies for, services designed to benefit minors: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 3rd July and to be printed [Bill 218].

8 Finance (No. 2) 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 (No. 2) Bill may be taken at any sitting of the House.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

9 Finance (No. 2) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Finance (No. 2) Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 48) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 43, to leave out 'W.4499' and insert '10.4358', instead thereof.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 19, 1 to 3, 15, 4, 5, 20 to 24, 9 to 13, 25 and 26) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 42) proposed to the Bill, in page 108, line 40, at the end, to insert the words—

'(4A) The total amount of taper relief which can be claimed in accordance with this section by any one taxpayer in any one tax year shall be limited to £5 million.'.—(Mr Malcolm Bruce.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 61 to 64, 6 to 8, 16 to 18, 29 to 41, 14, 27, 28 and 40) 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 John McFall, Mr Greg Pope: 308.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 171.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

10 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment in lieu of a Commons Amendment and the Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House insists on its Amendment in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, to which the Lords have disagreed and disagrees to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of that Amendment—(Mr Brian Wilson);

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

11 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting the Lords proposals relating to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

12 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords proposals relating to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].
Question again proposed, That this House insists on its Amendment in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, to which the Lords have disagreed and disagrees to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of that Amendment.

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 327.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 183.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its Amendment in page 22, to leave out lines 31 to 39, to which the Lords have disagreed—(Mr Brian Wilson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Dowd: 325.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 185.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the Amendment in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, and insisting on the Amendments in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, and page 22, to leave out lines 31 to 39.

That Mr Damian Green, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Phil Willis and Mr Brian Wilson be members of the Committee.

That Mr Brian Wilson be the Chairman of the Committee.

That three be the quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr David Jamieson);

Mr Nicholas Brown rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

Question put, That the Question be now put.

The House proceeded to a Division.

Thursday 2nd July 1998.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 269.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Wilshire: 11.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the Amendment in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, and insisting on the Amendments in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, and page 22, to leave out lines 31 to 39.

Ordered, That Mr Damian Green, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Phil Willis and Mr Brian Wilson be members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Brian Wilson be the Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.

13 Estimates.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That this House agrees to the report [25th June] of the Liaison Committee—(Mr Greg Pope)—It was agreed to.

14 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—Mr Brian Wilson reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the Commons Amendment in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, and insisting on the Commons Amendments in page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, and page 22, to leave out lines 31 to 39, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House.

Because the said Lords Amendment and the disagreements by the Lords to the Commons Amendments involve charges on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

15 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes to One o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.37 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 International Monetary Fund.—Draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(3) Education (Teachers) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1584), dated 29th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Other Papers:

6 Export Controls.—Paper, entitled Strategic Export Controls [by Command] [Cm. 3989] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7 Prisons.—Report of the Prisons Ombudsman for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3984] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communication declaring that the aforementioned 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:


[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

9 Treaty Series (No. 26, 1998).—Convention, done at London on 29th January 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains [by Command] [Cm. 3991] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

Grand Committees

1 The Speaker has appointed—

(1) Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of its meeting in Edinburgh on Monday 6th July; and

(2) Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meeting in Merthyr Tydfil on Monday 13th July.

European Standing Committees

1 European Standing Committee B.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from European Standing Committee B Mr Philip Hammond and Mr Tony McNulty; and nominated in substitution Miss Geraldine Smith and Mr Robert Walter.

2 European Community Document No. COM(98)300, relating to the 1999 Preliminary Draft Budget, has been referred to European Standing Committee B together with SEC(98)800 already referred.

3 The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Documents Nos. SEC(98)800 and COM(98)300, relating to the 1999 Preliminary Draft Budget.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) Fifth Report from the Defence Committee [The Reserves Call out Order 1998, etc.], 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. 868];

(2) Sixth Report from the Defence Committee [The Defence Evaluation and Research Agency], 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. 621]; and

(3) Third Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government responses to the Third and Second Reports from the Committee: NATO Enlargement; The Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) (Amendment) Order 1998]; to be printed [No. 903]

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 1st July [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-vi] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 1st July [DETR Annual Report 1998 and Expenditure Plans 1998–99]; to be printed [No. S44-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation.—Thirty-second Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxxii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Health.—Second Report from the Health Committee [Children Looked after by Local Authorities], together with an Annex and 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. 319] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

6 Public Accounts.—(1) Fifty-third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Appropriation Accounts 1996–97: Class V, Vote 7: Passenger Rail Services]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 625];

(2) Fifty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Appropriation Accounts 1996–97: Class XVI Vote 3: HM Customs and Excise]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 717];

(3) Fifty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Inland Revenue: The Monitoring and Control of Tax Exemptions for Charities]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 728];
(4) Fifty-sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department for Education and Employment: Overpayments to Training and Enterprise Councils]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 704]; and

(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 1st July [Obtaining a Benefit for Electricity Customers from the floatation of the National Grid]; to be printed [No. 902-i]

[Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 1st July [British Biotech]; to be printed [No. 888-i] [Dr Michael Clark]

8 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 1st July [The Operation of Multi Layer Democracy]; to be printed [No. 460-iv] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 1st July [Pension Sharing on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 869-ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 1st July [Georgian Nuclear Material at Dounreay]; to be printed [No. 815-ii and -iii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 198.]

Thursday 2nd July 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the third reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 9th July.

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the draft Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, referred to it on 17th June, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 430].

3 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

4 Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill.—The Order for further considering the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

5 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, and to the following Measure passed under the provisions of the Church of England (Powers) Act 1919:

National Lottery Act 1998
Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998
Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Act 1998

6 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Committee) [4th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Human Rights Bill [Lords].
A Clause (Freedom of thought, conscience and religion)—(Mr Secretary Straw)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

Another Clause (Freedom of expression)—(Mr Secretary Straw)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added.

A Clause (Guarantee of non-discrimination)—(Mr Robert Maclennan)—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 Andrew Stunell, Mr David Heath: 18.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 234.

Schedule No. 1 (The Articles).

Amendment (No. 112) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 2 agreed to.

Schedule No. 3 (Judicial Pensions).

Question proposed, That the Schedule be the Third Schedule to the Bill.

And it being three hours after commencement of proceedings on the Bill this day the Chairman, pursuant to Orders [1st and 17th June], put forthwith the Questions necessary for the disposal of proceedings in the Committee.

Schedule agreed to.

A Schedule (Remedial Orders)—(Mr John McFall)—brought up, and added.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr John McFall reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Ordered. That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be considered to-morrow and be printed [Bill 219].

7 Data Protection Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Data Protection Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendments (Nos. 19 to 29, 70, 30 and 71 to 78) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 13) proposed to the Bill, in page 17, line 43, at the end, to insert the words—

'(13) The relevant Commissioner may—

(a) investigate any procedure which relates to—

(i) the processing of personal data for the purpose of safeguarding national security,

(ii) the application of an exemption which is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security, or

(iii) the signing of a certificate under this section,

(b) make any recommendation which relates to—

(i) an investigation under paragraph (a) of this subsection, or

(ii) safeguarding the interests of data subjects, and

(c) if appropriate—

(i) raise any matter which relates to an investigation in an annual report, or in any other report to the Prime Minister, or

(ii) liaise with the Data Protection Commissioner or another relevant Commissioner on matters which relate to an investigation.

(14) The Data Protection Commissioner may raise with a relevant Commissioner any matter which relates to the processing of personal data for the purpose of safeguarding national security.

(15) In this section, the “relevant Commissioner” means the Commissioner appointed by virtue of—
(a) section 4 of the Security Service Act 1989,
(b) section 8 of the Intelligence Services Act 1994,
(c) section 91 of the Police Act 1997, or
(d) section 8 of the Interception of Communications Act 1985.'.—(Mr Harry Cohen.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 17, line 45, after the word 'prevention' to insert the word 'investigation'.—(Mr John Greenway.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 18, line 1, after the word 'offenders' to insert the words—
‘(ba) the safeguarding of public security,’.—(Mr John Greenway.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 83, 84, 31 and 32) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 30, at the end, to insert the words—
‘(2) The Secretary of State may by order, where personal data are held on a public register, lay down conditions which shall be complied with by any person who has access to the register.

(3) An order under this section may make specific provisions with respect to a particular public register.’.—(Mr Harry Cohen.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 33 to 38) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 15) proposed to the Bill, in page 24, line 28, at the end, to insert the words—
‘(7A) The Commissioner shall maintain a register containing—
(a) a copy of every enforcement notice issued under this section;
(b) such other particulars relating to such notices as the Secretary of State may by order prescribe.

(7B) The provisions of sections 19(6) and (7) shall apply in relation to the register maintained under this section as they do in relation to the register maintained under section 19(1).’.—(Mr Richard Shepherd.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 39 to 46, 79, 85 to 87, 48, 49, 91 and 50) made to the Bill.

A Schedule (Meaning of “educational record”)—(Mr Geoffrey Hoon)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 51 to 53) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed to the Bill, in page 48, line 40, at the end, to insert the words—
‘9A. The data controller must take reasonable steps to ensure that any computer system used in processing the personal data is capable of dealing accurately with dates later than 31st December 1999.’.—(Mr David Atkinson.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 54) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 10) proposed to the Bill, in page 51, line 7, at the end, to insert the words—
‘4A. The information contained in the personal data has been obtained by the canvassing of data subjects by registered political parties.’.—(Mr John Greenway.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Other Amendments (Nos. 55 to 60, 80 and 81) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 65, line 9, at the end, to add the words—

**PART V**

CHANGE TO THE DEFINITION OF RELEVANT FILING SYSTEM AFTER 23RD OCTOBER 2007

20. The definition of relevant filing system in section 1(1) of this Act shall be modified so that the definition ends after the third occurrence of the word “individuals”.

21. Paragraph 20 shall have effect after 23rd October 2007. —(Mr Harry Cohen.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 61 to 67, 82, 68 and 69) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Secretary Dobson, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having being 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 Secretary Dobson, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having being 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.

8 Non-sitting Fridays,—Ordered, That the Order of 19th May 1997 relating to Non-sitting Fridays be amended by leaving out ‘and 10th July’.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

9 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);

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.—(Janet Anderson.)

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 Immigration,—Draft Special Immigration Appeals Commission (Procedure) Rules 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

2 Social Security,—Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

_Papers subject to Negative Resolution:_


_Other Papers:_

6 National Health Service (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Hospital Trust for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 780] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
7 Pensions.—Accounts of the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 908] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 2nd July [The Performance and future role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 904-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 European Legislation.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 31st March [European Court of Auditors]; to be printed [No. 909] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Proceedings of the Foreign Affairs Committee on 30th June [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Treasury.—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [The Government's Response to the Committee's Fifth Report, on The UK and Preparations for Stage Three Economic and Monetary Union] [No. 905]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 2nd July [Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 712-iv] [Mr Giles Radice].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Finance (No. 2) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 199.]

Friday 3rd July 1998.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 Landmines Bill.—Mr Secretary Cook, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Robertson, Secretary Clare Short, Mr Tony Lloyd and Dr John Reid, presented a Bill to promote the control of anti-personnel landmines; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 6th July and to be printed [Bill 220].

2 Fireworks Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Fireworks Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mrs Linda Gilroy);

And it being Eleven o’clock, the Speaker interrupted the proceedings pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).

The Question was again proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in the said Amendment;

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Smith, Mr Richard Burden: 49.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Eric Forth: 2.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 4 agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 5.
A Motion was made and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords Amendment No. 6—(Mrs Linda Gilroy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Smith, Mr Patrick Hall: 50.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Edward Leigh: 0.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 6.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mrs Linda Gilroy);

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, that the Debate be resumed on Monday 6th July.

3 Pesticides Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment to the Pesticides Bill.

The Lords Amendment was agreed to.

4 Waste Minimisation Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 24th April, That the Waste Minimisation Bill be now read the third time.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

5 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Friday 6th November.

6 Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 6th November.

7 Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 6th November.

8 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Energy Efficiency Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Monday 6th July.

9 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill (changed from Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) Bill), as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Friday 6th November.

10 Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

11 Local Authority Tenders Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for further consideration of the Local Authority Tenders Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be further considered on Friday 6th November.

12 National Health Service (Equity of Funding) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the National Health Service (Equity of Funding) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 10th July.

13 Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 6th February, That the Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 6th November.
14 Religious Discrimination and Remedies Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Religious Discrimination and Remedies Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

15 Hare Coursing Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hare Coursing Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

16 School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax) Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 10th July.

17 Football Sponsorship Levy Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Football Sponsorship Levy Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

18 Local Exchange Trading Schemes Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Exchange Trading Schemes Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

19 Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

20 Children’s Nurseries (Safety) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Children’s Nurseries (Safety) Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

21 Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) (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. 63 (Committal of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Mike Hall)—It was agreed to.

   Resolved, That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee.

   (In the Committee)

   Clauses Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

   Bill to be reported, without Amendment.

   The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd 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.

22 Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prevention of Delay in Trials Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

23 Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lead in Paint (Health and Safety) Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

24 Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill;

   *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

25 Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd January, That the Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill be now read a second time;

   *Ordered*, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 10th July.
26 Recycled Content of Newsprint Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Recycled Content of Newsprint Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

27 Home Zones Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Home Zones Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

28 Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

29 Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 10th July.

30 Public Records (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th January, That the Public Records (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 10th July.

31 Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

32 Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 10th July.

33 Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

34 Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Reform of Quarantine Regulations Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

35 Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Voluntary Personal Security Cards Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

36 Millennium Conformity Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Millennium Conformity Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

37 Licensing (Amendment) Bill.—The Licensing (Amendment) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

38 Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 17th July.

39 Building Societies (Joint Account Holders) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Building Societies (Joint Account Holders) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

40 School Transport Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the School Transport Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

41 Drinks Containers (Redemption) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Drinks Containers (Redemption) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.
42 Electricity Generation Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Electricity Generation Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

43 Restoration of Damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Restoration of Damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 10th July.

44 Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th July.

45 Landmines Bill.—Ordered. That, in respect of the Landmines 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 Jim Dowd.)

46 Landmines Bill.—Ordered. That, in respect of the Landmines Bill, 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 Resolution come to by the House on Landmines Bill [Money] have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

47 Business of the House.—Ordered. That, at the sitting on Tuesday 7th July, the Motion in the name of Mr William Hague relating to the Social Security Amendment (Lone Parents) Regulations 1998 may be proceeded with as if Standing Orders Nos. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) and 17 (Delegated legislation (negative procedure)), were applicable thereto.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

48 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);

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 a quarter past Three o’clock, till Monday 6th July.

[Adjourned at 3.15 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1600), dated 30th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

4 Covent Garden Market.—Statement of salaries of members of the Covent Garden Market Authority [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

5 Criminal Appeal.—Accounts of the Criminal Cases Review Commission for the period 1st January 1997 to 31st March 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 914] [Clerk of the House].

6 Industrial Development (Northern Ireland).—Accounts of the Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 3987] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

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

PRAYERS.

1. Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   
   The Lords have agreed to the Registered Establishments (Scotland) Bill, without Amendment.

2. Estimates [1st allotted day].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [1st July], to consider the estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

   Estimates, 1998–99 (Class IX, Vote I),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed; that a further, revised sum not exceeding £6,019,940,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Department for Education and Employment on voluntary and special schools; the Assisted Places Scheme; the provision of education for under-fives; city colleges and other specialist schools; grant-maintained schools and schools conducted by education associations; music and ballet schools; the school curriculum and its assessment; the youth service and other educational services and initiatives; careers guidance and services; payments for or in connection with teacher training; higher and further education provision and initiatives; loans to students, student awards and other student grants and their administration; the payment of access funds; reimbursement of fees for qualifying European Union students; compensation payments to teachers and staff of certain institutions; expenditure on other central government grants to local authorities; the provision of training and assessment programmes for young people and adults; initiatives to improve training and qualifications arrangements and access to these; the promotion of enterprise and the encouragement of self employment; payments for education, training and employment projects assisted by the European Community and refunds to the European Community; events associated with the UK presidency of the EU; the UK subscription to the ILO; help for unemployed people; the promotion of equal opportunities, disability rights, childcare provision and co-ordination of certain issues of particular importance to women; the payment of certain fees to the Home Office; the Department's own administration and research and that of Capita; the information and publicity services; expenditure via training and enterprise councils and amounts retained by them as surpluses and spent by them on training and other initiatives within their articles and memoranda of association; expenditure in connection with the sale of the student loan debt; and on expenditure in connection with Welfare to Work Programme and Millennium Volunteers—(Dr Kim Howells);

   The Debate was concluded, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

   Estimates, 1998–99 (Class XVII, Vote I),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That a further sum not exceeding £55,642,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Office of the Minister for Public Service on the central management of, and delivery of services to, the civil service including the delivery of cross-departmental IT systems; expenditure resulting from the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's chairmanship of the Ministerial Committee on Food and Safety; and certain other services—(Dr David Clark);

   The Debate was concluded, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

   It being Ten o'clock, the Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), put the deferred Questions on estimates.

   Estimates 1998–99 (Class IX, Vote I)

   Resolved, That a further, revised sum not exceeding £6,019,940,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Department for Education and Employment on voluntary and special schools; the Assisted Places Scheme; the provision of education for under-fives; city colleges and other specialist schools; grant-maintained schools and schools conducted by education associations; music and ballet schools; the school curriculum and its assessment; the youth service and other educational services and initiatives; careers guidance and services;
payments for or in connection with teacher training; higher and further education provision and initiatives; loans to students, student awards and other student grants and their administration; the payment of access funds; reimbursement of fees for qualifying European Union students; compensation payments to teachers and staff of certain institutions; expenditure on other central government grants to local authorities; the provision of training and assessment programmes for young people and adults; initiatives to improve training and qualifications arrangements and access to these; the promotion of enterprise and the encouragement of self employment; payments for education, training and employment projects assisted by the European Community and refunds to the European Community; events associated with the UK presidency of the EU; the UK subscription to the ILO; help for unemployed people; the promotion of equal opportunities, disability rights, childcare provision and co-ordination of certain issues of particular importance to women; the payment of certain fees to the Home Office; the Department’s own administration and research and that of Capita; the information and publicity services; expenditure via training and enterprise councils and amounts retained by them as surpluses and spent by them on training and other initiatives within their articles and memoranda of association; expenditure in connection with the sale of the student loans debt; and on expenditure in connection with Welfare to Work Programme and Millennium Volunteers.

Resolved. That a further sum not exceeding £55,642,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Office of the Minister for Public Service on the central management of, and delivery of services to, the civil service including the delivery of cross-departmental IT systems; expenditure resulting from the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster’s chairmanship of the Ministerial Committee on Food and Safety; and certain other services.

3 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved.—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

4 Export and Investment Guarantees.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Export and Investment Guarantees (Limit on Foreign Currency Commitments) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 11th June, be approved.—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

5 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 115 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (Delegated Legislation)), That the draft Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 16th June, be approved.—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Arundel and South Downs against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Hitchin and Harpenden against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.32 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education.—North Bolton Sixth Form College and South College, Bolton (Dissolution) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1608), dated 1st July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1563), dated 24th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Other Papers:

3 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendments to Queen's Regulations for the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Appropriation Accounts, 1997–98,—Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for 1997–98 for Class XVIII, B (National Audit Office) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 833] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

5 Atomic Energy,—Account of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 919] [Clerk of the House].

6 Child Support,—Paper, entitled Children First: a new approach to child support [by Command] [Cm. 3992] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

7 Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission,—Account of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 918] [Clerk of the House].

8 National Audit,—(1) Ninth Report of the Public Accounts Commission [by Act]; to be printed [No. 921] [Mr Robert Sheldon]; and
(2) Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on BSE: The Cost of a Crisis [by Act]; to be printed [No. 853] [Clerk of the House].

9 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [6th May] from employees of firms in the Furness Peninsula in favour of the High-Low Newton by-pass [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

10 Transport Series (No. 19, 1998),—Proposed Amendments to Articles 5, 10 and 18 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. 3998] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman), (Air Transport) (Hong Kong), and (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Orders 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Mr Terry Davis, Mr David Drew, Mr Derek Foster, Mr David Hinchliffe, Gillian Merron, Mr Greg Pope and Mr Barry Sheerman (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Cunningham, Judy Mallaber, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr David Taylor and Ms Rosie Winterton.

[No. 201.]

Tuesday 7th July 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Deregulation Committee,—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 29th June 1998, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

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

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment in lieu of the Amendment made by the Commons to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], on page 14, to leave out lines 31 to 49, to which Amendment in lieu the Commons have disagreed, and they do not insist on their disagreement to the said Commons Amendment; and they do not insist on their disagreement to the Amendment made by the Commons in page 22, to leave out lines 31 to 39, but propose an Amendment in lieu of the words so left out of the Bill, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.
3 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—Lords Amendment in lieu of words left out of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 222].

4 United Kingdom Passports.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision with respect to the form and appearance of United Kingdom passports: And that Mr Howard Flight, Julie Kirkbride, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr William Cash, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mrs Angela Browning and Mr Nick Gibb do prepare and bring it in.

5 United Kingdom Passports Bill.—Mr Howard Flight accordingly presented a Bill to make provision with respect to the form and appearance of United Kingdom passports: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 9th October and to be printed [Bill 221].

6 Opposition Day [16th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Release of information to Select Committees:—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House considers that it is wrong in principle for the Executive to seek unilaterally to impose prior conditions on the release of information properly sought by a Select Committee in pursuit of the responsibilities given to it by the House—(Sir George Young);

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 'reaffirms that, in accordance with the House's Resolution of 19th March 1997 and the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information (Second Edition, January 1997), Ministers should be as open as possible with Parliament; recalls that the House approved on 18th May 1998 the Government's commitment to an urgent outside investigation and publication of a full report of the Sierra Leone arms investigation; believes that nothing should be done to prejudice the conduct of that inquiry by premature public disclosure of parts of the evidence; and notes that the Foreign Secretary remains ready to make available to the Foreign Affairs Committee, on a confidential basis, the telegrams it has requested', instead thereof. (Mrs Ann Taylor.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Peter Luff: 173.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 339.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 reaffirms that, in accordance with the House's Resolution of 19th March 1997 and the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information (Second Edition, January 1997), Ministers should be as open as possible with Parliament; recalls that the House approved on 18th May 1998 the Government's commitment to an urgent outside investigation and publication of a full report of the Sierra Leone arms investigation; believes that nothing should be done to prejudice the conduct of that inquiry by premature public disclosure of parts of the evidence; and notes that the Foreign Secretary remains ready to make available to the Foreign Affairs Committee, on a confidential basis, the telegrams it has requested.

7 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Social Security Amendment (Lone Parents) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 766), dated 16th March 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 18th March, be revoked—(Mr Simon Burns):—It was negatived.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes to Twelve o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Education,—Education (Start of Compulsory School Age) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1607), dated 1st July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

4 Audit (Northern Ireland).—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Special Education in Northern Ireland [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 898] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

5 Defence Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Defence Bills Agency for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 775] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Development of Rural Wales.—Accounts of the Development Board for Rural Wales for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 942] [Clerk of the House].

7 Development of Tourism.—Accounts of the English Tourist Board for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 931] [Clerk of the House].

8 Education (Wales).—Accounts of the Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 932] [Clerk of the House].

9 Gift of Public Property.—Office of Public Service Minute, dated 7th July 1998, concerning the sale of surplus government property at Gill Avenue, Bristol to Bristol Council for Disabled Adults [by Command] [Dr David Clark].

10 Housing.—Report and Accounts of the Castle Vale Housing Action Trust for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 National Health Service.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 3rd July 1998 on loans proposed to be raised by the Ashford & St Peters Hospital National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

12 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Minister of State for School Standards on the Petition [15th June] from residents of Somerset against cuts in expenditure on schools in the county [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

13 Social Exclusion.—Report by the Social Exclusion Unit on Rough Sleeping [by Command] [Cm. 4008] [The Prime Minister].

14 United States (No. 2, 1998).—Report of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission for the period 1st October 1996 to 30th September 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3979] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman), (Air Transport) (Hong Kong), and (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Orders 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Shaun Woodward from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders; and nominated in substitution Mr Nick Gibb.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—(1) Eighth Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 938]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 7th July [The Proposal for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1998]; to be printed [No. 939-i] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 7th July [Review of the Government’s first year in office]; to be printed [No. 930-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 7th July [Water Issues]; to be printed [No. 940] [Mr Cynog Dafis].

4 Health,—Memoranda laid before the Health Committee [Children looked after by Local Authorities] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 7th July [Electoral law and administration]; to be printed [No. 768-v] [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 7th July [Commonwealth Development Corporation]; to be printed [No. 936-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Public Administration,—(1) Fifth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Annual Report of the Northern Ireland Ombudsman for 1997]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 630];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 7th July [Annual Report 1997–98 of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration]; to be printed [No. 933-i]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 7th July [Annual Report 1997–98 of the Health Service Commissioner]; to be printed [No. 934-i] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 7th July [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 827-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Fortieth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments; to be printed [No. 33-xl] [Mr David Tredinnick].

[No. 202.]

Wednesday 8th July 1998.

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 Clive Betts);
   And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] be read a second time on Thursday 16th July.

3 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. COM(98)300, the Preliminary Draft Budget (PDB) of the European Communities for
1999, and SEC(98)800, the Commission’s Overview of the Preliminary Draft Budget; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community.

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

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman) Order 1998, the draft Double Taxation Relief (Air transport) (Hong Kong) Order 1998 and the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Order 1998.

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

5 Empty Homes (Value Added Tax).—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reduce Value Added Tax paid on the renovation of long standing empty homes: And that Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Bill Rammell, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr David Chaytor, Mrs Helen Brinton, Jane Griffiths, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Derek Wyatt, Mr Vernon Coaker and Mr Brian Sedgemore do prepare and bring it in.

6 Empty Homes (Value Added Tax) Bill,—Mr Jonathan R. Shaw accordingly presented a Bill to reduce Value Added Tax paid on the renovation of long standing empty homes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th November and to be printed [Bill 223].

7 Competition Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Competition Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered. That the Bill be considered in the following Order, namely, Amendments relating to Clauses 1 to 3, Clauses 17 to 19, Schedules 1 to 4, Clauses 4 to 16, Schedule 5, Clauses 20 to 24, Schedule 6, Clauses 25 to 45, Schedule 7, Clauses 46 to 49, Schedule 8, Clauses 50 and 51, Schedule 9, Clauses 52 to 54, Schedule 10, Clause 55, Schedule 11, Clauses 56 to 74, Schedules 12 to 14, Clauses 75 and 76, New Clauses, New Schedules.

(Mr Ian McCartney.)

Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 42, at the end, to insert the words 'or—

(e) resale price maintenance for over-the-counter medicines'.—(Mr John Redwood.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 161.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice: 328.

Another Amendment (No. 48) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 38, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2A) For the purposes of this section “market” means a market the whole or part of which is in the United Kingdom but in relation to the abuse of a dominant position in a market which extends beyond the United Kingdom the prohibition imposed by subsection (1) shall not be regarded as infringed unless that abuse occurs in the United Kingdom.'—(Mr Andrew Lansley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, to leave out lines 40 and 41 and insert the words ' “dominant position” means a position of economic strength which enables an undertaking to act independently of competition, customers and ultimately consumers within the United Kingdom; and', instead thereof.—(Mr Giles Radice.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, to leave out lines 40 and 41 and insert the words ' “dominant position” means—

(a) in relation to the national newspaper market, a substantial degree of market power, and

(b) in relation to all other markets, a dominant position within the United Kingdom; and', instead thereof.—(Mr Chris Mullin.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Neil Gerrard: 68.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 301.

Amendments (Nos. 69 to 72) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 6) proposed to the Bill, in page 53, to leave out lines 44 to 49.—(Mr John Redwood.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

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

8 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the Competition Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Clive Betts): It was agreed to.

9 Competition Bill [Lords].—The House again proceeded to consider the Competition Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Question again proposed, That the Amendment (No. 6) be made.

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 117.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 291.

Other Amendments (Nos. 9 and 10) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 76) proposed to the Bill, in page 14, line 2, at the end, to insert the words—

'(7) In exercising the powers conferred by subsection (6)(a)(ii) above, the Director shall afford the undertaking under investigation a reasonable opportunity for its legal or other representative to be present when the employee or officer is required to provide an explanation of the document.'.—(Mr Colin Breed.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 49) proposed to the Bill, in page 64, line 8, to leave out from the word 'person' to the end of line 16 and insert the words 'is—

(a) a puisne judge of the High Court;

(b) a judge of the Court of Session; or

(c) a judge of the Supreme Court of Northern Ireland,

and before appointing as a member of the appeal tribunal any person who holds the judicial office mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) he shall consult the Lord Chancellor, the President of the Court of Session or the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, as he considers appropriate.'; instead thereof.—(Mr Andrew Lansley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 41) proposed to the Bill, in page 26, line 4, at the beginning, to insert the words 'Subject to subsection (1A)'.—(Mr Andrew Lansley.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 11 and 16) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 27, line 39, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) a fee charged to a business for the discharge of functions by the Director shall not exceed the costs of fulfilling that particular function in that case.'.—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 46) proposed to the Bill, in page 28, line 15, at the beginning, to insert the words 'Subject to subsections (4) and (5)'.—(Mr Andrew Lansley.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 12, 13, 17 to 26, 52 and 14) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 61) proposed to the Bill, in page 31, line 40, to leave out from the word 'concerned' to the end of line 43 and insert the words 'the provisions of this Part are applied in a manner which is consistent with the application of the corresponding provisions of Community law', instead thereof.—(Mr Andrew Lansley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 15) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 59) proposed to the Bill, in page 39, line 20, to leave out the word 'or' and insert the words—

'(... section 51, in the case of the first order made by the Secretary of State under that section, or', instead thereof.—(Mr Peter Brooke.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 27 to 40) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time.

Thursday 9th July 1998

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to One o'clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.31 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals,—(1) Sheep and Goats Spongiform Encephalopathy Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1646), and

(2) Sheep and Goats Spongiform Encephalopathy (Compensation) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1647),
dated 7th July 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Education (Scotland),—Moray House Institute of Higher Education (Closure) (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1644), dated 3rd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

dated 30th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

5 Defence,—Paper, entitled The Strategic Defence Review [by Command] [Cm. 3999] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Environmental Protection,—Accounts of the Nature Conservancy Council for England for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 945] [Clerk of the House].

7 Gaming,—Report and Accounts of the Gaming Board for Great Britain for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 807] [Mr Secretary Straw].
8 Judicial Statistics,—Judicial Statistics for England and Wales for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3980] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

9 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Sixth Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1997–98; Selected Cases—November 1997 to April 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 892] [Clerk of the House].


APPENDIX II

Grand Committees

1 The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Merthyr Tydfil on Monday 13th July.

Standing Committees

2 Licensing (Amendment) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harold Best, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr John Burnett, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr George Howarth, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Christopher Leslie, Alice Mahon, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Bob Russell, Mr David Taylor, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Paul Truswell and Mr Mike Wood.

3 Special Grant Report (No. 36) (HC Paper No. 823) and the Special Grant Report (No. 3) (Wales) 1998 (HC Paper No. 832):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Reports to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Cohn Breed, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Terry Davis, Angela Eagle, Dr John Marek, Ms Margaret Moran, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Chris Ruane, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Robert Syms.

4 Draft Houses in Multiple Occupation (Charges for Registration Schemes) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Jackie Ballard, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Alan Campbell, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Andy Love, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Gerry Steinberg and Mr Brian White.

5 Draft Community Drivers' Hours and Recording Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr David Amess, Mr Ian Davidson, Maria Eagle, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Nick Hawkins, Glenda Jackson, Mr Alan Keen, Ms Chris McCafferty, Mr Kevin McNamara, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Bill Rammell, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Graham Stringer and Mr Andrew Stunell.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 8th July [Flood and coastal defence]; to be printed [No. 707-v]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence] [Mr Peter Luff].
2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 8th July [Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom]; to be printed [No. 818-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 8th July [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-vii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Seventh Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [London Underground], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 715-I] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Legislation.—(1) Thirty-third Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxxiii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 8th July [Multilateral Agreement on Investment]; to be printed [No. 946] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 8th July [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787-v] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Third Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC], 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. 337]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 8th July [the Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716-iv] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 8th July [Inward Investment into Scotland]; to be printed [No. 698-iii] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 8th July [Pension Sharing on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 869-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 203.]

Thursday 9th July 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Thursday 16th July.

2 Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords].—The Second 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 Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords] 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.

3 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:

Registered Establishments (Scotland) Act 1998
Pesticides Act 1998
4 Adjournment (National Health Service).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jane Kennedy);

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

5 Scottish Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 100 (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Order of the House of 30th April relating to sittings of the Scottish Grand Committee be varied by substituting for the words 'Tuesday 14th July' in paragraph (4) of the Order the words 'Tuesday 21st July'—(Mr Jon Owen Jones): It was agreed to.

6 Landmines Bill (Programme).—Ordered, That the following shall apply to proceedings on the Landmines Bill—

1. Proceedings on the Bill shall be completed at the sitting on Friday 10th July.

2. Proceedings on Second Reading shall, unless previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one and half hours after the commencement of those proceedings.

3.—(1) Proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall, unless previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the end of the allotted periods specified in the following table—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Allotted period after the commencement of the proceedings specified in column 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clauses 1 to 5</td>
<td>two and a half hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clauses 6 to 29, new Clauses and new Schedules</td>
<td>three quarters of an hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) On the conclusion of proceedings in Committee, the Chairman shall report the Bill to the House without putting any Question, and if he reports the Bill with amendments, the House shall proceed to consider the Bill, as amended, without any Question being put.

4. Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall, unless previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion a quarter of an hour after the commencement of those proceedings.

5. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at the sitting on 10th July.

6.—(1) For the purpose of bringing to a conclusion any proceedings which have not previously been brought to a conclusion, the Chairman or 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;

(c) any Question on any Amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded; and on a Motion made for any 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.

(2) If two or more Questions would fall to be put—

(a) under sub-paragraph (1)(c) on amendments moved or Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, or

(b) under sub-paragraph (1)(d) in relation to successive provisions of the Bill, the Chairman or Speaker shall instead put a single Question in relation to those amendments, Motions or provisions.

7. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill.

8. No Motion shall be made to alter the order in which proceedings on the Bill are taken.

9. If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to vary or supplement the provisions of this Order in relation to proceedings on the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings on that Motion, unless previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)
7 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) The Mayors and Chairs of Councils of the local authorities located in the Number 2 Region of the Armed Forces of the United Kingdom against the movement of the Army’s 2nd Division Headquarters from York to Edinburgh; and

(2) Residents of Wirral South and others against the closure of the Garlett Park site of Wirral Metropolitan College

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

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 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rural public passenger transport for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 941] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Charities,—Draft Charities (Royal Russell School) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


(2) Basford Hall College, Nottingham (Dissolution) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1655),

(3) Cambridgeshire College of Agriculture and Horticulture (Dissolution) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1651),


(6) High Peak College, Buxton (Dissolution) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1653), and


5 Education (Scotland),—(1) Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1497), and


7 Water Resources,—Control of Pollution (Channel Tunnel Rail Link) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1649), dated 7th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

8 Coal Industry Nationalisation,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 8th July 1998 on borrowing by the British Coal Corporation [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

9 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Logistic Information Systems Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 786] [Mr Secretary Robertson].
10 Local Government (Wales).—Welsh Local Government Financial Statistics 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

11 Museums and Galleries.—Account of the British Museum for 1996-97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 950] [Clerk of the House].

12 Scottish Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Court Service for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 764] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Welsh Church.—County Council of Pembrokeshire (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund) Scheme 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Licensing (Amendment) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Special Grant Report (No. 36) (House of Commons Paper No. 823) and the Special Grant Report (No. 3) (Wales) (House of Commons Paper No. 832).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Joe Benton from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Reports); and nominated in substitution Mr David Drew.

3 Draft Community Drivers’ Hours and Recording Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Graham Allen from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Clive Betts.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 9th July [Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom]; to be printed [No. 818-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 9th July [The New Deal]; to be printed [No. 263-xi] [Mr Derek Foster].

[No. 204.]

Friday 10th July 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 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 Data Protection Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

2 Landmines Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Landmines Bill;

Mr Secretary Cook acquainted the House, That he had it in Command from the Queen to acquaint the House that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place Her prerogative, so far as it is affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 67 (Commitment of bills), That the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed, pursuant to Order [3rd July].

3 Landmines Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Landmines Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purpose of any Act resulting from the Landmines Bill, 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;

(2) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of sums received by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

4 Landmines Bill, The House, pursuant to Order [3rd July], resumed proceedings on the Landmines Bill; and the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 agreed to.

Clause No. 2 (Prohibited conduct).

Amendment (No. 6) proposed, in page 2, line 8, to leave out the word 'to', and insert '4 and'.—(Mr Michael Howard.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 2, line 37, to leave out from the word 'for' to the end of line 38, and insert the word 'life'.—(Mr Harry Cohen.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 3 to 12 agreed to.

Clause No. 13 (Rights of entry etc. for fact-finding missions).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 11, line 29, to leave out the word 'may', and insert the word 'shall'.—(Mr Harry Cohen.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 14 to 29 agreed to.

Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill to the House.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Greg Pope reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, without Amendment.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time—(Mr Secretary Robertson);
And a quarter of an hour having elapsed since the commencement of proceedings on
the third reading of the Bill, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from
the Chair, pursuant to Order [9th July].—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes past Two
o'clock, adjourned till Monday 13th July.

[Adjourner at 2.20 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

   1676), dated 9th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blankett].

   1673), dated 10th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 Medical Profession,—(1) Medical Act 1983 (Approved Medical Practices and Conditions of
   Residence) and National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Amendment) Regulations
   1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1664), dated 9th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson]; and
   (2) Medical Act 1983 (Approved Medical Practices and Conditions of Residence) and
   National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations
   1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1667), dated 8th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 National Health Service,—National Health Service (General Dental Services) Amendment
   Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1648), dated 7th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
   Dobson].

5 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) National Health Service (General Dental Services)
   (2) National Health Service (Scotland) (Injury Benefits) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998,
   No. 1594), dated 29th June 1998, and
   (3) National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Prisons,—Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1998 (S.I.,
   1998, No. 1589), dated 30th June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Public Passenger Transport,—Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness, Equipment,
   July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

   (S.I., 1998, No. 1671), and
   dated 9th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Water Supply (Scotland),—Mines (Notification of Abandonment) (Scotland) Regulations

Other Papers:

10 Committee of Inquiry into the Personality Disorder Unit, Ashworth Special Hospital (Fallon
   Inquiry),—Department of Health Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent
   upon indemnification of the Chairman and members of the Inquiry [by Command] [Mr
   Secretary Dobson].

11 National Lottery,—Report of the Director-General of the National Lottery for 1997-98 [by
   Act]; to be printed [No. 885] [Mr Secretary Smith].
PRAYERS.

1 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the New Economic Agenda for Wales, referred to it on 22nd June, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 96].

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

The Lords have agreed to the School Standards and Framework Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

3 School Standards and Framework Bill,—Lords Amendments to the School Standards and Framework Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 225].

4 Opposition Day [17th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Manufacturing and Industrial Relations,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House views with alarm the Government's creation of a boom and bust economy in the UK, with industry being badly damaged by high sterling and rising interest rates whilst wage and price inflation accelerates; expresses concern at the growth of industrial unrest in several sectors of the economy; and urges the Government to rethink its approach both to manufacturing and employee relations before more damage is done—(Mr John Redwood);

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 'welcomes the measures the Government has taken to build an economy which is healthy and sustainable in the long term, including placing the control of interest rates with the independent Bank of England; notes that over the last 12 months investment has grown by 7 per cent., 14,000 manufacturing jobs have been created and the public finances have been put in order; welcomes the new culture of partnership in industrial relations which is developing within the framework of measures and proposals the Government is taking forward; urges the Government to continue its own productive partnership with both business and employees; and condemns the Opposition for its own record in government of allowing manufacturing to decline within a boom and bust economy of unprecedented proportions and actively and sustainedly destroying partnership and democracy in the workplace', instead thereof.-(Secretary Margaret Beckett.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Jim Dowd: 313.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 welcomes the measures the Government has taken to build an economy which is healthy and sustainable in the long term, including placing the control of interest rates with the independent Bank of England; notes that over the last 12 months investment has grown by 7 per cent., 14,000 manufacturing jobs have been created and the public finances have been put in order; welcomes the new culture of partnership in industrial relations which is developing within the framework of measures and proposals the Government is taking forward; urges the Government to continue its own productive partnership with both business and employees; and condemns the Opposition for its own record in government of allowing manufacturing to decline within a boom and bust economy of unprecedented proportions and actively and sustainedly destroying partnership and democracy in the workplace.

Department of Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deeply regrets the Government's failure to meet their election pledges to reduce social security costs; believes that this is a direct result of incompetent
leadership at the Department of Social Security which has created confusion, contradictory policies and delays and has wasted their first year in Government—(Mr Iain Duncan 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 'congratulates the Government for their outstanding record in pursuing their efforts to provide opportunities for those who can work and security for those who cannot, to cut expenditure on economic and social failure and to modernise the welfare system', instead thereof.—(Secretary Harriet Harman.)

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

Mr James Arbuthnot 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 John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 360.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House congratulates the Government for their outstanding record in pursuing their efforts to provide opportunities for those who can work and security for those who cannot, to cut expenditure on economic and social failure and to modernise the welfare system.

5 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting the Lords proposals relating to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

6 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment in lieu of the words left out of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] in page 22, lines 31 to 39.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the words left out of the Bill in page 22, lines 31 to 39—(Mr Secretary Blunkett);

Tuesday 14th July 1998

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Janet Anderson, Mr Clive Betts: 300.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Edward Davey: 168.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the words left out of the Bill in page 22, lines 31 to 39.

Ordered, That Mr Damian Green, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Phil Willis and Mr Brian Wilson be members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Brian Wilson be the Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

7 EC Preliminary Draft Budget for 1999.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. COM(98)300, the Preliminary Draft Budget for the European Communities for 1999, and SEC(98)800, the Commission's Overview of the Preliminary Draft Budget; and supports the Government's efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

8 Income Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to
Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an 
humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief 
(Taxes on Income) (Oman) Order 1998 be made in the form of the draft laid before this 
House on 2nd June—(Mr Greg Pope)—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.

9 Income Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to 
Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an 
humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief 
(Air Transport) (Hong Kong) Order 1998 be made in the form of the draft laid before 
this House on 2nd June—(Mr Greg Pope)—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. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an 
Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief 
(Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Order 1998 be made in the form of the draft laid before 
this House on 2nd June—(Mr Greg Pope)—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 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords],—Mr Brian Wilson reported from the 
Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing 
to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the words left out of the Bill in page 
22, lines 31 to 39. That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him 
to report to the House.
Because the said Lords Amendment involves charges on public funds, and the 
Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed 
sufficient.
The Reason was agreed to.
Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendment.

12 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom against snaring was 
presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to One o’clock on 
Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.58 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
1 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Small Workboats and Pilot Boats) Regulations 
2 Police,—Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.R.(N.I.), 
1998, No. 240), dated 1st July 1998 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Marjorie 
Mowlam].

Other Papers:
3 Data Protection,—Account of the Data Protection Registrar for 1997–98, with the Report of 
the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 958] [Clerk of 
the House].
4 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the 
Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Deregulation (Occasional Licences) 
Order 1998, with an explanatory memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].
5 Housing,—(1) Accounts, and 
(2) Report and Summary Financial Statement 
of Tai Cymru Housing for Wales for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].
6 Human Fertilisation and Embryology,—Account of the Human Fertilisation and
Embryology Authority for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 963] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on HM Customs and Excise: The Prevention of Drug Smuggling [by Act]; to be printed [No. 854] [Clerk of the House].

8 National Heritage (Scotland),—Report of National Museums of Scotland for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Science and Technology,—Science, Engineering and Technology Statistics for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4006] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

10 Social Security,—Paper, entitled Beating Fraud is Everyone's Business: Securing the Future [by Command] [Cm. 4012] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 13th July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-xiii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Health,—Memorandum laid before the Health Committee [Public Expenditure on Health and Personal Social Services]; to be printed [No. 959] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords],—The Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council Bill [Lords] was read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

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

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment in lieu of the words left out of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] by an Amendment made by the Commons, to which Amendment in lieu the Commons have disagreed, but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords],—Lords Amendment to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] in lieu of an Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 230].

4 Parliamentary Reform Bill,—Mr Tony Benn, supported by Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr John Cryer, Mr Cynog Dafis, Alice Mahon, Mr John McAllion, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Richard Shepherd and Mr Alan Simpson presented a Bill to provide for the election of a Council of State to replace the House of Lords; 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 226].

5 Education (Schools Parenting Role),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to recognise the in loco parentis role of schools through amendment of the Ofsted inspection procedures; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Michael Fabricant, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mrs Ann Winterton, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr David Amess, Mr Alan Keen, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Ronnie Fearn and Mr Peter Luff do prepare and bring it in.

6 Education (Schools Parenting Role) Bill,—Mr Michael Fabricant accordingly presented a Bill to recognise the in loco parentis role of schools through amendment of the Ofsted inspection procedures; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 31st July and to be printed [Bill 227].

7 Estimates [2nd allotted day],—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [1st July], to consider the estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

Estimates, 1998–99 (Class IV, Vote I),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that a further sum not exceeding £142,691,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of
payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Intervention Board—Executive Agency in giving effect in the United Kingdom to the agricultural support provisions of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union; other services including BSE emergency measures; and administration—(Mr Jeff Rooker);

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the Debate, pursuant to Resolution [1st July], and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

Estimates, 1998–99 (Class V, Vote 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that a further sum not exceeding £719,838,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Department of Trade and Industry on payments to the Science Research Councils, the Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering; OST initiatives; fees payable under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986; and Research Council Pensions—(Mr John Battle);

And it being Ten o’clock the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

The Deputy Speaker, pursuant to paragraphs (4) and (5) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), put the deferred Questions on estimates and the Question necessary to dispose of proceedings on the other estimate appointed for consideration this day.

Class IV Vote 1

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £142,691,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Intervention Board—Executive Agency in giving effect in the United Kingdom to the agricultural support provisions of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union; other services including BSE emergency measures; and administration.

Class IV Vote 2

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £389,128,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on operational expenditure, agencies and departmental administration including BSE related measures; promote food safety; take action against diseases with implications for human health; safeguard essential supplies in an emergency; promote action to alleviate flooding and coastal erosion; to protect the rural economy particularly in Less Favoured Areas; encourage action to reduce water and other pollution and by other measures to safeguard the aquatic environment including its fauna and flora; improve the attractiveness and bio-diversity of the rural environment; implement MAFF’s CAP obligations efficiently and seek a more economically rational CAP while avoiding discrimination against UK businesses; create the conditions in which efficient and sustainable agriculture, fishing, and food industries can flourish; take action against animal and plant diseases and pests; encourage high animal welfare standards; provide specialist support services; allocate resources where they are most needed; manage and develop staff; undertake research and development; and provide for the expenditure of the Ministry’s executive agencies.

Class V Vote 2

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £719,838,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999 for expenditure by the Department of Trade and Industry on payments to the Science Research Councils, the Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering; OST initiatives; fees payable under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986; and Research Council Pensions.

8 Estimates and Supplementary Estimates, 1998–99.—The Deputy Speaker then put the Question required to be put pursuant to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £110,476,127,000 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 31st March 1999, as set out in House of Commons Papers Nos. 635, 636, 637 and 783.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the four foregoing Resolutions and the two Resolutions of 6th July relating to Estimates: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Alistair Darling, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Dawn Primarolo and Mrs Helen Liddell do prepare and bring it in.
9 Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill.—Dawn Primarolo accordingly presented a Bill to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on 31st March 1999; 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 to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 224].

10 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Registration of Political Parties Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

11 Registration of Political Parties Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Registration of Political Parties Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 11, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(1A) A party whose application under sections 3, 5, 6 or 18 is refused may appeal to the committee against the registrar’s decision and the committee’s determination of the appeal shall be final.’.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 6, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(1A) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), it is an offence to attempt to secure the registration of a party which irrespective of the party’s proposed registered name, is substantially the same as a registered party, having regard to the applicant party’s objectives, membership, officers or geographical base.’.—(Mr Oliver Letwin.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

12 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Janet Anderson);

Wednesday 15th July 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Twelve o’clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.00 midnight]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Children and Young Persons.—Children (Performances) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1678), dated 10th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

2 Road Traffic.—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Edinburgh) Designation Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1539), dated 22nd June 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Social Security.—Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1698), dated 13th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Telegraphs.—Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1703), dated 13th July 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

5 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—Reports and Financial Statements of the Horserace Betting Levy Board and the Horserace Totalisator Board for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Broadcasting.—Report and Accounts of the British Broadcasting Corporation for 1997-98 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].
7 Civil Aviation,—Report and Accounts of Highlands and Islands Airports Limited for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Comprehensive Spending Review,—Paper, entitled Modern Public Services for Britain, Investing in Reform: New Public Spending Plans 1999–2002 [by Command] [Cm. 4011] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

9 Crown Estate,—Accounts of the Crown Estate Commissioners for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 972] [Clerk of the House].

10 Data Protection,—Report and Financial Statements of the Data Protection Registrar for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 910] [Mr Secretary Straw].

11 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Postal and Courier Services Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 806] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

12 Development of Tourism,—Accounts of the Scottish Tourist Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 979] [Clerk of the House].

13 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—Accounts of Highlands and Islands Enterprise for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 973] [Clerk of the House].

14 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Meteorological Office for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 913] [Clerk of the House].

15 Registration Service,—Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics: Review of the Registrar General on marriages, divorces and adoptions in England and Wales, 1995 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

16 Social Security Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Benefits Agency,
   (2) Child Support Agency,
   (3) Contributions Agency,
   (4) Information Technology Services Agency, and
   (5) War Pensions Agency
for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 901, 864, 870, 846 and 915] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Houses in Multiple Occupation (Charges for Registration Schemes) Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Ann Cryer and Mr Gerry Steinberg from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr David Crausby and Mr Bill Michie.

2 Special Grant Report (No. 36) (House of Commons Paper No. 823) and Special Grant Report (No. 3) (Wales) 1998 (House of Commons Paper No. 832),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Nick Ainger from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Reports); and nominated in substitution Dr Stephen Ladyman.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 14th July [CAP reform: rural development]; to be printed [No. 890–ii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence; CAP reform: rural development]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport
Committee on 14th July [The Heritage Lottery Fund]; to be printed [No. 968-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 14th July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-xiv] [Mr Bruce George].

4 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 14th July [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-viii] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 14th July [The Protection of Field Boundaries]; to be printed [No. 969-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

6 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 14th July [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787-vii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 14th July [Pension Sharing on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 869-iv] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

8 Standards and Privileges,—Eighteenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints against Mr Geoffrey Robinson (No. 2)], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 975] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Forty-first Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xli] [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 14th July [Fairness at Work]; to be printed [No. 980-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

11 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee on 14th July [The Office for National Statistics]; to be printed [No. 976-iv] [Mr Giles Radice].

12 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 14th July [Investment in Industry in Wales]; to be printed [No. 821-iv] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 207.]

Wednesday 15th July 1998.

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 David Jamieson];

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 (Guided Busways) Order Confirmation Bill,—Mr Secretary Dewar presented a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, relating to City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways): And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be considered on Tuesday 21st July and to be printed [Bill 228].

3 Licensing (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Edward O'Hara reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Licensing (Amendment) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 24th July. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 983].

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 36) (HC No. 823) and the Special Grant Report (No. 3) (Wales) 1998 (HC No. 832).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
5 Liaison,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee on 22nd January, 26th February and 4th and 25th June be printed [No. 986].

6 Northern Ireland Bill,—Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Robertson, Mr Secretary Davies and Mr Paul Murphy, presented a Bill to make new provision for the government of Northern Ireland for the purpose of implementing the agreement reached at multi-party talks on Northern Ireland set out in Command Paper 3883: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 229].

7 Participants in Sporting Events (Assaults, Etc.) Bill,—Mr Paul Flynn presented a Bill to make provision with respect to offences involving the intentional striking of blows to the head by participants in sporting events: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 9th October and to be printed [Bill 232].

8 Community Reinvestment Disclosure,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require financial institutions to maintain and to publish details of their lending and financial services to individuals, businesses and organisations by postcode; to ensure that redlining of neighbourhoods does not take place; and to ensure that regeneration objectives are met through a public-private partnership of the financial institutions together with central and local government: And that Mr Tony Colman, Mr Giles Radice, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Sir Peter Lloyd, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Charles Clarke, Ms Ruth Kelly, Ms Hazel Blears, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr Chris Mullin do prepare and bring it in.

9 Community Reinvestment Disclosure Bill,—Mr Tony Colman accordingly presented a Bill to require financial institutions to maintain and to publish details of their lending and financial services to individuals, businesses and organisations by postcode; to ensure that redlining of neighbourhoods does not take place; and to ensure that regeneration objectives are met through a public-private partnership of the financial institutions together with central and local government: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 231].

10 Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill;
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:— It was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.
The Question being put forthwith, pursuant to the said Standing Order, That the Bill be now read the third time:— It was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

11 School Standards and Framework Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the School Standards and Framework Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 33 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 34.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment (Estelle Morris);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 306.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Paul Keetch: 184.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 35 was disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 36 to 41 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 42.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment (Mr Stephen Byers);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 305.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 167.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 43 to 49 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 50.

An Amendment was made to the Lords Amendment, in line 2, by leaving out from the word 'school' to the end and inserting the words—

'(d) how the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils is to be promoted at the school;

(e) how pupils are to be prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life and citizenship;

(f) the standards of educational achievement of pupils; and

(g) how the governing body are to promote the good behaviour, discipline and well-being of pupils', instead thereof.—(Estelle Morris.)

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 51 was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 52 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 53 to 138 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment Nos. 92, 122 and 137.

Lords Amendment No. 139.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Secretary Blunkett);

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

12 Business of the House.—A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day's sitting, the School Standards and Framework Bill and the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Jim Dowd).—It was agreed to.

13 School Standards and Framework Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the School Standards and Framework Bill.

Question again proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment (No. 139).

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Kevin Hughes: 294.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 137.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 140 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendment Nos. 141 to 197 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 141.

Lords Amendment No. 198 was disagreed to.

The words so restored to the Bill were amended—

(a) in page 117, line 11, by inserting, at the end, the words 'of those voting';

(b) in page 117, line 11, by inserting, at the end, the words—

'(3) Regulations under this paragraph must, however, include provision—

(a) for the members within each category of members of a committee to have collectively a single vote in relation to any decision to which this sub-paragraph applies;

(b) requiring any such decision which is taken by a committee to be a unanimous decision of those voting.

(4) Sub-paragraph (3) applies to any decision of a committee as to whether or not—

(a) to give any approval under section 25(4) or to prepare such a plan as is mentioned in section 25(5)(d)(ii);

(b) to give any approval under paragraph 3 of Schedule 6 or to—

(i) modify any proposals,

(ii) specify any date, or

(iii) make any determination,

under paragraph 5(2)(a) or (b) or (3) of that Schedule;
(c) to make, vary or revoke a transitional exemption order under paragraph 21 of that Schedule or paragraph 16 of Schedule 7;

(d) to give any approval under paragraph 8 of Schedule 7;

(e) to make any decision authorised by or by virtue of paragraph 6 of Schedule 23.

(5) Where regulations under paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 8 provide for either of the following provisions, namely paragraph 3 or 5(2)(a) of Schedule 6, to have effect in relation to proposals published under paragraph 2 or 2A of Schedule 8, the reference to that provision in sub-paragraph (4) above shall include a reference to it as it so has effect; and

(c) in page 117, line 15, by inserting, at the end, the words—

'When taking any decision a committee shall have regard (so far as relevant) to the obligations which, by virtue of—

(a) Part III of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, or

(b) Part III of the Race Relations Act 1976,

are owed by any local education authority or governing body which will be affected by the decision.'.

Lords Amendment No. 199 was disagreed to.

The words so restored to the Bill were amended, in page 118, line 32, at the end, by inserting the words—

'When taking any decision an adjudicator shall have regard (so far as relevant) to the obligations which, by virtue of—

(a) Part III of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, or

(b) Part III of the Race Relations Act 1976,

are owed by any local education authority or governing body which will be affected by the decision.'.

Lords Amendments Nos. 200 to 236 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 237.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Stephen Byers);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 275.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 130.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 238 to 240 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 241 to 243 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 244 was disagreed to.

An Amendment was made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendments Nos. 237 to 240 and 244, disagreed to, in page 143, line 25, at the end, by inserting the words—

(3) The instrument of government for any community or voluntary school which—

(a) is a primary school, and

(b) serves an area for which there are one or more minor authorities,

shall provide for the governing body to include (in addition to the governors required by virtue of paragraph 9, 13 or 14, as the case may be, and any required by virtue of sub-paragraph (1)) one co-opted governor nominated by the minor authority or (as the case may be) one of the minor authorities in question.

(4) Where any such school serves an area for which there are two or more minor authorities, the relevant governors shall, for the purposes of the appointment of any such co-opted governor, seek nominations from such one or more of those authorities as the governors think fit.

(5) In sub-paragraph (4) "the relevant governors" means those members of the school’s governing body who are not co-opted governors.’

Lords Amendments Nos. 245 to 411 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. 34, 35, 42 to 49, 52, 139 and 140.
Ordered, That Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Stephen Day, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Theresa May and Rachel Squire be members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Stephen Byers be the Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

14 Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendment in lieu of a Lords Amendment in lieu of words left out of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords] disagreed to by the Commons.

Question proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment;

Thursday 16th July 1998

Question put.

The Lords Amendment in lieu was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

15 Northern Ireland Bill.—Ordered, That, in respect of the Northern Ireland 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.—(Bridget Prentice.)

16 School Standards and Framework Bill.—Mr Stephen Byers reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 34, 35, 42 to 49, 52, 139 and 140 to the School Standards and Framework Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 34 and 35 for the following Reason:

Because the Amendments are inconsistent with securing local decision-making on school organisation and a mechanism for resolving conflicts between the interests of admission authorities and wider community interests.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 42 to 49 for the following Reason:

Because each of the schools concerned should have its own dedicated governing body to oversee standards at the school.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 52 for the following Reason:

Because the Amendment would create an undesirable additional burden for schools.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 139 and 140 for the following Reason:

Because the Amendments would alter the financial arrangements made by the Commons, 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.
17 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr John Arthur Dawes for investigation of extremely low frequency radio waves was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-one minutes to One o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day. [Adjourned at 12.39 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Coal Industry,—Accounts of the Coal Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 982] [Clerk of the House].

4 Courts and Legal Services,—Report of the Court Service for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 837] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

5 Development of Tourism,—(1) Report and Accounts of the English Tourist Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith]; and

(2) Report and Accounts of the Scottish Tourist Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 802] [Clerk of the House].

7 Legal Aid and Advice,—Report and Accounts of the Legal Aid Board for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 943] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

8 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Legal Aid Board for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


10 Opticians,—Accounts of the General Optical Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mrs Ann Taylor].


12 Post Office,—Report and Accounts of the Post Office for 1997–98 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

13 Welsh Development Agency,—(1) Accounts of the Welsh Development Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 989] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Welsh Development Agency for
1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Grand Committees

1 The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton and Mr Jimmy Hood Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Westminster on Tuesday 21st July.

Standing Committees

2 Draft Security for Private Road Works (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Miss Anne Begg, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr James Gray, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Ernie Ross, Sir Robert Smith and Mr Robert Symns.

3 Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Worker’s Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr David Amess, Mrs Liz Blackman, Angela Eagle, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Dr Evan Harris, Mr John Healey, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Terry Rooney, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Malcolm Wicks.

4 Draft Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (Amendment) Regulations 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Norman Baker, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr George Howarth, Jane Kennedy, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Colin Pilkthall and Mr Nigel Waterson.

5 Draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr David Hanson, Mr Oliver Heald, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Tom Levitt, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Allan Rogers, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Dr Jenny Tonge, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr John Whittingdale.

6 Draft Special Immigration Appeals Commission (Procedure) Rules 1998:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Rules to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr John Bercow, Tom Cox, Maria Eagle, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Robert Jackson, Ms Sally Keeble, Ann Keen, Jane Kennedy, Ms Oona King, Mr David Lock, Ms Linda Perham, Mr Bob Russell and Mr Jonathan R. Shaw.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Broadcasting.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Broadcasting Committee on 15th July [The Development of Parliamentary Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 984-i] [Mr Roger Gale].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 15th July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-xv] [Mr Bruce George].
3 Education and Employment, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 15th July [New appointment hearing: the OFSTED Complaints Adjudicator]; to be printed [No. 981-i] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Eighth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Regional Air Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 589-I];

(2) Ninth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [English Nature], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 790-I]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 15th July [Railway Safety]; to be printed [No. 987-i]

[Ms Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 Environmental Audit,—Third Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Pre-Budget Report: Government Response and Follow-up], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 985] [Mr John Horam].

6 European Legislation,—(1) Thirty-fourth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxxiv]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 15th July [Community Statistics]; to be printed [No. 991]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

7 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 15th July [Public Expenditure 1998]; to be printed [No. 988-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

8 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 15th July [The Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716-v] [Mr Peter Brooke].

9 Procedure,—(1) Third Report from the Procedure Committee [Objections to Questions in Select Committees], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 990]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 15th July [Financial Procedure]; to be printed [No. 848-ii]

[Mr Andrew Stunell].

10 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The PFI Contracts for Bridgend and Fazakerley Prisons], 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. 499];

(2) Fifty-eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Benefits Agency: Class XII, Vote 1, Appropriation Account 1996-97 (Central Government Administered Social Security Benefits and Other Payments)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 570];

(3) Fifty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: HM Coastguard (Civil Maritime Search and Rescue)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 741];

(4) Sixtieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Sale of AEA Technology]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 749]; and

(5) Sixty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Getting Value for Money in Privatisations]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 992].

[Mr David Davis].

11 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 15th July [British Biotech plc]; to be printed [No. 888-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].
12 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 15th July [Pension Sharing on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 869v] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

13 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 15th July [Fairness at Work]; to be printed [No. 980-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neil].

14 Treasury,—(1) Seventh Report from the Treasury Committee [Bank of England: Operation of Accountability—One Year On]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 993]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 9th and 15th July [Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed [Nos. 960-i and -ii].

[Mr Giles Radice].

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

PRAYERS.

1 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords];
Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time on Tuesday 28th July at Seven o'clock.

2 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords];
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Thursday 23rd July.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Houses in Multiple Occupation (Charges for Registration Schemes) Regulations 1998.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Government of Wales Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Government of Wales Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Government of Wales Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 233].

6 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:
Appropriation Act 1998
Data Protection Act 1998
Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998

7 Adjournment (Public Expenditure).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Greg Pope);
And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

8 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);
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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Highlands and Islands Shipping Services,—Draft Undertaking by the Secretary of State for Scotland with the consent of Her Majesty's Treasury and P&O Scottish Ferries Limited and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the Provision of Passenger Ferry Services to Orkney and Shetland [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Legal Services,—Draft Conditional Fee Agreements Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6 Road Traffic,—M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1708), dated 10th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

8 Criminal Justice,—Report of the Serious Fraud Office for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 838] [Mr Attorney General].


11 Development of Tourism,—Accounts of the Wales Tourist Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 997] [Clerk of the House].

12 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Ordnance Survey for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 813] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Mint Trading Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 789] [Clerk of the House].

14 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the London Pensions Fund Authority for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Local Government, Planning and Land,—(1) Financial Statements of the following Development Corporations for the period 1st April to 30th June 1998—

   (i) Birmingham Heartlands,
   (ii) Black Country,
   (iii) London Docklands,
   (iv) Merseyside,
   (v) Plymouth,
   (vi) Teesside,
(vii) Trafford Park, and
(viii) Tyne and Wear; and

(2) Report and Accounts of the following Development Corporations for 1997–98—

(i) Teesside, and
(ii) Tyne and Wear

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

16 Merchant Shipping.—Report and Accounts of the General Lighthouse Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 922] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

17 Museums and Galleries.—Accounts of—

(1) Imperial War Museum for 1996–97, and
(2) Museums and Galleries Commissioners for 1997–98

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 996 and 995] [Clerk of the House].

18 Northern Ireland.—Report of the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 863] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

19 Post Office.—Report of the Post Office Users’ Council for Scotland for 1997–98 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

20 Prisons (Scotland).—Report of the Parole Board for Scotland for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 829] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

21 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Insolvency Service for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 828] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 16th July [The Eyre Review]; to be printed [No. 994] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence.—(1) Seventh Report from the Defence Committee [Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence and Trade and Industry Committees meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4)(e) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 675];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 16th July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138–xvi]; and

(3) Memorandum laid before the Committee [The Landmines Bill]

[Mr Bruce George].

3 Foreign Affairs.—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 16th July [The Public Expenditure Plans of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1998–99]; to be printed [No. 745–v] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 16th July [Welfare of former British child migrants]; to be printed [No. 755–iv] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee on 16th July [Sudan]; to be printed [No. 872–ii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Trade and Industry.—Eighth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence and Trade and Industry Committees meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4)(e) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 675] [Mr Martin O’Neill].
The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment (NATO Enlargement),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);

And it being Eleven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).

And the Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;

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

2 Northern Ireland Bill (Programme),—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to proceedings on the Northern Ireland Bill:

Second Reading

1. Proceedings on Second Reading shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at Ten o’clock on Monday 20th July; and when the Bill has been read a second time it shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), stand committed to a Committee of the whole House without any question being put.

Committee stage

2. Proceedings in Committee shall be taken in the following order, namely, Clause 1, Schedule 1, Clauses 2 to 4, Schedules 2 and 3, Clauses 5 and 6, Schedule 4, Clauses 7 to 13, Clause 23, Clause 14, Schedule 5, Clauses 15 to 22, Clauses 24 to 32, Schedule 6, Clause 33, Schedule 7, Clauses 34 to 54, Schedule 8, Clause 55 to 59, Schedule 9, Clauses 60 and 61, Schedule 10, Clauses 62 to 69, Schedule 11, Clauses 70 to 76, Schedule 12, Clauses 77 to 80, Schedule 13, Clause 81, Schedules 14 and 15, Clause 82 and new Clauses and new Schedules.

3. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall be completed at the four sittings specified in the following table, and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the end of the allotted period (calculated from the commencement of proceedings on the Bill on that day) or at the time specified in the following table—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sitting</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Allotted period or time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd July</td>
<td>Clauses 1 to 13, Schedules 1 to 4</td>
<td>three hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd July</td>
<td>Clause 23</td>
<td>three hours or Seven o’clock (whichever is the earlier)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clauses 14 to 22, Schedule 5</td>
<td>six hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24th July</td>
<td>Clauses 24 to 53, Schedules 6 and 7</td>
<td>six hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27th July</td>
<td>Clauses 54 to 82, remaining Schedules, new Clauses and new Schedules</td>
<td>six hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remaining stages

4. Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be completed at the two sittings on Thursday 30th and Friday 31st July and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at half-past Two o’clock on Friday 31st July.

Conclusion of proceedings

5. (1) For the purpose of concluding any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion at a time appointed by this Order, the Chairman or 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;
(c) the Question on any Amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown; and

(d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(2) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(3) Proceedings under sub-paragraph (1) shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(4) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (1) (c) on Amendments moved or Motions made by a Minister of the Crown, or under sub-paragraph (1) (d) in relation to successive provisions of the Bill, the Chairman or Speaker shall instead put a single question in relation to those Amendments, Motions or provisions.

Miscellaneous

6. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill.

7. No Motion shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown, to alter the order in which proceedings on the Bill are taken.

8. Standing Order No. 15 (1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the bill at the sittings on any of the days specified in paragraph 3 above for any part of the allotted periods which falls after Ten o’clock or (where Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings) applies) after half-past Two o’clock.

9. (1) If a day specified in this Order is one to which a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (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, 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 are to be brought to a conclusion after that time shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on the Motion; and

(c) paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for the period after Ten o’clock for which sub-paragraph (b) permits them to continue.

(2) If a day specified in this Order is one to which a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 stands over from an earlier day

(a) the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the Bill which under this Order are to be brought to a conclusion on that day shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on the Motion; and

(b) paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill for the period after Ten o’clock for which sub-paragraph (a) permits them to continue.

Supplementary

10. (1) If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to amend this Order and if an effect of the Motion would be to provide a greater amount of time for proceedings on the Bill, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, at any hour.

(2) If a Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of further proceedings on the Bill, the Motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, at any hour and the proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three-quarters of an hour after they have been commenced.—(Bridget Prentice.)

3 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 20th July, the provisions of paragraph 1 of Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Dewar relating to the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) (No. 2) Order 1998 and the Question thereon shall be put forthwith.—(Bridget Prentice.)

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)
And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 20th July.

[Adjourned at 3.00 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Education,—Draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Education (Scotland),—Draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Animals,—Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act (Amendment to Schedule 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1674), dated 3rd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

4 Development of Rural Wales,—Report and Accounts of the Development Board for Rural Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

5 European Communities (No. 3, 1998),—Euro-Mediterranean Agreement, done at Brussels on 24th November 1997, establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, including Protocols, with Exchange of Letters, Declarations and Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 3946] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Human Fertilisation and Embryology,—Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority Code of Practice: Fourth Edition [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Commission for England for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Report and Accounts of the Land Authority for Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

9 National Health Service,—Summarised Accounts of Health Authorities and NHS Trusts in England, the Dental Practice Board and Special Health Authorities providing central services in England, and of Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, NHS Trusts, Special Health Authorities and Special Trustees in England, for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 923] [Clerk of the House].

10 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 867] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

11 Treaty Series (No. 28, 1998),—First Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc. for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4005] [Mr Secretary Cook].
PRAYERS.

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

Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to promote the reform of the statute law by the repeal, in accordance with recommendations of the Law Commission and the Scottish Law Commission, of certain enactments which (except in so far as their effect is preserved) are no longer of practical utility, and to make other provision in connection with the repeal of those enactments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

Sexual Orientation Discrimination Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to render unlawful certain kinds of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

2. Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords].—The Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 234].

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

Secretary Marjorie Mowlam acquainted the House, That she had it in Command from the Queen to acquaint the House that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place Her prerogative, so far as it is affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 322.

Tellers for the Noes, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr Peter Robinson: 9.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time, and stood committed to a Committee of the whole House, pursuant to Order [17th July].

Committee to-morrow.

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

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills). That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Northern Ireland Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure of the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act;

(b) the charging on, and payment out of, the Consolidated Fund of sums to be paid into the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland;

(c) the issue out of the National Loans Fund of sums required by the Secretary of State for the making of advances to the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland;

(d) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund or the National Loans Fund—(Mr Jim Dowd): It was agreed to.

5. Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 36) (House of Commons Paper No. 823), which was laid before this House on 17th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd): It was agreed to.

6. Local Government.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Houses in Multiple Occupation (Charges for Registration Schemes) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 22nd June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd): It was agreed to.

7. Local Government Finance (Wales).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put
forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (No. 3) (Wales) 1998 (House of Commons Paper No. 832), which was laid before this House on 25th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

8 Public Health,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [17th July], That the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1582), dated 29th June 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 1st July, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

9 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Howard Flight be discharged from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee and Mr John Randall be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 Health,—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Lansley be discharged from the Health Committee and Mr David Amess be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Social Security,—Ordered, That Mr Nick Gibb be discharged from the Social Security Committee and Mr Howard Flight be added to the Committee.—(Mr George Mudie, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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 Negative Resolution:


3 Merchant Shipping,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Co-operation with Search and Rescue Services) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1692), and


4 National Assistance Services,—National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1730), dated 16th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


Other Papers:

7 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Criminal Appeal,—Report and Accounts of the Criminal Cases Review Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Defence Police Chief Constable for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 948] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

10 Education,—Accounts of the Funding Agency for Schools for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1009] [Clerk of the House].
11 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of Highlands and Islands Enterprise for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Response to the Third Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation: A New Deal for the Railways [by Command] [Cm. 4024] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Paper, entitled A New Deal for Transport: Better for Everyone.—The Government’s White Paper on the Future of Transport [by Command] [Cm. 3950] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

14 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Coastguard Agency, and
   (2) Marine Safety Agency
    for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [Nos. 800 and 801] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Environmental Protection,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Countryside Council for Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

16 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [No. 954] [Clerk of the House].

17 Housing (Scotland),—Accounts of Scottish Homes for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [No. 1007] [Clerk of the House].

18 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Report and Accounts of Cardiff Bay Development Corporation for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

19 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Northern Ireland Health and Social Services Estates Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 900] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

20 Science and Technology,—Government Response to the Second Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Year 2000—Computer Compliance [by Command] [Cm. 3944] [Dr David Clark].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Paul Marsden (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Dr Phyllis Starkey.

2 Draft Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (Amendment) Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Chris Mullin (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Phil Sawford.

3 Draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Allan Rogers (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Fraser Kemp.

4 Draft Special Immigration Appeals Commission (Procedure) Rules 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Ms Sally Keeble (nominated in respect of the draft Rules); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Hurst.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 20th July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138-xvii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Deregulation,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Deregulation Committee on 20th July [The Proposal for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1998]; to be printed [No. 939-ii] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 20th July [Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed [No. 960-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].


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

PRAYERS.

1 City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways) Order Confirmation Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways) Order Confirmation Bill.

Bill to be read the third time to-morrow.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Security for Private Road Works (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998.

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

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Community Drivers' Hours and Recording Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 1998.

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

4 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 one of their Amendments to the School Standards and Framework Bill; they do not insist on their remaining Amendments, to which this House has disagreed; they agree, without Amendment, to an Amendment made by this House in lieu of certain of their Amendments; and they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to words restored to the Bill.

5 Remission of Third World Debt (Jubilee 2000),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the remission of debt owed by the poorest developing countries by the year 2000: And that Mr William Cash, Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Frank Cook, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Martin O'Neill, Mr Giles Radice, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mr Bowen Wells and Steve Webb do prepare and bring it in.

6 Remission of Third World Debt (Jubilee 2000) Bill,—Mr William Cash accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the remission of debt owed by the poorest developing countries by the year 2000: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 235].

7 Opposition Day [18th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Relationship of Government to Parliament.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House, reiterating the importance of a strong parliamentary democracy in Britain, deplores the fact that successive governments have increasingly diluted the role of Parliament by making announcements to the media before making them to this House; by undermining the legitimate revising role of the House of Lords; by giving access to lobbyists at a time when the representations of elected Members are dealt with in an increasingly dilatory fashion; by inhibiting the rights of backbenchers to make criticisms of their own side; by encouraging planted supplementary questions which fail to hold the Executive to account; and by responding to questions and arguments with
meaningless soundbites and partisan rhetoric instead of constructive answers—(Mr A. J. Beith);

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 members of the Government are present daily in both Houses, putting forward the case for the Government’s legislative and financial proposals and being held to account for its policies and actions; welcomes the all-party support for the establishment of the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and the endorsement by the House of key proposals to make Parliament more effective and efficient; notes that more statements have been made by ministers this session than in the equivalent period in 1992-93, and that Cabinet ministers have given oral evidence to select committees on more occasions than the average for the past seven sessions; and believes that the Government has lived up to both its manifesto commitment and the 19th March 1997 resolution on ministerial accountability’, instead thereof. (Mrs Ann Taylor.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Donald Gorrie: 42.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Clelland: 310.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 notes that members of the Government are present daily in both Houses, putting forward the case for the Government’s legislative and financial proposals and being held to account for its policies and actions; welcomes the all-party support for the establishment of the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and the endorsement by the House of key proposals to make Parliament more effective and efficient; notes that more statements have been made by ministers this session than in the equivalent period in 1992-93, and that Cabinet ministers have given oral evidence to select committees on more occasions that the average for the past seven sessions; and believes that the Government has lived up to both its manifesto commitment and the 19th March 1997 resolution on ministerial accountability.

European Single Currency.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that membership of the European Single Currency will be in Britain’s long-term economic interests because it will promote trade, increase competitiveness, secure inward investment, reduce interest rates, boost economic stability, consolidate the City of London’s pre-eminent financial market position, and promote growth, employment and Britain’s influence in Europe; calls on the Government to hold a referendum on the principle of the Single Currency during the current Parliament and to join the Single Currency at the earliest practical opportunity; and in the intervening period to implement a series of policies to prepare for Single Currency membership including: joint six monthly reports by the Treasury and the Bank of England on progress towards interest rate convergence with the Euro zone, steps to secure a stable and fairly valued pound, action to align UK and Euro inflation levels and targets, and discussions with the UK’s European partners aimed at promoting an accountable structure for the European Central Bank and maximum possible fiscal subsidiarity—(Mr Malcolm Bruce);

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 ‘welcomes the Government’s conviction to pursue a prudent and balanced policy in respect of United Kingdom membership of the single currency; believes that, in principle, British membership of a successful single currency could bring economic benefits to Britain and to Europe; welcomes the Government’s decision to make the national economic interest the key test for British entry; agrees with the Government that, barring some fundamental and unforeseen change in economic circumstances, making a decision to join during the current Parliament is not realistic; commends the actions of the Government to introduce a programme of economic reforms and practical assistance for British business which are both in the national economic interest and will help to create a real option of joining the single currency early in the next Parliament should Government, Parliament and the people so decide; and believes that the Government’s policy will bring stability to business and reflects the long-term economic interests of the country’, instead thereof.—(Mr Alistair Darling.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Phil Willis: 46.
Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jon Owen Jones: 292.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 welcomes the Government’s conviction to pursue a prudent and balanced policy in respect of United Kingdom membership of the single currency; believes that, in principle, British membership of a successful single currency could bring economic benefits to Britain and to Europe; welcomes the Government’s decision to make the national economic interest the key test for British entry; agrees with the Government that, barring some fundamental and unforeseen change in economic circumstances, making a decision to join during the current Parliament is not realistic; commends the actions of the Government to introduce a programme of economic reforms and practical assistance for British businesses which are both in the national economic interest and will help to create a real option of joining the single currency early in the next Parliament should Government, Parliament and the people so decide; and believes that the Government’s policy will bring stability to business and reflects the long-term economic interests of the country.

8 Section 5 of The European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993,—Ordered, That, for the purposes of their approval under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review shall be treated as if they were instruments subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

9 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Hastings and Rye for an improved transport infrastructure for the area, and

(2) residents and others of the Far Cotton and St. James’ areas of Northampton for a comprehensive public inquiry into the floods in the Northampton area in Easter 1998 were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

And the Motion having being 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 thirteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.47 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Draft Meat and Livestock Commission Levy (Variation) Scheme (Confirmation) Order 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Local Government (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

3 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on:

(1) National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland: Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, and

(2) Northern Ireland Health and Personal Social Services: Controls to Prevent and Detect Fraud in Family Practitioner Service Payments [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 916 and 917][Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
4 Communications,—Paper, entitled Regulating communications: approaching convergence in the Information Age [by Command] [Cm. 4022] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Multimedia Revolution [by Command] [Cm. 4020] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Disability Rights Commission,—Paper, entitled Promoting Disabled People's Rights: creating a Disability Rights Commission fit for the 21st century [by Command] [Cm. 3977] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster,—Revenue and Capital Accounts of the Duchy of Lancaster for 1997–98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of:
   (1) Central Office of Information,
   (2) Companies House, and
   (3) HM Land Registry
   for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 978, 824 and 962] [Clerk of the House].

9 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Passport Agency for 1997–8, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 884] [Mr Secretary Straw].

10 Hong Kong,—Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong, January–June 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4019] [Mr Secretary Cook].

11 Housing,—Report and Accounts of North Hull Housing Action Trust for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

12 Local Government,—Financial Statements of the South Bank Centre for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

13 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Benefits Agency: Performance Measurement [by Act]; to be printed [No. 952] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Heritage,—Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1013] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Lottery,—Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund Lottery Distribution for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1014] [Clerk of the House].

16 New Towns,—Accounts of the Commission for the New Towns for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

17 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Social Security Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 911] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

18 Prisons (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Prison Service for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 808] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

19 Transport,—Report and Accounts of British Waterways for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

20 War Pensions,—List of exceptional awards for 1997–98 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

21 Welsh Language,—Accounts of the Welsh Language Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1012] [Clerk of the House].

22 Wildlife and Countryside,—Accounts of the Countryside Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1022] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Malcolm Wicks from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Paul Marsden.

2 Draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Paul Marsden and Mr John Whittingdale from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Gary Streeter and Mr Malcolm Wicks.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Memorandum laid before the Agriculture Committee [Flood and coastal defence] [Mr Peter Lull].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 21st July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [Nos. 138-xviii and xix] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—Seventh Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Pathways into Work for Lone Parents], 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. 646] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 21st July [Trees; and European Environmental Policy]; to be printed [Nos. 1017 and 1018] [Mr John Horam].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 21st July [The Protection of Field Boundaries]; to be printed [No. 969-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

6 International Development,—Fifth Report from the International Development Committee [Department for International Development: 1998 Departmental Report]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 711] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Public Administration,—Fourth Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee on Your Right to Know: the Government's proposals for a Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 1020] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 21st July [Child Benefit Fraud]; to be printed [No. 1021-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

9 Trade and Industry,—(1) Ninth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Georgian Nuclear Material at Dounreay], 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. 815]; and

(2) Tenth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Developments in the Liberalisation of the Domestic 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. 871]

[Mr Martin O'Neill].

10 Statutory Instruments,—Forty-second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xlil] [Mr David Tredinnick].
Wednesday 22nd July 1998.

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 Robert 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 City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways) Order Confirmation Bill,.—The City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways) Order Confirmation Bill was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1998.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (Amendment) Regulations 1998.
   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 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill,.—Lords Amendments to the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 238].

7 Energy Efficiency Bill,—Ordered, That the Energy Efficiency Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, be considered on Friday 6th November.

8 Pet Ownership (Residential and Sheltered Accommodation) Bill,.—Mr Paul Burstow presented a Bill to require local authorities to formulate policies to enable people in certain types of accommodation to keep pets; 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 236].

9 Flood Warnings (Vulnerable Properties),.—Ordered, That leave to be given to bring in a Bill to introduce a system of advance warnings whereby people who buy or rent homes, stay in hotels, or rent or pitch caravans or tents in flood plains are informed of the risks; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th November and to be printed [Bill 237].

10 Flood Warnings (Vulnerable Properties) Bill,.—Ms Sally Keeble accordingly presented a Bill to introduce a system of advance warnings whereby people who buy or rent homes, stay in hotels, or rent or pitch caravans or tents in flood plains are informed of the risks; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th November and to be printed [Bill 237].

11 Government of Wales Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Government of Wales Bill.
   Ordered, That the Lords Amendments to the Bill be considered in the following order, namely: No. 125; No. 33; Remaining Amendments (other than Nos. 3, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18, 20 to 22, 27, 49 and 82); Nos. 49 and 82; Nos. 3, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18 and 20 to 22; No. 27.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)
   Lords Amendment No. 125 was agreed to.
   Lords Amendment No. 33.
   Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment.
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 266.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones, Mr Lembit Öpik: 46.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1, 2, 4, 13, 17, 19, 23 to 26, 28 to 32, 34 to 48, 50 to 81, 83 to 124, 126 to 210, 49 and 82 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 186 and 187.

Lords Amendments Nos. 3, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18 and 20 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 21.

The Lords Amendment was amended, in line 1, by leaving out the words 'the same list as the last person to occupy the vacant seat' and inserting the words 'that list', instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Davies.)

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 72 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 27 was disagreed to.

An Amendment was proposed to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 27, disagreed to, in page 28, line 12, at the end, to insert the words—

'( ) A Minister of the Crown may not—

(a) be elected to be Assembly First Secretary, or

(b) be appointed as an Assembly Secretary.'—(Dr Liam Fox.)

Question put, That the Amendment in lieu be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 148.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 265.

The Title was accordingly amended, as follows: A Bill to establish and make provision about the National Assembly for Wales and the offices of Auditor General for Wales and the Welsh Administration Ombudsman; to reform certain Welsh public bodies and abolish certain other Welsh public bodies; and for connected purposes.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 3, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18, 20, 22 and 27.

Ordered, That Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Secretary Davies, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Evans and Mr Jon Owen Jones be members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Secretary Davies be the Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Jon Owen Jones.)

12 Northern Ireland Bill (Committee) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Status of Northern Ireland).

Amendment (No. 60) proposed, in page 1, line 10, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) The Secretary of State shall not make an order under paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 without the Assembly giving its consent by a cross-community vote as defined in section 4(5).'.—(The Reverend Ian Paisley.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr William Thompson: 10.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Kevin Hughes: 285.

Another Amendment (No. 104) proposed, in page 1, line 11, after the word 'But', to insert the words 'subject to subsection (3) below'.—(Mr David Trimble.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 105) proposed, in page 1, line 15, after the word 'of', to insert the words 'the Republic of'.—(Mr David Trimble.)

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

The Chairman, being of the opinion that the principle of the Clause and any matters arising thereon had been adequately discussed in the course of debate on the Amendments
proposed thereto, put forthwith the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 68 (Debate on clause or schedule standing part), That the Clause stand part of the Bill:— It was agreed to.

Schedule No. 1 (Polls for the purposes of section 1).

Amendment (No. 37) proposed, in page 39, line 18, to leave out the word ‘including’ and insert the word ‘except’.—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)

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

Schedule agreed to.

Clause No. 2 (Previous enactments).

Amendment (No. 134) proposed, in page 1, line 16, at the beginning, to insert ‘Or. (Mr William Ross.)

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

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Kevin Hughes: 282.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Robinson, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson: 9.

It being more than three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill this day, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [17th July], put the Questions necessary for the disposal of business then required to be concluded.

Clauses Nos. 3 and 4, Schedules Nos. 2 and 3, Clauses Nos. 5 and 6, Schedule No. 4 and Clauses Nos. 7 to 13 agreed to.

The Chairman left the Chair to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

13 Government of Wales Bill.—Mr Secretary Davies reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos 3, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18, 20, 22 and 27 to the Government of Wales Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 3, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18, 20 and 22 for the following Reason:—

Because the Amendments would unjustifiably restrict the right of voters to choose the persons who are to be members of the National Assembly for Wales for the electoral regions.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 27 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate for Ministers of the Crown to be disqualified from being members of the National Assembly for Wales.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

14 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd):

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 twenty-eight minutes to Twelve o’clock till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.32 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Designs.—Registered Designs (Fees) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1777), dated 16th July 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


3 Northern Ireland.—(1) Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1760), and


4 Patents.—Patents (Fees) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1778), dated 16th July 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Trade Marks.—Trade Marks (Fees) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1776), dated 9th July 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland).—(1) Report of Scottish Enterprise for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar]; and

(2) Accounts of Scottish Enterprise for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1028] [Clerk of the House].

7 Further Education (Scotland).—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland on Further Education in Scotland for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Further and Higher Education.—Accounts of the Further and Higher Education Funding Councils for Wales for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1027] [Clerk of the House].

9 Housing.—Report and Accounts of Liverpool Housing Action Trust for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Housing (Scotland).—(1) Accounts, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and

(2) Report of Scottish Homes for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

11 Magistrates’ Courts.—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of the Magistrates’ Courts Service for 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 866] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

12 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on A Case Study of Stores Management in the Ministry of Defence [by Act]; to be printed [No. 951] [Clerk of the House].

13 National Lottery.—Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council National Lottery Fund for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1029] [Clerk of the House].

14 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—Report and Accounts of the National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

15 Public Accounts.—Treasury Minute on the Thirty-first to Thirty-seventh Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997-98 [by Command] [Cm. 4004] [Dawn Primarolo].

16 Social Security.—Report by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Fund for 1997-98 [by Command] [Cm. 4003] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

17 Trade Union and Labour Relations.—Account of the Commissioner for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1030] [Clerk of the House].

18 Transport (Scotland).—Paper, entitled Travel Choices for Scotland: The Scottish Integrated Transport White Paper [by Command] [Cm. 4010] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Undertaking by the Secretary of State for Scotland with the consent of Her Majesty's Treasury and P & O Scottish Ferries Limited and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the provision of passenger ferry services to Orkney and Shetland:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Undertaking to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Maria Fyfe, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr James Gray, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Henry McLeish, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Robert Syms and Mr James Wallace.

2 Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rural public passenger transport for 1998-99 (House of Commons Paper No. 941):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John McAllion, Mr John McFall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr David Marshall, Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Mr Richard Shepherd, Sir Robert Smith and Mr David Stewart.

3 Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Report and the Review to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr David Hanson, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Phil Hope, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Bill Olner, Mr David Ruffley and Mr Stephen Twigg.

4 Draft Conditional Fee Agreements Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr John Burnett, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Mr Edward Garnier, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr David Hinchcliffe, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Lock, Mr Bob Russell, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Barry Sheerman and Mr John M. Taylor.

5 Draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 and the draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr John Bercow, Christine Butler, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Damian Green, Dr Kim Howells, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Phil Willis, Mr Brian Wilson and Mr Anthony D. Wright.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 22nd July [Strategic Defence Review] [Nos. 138-xx and -xxi]; to be printed [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 22nd July [The Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 725-ix] [Ms Margaret Hodge].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs, — (1) Tenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Housing], 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. 495-I]; and

   (2) Eleventh Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Implementation of the Best Value Framework], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 705-I] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 22nd July [Railway Safety]; to be printed [No. 987-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Legislation, — Thirty-fifth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 15-xxv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Health, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 22nd July [Public Expenditure 1998]; to be printed [No. 988-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs, — Minutes of Evidence from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 22nd July [Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland: Special Education Needs]; to be printed [No. 1032-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Social Security, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 22nd July [Child Support; Pension Sharing on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 1031-i and 869-vi] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 213.]


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

PRAYERS.

1 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords], — The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords]:

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Thursday 30th July.

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Roger Gale reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 1998.

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

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Frank Cook reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Special Immigration Appeals Commission (Procedure) Rules 1998.

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

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

   The Lords have agreed to the Police (Northern Ireland) Bill, without Amendment.

   The Lords have agreed to the Tamar Bridge Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

   The Lords have agreed to certain of the Amendments made by this House to the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] and they have disagreed to the remaining Amendments made by this House, for which disagreement they assign their Reasons.
5 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—Lords Reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Commons Amendments to the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords] to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 239].

6 Community Reinvestment Disclosure Bill,—Ordered, That the Community Reinvestment Disclosure Bill be read a second time on Friday 6th November.

7 Northern Ireland Bill (Committee) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 23 (Exclusion of Ministers from office).

Amendment (No. 15) proposed, in page 11, to leave out lines 28 and 29 and to insert the words—

'( ) because he is not committed to the use now and in the future of only democratic and peaceful means;

( ) because he is involved in acts of violence or of preparation for violence;

( ) because he is directing, assisting or promoting acts of violence committed or planned by other people;

( ) because he is not committed to the total disarmament of all paramilitary organisations and the achievement of the decommissioning of all paramilitary arms, by 22nd May 2000;

( ) because he is not co-operating fully with any Commission of the kind referred to in section 7 of the Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 in the implementation of the agreement reached at multi-party talks on Northern Ireland set out in Command Paper 3883.'—(Mr Andrew MacKay.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 144.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John McFall, Mr David Jamieson: 272.

It being after Seven o'clock, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [17th July], put the Question necessary for the disposal of business then required to be concluded.

Clause (No. 23) agreed to.

Clause No. 14 (First Minister and deputy First Minister).

Amendment (No. 71) proposed, in page 7, to leave out lines 13 and 14.—(Mr Peter Robinson.)

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

Clause (No. 14) agreed to.

Schedule No. 5 agreed to.

Clause No. 15 (Northern Ireland Ministers).

Amendment (No. 144) proposed, in page 7, line 41, to leave out from the first 'the' to the end of line 42 and insert the word 'Assembly'.—(Mr David Trimble.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 163) proposed, in page 8, line 31, at the end, to insert the words—

'(9A) If the number of seats in the Assembly which are held by members of one or more political party, reduce or increase, for any reason to such an extent that it alters the number of Ministerial offices entitled to be held by a party, then the procedure set out in subsections (4) to (9) shall be reapplied.'—(Mr Peter Robinson.)

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

Clause (No. 15) agreed to.

Clause No. 16 (The Executive Committee).

Amendment (No. 76) proposed, in page 9, line 16, to leave out the word 'chairmen' and insert the words 'chairman and deputy chairman'.—(Mr Peter Robinson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause (No. 16) agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 1/ to 19 agreed to.
Clause No. 20 (International obligations).
Amendment (No. 148) proposed, in page 10, to leave out lines 12 to 15.—(Mr David Trimble.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause (No. 20) agreed to.
Clause No. 21 (Agency arrangements between UK and NI departments).
Amendment (No. 13) proposed, in page 10, line 31, at the end, to add the words—
(5) Arrangements under this section between the Government of the United Kingdom and a Northern Ireland department shall be known as concordats.

(6) The Government of the United Kingdom shall not enter into a concordat unless a draft of the concordat has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.

(7) Northern Ireland departments shall not enter into a concordat unless a draft of the concordat has been approved by the Assembly, by such procedure as standing orders may determine.—(Mr Dominic Grieve.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause (No. 21) agreed to.
Clause No. 22 (Statutory Committees).
Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 11, line 2, at the end, to insert the words `except that the chairman shall not be a member of the same party as the Northern Ireland Minister being advised and assisted by the statutory committee.'—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause (No. 22) agreed to.
To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Committee again to-morrow.

8 Road Traffic.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Community Drivers' Hours and Recording Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 22nd June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

9 Animals.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (Amendment) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 25th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

10 Roads and Bridges (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Security for Private Road Works (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 30th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

11 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Worker’s Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 2nd July, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.51 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland, — Draft Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Criminal Law (Scotland), — Restriction of Liberty Order (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1802), dated 17th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

4 British Council, — Report and Accounts of the British Council for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Culture, Media and Sport Executive Agencies, — Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Historic Royal Palaces, and
   (2) Royal Parks Agency
   for 1997-98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 955 and 850] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Defence, — Ministry of Defence Minute concerning a contingent liability in relation to the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes (NAAFI) [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

7 Defence Executive Agencies, — Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Pay and Personnel Agency,
   (2) Queen Victoria School, and
   (3) Royal Air Force Personnel Management Agency
   for 1997-98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 986, 906 and 924] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 Development of Tourism, — Accounts of the British Tourist Authority for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1033] [Clerk of the House].

9 Education and Employment Executive Agencies, — Report and Accounts of the Employment Service for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 970] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Environmental Protection, — Accounts of the Countryside Council for Wales for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1035] [Clerk of the House].

11 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 the Customs and Excise (General Reliefs) Act 1979, for 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1001] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

12 Firearms, — Report of the Firearms Consultative Committee for 1997-98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 977] [Mr Secretary Straw].

13 Foreign and Commonwealth Office Executive Agencies, — Report and Accounts of the Wilton Park Executive Agency for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1000] [Mr Secretary Cook].

14 Government Trading Funds, — Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Driving Standards Agency,
   (2) Medicines Control Agency, and
   (3) Vehicle Inspectorate
   for 1997-98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 819, 841 and 891] [Clerk of the House].
15 Health Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the National Health Service Estates Management and Health Building Agency (NHS Estates) for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 929] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

16 Home Office Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Forensic Science Service for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 878] [Mr Secretary Straw].

17 Housing.—Annual Review and Accounts of the Housing Corporation for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

18 Intelligence Services.—Report of the Intelligence Services Commissioner for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 3975] [The Prime Minister].

19 Interception of Communications.—Report of the Interception of Communications Commissioner for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 4001] [The Prime Minister].

20 Local Government, Planning and Land.—Accounts of the Land Authority for Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1034] [Clerk of the House].

21 Museums and Galleries.—Report of the National Gallery for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

22 National Lottery.—(1) Accounts of the Scottish Arts Council National Lottery Distribution Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1036] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report of the Arts Council of England on the National Lottery for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

23 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies.—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland,

(2) Industrial Research and Technology Unit, and

(3) Valuation and Lands Agency

for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 881, 912, and 896]; and

(4) Accounts of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1003] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

24 Prosecution of Offences.—Report of the Crown Prosecution Service for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 839] [Mr Attorney General].


26 Scottish Office Executive Agencies.—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Scottish Agricultural Science Agency, and

(2) Scottish Office Pensions Agency,

for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 925 and 926] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

27 Security Service.—Report of the Security Service Commissioner for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 4002] [The Prime Minister].

28 Social Security.—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Social Security Committee, Session 1997–98, on Disability Living Allowance [by Command] [Cm. 4007] [Secretary Harriet Harman].

29 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) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1998
[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

30 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Radiocommunications Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 887] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers withdrawn:

31 Northern Ireland,—Draft Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [laid 9th July].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Sixth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Not Only the Dome: The Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom], 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. 818]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom]
[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 23rd July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No 138–xxii] [Mr Bruce George]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 23rd July [Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 138–xxii] [Mr Michael Colvin].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 23rd July [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No 904–ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Sub-Committee [Part-time Working: The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]
[Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 23rd July [Energy and the Environment]; to be printed [No. 1038–i] [Mr John Horam].

5 Health,—(1) Third Report from the Health Committee [The Welfare of Former British Child Migrants], 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. 755]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Health Committee [The Welfare of Former British Child Migrants]
[Mr David Hinchliffe].

6 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 23rd July [Investment in Industry in Wales]; to be printed [No. 821–v] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 214.]

Friday 24th July 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Killamarsh, Derbyshire, against the siting of the Sarp UK plant near populated areas and for steps to ameliorate the nuisance so caused was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Landmines Bill, without Amendment.
3 Northern Ireland Bill (Committee) [3rd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 24 (Dates of elections and dissolutions).

Amendment (No. 150) proposed, in page 13, line 4, to leave out from the word 'If' to the word 'by' in line 12 and insert the words 'three months after either the First Minister or Deputy First Minister ceases to hold office the Assembly has not elected a First Minister or Deputy First Minister Her Majesty shall'.—(Mr David Trimble.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 25 and 26 agreed to.

Clause No. 27 (Vacancies).

Amendment (No. 100) proposed, in page 14, to leave out lines 9 to 11 and insert the words

(2) Subject to subsection (2A) below an order under subsection (1) shall provide that where a seat was last filled by a member of a registered party, any vacancy shall be filled by another member nominated by that party (without a by-election).

(2A) Provided that where the condition mentioned in subsection (2) is not met, a vacancy shall be filled by—

(a) a by-election, or

(b) such other method as the Secretary of State may prescribe in the order.'—(Mr Andrew Mackinlay.)

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

Clause agreed to.

It being Eleven o'clock, and it being the Speaker's intention to interrupt the proceedings under Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings), the Chairman left the Chair, without Question put, to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr Robert Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and moved, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

4 Interruption of proceedings.—The Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).

5 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:

Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998


6 Northern Ireland Bill (Committee) [3rd allotted day].—The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 28 (Disqualification).

Amendment (No. 93) proposed, in page 14, to leave out lines 32 to 34.—(The Reverend Ian Paisley.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 29 (Effect of disqualification and provision for relief).

Amendment (No. 22) proposed, in page 15, to leave out lines 6 to 15.—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 30 and 31 agreed to.
Clause No. 32 (Commission).

Amendment (No. 187) proposed, in page 16, line 37, at the end, to insert the words—
'Such directions shall not be given without cross-community support.'.—(Mr Eddie McGrady.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Schedule No. 6 agreed to.
Clause No. 33 agreed to.
Schedule No. 7 agreed to.
Clause No. 34 agreed to.
Clause No. 35 (Members' interests).

Amendment (No. 24) proposed, in page 17, to leave out lines 32 to 36.—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 36 to 45 agreed to.
Clause No. 46 (Payments into the Fund: Secretary of State).

Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 23, line 20, at the end, to add the words—
'( ) Subject to subsection ( ) below, the Secretary of State shall make such a payment at least once every financial year.

( ) No such payment shall be made unless the Secretary of State has laid before the House of Commons a statement certifying that the payment recognises the needs of Northern Ireland in relation to the needs of the United Kingdom as a whole.'.—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 47 to 49 agreed to.
Clause No. 50 (Financial acts of the Assembly).

Amendment (No. 28) proposed, in page 24, line 38, at the end, to insert the word 'or'.—(Mr Malcolm Moss.)

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

Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 51 to 53 agreed to.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Two o’clock, adjourned till Monday 27th July.

[Adjourned at 2.01 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Development of Tourism,—Report and Accounts of the British Tourist Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Patent Office for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1004] [Chair of the House].

3 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Local Government (Scotland),—Reports and Accounts of—

   (1) East of Scotland Water,

   (2) North of Scotland Water Authority, and

   (3) West of Scotland Water

for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Medicines,—Reports of the Medicines Commission, Committee on Safety of Medicines, Advisory Board on the Registration of Homoeopathic Products, Veterinary Products Committee and the British Pharmacopoeia Commission for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 National Heritage,—Accounts of the Board of Trustees of the Armouries for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1042] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Lottery,—Account of the Arts Council of Wales Lottery Distribution for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1041] [Clerk of the House].

8 Public Accounts,—Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on the 38th Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4015] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

9 Public Service,—Government Response to the Report from the House of Lords Select Committee on the Public Service [by Command] [Cm. 4000] [Dr David Clark].

10 Treaty Series (No. 29, 1998),—Agreement, done at London on 11th March 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Croatia for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 4013] [Mr Secretary Cook].
[No. 215.]


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

PRAYERS.

1 Arms Sales to Sierra Leone.—Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, that she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of a report of the investigation into arms sales to Sierra Leone.—(Janet Anderson.)

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

The Lords have agreed to the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the National Minimum Wage Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

3 National Minimum Wage Bill.—Lords Amendments to the National Minimum Wage Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 240].

4 Northern Ireland Bill (Committee) [4th allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 54 (The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission).

Amendment (No. 175) proposed, in page 25, line 26, after the word 'Commission', to insert the words 'with membership from Northern Ireland reflecting the community balance'.—(Mr John McDonnell.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Schedule No. 8 (The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission).

Amendments (Nos. 209 and 210) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 55 (The Commission’s functions).

Amendment (No. 43) proposed, in page 26, to leave out lines 2 to 6 and insert the words—

'(3) The Assembly shall refer all proposed Measures to the Commission in draft and the Commission may advise the Assembly whether a proposed Measure is compatible with human rights, as the Commission thinks appropriate.

(4) The Assembly shall receive any such advice, and take it into account when considering the proposed Measure.'.—(Mr Kevin McNamara.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 181, 182, 189 and 190) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 56 (Assistance to individuals).

Amendment (No. 45) proposed, in page 26, line 29, at the end, to insert the words 'or

(c) which an individual has commenced, or wishes to commence, under section 62 or 63 of this Act; or

(d) which an individual has commenced, or wishes to commence, by way of judicial review which raises relevant issues within the general remit of the Commission.'.—(Mr Kevin McNamara.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 46) proposed, in page 27, line 4, at the end, to add the words—
‘(5) The Commission may, with the permission of the court, submit its opinion as amicus curiae on the substance of the proceedings before the court, irrespective of whether the Commission is either a party to the proceedings, or has granted assistance in relation to proceedings under subsection (2).’—(Mr Kevin McNamara.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 57 and 58 agreed to.

Clause No. 59 (The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland).

Amendment (No. 156) proposed, in page 27, line 33, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(1A) The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland shall give equal weight and equal consideration to all forms of discrimination that people or groups of people may face.’—(Mr Lembit Opik.)

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

Amendment (No. 170) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 9 (The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland).

Amendment (No. 205) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 60 (The Commission’s principal functions).

Amendments (Nos. 202 to 204) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 61 (Statutory duty on public authorities).

Amendment (No. 199) proposed, in page 28, line 20, to leave out from the word ‘opportunity’ to the end of line 2 on page 29 and insert the words ‘in relation to religious belief, political opinion, race, gender, disability, language, age, marital status, dependants and sexual orientation.’—(Mr Jeremy Corbyn.)

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

Amendment (No. 193) made.

Another Amendment (No. 157) proposed, in page 28, line 36, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(f) Any other body which would be included within the definition of a public authority for the purposes of the Human Rights Act 1998.’—(Mr Lembit Opik.)

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

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Schedule No. 10 (Equality: enforcement of duties).

Amendments (Nos. 206 and 211) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 62 (Discrimination by public authorities).

Amendment (No. 51) proposed, in page 29, line 4, after the word ‘discriminate’, to insert the words ‘directly or indirectly’.—(Mr Eddie McGrady.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 63 and 64 agreed to.

Clause No. 65 (Consultation with consultative Civic Forum).

Amendment (No. 95) proposed, in page 31, line 23, at the end, to add the words—

‘(6) The membership of the Forum shall be determined by the Assembly voting on a cross-community basis in accordance with section 4(5).’—(The Reverend Ian Paisley.)

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

Clause No. 66 (Participation in NSMC and BIC).

Amendment (No. 194) proposed, in page 31, line 33, after (a), to insert the words 'meeting and'. (Mr Eddie McGrady.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being six hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill this day, the Chairman, pursuant to Order [17th July], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 194) be made, put and negatived.

The Chairman then, pursuant to the said Order, put the Questions necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

Question put, That the Clause (No. 66) stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John McFall, Jane Kennedy: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr William Thompson: 3.

Clauses Nos. 67 to 69, Schedule No. 11, Clauses Nos. 70 to 76 and Schedule No. 12 agreed to.

Clause No. 77 (Orders and regulations).

Amendments (Nos. 207 and 208) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 78 to 80 agreed to.

Schedule No. 13 (Minor and consequential amendments).

Amendments (Nos. 212 and 213) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 81 and Schedule No. 14 agreed to.

Schedule No. 15 (Repeals).

Amendment (No. 214) made.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Clause No. 82 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Committee, to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 241].

5 International Monetary Fund.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 1st July, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

6 Immigration.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Special Immigration Appeals Commission (Procedure) Rules 1998, which were laid before this House on 2nd July, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

7 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 29th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

8 Deregulation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), That the draft Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the United Kingdom for tougher penalties for hit and run driving was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
10 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);

Tuesday 28th July 1998

And the Motion having been made after Ten o'clock on Monday 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 five minutes past Twelve o'clock on Tuesday morning, till this day.  

[Adjourned at 12.25 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals,—Cattle Database Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1796), dated 20th July 1998 [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].


Other Papers:

3 Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries,—Report and Accounts of British Shipbuilders for 1997–98 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Crofters (Scotland),—Report of the Crofters Commission for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Codification Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1045] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Education,—Accounts of the Teacher Training Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1048] [Clerk of the House].

7 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 836] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Further and Higher Education,—Accounts of—
   (1) Further Education Funding Council for England, and
   (2) Higher Education Funding Council for England
   for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1049 and 1046] [Clerk of the House].

9 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Stonebridge Housing Action Trust for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Immigration,—Paper, entitled Fairer, Faster and Firmer: A Modern Approach to Immigration and Asylum [by Command] [Cm. 4018] [Mr Secretary Straw].


12 London Underground,—Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Minute, dated 27th July 1998, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon a contract to give engineering advice to London Regional Transport and the Government on a public-private partnership for London Underground [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions,—Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) London First Centre, and
   (2) West Midlands Development Agency
   for 1997–98 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

14 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence: Major Equipment Storage [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1005] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Heritage (Scotland),—Accounts of the Royal Botanical Garden, Edinburgh for
16 National Lottery.—Account of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Lottery Distribution for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1050] [Clerk of the House].

17 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Compensation Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 935] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

18 Science and Technology.—Accounts of the Economic and Social Research Council for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1053] [Clerk of the House].

19 Sierra Leone Arms Investigation (Legg Report).—Return to an Address to Her Majesty this day for a Return of the Report of an inquiry by Sir Thomas Legg KCB QC and Sir Robin Ibbs KBE into arms sales to Sierra Leone; to be printed [No. 1016] [Mr Secretary Cook].

20 Training and Enterprise Councils.—Accounts of the Training & Enterprise Councils and Chambers of Commerce, Training & Enterprise in England for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 967] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Conditional Fee Agreements Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Michael Foster (Worcester) and Mr David Lock from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye) and Mr Paul Stinchcombe.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 27th July [The Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716-vi] [Mr Peter Brooke].

2 Public Accounts.—(1) Sixty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Purchase of the Read Codes and the Management of the NHS Centre for Coding and Classification]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 667];

(2) Sixty-third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [DFEE: The Funding Council for England (The Management of Growth in the English Further Education Sector)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 665];

(3) Sixty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Countering Anti-competitive Behaviour in the Telecommunications Industry]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 842];

(4) Sixty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Privatisation of the Rolling Stock Leasing Companies]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 782];

(5) Sixty-sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Managing the Millennium Threat]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 816]; and

(6) Sixty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Treasury: Resource Accounting and Resource Based Supply]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 731]

[Mr David Davis].

3 Treasury.—Eighth Report from the Treasury Committee [The New Fiscal Framework and the Comprehensive Spending Review], 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. 960] [Mr Giles Radice].
Tuesday 28th July 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Tamar Bridge Bill.—The House proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Tamar Bridge Bill; and the same were agreed to.

2 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 1st June, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Pipe-lines) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 15th June, the proposal should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1998 and Comprehensive Spending Review for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.

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

4 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Conditional Fee Agreements Order 1998.

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

5 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 and the draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1998.

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

6 Organ Donation.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide that the organs of potential donors are available for transplant on death unless the potential donor has previously indicated a wish to the contrary: And that Dr Evan Harris, Norman Baker, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Alan Simpson, and Mr Graham Stringer do prepare and bring it in.

7 Organ Donation Bill.—Dr Evan Harris accordingly presented a Bill to provide that the organs of potential donors are available for transplant on death unless the potential donor has previously indicated a wish to the contrary: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd October and to be printed [Bill 242].

8 Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 24 were agreed to.

9 Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Reasons assigned by the Lords for disagreeing to certain of the Amendments made by this House to the Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords].

Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment to insert a Clause (Reduction in age at which certain sexual acts are lawful) after Clause No. 32 (No. 14) considered:—

Resolved, That this House does not insist upon its Amendment.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment in page 87, line 5 (No. 98) considered:—

Resolved, That this House does not insist upon its Amendment.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)
Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment in page 87, line 20 (No. 107) considered:

Resolved, That this House does not insist upon its Amendment.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

Lords Reason for disagreeing to another Commons Amendment in page 87, line 20 (No. 108) considered:

Resolved, That this House does not insist upon its Amendment.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment in page 126, line 19 (No. 140) considered:

Resolved, That this House does not insist upon its Amendment.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

Lords Reason for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment in the Title, line 5 (No. 237) considered:

Resolved, That this House does not insist upon its Amendment.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

The Title then was as follows:

An Act to make provision for preventing crime and disorder; to create certain racially-aggravated offences; to abolish the rebuttable presumption that a child is doli incapax and to make provision as to the effect of a child's failure to give evidence at his trial; to abolish the death penalty for treason and piracy; to make changes to the criminal justice system; to make further provision for dealing with offenders; to make further provision with respect to remands and committals for trial and the release and recall of prisoners; to amend Chapter I of Part II of the Crime (Sentences) Act 1997 and to repeal Chapter I of Part III of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Act 1997; to make amendments designed to facilitate, or otherwise desirable in connection with, the consolidation of certain enactments; and for connected purposes.

10 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:

Landmines Act 1998
Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998
City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways) Act 1998
Tamar Bridge Act 1998.

11 National Minimum Wage Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the National Minimum Wage Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Ian McCartney);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 308.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Tim Collins: 121.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

And it being after Seven o'clock, and there being Private Business set down by direction of the Chairman of Ways and Means under Standing Order No. 20 (Time for taking private business), further proceedings stood postponed.

12 Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords].—The Lloyds TSB Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read the third time and passed, without Amendment.

13 National Minimum Wage Bill,—The House resumed the postponed proceedings on the Lords Amendments to the National Minimum Wage Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 4 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 5 was disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 6 was disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 7 was disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 8 to 16 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 17.
A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Ian McCartney);
And it being Ten o’clock the Debate stood adjourned.

14 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the National Minimum Wage Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

15 National Minimum Wage Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the National Minimum Wage Bill.

Question again proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment (No. 17).
Question put and agreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 18 to 25 agreed to.
Amendment ((a)), consequential to Lords Amendment No. 25, was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 26 to 36 agreed to.
Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1, 5, 6 and 7.
Ordered, That Mr Clive Betts, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Frank Doran and Mr Ian McCartney be members of the Committee.
Ordered, That Mr Ian McCartney be the Chairman of the Committee.
Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.
Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

16 National Minimum Wage Bill.—Mr Ian McCartney reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the National Minimum Wage Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House.

The Commons disagree to the amendment made by the Lords after Clause 1 for the following Reason:—
Because the Commons consider that the national minimum wage should, so far as reasonably practicable, be uniform for all workers in the United Kingdom and that it is not appropriate to make different provision for different areas, sectors of employment, trades or industries, sizes of undertaking, occupations, or ages over 26.
The Commons disagree to the amendments made by the Lords in page 2, line 34, in page 3, line 4 and in page 3, line 18 for the following Reason:
Because these Amendments are consequential on Lords Amendment No. 1 to which the Commons have disagreed.
The Reasons were agreed to.
Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons with the Bill and an Amendment.

17 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the family and friends of Nick Centi, and others, for measures to improve the safety of city centres and to reduce violent crime, 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 David Jamieson);
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 one minute past Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.01 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Prisons,—Draft Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the:

(1) Central Science Laboratory,
(2) Meat Hygiene Service,
(3) Pesticides Safety Directorate, and
(4) Veterinary Medicines Directorate
for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 874, 798, 947 and 814] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

4 Armed Forces Pay,—Supplement to the Twenty-seventh Report of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay: Service Medical and Dental Officers [by Command] [Cm. 3942] [The Prime Minister].

5 Church Commissioners,—Report and Accounts of the Church Commissioners for 1997 [by Measure] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Coal Industry,—Report and Accounts of the Coal Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

7 Development of Tourism,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Wales Tourist Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Environment,—Report and Accounts of the Environment Agency for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Planning Inspectorate Executive Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1024] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of Registers of Scotland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 817] [Clerk of the House].

11 Health and Social Services (Northern Ireland),—Summary of Health and Personal Social Services and Northern Ireland Health Promotion Agency Accounts for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4009] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Prisons (Northern Ireland),—Report of the Northern Ireland Prison Service for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 999] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

13 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [11th November] from the Skipton Support Group for East Timor for an immediate embargo on military aid to Indonesia [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].


15 Sports Councils,—(1) Accounts of the United Kingdom Sports Council, and
(2) Consolidated Accounts of the English Sports Council and English Sports Council Group
for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Deregulation,—Ninth Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1998, together with Proposal for the Deregulation (Pipe-lines) Order 1998]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 939] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Eighth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The New Deal Pathfinders]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1059];
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The New Deal/The New Deal Pathfinders]; to be printed [No. 263–III]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 28th July [Access for All?]; to be printed [No. 1060–i]
   [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Twelfth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [ETR Departmental Annual Report 1998 and Expenditure Plans 1998–99], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee and the Transport Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 844] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 Foreign Affairs, —Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 28th July [Sierra Leone]; to be printed [No. 1057–i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs,—Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Confidentiality of Police Settlements of Civil Claims], 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. 894];
   (2) Third Report from the Committee [Alternatives to Prison Sentences], 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. 486];
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Home Office and Lord Chancellor’s Department Annual Reports]; to be printed [No. 1063]; and
   (4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Confidentiality of Police Settlements of Civil Claims and Alternatives to Prison Sentences]
   [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development,—(1) Sixth Report from the International Development Committee [Montserrat—Further Developments]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 726]; and
   (2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Debt Relief]; to be printed [No. 1056]
   [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee on 28th July [Financial Procedure]; to be printed [No. 848–iii] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

8 Public Administration,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government Response to the Second Report of the Select Committee on Public Administration, on the Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1996–97]; to be printed [No. 1055]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 28th July [Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 934–ii]
   [Mr Rhodri Morgan].
9 Science and Technology, — (1) Fourth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Cloning of Animals from Adult Cells], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1039];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 28th July [British Biotech plc]; to be printed [No. 888-iii]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [British Biotech plc] [Dr Michael Clark].

10 Statutory Instruments, — Forty-third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33xliii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

11 Welsh Affairs, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 28th July [NHS (Wales) Summarised Accounts 1996-97]; to be printed [No. 1054] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 217.]

Wednesday 29th July 1998.

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 Kevin Hughes);

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

2 Selection, — Ordered, That Mr George Mudie be discharged from the Committee of Selection and Mr Keith Bradley be added to the Committee.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft undertaking by the Secretary of State for Scotland with the consent of Her Majesty's Treasury and P&O Scottish Ferries Limited and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the provision of passenger ferry services to Orkney and Shetland.

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

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Roger Gale reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in Aid of Expenditure on Rural Public Transport for 1998-99 (House of Commons Paper No. 941).

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 Finance (No. 2) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Amendment made by this House to one of their Amendments to the Government of Wales Bill, without Amendment; and they do not insist on their Amendments to the said Bill to which this House has disagreed.

The Lords have agreed to the consequential Amendment made by this House to the National Minimum Wage Bill, without Amendment; and they do not insist on their Amendments to the said Bill to which this House has disagreed.

Pensions (Amendment) Bill [Lords], — The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to require the Secretary of State to report annually on service pensions, war pensions and war widows' pensions; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Parliamentary Oaths (Amendment), — A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable a person lawfully elected to the House of Commons to take his seat without swearing the present oath or affirming; and for connected purposes—(Mr Kevin McNamara);

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. 23 (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 Gerald Bermingham, Mr Alan Johnson: 137.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 151.

So the Question was negatived.

7 Opposition Day [19th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

Presentation and Government Policy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the view of the Committee on Culture, Media and Sport in its Fifth Report (HC 742) that the Department of Culture, Media and Sport is focused on trivial matters at the expense of important industries like tourism; believes this to be symptomatic of a Government which places undue emphasis on presentational issues in order to mask policy deficiencies; and deplores the culture of cronyism which is discrediting political life—(Mr Peter Ainsworth);

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 'commends the Government for its progress on major matters of substance across all fields of responsibility, and in particular for its recognition of the cultural, social, educational and economic value of the areas of activity sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and for the concrete action taken across all parts of the Department's responsibilities over the last year to maximise that value; welcomes the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which provides for a significant investment in culture, sport, heritage and tourism alongside positive steps to reduce bureaucracy and ensure the most effective use of public money; and notes that this brings to an end a damaging period of real cuts presided over by the Opposition,' instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Smith.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 135.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Greg Pope: 355.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 commends the Government for its progress on major matters of substance across all fields of responsibility, and in particular for its recognition of the cultural, social, educational and economic value of the areas of activity sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and for the concrete action taken across all parts of the Department’s responsibilities over the last year to maximise that value; welcomes the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which provides for a significant investment in culture, sport, heritage and tourism alongside positive steps to reduce bureaucracy and ensure the most effective use of public money; and notes that this brings to an end a damaging period of real cuts presided over by the Opposition.

Quality of Life in Rural Areas.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the Government’s continued failure to protect both the Green Belt and greenfield sites from excessive development; is concerned about how transport and housing policy is neglecting the needs of the countryside; condemns the recent government proposal to cut the discount available to council tenants exercising the right to buy; and calls on the Government to end its systematic attack on the quality of rural life—(Mr Tim Yeo);

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 its commitment to promote sustainable development in all areas of the United Kingdom including rural areas; recognises the progress which has been made on improving rural services over the last fifteen months; welcomes the creation of powerful Regional Development agencies which will promote prosperity in both towns and countryside; welcomes the creation of a new agency to promote the interests of the countryside in England by bringing together the Countryside Commission and parts of the Rural Development Commission; recognises the Government's determination to increase the proportion of new houses built on brownfield sites; and supports the Government's desire
to give greater freedom for people to explore the open countryside', instead thereof. — *(Mr Michael Meacher.)*

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 159.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 304.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 congratulates the Government on its commitment to promote sustainable development in all areas of the United Kingdom including rural areas; recognises the progress which has been made on improving rural services over the last fifteen months; welcomes the creation of powerful Regional Development agencies which will promote prosperity in both towns and countryside; welcomes the creation of a new agency to promote the interests of the countryside in England by bringing together the Countryside Commission and parts of the Rural Development Commission; recognises the Government's determination to increase the proportion of new houses built on brownfield sites; and supports the Government's desire to give greater freedom for people to explore the open countryside.

8 Northern Ireland. — A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 28th July, be approved — *(Secretary Marjorie Mowlam;)*

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. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 219.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 86.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 28th July, be approved.

9 Legal Services. — A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Conditional Fee Agreements Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 16th July, be approved — *(Mr Graham Allen;)* It was agreed to.

10 Section 5 of European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993. — A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [21st July] and Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That this House approves the Government's assessment as set out in the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1998 and Comprehensive Spending Review for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993 — *(Mr Graham Allen;)* It was agreed to.

11 Education (Scotland). — A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 17th July, be approved — *(Mr Graham Allen;)* It was agreed to.

12 Education. — A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 17th July, be approved — *(Mr Graham Allen;)* It was agreed to.

13 Registers of Interests. — Resolved, That the Resolution of 17th December 1985 be amended in line 31, by leaving out the words 'copies of the Registers be placed in the Library for the use of Members' and inserting the words 'the Registers be made available for the public inspection under arrangements to be approved by the Committee on Standards and Privileges' — *(Mr Graham Allen.)*

14 Modernisation of the House of Commons. — Ordered, That Mrs Ann Taylor be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mrs Margaret Beckett be added to the Committee. — *(Mr Graham Allen;)*
15 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from students of Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London, against tuition fees for higher education and the abolition of maintenance grants was presented; 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 Graham Allen);

Thursday 30th July 1998

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock on Wednesday 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 five minutes past Twelve o’clock on Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.25 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Highways.—Humber Bridge (Debts) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1797), dated 22nd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (Rate of Interest) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1795), dated 22nd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

6 Animals.—Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals in Great Britain for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 4025] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Asylum and Immigration.—Report of the Independent Monitor of Entry Clearance Refusals for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Broadcasting.—Account of additional payments and financial penalties to the Independent Television Commission by Licensees for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1071] [Clerk of the House].

9 Building Societies.—Account of the Building Societies Commission for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1075] [Clerk of the House].

10 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Property Advisers to the Civil Estate for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 974] [Dr John Cunningham].

11 Coroners.—Hertfordshire (Coroners’ Districts) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1799), dated 22nd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

12 Defence Executive Agencies.—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Army Personnel Centre,

(2) Defence Analytical Services Agency, and

(3) Disposal Sales Agency

for 1997-98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 882, 956 and 953] [Mr Secretary Robertson].
13 Disability Discrimination,—Report of the National Disability Council for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 971] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


15 Further and Higher Education (Scotland),—Accounts of the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1064] [Clerk of the House].

16 Health Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Medical Devices Agency, and
   (2) NHS Pensions Agency
   for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 879 and 1008] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

17 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

18 Local Government Finance,—Report and Accounts of the Audit Commission for the period 1st April to 31st October 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


20 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on courses of conduct pursued by Birds Eye Wall’s Ltd in connection with the supply of wrapped ice cream [by Command] [Cm. 3971] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

21 Museums and Galleries,—(1) Accounts of the
   (i) Victoria and Albert Museum, and
   (ii) Tate Gallery
   for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1074 and 1066] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report of the National Portrait Gallery for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

22 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Inland Revenue: Special Compliance Office: Prevention of Corruption
   (2) National Savings: Developments in Financial Reporting, and
   (3) Office of Electricity Regulation: Improving Energy Efficiency Financed by a Charge on Customers
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1058, 1037 and 1006] [Clerk of the House].

23 National Heritage,—Accounts of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1078] [Clerk of the House].

24 National Lottery,—Accounts of the—
   (1) Arts Council of England Lottery Distribution,
   (2) English Sports Council Lottery Distribution, and
   (3) Sports Council for Wales Lottery Distribution
   for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1076, 1070 and 1077] [Clerk of the House].

25 National Savings Bank,—Statements with respect to
   (1) investment deposits of National Savings, and
   (2) ordinary deposits and expenses of the National Savings
   for 1996, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1061 and 1062] [Clerk of the House].
Northern Ireland Executive Agencies.—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Northern Ireland Child Support Agency, and
(2) Training and Employment Agency

for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 937 and 1015] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—Account of the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 949] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

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 Balloch Footbridge Order should be allowed to proceed, subject to any recommendations as they may hereafter make with respect to the said Order [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Public Accounts.—Treasury Minute on the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4021] [Dawn Primarolo].

Public Lending Right.—Accounts of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1065] [Clerk of the House].


Railways.—Report of the Office of the Rail Regulator for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland).—Report of the Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for Scotland for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Scottish Office Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of Historic Scotland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 895] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Trade and Industry Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the National Weights and Measures Laboratory for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 944] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

Trade Union and Labour Relations.—Account of the Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1072] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
European Standing Committees

European Community Document No. 9690/98, relating to EC development aid to South Africa (1986–96), has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 29th July [The Protection of Field Boundaries]; to be printed [No. 969-iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Environmental Audit.—Fourth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Climate Change: UK Emission Targets and Audit Arrangements], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 899] [Mr John Horam].

3 European Legislation.—Thirty-sixth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxxvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].
4 International Development,—(1) Seventh Report from the International Development Committee [Sudan], 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. 872]; and

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, on the Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention]; to be printed [No. 1068]
[Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 29th July [The Prison Service in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 716-vii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Administration,—Sixth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Government Information and Communication Service], 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. 770] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 29th July [Science and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed [No. 1040-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 29th July [Inward Investment into Scotland]; to be printed [No. 698-iv] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 29th July [Administration of the Department of Social Security]; to be printed [No. 587-iv] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

10 Trade and Industry,—(1) Eleventh Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Industrial and Trade Relations with Japan], 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. 568]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 29th July [Industrial and Trade Relations with Central and Eastern Europe]; to be printed [No. 893-ii]
[Mr Roger Berry].

11 Treasury,—Memorandum laid before the Treasury Committee [Economic and Monetary Union] [Mr Giles Radice].

12 Welsh Affairs,—Third Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Welsh Office Departmental Report 1998], 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. 751] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 218.]

Thursday 30th July 1998.

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 July relating to Income Tax had been presented to Her Majesty; and Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and give the following Answer:

I have received your Addresses praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Oman) Order 1998; the Double Taxation Relief (Air Transport) (Hong Kong) Order 1998; and the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kazakhstan) Order 1998 be made in the form of the drafts laid before your House.

I will comply with your request.

2 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 Thursday 22nd October.

3 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being
read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords]:

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Thursday 22nd October.

4 Pensions (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Pensions (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th November and to be printed [Bill 243].

5 Northern Ireland Bill (Consideration and Third Reading) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Northern Ireland Bill, as amended in the Committee.

A Clause (Social security, child support and pensions: consultation and coordination)—(Mr Paul Murphy)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Social security, child support and pensions: the Joint Authority)—(Mr Paul Murphy)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Examinations by the Comptroller and Auditor General)—(Mr David Davis)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 10) proposed, in page 2, line 5, at the end, to insert the words—

"the Government of Ireland" means the Government of the Republic of Ireland, as defined in section 1 of the Ireland Act 1949."—(Mr William Thompson.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Roy Beggs: 10.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Keith Hill: 257.

Amendments (Nos. 11 to 26) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 29, at the end, to insert the word 'or'.—(Mr Paul Murphy.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Hanson: 225.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr William Ross, Mr Peter Robinson: 21.

Other Amendments (Nos. 28 to 49) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 31, line 41, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3) No executive function shall be discharged under this section, by a Minister or Ministers, without the prior approval of the Assembly voting on a cross-community basis in accordance with section 4(5).'—(Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 50 to 69) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That the Bill be read the third time to-morrow.

6 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rural public passenger transport for 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 941), which was laid before this House on 9th July, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

7 Highlands and Islands Shipping Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft undertaking by the Secretary of State for Scotland with the consent of Her Majesty's Treasury and P & O Scottish Ferries Limited and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the provision of passenger ferry services to Orkney and Shetland, which was laid before this House on 16th July, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.
8 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) the Leeds Jewish High School Trust and others for the establishment of a Jewish High School in Leeds,

(2) residents of Spelthorne constituency against the building of a Women's Prison at Woodthorpe Road in Ashford, and

(3) Christopher Leonard Brown and others for the safeguarding of Ladydale II and Ashenhurst Way from development plans

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 Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.51 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Foreign Satellite Service Proscription Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1865), dated 30th July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Housing,—Houses in Multiple Occupation (Fees for Registration Schemes) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1813), dated 23rd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Local Government,—(1) Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Insolvency) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 537), dated 23rd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies]; and


5 Road Traffic,—Motor Cycles (Protective Helmets) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1807), dated 22nd July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

10 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 961] [Mr Nicholas Brown].


12 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the

(1) Civil Service College, and

(2) Government Car and Despatch Agency

for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1043 and 1011] [Dr John Cunningham].
13 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Service Children's Education Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 907] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

14 Development of Tourism,—Statement of re-appointment of a member of the British Tourist Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

15 Education,—Accounts of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1080] [Clerk of the House].

16 Employment Protection,—Report of the Central Arbitration Committee for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

17 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Response to the Second Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on Sewage Treatment and Disposal [by Command] [Cm. 4023] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

18 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Vehicle Certification Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 920] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

19 Export Credits Guarantee Department,—Return, made under section 7 of the Export and Investments Guarantees Act 1991, of Commitments and Statutory Limits as at 31st March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

20 Friendly Societies,—Account of the Friendly Societies Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1082] [Clerk of the House].

21 Government Report,—Paper, entitled the Government's Annual Report 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 3969] [The Prime Minister].

22 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of HM Prison Service for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 998] [Mr Secretary Straw].

23 House of Commons Commission,—(1) Accounts of the House of Commons Refreshment Department for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and

   (2) Report of the House of Commons Commission for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1051 and 1052] [The Speaker].

24 Industrial Development,—Report by the Secretaries of State for Trade and Industry, Scotland and Wales under the Industrial Development Act 1982 for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1069] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

25 Italy (No. 1, 1998),—Agreement, done at London on 5th May 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Italian Republic concerning the Co-Production of Films, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4029] [Mr Secretary Cook].

26 Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development,—Report and Financial Statements of English Partnerships for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

27 Local Government,—Paper, entitled Modern Local Government: In Touch with the People [by Command] [Cm. 4014] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

28 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions,—Report and Accounts of the West of England Development Agency for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

29 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the National Portrait Gallery for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1081] [Clerk of the House].

30 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Rate Collection Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1067] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

31 Pensions,—Accounts of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 927] [Clerk of the House].
32 Prisons,—Prison statistics for England and Wales for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 4017] [Mr Secretary Straw].

33 Public Libraries and Museums,—Report by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on Library and Information Matters during 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1010] [Mr Secretary Smith].

34 Scottish Office,—Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon a commercial partnership between the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS) and the Taiwanese Company Yung Shin Pharmaceuticals [by Command] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

35 Scottish Office Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency, and
   (2) Student Awards Agency for Scotland
   for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 860 and 928] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

36 Superannuation,—(1) Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1998 (No. 2), and
   (2) Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1998 (No. 2)
   [by Act] [Dr John Cunningham].

37 Treasury Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) the Office for National Statistics for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1019] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer]; and
   (2) National Savings for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1023] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

38 Welsh Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Cadw Welsh Historic Monuments for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1044] [Mr Secretary Davies].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Sixth Report from the Agriculture Committee [Flood and Coastal Defence], 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. 707]; and
   (2) Seventh Report from the Committee [Vitamin B6: The Government's Decision], together with an Appendix [Government Observations on the Fifth Report from the Committee, on Vitamin B6], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1083]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Seventh Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Eyre Review and the Royal Opera House]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 994]; and
   (2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Objectives and Performance of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport: Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee]; to be printed [No. 1079]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 30th July [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-viii] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Foreign Affairs,—(1) Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Hong Kong], 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. 710];
   (2) Fourth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Entry Clearance Operations, with particular reference to Islamabad and New Delhi], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Entry Clearance Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 515]; and
30th—31st July 1998

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Hong Kong and Entry Clearance Operations]
[Mr Donald Anderson].

5 International Development,—Eighth Report from the International Development Committee [The Future of the Commonwealth Development Corporation], 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. 936] [Mr Bowen Wells].

[No. 219.]


The House met at half-past Nine o'clock

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions. Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of the Moray Health Trust Area for the retention of the Moray Health Services Trust as an independent trust;

(2) Members of the Charlton and Blackheath Amateur Horticultural Society for a moratorium on the approval of genetically modified crops until their safety has been established;

(3) residents of Hastings and district against the hunting of wild mammals with dogs;

(4) Doctors and Lawyers for Responsible Medicine and their supporters for an end to experiments in xenotransplantation; and

(5) residents of Bedfordshire for a nationwide concessionary travel scheme for the elderly and disabled

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Northern Ireland Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the Northern Ireland 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 David Jamieson, Mr Keith Hill: 215.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roy Beggs, The Reverend Martin Smyth: 8.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

It being after Eleven o'clock, the Speaker interrupted the proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).

3 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:

Finance Act 1998
Crime and Disorder Act 1998
Government of Wales Act 1998
National Minimum Wage Act 1998

4 Non-Sitting Fridays,—Ordered, That the Order of 19th May 1997 relating to non-sitting Fridays be amended by adding 'and Friday 23rd October.'—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

5 Advisory Committee on Service Candidates,—Resolved, That the Resolution of the House of 18th February 1963, relating to the appointment by the Home Secretary of an Advisory Committee to examine every application for release from the armed forces for the purpose of contesting a parliamentary election, and to report to the appropriate Service
Minister, in each case, whether or not it is satisfied that it is a bona fide application, be rescinded.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

6 Treasury Committee.—Ordered, That Mr Malcolm Bruce be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Dr Vincent Cable be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes to Two o'clock, adjourned till Monday 19th October, pursuant to Resolution [24th July].

[Adjourned at 1.48 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Education,—(1) Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1765), dated 21st July 1998 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett]; and


   (2) Individual Savings Accounts (Insurance Companies) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1871), and
   (3) Personal Equity Plan (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1869),
   dated 31st July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Robinson]; and
   dated 31st July 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].


Other Papers:

6 Environmental Protection,—Report of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Local Government (Wales),—Paper, entitled Modernising Local Government in Wales [by Command] [Cm 4028] [Mr Secretary Davies].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by—
   (1) the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [9th July] from the Mayors and Chairs of Councils of the local authorities located in the Number 2 Region of the Armed Forces of the United Kingdom against the movement of the Army’s 2nd Division Headquarters from York to Edinburgh, and
   (2) the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [10th December] from Mrs Hélène Atkinson for action to help the release of Mr George Atkinson from imprisonment in Dubai
   [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

9 Video Recordings,—Report for 1997–98 and Accounts for 1997 of the British Board of Film Classification [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Notice given by the Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 (Earlier meeting of House in certain circumstances):

Whereas Her Majesty's Government have represented to me, Betty Boothroyd, Speaker of the House of Commons, that the public interest requires the House to meet at an earlier time than the 19th day of October 1998 and I am satisfied that the public interest does so require:

Now, therefore, I hereby give notice pursuant to the Standing Order (Earlier meeting of House in certain circumstances) that the House shall meet on Wednesday the 2nd day of September 1998 at half-past Two of the clock.

Given under my hand this 25th day of August 1998.

[No. 220.]

Wednesday 2nd September 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill.—Mr Secretary Straw, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Cook, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Mr Adam Ingram and Mr Alun Michael, presented a Bill to make provision about procedure and forfeiture in relation to offences concerning proscribed organisations, and about conspiracy to commit offences outside the United Kingdom: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time and to be printed [Bill 244].

2 Sittings of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising tomorrow, do adjourn till Monday 19th October—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

3 Business of the House (Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That—

1. (1) Proceedings on the Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill shall be taken and concluded at this day's sitting; and for this purpose—

(a) as soon as the proceedings on this Motion are concluded, the order for Second Reading of the Bill shall be read;

(b) 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;

(c) when the Bill is read a second time it shall stand committed to a Committee of the whole House, and the House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill;

(d) proceedings in Committee on clauses 1 to 4 shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, three hours after the conclusion of proceedings on Second Reading;

(e) remaining proceedings on the Bill shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, six hours after the conclusion of proceedings on Second Reading;

(f) at the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill at this day's sitting the Speaker shall adjourn the House without putting any Question.

(2) For the purpose of concluding proceedings in accordance with sub-paragraphs 1(d) and (e), the Chair 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;

(c) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(d) any Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(3) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chair shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

(4) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (2)(d) on successive provisions of the Bill, the Chair shall instead put a single Question in relation to those provisions.
(5) Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill.

2. At the sitting to-morrow—
   (a) any message received from the Lords relating to the Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill shall be considered forthwith;
   (b) proceedings on any message shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, one hour after commencement;
   (c) the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she has notified the Royal Assent to any Act agreed upon by both Houses; and
   (d) the Speaker shall then adjourn the House without putting any Question.

3. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at the sittings this day and to-morrow—(Mr Jim Dowd);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Clelland: 317.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Brooke, Mr Richard Shepherd: 87.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill.—The Order being read, for the Second Reading of the Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill, pursuant to Order [this day];

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, whilst expressing heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of those killed and injured in the terrorist bombings in Omagh, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam and Cape Town, and wishing to see the perpetrators of these evil deeds speedily brought to justice, declines to give a Second Reading to a Bill of which honourable Members have had sight, in draft for less than twenty-four hours, which is a contravention of the European Convention on Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the procedures for the newly established and welcome International Criminal Court; which gives power to senior police officers which past miscarriages of justice in England alone would not justify, and fails to discriminate between nations abroad which are democratic and respect human and civil rights and those which are undemocratic, tyrannous, fail to respect democracy, human and civil rights, repress their populations and pay scant regard to the rights of women', instead thereof.—(Mr Kevin McNamara.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Thursday 3rd September 1998

Mrs Ann Taylor rose in her 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 Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Evidence and inferences: Great Britain).

Amendment (No. 77) proposed, in page 1, line 15, after the word 'to', to insert the words 'or is a supporter of'.—(Mr William Cash.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 1, line 21, to leave out the words 'in England and Wales'.—(Mr Donald Gorrie.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 2, line 1, after the word ‘constable’, to insert the words ‘in the presence of his solicitor’.—(Mr Chris Mullin.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed, in page 2, line 14, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(5A) But subsection (6) shall not apply unless evidence given under subsection (4) or (5) above is supported by a sound recording of the questioning or other exchanges to which the evidence relates.’—(Mr Chris Mullin.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Ann Clwyd, Mr Donald Gorrie: 43.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Graham Allen: 199.

Another Amendment (No. 12) proposed, in page 2, line 24, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(6A) If both subsections (3) and (6) apply, the accused shall not be committed for trial in England and Wales, or found to have a case to answer or be convicted, solely on the basis of inferences drawn and statements admitted as evidence under those subsections.’.—(Mr Lembit Opik.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 61 and 62) made.

Another Amendment (No. 18) proposed, in page 3, to leave out lines 10 to 12 and insert the words

‘(a) it is listed as a proscribed organisation under the provisions of section 30(2) of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996.’.—(Mr William Ross.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 20) proposed, in page 3, to leave out lines 24 and 25 and insert the words—

‘(b) is not complying in full with the Belfast Agreement (Cm 3883)’.—(Mr Andrew MacKay.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being three hours after the conclusion of proceedings on Second Reading of the Bill, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to bring to a conclusion proceedings on Clauses Nos. 1 to 4.

Question, That the Amendment (No. 20) be made, put and negatived.

Clause (No. 1), as amended, and Clauses Nos. 2 to 4 agreed to.

Clause No. 5 (England and Wales).

Amendment (No. 42) proposed, in page 7, line 7, to leave out the word ‘an’ and insert the words ‘a terrorist’.—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Donald Gorrie: 10.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Greg Pope: 214.

Another Amendment (No. 80) proposed, in page 7, line 10, after the word ‘Kingdom’, to insert the words ‘other than a country or territory to which subsection (2A) applies.

(2A) This subsection applies to any country or territory which—

(a) is the subject of any embargo on trade agreed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the European Union or Her Majesty’s Government;

(b) has not ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; or

(c) in the opinion of the Secretary of State is a country or territory where human rights are not respected.’.—(Ann Clwyd.)

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

Question proposed, That the Clause (No. 5) stand part of the Bill.
And it being six hours after the conclusion of proceedings on Second Reading of the Bill, the Chairman put the Questions necessary to bring to a conclusion remaining proceedings on the Bill.

Question put, That the Clause (No. 5) stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 220.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Tony McWalter: 24.

Clauses Nos. 6 to 10 agreed to.

A Clause (Report to Parliament)—(Mr Jim Dowd)—brought up and added.

Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd 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.

5 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of South Staffordshire against building new homes in the countryside and the green belt was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment,—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to Order [2nd September], it being then ten minutes to Seven o’clock on Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 6.50 a.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. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Georgia (No. 1, 1998).—Agreement, done at London on 13th November 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Georgia on International Road Transport, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4016] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Immigration, —Paper, entitled Control of Immigration: Statistics, United Kingdom 1997 [Cm. 4033] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Law Commission, —Reports by the Law Commission on—

(1) the Execution of Deeds and Documents by or on behalf of bodies corporate, and

(2) Land Registration for the Twenty-first Century: a consultative document [Cm. 4026 and 4027] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

4 Sports Councils, —Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council Group for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Treaty Series (No. 30, 1998).—Agreement, done at Hong Kong on 5th November 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China for the Surrender of Fugitive Offenders [Cm. 4034] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Treaty Series (No. 31, 1998).—Convention, done at Funchal on 18th May 1992, on the accession of the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic to the Convention on the Law applicable to Contractual Obligations, opened for signature in Rome on 19th June 1980 [Cm. 4035] [Mr Secretary Cook].


8 Treaty Series (No. 33, 1998).—Agreement, done at Kampala on 24th April 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Uganda for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [Cm. 4037] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10 Treaty Series (No. 36, 1998),—1996 Amendments to the Guidelines on the Enhanced Programme of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers (Resolution A.744(18)), made at London on 4th June 1996 (Adopted in Accordance with Article VIII of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974) [Cm. 4040] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

31st July 1998


3rd August 1998

12 Agriculture,—(1) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Cotswold Hills) Designation (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1800), and

dated 21st July 1998 [Mr Nicholas Brown].


14 Education,—Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1884), dated 30th July 1998 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


4th August 1998


19 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—(1) Non-Contentious Probate (Amendment) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1903), and

(2) Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment) 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1898),
dated 30th July 1998 [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

5th August 1998


[Mr Secretary Davies].


(2) Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Geography) (Wales) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1885),


(5) Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Physical Education) (Wales) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1887), and


26 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—Scottish Legal Aid Board (Employment of Solicitors to Provide Criminal Legal Assistance) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1938), dated 31st July 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


[Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and


12th August 1998


[Mr Secretary Blunkett].


40 Merchant Shipping,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) (Tonnage Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1915), and
[Mr Secretary Prescott].

13th August 1998


14th August 1998


(2) Removal and Disposal of Vehicles (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2019), and
dated 5th August 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

19th August 1998


21st August 1998


49 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2038), dated 14th August 1998 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

25th August 1998


26th August 1998


54 Education,—(1) Blackburn with Darwen Education Action Zone Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2085), and
(2) Newcastle Education Action Zone (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2084),
dated 25th August 1998 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

27th August 1998


58 Housing.—Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2082), dated 26th August 1998 [Mr Secretary Davies].

59 Local Government,—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Castle Morpeth Borough Council and West Somerset and Uttlesford District Councils) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2047), and


28th August 1998


1st September 1998


Other Papers:

21st August 1998


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Wednesday 2nd September 1998:

65 Criminal Statistics (Scotland).—Statistical Bulletin: Motor Vehicle Offences in Scotland, 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

66 Fisheries.—Report and Accounts of the Sea Fish Industry Authority for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

67 National Heritage (Scotland).—Review and Accounts of Scottish Screen for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

68 Railways.—Report of the Central Rail Users’ Consultative Committee for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

69 Reserve Forces.—Amendment No. 19 to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

70 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:

[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Science and Technology.—(1) Fifth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [British Biotech], 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. 888-I] [ordered to be printed during the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select Committees (adjournment of the House))]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [British Biotech plc] [Clerk of the House].


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

PRAYERS.

Friday 4th September 1998

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

The Lords have agreed to the Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill, without Amendment.

2 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 Act, agreed upon by both Houses:


3 Adjournment,—The Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, it being then twenty-five minutes to Two o'clock on Friday morning, till Monday 19th October, pursuant to Order [2nd September].

[Adjourned at 1.35 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(10) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Tetralink Telecommunications Limited) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2140), and

Other Papers:


10 Post Office,—Report of the Post Office Users' Council for Wales for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].


12 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—
(1) DirectNet Telecommunications UK Limited, 
(2) GN Great Northern Gateway Ltd. A/S, 
(3) National Band Three Limited, 
(4) o.tel.o Communications Limited, 
(5) PSI Net Telecom UK Limited, 
(6) Singtel (Europe) Limited, 
(7) Startec Telecom Limited, 
(8) Stentor Communications Limited, 
(9) TeleDanmark A/S, 
(10) Tetralink Telecommunications Limited, and 
(11) Transline Communications Limited [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Defence,—Eighth Report from the Defence Committee [The Strategic Defence Review], 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. 138] [Mr Bruce George].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Government’s Strategic Defence Review.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House approves the conclusions of the Government’s Strategic Defence Review (Cm. 3999)—(Mr Secretary Robertson);

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 ‘welcomes those aspects of the Strategic Defence Review which build on Conservative policy and which take forward jointery and rapid reaction capability; but deplores the proposed cuts in money, men, ships and planes; notes that, far from being foreign policy led, there are no clear foreign policy objectives, that defence spending between 1996–97 and 2001–02 will fall by £2,166 million in real terms with inevitable consequences for capability, that the Territorial Army is to be cut by almost one third, that the RAF is to have fewer planes and the Royal Navy fewer submarines and surface ships; seriously doubts that the planned replacements for aircraft carriers will ever be built by a Labour Government; believes that the problems of over-stretch and morale have not been adequately addressed; and deplores the fact the armed forces will be asked to do more in a dangerous world with fewer men and less equipment’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Maples.)

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

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

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

2 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of East Gomeldon, the Winterbournes and others for the clearance of buried ordnance was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

3 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Wakefield against the closure of the maternity unit at Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield, was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.23 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. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [Cm. 4065] [Mr. Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

2 Education (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Opportunity Scotland: a paper on lifelong learning [Cm. 4048] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Energy,—Conclusions of The Review of Energy Sources for Power Generation and Government Response to the Fourth and Fifth Reports from the Trade and Industry Committee, Session 1997–98, on Coal and Energy Policy [Cm. 4071] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Responses to the following Reports from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98,—

(1) Fifth, on the Future for Allotments [Cm. 4052];
(2) Sixth, on Sustainable Waste Management [Cm. 4058]; and
(3) Eleventh, on the Implementation of the Best Value Framework [Cm. 4082]
[Mr Secretary Prescott].
5 Environmental Pollution.—Twenty-first Report of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution: Setting Environmental Standards [Cm. 4053] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Miscellaneous (No. 6, 1998),—Convention, done at Paris on 17th December 1997, on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions [Cm. 3994] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Miscellaneous (No. 8, 1998),—Agreement, done at New York on 9th March 1995, on the establishment of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation [Cm. 4047] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Miscellaneous (No. 9, 1998),—Amendment to Annex I and Adoption of Annexes VIII and IX to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, done at Kuching between 23rd and 27th February 1998, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4061] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Monopolies and Mergers,—Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between:
   (1) Ladbroke Group plc and the Coral betting business, and
   (2) Tomkins plc and Kerry Group plc
   [Cm. 4030 and 4031] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

10 Museums and Galleries.—Report and Consolidated Financial Statements of the Horniman Public Museum and Public Park Trust for 1997–98 [Mr Secretary Smith].

11 Police (Scotland).—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland for 1997–98 [Cm. 4054] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 Prisons (Scotland).—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland for 1997–98 [Cm. 4032] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Public Accounts,—(1) Treasury Minutes on the—
   (i) Forty-first, Forty-fifth, and Forty-eighth to Fifty-sixth,
   (ii) Forty-second, Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh and Fifty-seventh, and
   (iii) Fifty-eighth to Sixtieth and Sixty-second to Sixty-seventh
   Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [Cm. 4055, 4041 and 4069] [Dawn Primarolo]; and
   (2) Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on the Forty-third and Forty-fourth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [Cm. 4060] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

14 Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation.—Report and Accounts of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation for 1997 [Mr Secretary Straw].

15 Social Exclusion.—Report by the Social Exclusion Unit on Bringing Britain together: a national strategy for neighbourhood renewal [Cm. 4045] [The Prime Minister].


17 Standards in Public Life.—Fifth Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. The Funding of Political Parties in the UK, Volumes 1 and 2 [Cm. 4057–I and –II] [The Prime Minister].

18 Surrogacy.—Report of the Review of Current Arrangements for Payments for and Regulation of Surrogacy [Cm. 4068] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

19 Treaty Series (No. 38, 1998),—Adjustments, adopted at the Ninth Meeting of the Parties held at Montreal from 15th to 17th September 1997, to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer [Cm. 4044] [Mr Secretary Cook].

20 Treaty Series (No. 39, 1998),—Second Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 1998 [Cm. 4046] [Mr Secretary Cook].

21 Treaty Series (No. 40, 1998),—Agreement, done at Jakarta on 5th April 1993, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains [Cm. 4049] [Mr Secretary Cook].

23 Treaty Series (No. 42, 1998),—Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, done at Strasbourg on 1st February 1995 [Cm. 4059] [Mr Secretary Cook].

24 Treaty Series (No. 43, 1998),—Convention on Social Security, done at London on 16th January 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Canada [Cm. 4062] [Mr Secretary Cook].

25 Treaty Series (No. 44, 1998),—International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code: Resolution MSC.48 (66), done at London on 4th June 1996 [Cm. 4063] [Mr Secretary Cook].

26 Treaty Series (No. 45, 1998),—1996 Amendments, done at London on 4th June 1996, to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974: Resolution MSC.47 (66) [Cm. 4064] [Mr Secretary Cook].

27 Treaty Series (No. 46, 1998),—Exchange of Notes, done at Oslo on 7th August 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway concerning the Disposal of the 'Brent Spar' Offshore Installation [Cm. 4070] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4th September 1998


29 Sea Fisheries,—(1) Cod (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) (Revocation) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2074), and

(2) Sole (Specified Sea Area) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2075),
dated 21st August 1998 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

7th September 1998


8th September 1998


32 Education (Scotland),—Scottish College of Textiles (Closure) (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2208), dated 3rd September 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


9th September 1998


35 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—(1) Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2152),

(2) Gaming (Bingo) Act (Variation of Monetary Limit) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2153),

(3) Gaming Machines (Maximum Prizes) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2150), and

(4) Gaming Clubs (Multiple Bingo) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2151),
dated 28th August 1998 [Mr Secretary Straw].


dated 1st September 1998 [Mr Secretary Davies].


38 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2210), dated 8th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

39 Transfer of Functions,—(1) Development Board for Rural Wales (Transfer of Staff) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2195), and

(2) Land Authority for Wales (Transfer of Staff) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2194),
dated 28th August 1998 [Mr Secretary Davies].


[Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and


(3) National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2221), dated 10th September 1998,


(5) National Health Service Pension Scheme Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2216), dated 9th September 1998, and

[Mr Secretary Dobson].


[Mr Nicholas Brown].


14th September 1998


15th September 1998


50 Fire Services,—(1) Combined Fire Authorities (Secure Tenancies) (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2213), and

(2) Combined Fire Authorities (Secure Tenancies) (Wales) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2214),
dated 5th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Straw].


(2) Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2245), dated 14th September 1998

[Mr Nicholas Brown].


16th September 1998


54 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Road Works ( Registers, Notices, Directions and Designations) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2254), dated 7th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


17th September 1998


57 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) National Health Service (Choice of Dental Health Practitioners) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2259), and

(2) National Health Service (Dental Charges) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2258),
dated 14th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

21st September 1998

58 Education (Scotland),—Education (Fees and Awards) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2324), dated 17th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


(2) Town and Country Planning Appeals (Determination by Appointed Person) (Inquiries Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2312), and

22nd September 1998


24th September 1998


25th September 1998

65 Health and Safety.—(1) Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2307), and


28th September 1998


30th September 1998


1st October 1998


76 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2417), dated 30th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

2nd October 1998


78 Education,—(1) Teachers (Compensation for Redundancy and Premature Retirement) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2256), and


3rd October 1998

80 Education,—East Middlesbrough Education Action Zone (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2450), dated 2nd October 1998 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4th October 1998


5th October 1998

(2) Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) (Legal Aid Exceptions) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2482), dated 3rd October 1998, and
(3) Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Rate of Interest) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2480), dated 4th October 1998 [Mr Secretary Mandelson].


87 National Health Service,—Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health Authority (Transfers of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2460), dated 5th October 1998 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6th October 1998


7th October 1998


8th October 1998

90 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 6) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2429), dated 29th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9th October 1998

92 Disabled Persons,—(1) Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2456), and


95 Social Security,—(1) Housing Benefit (Recovery of Overpayments) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2454), and

12th October 1998


97 Prisons (Scotland),—Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2504), dated 30th September 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13th October 1998


14th October 1998


15th October 1998


16th October 1998


Other Papers:

17th September 1998


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 19th October 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

105 Broadcasting,—Draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

106 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures),—Measure passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, entitled Cathedrals Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1025] [Clerk of the House].

107 Legal Aid and Advice,—Draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

108 Northern Ireland,—Draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

110 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ship Construction: Ships of Classes I, II and III(A)) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2514), and
   dated 8th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

111 Road Traffic.—Alterations in the provisions of the Highway Code proposed to be made by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions pursuant to section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

112 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—(1) Statute, dated 18th February 1998, made by the Governing Body of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College,
   (2) Statute, dated 13th March 1998, made by the Governing Body of Christ’s College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and
   (3) Statute, dated 14th March 1998, made by the Governing Body of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College
   [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

113 Air Force (Constitution).—Amendment to the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

114 Atomic Energy.—Report and Accounts of British Nuclear Fuels plc for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

115 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures).—Report by the Ecclesiastical Committee on the Cathedrals Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1026] [Clerk of the House].

116 Companies.—Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on Companies in 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

117 Criminal Statistics (Scotland).—Statistical Bulletin: Recorded crimes and offences involving firearms in Scotland, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

118 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Government Response to the Tenth Report of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997-98, on Housing [by Command] [Cm. 4080] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

119 Law Commissions.—Report by the Law Commission on Consents to Prosecution [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1085] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

120 Legal Aid.—Supplementary Appendix to the Report (HC 943) of the Legal Aid Board for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

121 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions.—Reports and Financial Statements of—
   (1) Devon and Cornwall Development International,
   (2) East of England Regional Investment Agency Limited,
   (3) INWARD,
   (4) Northern Development Company,
   (5) South East Regional Investment Limited, and
   (6) Yorkshire and Humberside Development Agency
   for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

122 Museums and Galleries.—Report and Summary Financial Statement of National Museums & Galleries of Wales for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].


124 New Towns.—Report and Accounts of the Commission for the New Towns for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
125 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Report of the National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


127 Police,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1086] [Mr Secretary Straw].

128 Post Office,—Report of the Post Office Users’ National Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

129 Public Petitions,—Observations by—
(1) the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for State for Further and Higher Education on the Petition [29th July] from students of Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London, against tuition fees for higher education and the abolition of maintenance grants, and
(2) the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on—
(i) the Petition [13th July] from citizens of the United Kingdom against snaring, and
(ii) the Petition [24th July] from residents of Killamarsh, Derbyshire, against the siting of the Sarp UK plant near populated areas and for steps to ameliorate the nuisance so caused
[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

130 Severn Bridges,—Report and Financial Statements of Severn River Crossing plc for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

131 Statutory Instruments (Notification),—Communications declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instruments had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instruments came into operation:
National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2417)
[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

132 Treasury Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Valuation Office for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 957] [Dawn Primarolo].

133 Welsh Development Agency,—Direction, dated 25th September 1998, given by the Secretary of State for Wales to the Welsh Development Agency [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].
4 Countryside Protection (Landfill and Opencast Mining).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for a presumption against landfill sites and opencast mines in open countryside; and for related purposes: And that David Taylor, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Tony Benn, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Phil Hope, Lynne Jones, Judy Mallaber, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Mark Todd do prepare and bring it in.

5 Countryside Protection (Landfill and Opencast Mining) Bill.—David Taylor accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for a presumption against landfill sites and opencast mines in open countryside; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th November and to be printed [Bill 245].

6 Government's Strategic Defence Review.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Amendment to the Question proposed yesterday, That this House approves the conclusions of the Government's Strategic Defence Review (Cm 3999);

Which Amendment was, in line 2, to leave out from the word 'House' to the end of the Question and add the words 'welcomes those aspects of the Strategic Defence Review which build on Conservative policy and which take forward jointery and rapid reaction capability; but deplores the proposed cuts in money, men, ships and planes; notes that, far from being foreign policy led, there are no clear foreign policy objectives, that defence spending between 1996–97 and 2001–02 will fall by £2,166 million in real terms with inevitable consequences for capability, that the Territorial Army is to be cut by almost one third, that the RAF is to have fewer planes and the Royal Navy fewer submarines and surface ships; seriously doubts that the planned replacements for aircraft carriers will ever be built by a Labour Government; believes that the problems of over-stretch and morale have not been adequately addressed; and deplores the fact the armed forces will be asked to do more in a dangerous world with fewer men and less equipment', instead thereof;

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, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mrs Anne McGuire: 366.

So the Question was negatived.

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

Resolved, That this House approves the conclusions of the Government's Strategic Defence Review (Cm 3999).

7 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from midwives and others for midwives to be paid in accordance with NHS guidance was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr David Hanson.)

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 Negative Resolution:

1 Food.—Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1988, No. 2538), dated 13th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

Other Papers:

2 Broadcasting.—Account of the Radio Authority Additional Payments by Radio Programme Licensees for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1095] [Clerk of the House].

3 Criminal Justice.—Account of the Parole Board for England and Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1091] [Clerk of the House].
4 Erskine Bridge Tolls,—Accounts of the Scottish Office Development Department: Erskine Bridge for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1094] [Clerk of the House].

5 Law Reform (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Conveyancing and Executry Services Board for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1084] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

   (2) Account of the National Maritime Museum for 1997–98,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1092 and 1103] [Clerk of the House].

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [21st July] from residents of Hastings and Rye for an improved transport infrastructure in their area [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].


9 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1102] [Clerk of the House].

10 Treasury Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Paymaster Agency for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1002] [Mr Geoffrey Robinson].

11 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Accounts of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service and of the Certification Officer and the Central Arbitration Committee for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1093] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 20th October [The Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 1090-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 20th October [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 1104-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 20th October [The Work of the Home Office]; to be printed [No. 1097-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 International Development,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, on Montserrat—Further Developments]; to be printed [No. 1098];
   (2) Sixth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on Sudan]; to be printed [No. 1099];
   (3) Seventh Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee, on The Future of the Commonwealth Development Corporation]; to be printed [No. 1100]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Tuesday 20th October [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 787-vii]
   [Mr Dennis Canavan].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Forty-fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xliv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Welsh Affairs,—Third Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on the Welsh Office Departmental Report 1998]; to be printed [No. 1101] [Mr Martyn Jones].
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 David Clelland);

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

2 Schools and Colleges (Funding Formula).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for a common funding formula for 16 to 19 year old students in schools and colleges: And that Mr David Chaytor do prepare and bring it in.

3 Schools and Colleges (Funding Formula) Bill.—Mr David Chaytor accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for a common funding formula for 16 to 19 year old students in schools and colleges: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 13th November and to be printed [Bill 247].

4 Human Rights Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 3).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the Human Rights Bill [Lords]:—

1. The proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be completed at this day's sitting.

2. The proceedings on consideration mentioned in the first column shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the time mentioned in the second column:

| New Clauses up to and including New Clause 2 | 1½ hours after commencement |
| New Clause 3 | 2½ hours after commencement |
| Amendments up to the end of line 24 on page 1 | 3 hours after commencement |
| Amendments up to the end of line 29 on page 7 | 4½ hours after commencement |
| Remaining amendments | 6 hours after commencement |

3. The proceedings on Third Reading shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion 7 hours after commencement.

4. In paragraphs 2 and 3 “commencement” means commencement of the proceedings on the Motion for this resolution.

5. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading for any part of the period of 7 hours mentioned in paragraph 3 which falls after 10 o'clock.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

5 Human Rights Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Human Rights Bill [Lords], as amended in the Committee.

A Clause (No remedial order before determination of European Commission of Human Rights)—(Sir Nicholas Lyell)—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 Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Clive Betts: 372.

Another Clause (Consultation and guidance prior to commencement of Act)—(Dr Tony Wright)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendments (Nos. 5 to 12) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 38) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 34, to leave out Clause No. 10.—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 110.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 362.

Another Amendment (No. 13) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, line 24, to leave out from the word 'it' to the end of the line and insert the words 'shall not make any determination which infringes, or which could lead to the infringement of, that right'.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 33, after the word 'compatibility', to insert the words 'which statement must be accompanied by a report setting out any issues which the Minister considers to be relevant to the question of the compatibility of the Bill with the Convention's rights and giving the Minister's reasons for stating that the Bill is compatible'.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 14 to 37) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Walsall Friends of the Earth for improved protection of Sites of Special Scientific Interest was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.45 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Education,—Draft Education (Grammar School Ballots) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997–98, Not Only the Dome: the Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom [by Command] [Cm. 4087] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Elections Review,—Report of the Elections Review on Administering Elections in Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 4081] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Intelligence Services,—Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4073] [The Prime Minister].

5 National Lottery,—Accounts of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1107] [Clerk of the House].

6 Pensions,—Accounts of the Pensions Compensation Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1108] [Clerk of the House].


8 Treaty Series (No. 48, 1998),—Exchange of Notes, done at Dakar and Conakry on 23rd April 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Guinea concerning Certain Commercial Debts (The United Kingdom/Guinea Debt Agreement No. 6 (1997)) [by Command] [Cm. 4077] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

European Standing Committees

1 European Community Document No. 10778/98, relating to transport infrastructure charging, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

2 European Community Document No. 9302/98 ADD 1, relating to own resources based on VAT and GNP, has been referred to European Standing Committee B, together with 7046/98 referred to the Committee on 29th April 1998.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 21st October [CAP reform: rural development]; to be printed [No. 890-iii]; and (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [CAP reform: rural development] [Mr Peter Luff].


3 Education and Employment,—Memoranda laid before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Work of OFSTED] [Valerie Davey].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 21st October [Future of National Air Traffic Services]; to be printed [No. 1106-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 European Legislation,—Thirty-seventh Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxvii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Social Security,—(1) Fifth Report from the Social Security Committee [Pensions on Divorce]; 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. 869]; and (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Pensions on Divorce] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

7 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 15th and 21st October [The World Economy]; to be printed [No. 1105-i and -ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 225.]

Thursday 22nd October 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords], as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Thursday 29th October.

2 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Thursday 29th October.
3 Adjournment. (i) Tenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, on Housing and (ii) Seventh Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, on Reform of European Structural Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Bob Ainsworth);

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

4 Business of the House. —Ordered. That for the remainder of the present Session of Parliament the House shall not sit on any Friday and the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Standing Order No. 12 (House not to sit on certain Fridays) shall apply to all such Fridays. (Mr Graham Allen.)

5 Adjournment. —Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. (Mr Graham Allen.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till Monday 26th October.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Contracting Out.—Draft Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to Insurance) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Stephen Byers].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
2 Charities.—Draft Charities (Seamen's Hospital Society) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:
4 Environmental Pollution.—Government Response to The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution's Twentieth Report, Transport and the Environment—Developments Since 1994 [by Command] [Cm. 4066] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
5 National Lottery.—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].
6 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Petition [21st July] from residents and others of the Far Cotton and St James' areas of Northampton for a comprehensive public inquiry into the floods in the Northampton area in Easter 1998 [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].
7 Voluntary Sector (Scotland).—Paper, entitled The Scottish Compact—the Compact between Government and the voluntary sector in Scotland [by Command] [Cm. 4083] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees
1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 22nd October [The Future of News at Ten]; to be printed [No. 1104-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
2 Treasury.—(1) Seventh Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Bank of England: Operation of Accountability—One Year On: Responses from the Government and the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee to the Seventh Report from the Committee in Session 1997-98] [No. 1111]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 22nd October [The World Economy]; to be printed [No. 1105-iii]

[Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sexual Orientation Discrimination Bill [Lords].—The Sexual Orientation Discrimination Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 9th November and to be printed [Bill 248].

2 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at this day's sitting, paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments) shall apply to proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mr Paddy Ashdown as if this day were one of the Opposition Days allotted under paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business).—(Mr Mike Hall.)

3 The Economy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the macro-economic policies of this Government have led to an uncompetitive and unstable pound, high real short-term interest rates and an unbalanced economy, that as a consequence of these problems, and the recent global economic slowdown, economic growth forecasts for the UK for 1999 are being revised downwards and unemployment forecasts are being revised upwards, that jobs in manufacturing industry are already being lost at the rate of over 300 per day and that agricultural employment is also declining sharply; and calls upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to resist pressures and temptations to compromise the operational independence of the Bank of England, recognise the role of fiscal policy in stabilising economic growth in order to avoid excessive reliance on interest rates for such a purpose, make an early Declaration of Intent of the Government's commitment to join the European Single Currency, agree and establish a joint Six-Monthly Report on Convergence by the Treasury and the Bank of England to the Treasury Committee, take further actions to tackle skills shortages, and maintain the recent plans for additional investment in key public services such as the NHS and schools—(Mr Malcolm Bruce);

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 that the Government inherited an economy in which public sector net borrowing was £28 billion, inflation was set to rise sharply above target because of the failure of the previous Government to take the necessary action on interest rates; recalls that the previous Government presided over a boom and bust economy where interest rates reached 15 per cent. and inflation reached 10 per cent., doubled the national debt in the 1990s, worsened inequality and failed to tackle the weaknesses in the British economy; commends the actions of this Government which is steering a course of stability in an uncertain and unstable world, has established a credible framework for monetary policy that has led to the lowest long-term interest rates in 35 years, and inflation hitting its 2.5 per cent. target, and has taken tough action to cut government borrowing by £20 billion; and welcomes the increase in employment of 400,000 since the election, the launch of the New Deal, reform of the tax and benefit system to tackle unemployment and poverty traps, support for British business through cuts in corporation tax and small business tax to their lowest levels ever, and the extra investment of £40 billion in education and health over the next three years', instead thereof.—(Mr Stephen Byers.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 43.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Jamieson: 330.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [this day]—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House notes that the Government inherited an economy in which public sector net borrowing was £28 billion, inflation was set to rise sharply above target because of the failure of the previous Government to take the necessary action on interest rates; recalls that the previous Government presided over a boom and bust economy where interest rates reached 15 per cent. and inflation reached 10 per cent., doubled the national debt in the 1990s, worsened inequality and failed to tackle the weaknesses in the British economy; commends the actions of this Government which is steering a course of stability in an uncertain and unstable world, has established a credible framework for
monetary policy that has led to the lowest long-term interest rates in 35 years, and inflation hitting its 2.5 per cent. target, and has taken tough action to cut government borrowing by £20 billion; and welcomes the increase in employment of 400,000 since the election, the launch of the New Deal, reform of the tax and benefit system to tackle unemployment and poverty traps, support for British business through cuts in corporation tax and small business tax to their lowest levels ever, and the extra investment of £40 billion in education and health over the next three years.

4 Farming and the Food Industry.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed,
That this House welcomes moves made by Her Majesty’s Government in recent weeks to address some of the problems facing the British agricultural industry but believes these problems would be more successfully addressed by measures such as accessing agricultural compensation funds, ensuring that animal welfare standards are enforced uniformly across the EU and that UK standards are applied to imports, encouraging supermarkets to support British farming in their buying policies and addressing the imbalance in the bargaining power between producers and the supermarkets, implementing a ‘Buy British’ policy in central government and its agencies and encouraging local government to do likewise wherever possible, retaining the Calf Processing Scheme, reducing inspection charges on farmers, ensuring that payment to farmers are made promptly, stabilising exchange rates by making an early declaration of intent of the Government’s commitment to join the European Single Currency, implementing longer-term measures that are also needed to secure the future of British farming, including the clear labelling of products including imports, and ensuring that CAP reform does not discriminate against British farmers and any uptake of an early retirement scheme does not lead to compulsory amalgamation of holdings; further believes that confidence in the safety and quality of British food will only be restored when a fully independent and authoritative Food Standards Agency is established; and regrets any delay in its creation—(Mr Charles Kennedy);

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 ‘welcomes the Government’s strong commitment to the UK farming industry and to the wider rural economy; welcomes in particular the steps which the Government has taken since May 1997 to support the beef and sheep industry via EU agri-monetary compensation and relief from charges; acknowledges the steps taken specifically to help the sheep, pig and cereal sectors with targeted EU measures; and endorses the Government’s intention to bring about a secure and viable future for the UK farming and food industries through a market-orientated reform of the Common Agricultural Policy’, instead thereof. (Mr Jeff Rooker.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 45.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Mike Hall: 340.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Government’s strong commitment to the UK farming industry and to the wider rural economy; welcomes in particular the steps which the Government has taken since May 1997 to support the beef and sheep industry via EU agri-monetary compensation and relief from charges; acknowledges the steps taken specifically to help the sheep, pig and cereal sectors with targeted EU measures; and endorses the Government’s intention to bring about a secure and viable future for the UK farming and food industries through a market-orientated reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.33 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 23rd October 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 International Development,—Department for International Development Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the guarantee of a loan to the Day Chocolate Company for the Kuapa Kokoo Project in Ghana [Secretary Clare Short].
2 Miscellaneous (No. 11, 1998),—1996 Protocol, adopted at London on 7th November 1996, to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter, 1972, with an explanatory memorandum [Cm. 4078] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 49, 1998),—Convention, done at London on 12th May 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Estonia 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. 4084] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 23rd October 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 26th October 1998:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


7 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Canadian Navigation Services) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2575), dated 19th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 National Health Service,—Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2621), dated 23rd October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Sea Fisheries,—(1) Broadford Bay and Loch Ainort, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2638),
(2) Loch Sligachan, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2640), and
(3) Scalpay Island, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2639),
dated 8th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

10 Health and Safety at Work,—Accounts of the Health and Safety Commission and the Health and Safety Executive for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1115] [Clerk of the House].

11 Local Government (Wales),—Report and Accounts of the Residuary Body for Wales for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Davies].

12 Museums and Galleries,—(1) Accounts of the National Gallery for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1114];
(2) Account of the National Museum of Science and Industry for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1113]; and
(3) Account of the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1112] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee on 26th October [The Closure of the Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum]; to be printed [No. 1116-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].
Tuesday 27th October 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Adoption (League Tables),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require local authorities to publish annual totals of numbers of children in care, numbers of children adopted and numbers of parents available to undertake adoptions; to require local authorities to provide the Secretary of State annually with a list of children in care, together with the length of time each child has been in care; and to require the Secretary of State to publish league tables of local authorities based on that information—(Mr Julian Brazier);

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. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Julian Brazier, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr David Davis, Mr Bill Olner, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Malcolm Wicks, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Frank Field, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr John Burnett and Mr Christopher Fraser do prepare and bring in the Bill.

2 Adoption (League Tables) Bill,—Mr Julian Brazier accordingly presented a Bill to require local authorities to publish annual totals of numbers of children in care, numbers of children adopted and numbers of parents available to undertake adoptions; to require local authorities to provide the Secretary of State annually with a list of children in care, together with the length of time each child has been in care; and to require the Secretary of State to publish league tables of local authorities based on that information: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 249].

3 European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Secretary Straw);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr David Jamieson: 338.
Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 131.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 4 were disagreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 to 4;

Ordered, That Mr James Clappison, Mr Mike Hall, Mr George Howarth, Mr Paddy Tipping and Mr Nigel Waterson be members of the Committee;

Ordered, That Mr George Howarth be the Chairman of the Committee;

Ordered, That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

4 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Working Time Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1833), dated 30th July 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 30th July, be annulled—(Mr John Redwood);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 129.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Keith Hill: 358.

So the Question was negatived.

5 European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—Mr George Howarth reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their
Amendments Nos. 1 to 4 to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Amendments Nos. 1 to 4 made by the Lords in page 2, line 1; in page 2, line 2; in page 2, line 15; and in page 2, line 18, for the following Reason:

Because they would result in a voting system which is undesirable.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes).

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

[Adjourned at 9.28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Mental Health,—Mental Health (Hospital, Guardianship and Consent to Treatment) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2624), dated 26th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2623), dated 26th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

5 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland: Inward Investment [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1096] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 Health and Safety,—Report and Accounts of the Health and Safety Commission, and Accounts of the Health and Safety Executive, for 1997-98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Pensions,—Accounts of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1120] [Clerk of the House].

8 Royal Fine Art Commission,—Report of the Royal Fine Art Commission for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 4042] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Science and Technology,—(1) Accounts of the:

(i) Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, and

(ii) Research Councils' Pension Scheme

for 1997-98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1124 and 1119] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [ Replies by the Government and the Environment Agency to the Sixth Report from the Agriculture Committee, on Flood and Coastal Defence]; to be printed [No. 1117];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 27th October [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review; to be printed [No. 721-ii]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review; sea fishing: current issues]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment.—(1) Ninth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The role of headteachers], 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. 725];

(2) Seventh Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on Pathways into work for lone parents]; to be printed [No. 1122];

(3) Eighth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee, on the New Deal Pathfinders]; to be printed [No. 1123]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 27th October [Access for All?]; to be printed [No. 1060-ii]

[Mr Derek Foster].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 27th October [Police Training and Recruitment]; to be printed [No. 1121-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 27th October [The Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 1118] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Forty-fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xlv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 27th October [Vehicle Pricing]; to be printed [No. 1125-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee on 27th October [Office for National Statistics]; to be printed [No. 976-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 228.]

**Wednesday 28th October 1998.**

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 Greg Pope);

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

2 Prostitutes’ Advertisements (Public Telephone Boxes).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make it an offence to place advertisements for prostitutes in public telephone boxes: and for connected purposes: And that Ms Karen Buck, Dr Alan Whitehead, Mr Alan Clark, Mr Andrew Dismore and Mr Tony McNulty do prepare and bring it in.

3 Prostitutes’ Advertisements (Public Telephone Boxes) Bill.—Ms Karen Buck accordingly presented a Bill to make it an offence to place advertisements for prostitutes in public telephone boxes; 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 250].

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

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.
5 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Wyre Forest Committee against Cuts for a re-examination of the provision for social services in Worcestershire was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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:


Other Papers:

3 Criminal Justice.—Report of the Parole Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1089] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons.—Report by the Secretary of State for Health under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 on Research and Development Work on Equipment for Disabled People, 1995 and 1996 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Disabled Persons.—Paper, entitled A new contract for welfare: Support for Disabled People [by Command] [Cm. 4103] [Mr Secretary Darling].

6 European Communities (No. 4, 1998).—Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, with Annex, Declaration and Final Act, with an explanatory memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4097] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Fire Services.—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Fire Services for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4085] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Intelligence and Security.—Government Response to the Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4089] [The Prime Minister].

9 Law Commissions (Scotland).—Report of the Scottish Law Commission for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1088] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

10 National Lottery.—Account of the Millennium Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1128] [Clerk of the House].


12 Welfare Reform.—Papers entitled:

(1) A new contract for welfare: Principles into Practice, and

(2) A new contract for welfare: The Gateway to Work

[by Command] [Cm. 4101 and 4102] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Meat and Livestock Commission Levy (Variation) Scheme (Confirmation) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Harold Best, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Richard Burden, Mr John Burnett, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Michael Foster (Hasting and Rye), Mr Andrew George, Mr James Gray, Mrs Joan Humble, Lynne Jones, Mr John McDonnell, Mr David Maclean, Mr James Paskett, Mr Jeff Rooker and Mrs Caroline Spelman.

2 Draft Local Government (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr James Cran, Mr Denzil Davies, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr David Hinchliffe, Helen Jackson, Ms Fiona Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Andy King, Mr John McFall, Mr Malcolm Moss, Dan Norris, Mr William Thompson and Mr Cecil Walker.

3 Draft Health and Safety and Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members, viz Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr John Cryer, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Jim Down, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Andrew Hunter, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Adam Ingram, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Malcolm Moss and The Reverend Martin Smyth.

European Standing Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 8328/98, relating to the Social Action Programme (1998-2000).

5 European Community Document No. 9597/98, relating to agrimonetary arrangements following the introduction of the euro, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

6 European Community Document No. COM(98)560, relating to financing the European Union, has been referred to European Standing Committee B together with documents 7046/98 relating to Agenda 2000: The financial perspective 2000-2006; 7221/98 relating to Agenda 2000: The interinstitutional agreement of 29th October, 1993; and 9302/98 ADD 1 relating to Own resources based on VAT and GNP so referred on 29th April and 21st October.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 28th October [The Heritage Lottery Fund]; to be printed [No. 968-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Fifth Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Observations on the Seventh Report from the Defence Committee, Session 1997-98, on Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy]; to be printed [No. 1131] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 28th October [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 1127-i] [Charlotte Atkins].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Local Government Finance]; to be printed [No. 1126-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 28th October [Future of National Air Traffic Services]; to be printed [No. 1106-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

6 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 28th October [Multi Lateral Agreement on Investment]; to be printed [No. 1129-i] [Mr John Horam].

7 European Legislation,—Thirty-eighth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xxxviii] [Mr Jim Marshall].
8 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 28th October [Science and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed [No. 1040-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].

9 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 28th October [Inward Investment into Scotland]; to be printed [No. 698-v] [Mr John McAllion].

10 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 28th October [Tax and Benefits]; to be printed [No. 827-iv] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

11 Trade and Industry,—(1) Twelfth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Industrial and Trade Relations with Central Europe], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 893];

(2) Seventh Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Sixth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, on Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, the Seventh Report, on Reform of European Structural Funds, the Ninth Report, on Georgian Nuclear Material at Dounreay, the Tenth Report, on Developments in the Liberalisation of the Domestic Electricity Market and the Eleventh Report, on Industrial and Trade Relations with Japan]; to be printed [No. 1130]; and

[Mr Martin O'Neill]

[No. 229.]

Thursday 29th October 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords], as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means;

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Thursday 5th November.

2 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Thursday 5th November.

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 Human Rights Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

4 North American Free Trade Area (Parliamentary Commission) Bill,—Mr Michael Fabricant presented a Bill to establish a Parliamentary Commission to investigate the benefits or otherwise of accession by the United Kingdom to the North American Free Trade Area Treaty; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 251].

5 Adjournment (Quarantine for Pets),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);

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

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes).

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes to Nine o'clock, adjourned till Monday 2nd November, pursuant to Order [22nd October].

[Adjourned at 8.48 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

5 Customs and Excise,—Report and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs and Excise for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4067] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Responses to the following Reports from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98—

(1) Seventh, on London Underground [by Command] [Cm. 4093]; and

(2) Twelfth, on DETR's Departmental Annual Report 1998 and Expenditure Plans 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4098] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Independent Commission on the Voting System,—Report of the Independent Commission on the Voting System [by Command] [Cn. 4090-I and II] [Mr Secretary Straw].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Meat and Livestock Commission Levy (Variation) Scheme (Confirmation) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John McDonnell from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Dr Howard Stoate.

2 Draft Local Government (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dan Norris from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Ivan Lewis.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 29th October [Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 610-ix] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 29th October [Relationship between Health and Social Services]; to be printed [No. 586-x] [Mr David Hinchliffe].


(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 29th October [The World Economy]; to be printed [No. 1105-iv] [Mr Giles Radice].
Monday 2nd November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (No Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable).—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from one of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the following Bill, originating in the Lords and referred after the First Reading thereof, no Standing Order not previously inquired into is applicable thereto, viz:

City of Westminster Bill [Lords].

Bill to be read a second time.

2 Adjournment (Security and Intelligence Agencies).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);

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

3 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Mike Hall);

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

4 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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 delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 30th October 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, pursuant to Order [22nd October]) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Export of Works of Art,—Report of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art for the period 1st July 1997 to 30th June 1998 [Cm. 4056] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Inland Revenue,—Report and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Inland Revenue for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Cm. 4079] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 30th October 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, pursuant to Order [22nd October]) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Sheriff Officers) 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2669), dated 22nd October 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 2nd November 1998:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Solicitors in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2675), dated 28th October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Meat and Livestock Commission Levy (Variation) Scheme (Confirmation) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye) from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Neil Gerrard.

2 Draft Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Brian Sedgemore.

Tuesday 3rd November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Meat and Livestock Commission Levy (Variation) Scheme (Confirmation) Order 1998. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Wildlife Bill,—Mr David Lepper, supported by Mr David Chaytor, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mrs Helen Brinton, Julia Drown, Jane Griffiths, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Matthew Taylor and Mr Tom Brake presented a Bill to provide for conservation purposes to be furthered by any person discharging a function under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; to make new provision for the protection of certain species and sites; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 252].

3 Conduct of Referendums,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to set up an election commission with powers over the conduct and financing of referendums: And that Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Martin Bell, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John MacGregor, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Shaun Woodward do prepare and bring it in.

4 Conduct of Referendums Bill,—Mrs Eleanor Laing accordingly presented a Bill to set up an election commission with powers over the conduct and financing of referendums: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday 18th November and to be printed [Bill 253].

5 Adjournment (Personal Pensions Mis-selling),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn (Mr Keith Hill); The Motion was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn.

6 Liaison,—Ordered, That Mr Eric Clarke be added to the Liaison Committee.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Pre-Budget Report,—Pre-Budget Report, entitled The Code for Fiscal Stability [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

4 Pre-Budget Report.—Pre-Budget Report, entitled Steering a Stable Course for Lasting Prosperity [by Command] [Cm. 4076] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].


6 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [30th July] from Christopher Leonard Brown and others for the safeguarding of Ladydale II and Ashenhurst Way from development plans [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Transport.—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Transport Group for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 3rd November [CAP reform: rural development]; to be printed [No. 890-iv]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [CAP reform: rural development; sea fishing]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—(1) Eighth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997–98]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1090];
   (2) Ninth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Future of News at Ten], 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. 1110]; and
   (3) Memorandum laid before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997–98]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Protection of Field Boundaries], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 969-I];
   (2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Committee, English Nature]; to be printed [No. 1137]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 3rd November [Local Government Finance]; to be printed [No. 1126-i]
   [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 3rd November [Sierra Leone]; to be printed [No. 1057-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 3rd November [Police Training and Recruitment]; to be printed [No. 1121-ii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 Information.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Information Committee on 2nd November [Central Procurement of Members’ IT Equipment and Services]; to be printed [No. 856-i] [Mr Richard Allan].

7 Statutory Instruments.—Forty-sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xlvii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee on 3rd November [Office for National Statistics]; to be printed [No. 976-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].
Wednesday 4th November 1998.

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 Robert 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 European Standing Committee B.—Dr Michael Clark reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution: That the Committee takes note of European Comm-LIT, Document No. 8328/98, a Commission Communication on its proposed Social Action Programme for 1998-2000; supports the Government's view that the Programme rightly places jobs at the heart of its framework for action; and also supports the Government's intention to give due consideration to specific Commission proposals as they come forward.

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

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Government (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

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

The Lords insist on their Amendments to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill, to which this House has disagreed, for which insistence they assign their Reasons.

5 European Parliamentary Elections Bill.—Lords Reasons for insisting on their Amendments to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill to which this House has disagreed to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 255].

6 Housing (Home Repossessions).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable and require the Housing Corporation to be joined in all possession proceedings by mortgagees against mortgagors in respect of the principal home of the mortgagor and his family: And that Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr A. J. Beith, Mr Chris Pond, Steve Webb, Mr Martin Bell, Jackie Ballard, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Stephen Twigg, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Barry Gardiner and Mr Paul Burstow do prepare and bring it in.

7 Housing (Home Repossessions) Bill.—Mr Adrian Sanders accordingly presented a Bill to enable and require the Housing Corporation to be joined in all possession proceedings by mortgagees against mortgagors in respect of the principal home of the mortgagor and his family: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 254].

8 Opposition Day [20th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider opposition business.

The Economy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that there is now a black hole in the public finances; that the increased burdens on business since the General Election now account for £1,500 more per employee; that the UK will be the first major European economy to suffer a serious downturn and the worst affected; further notes that the Government is squandering the last Government's golden economic legacy by its four basic blunders of increased taxes, attacks on savings, particularly pensions, excessive regulation of business and irresponsible public spending; and deplores the Government's complacent attitude to the handling of the economy and public finances—(Mr Francis Maude);

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 Government inherited an economy set to repeat the same cycle of boom and bust seen over the past 20 years, that inflation was heading way above target because of the previous Government's failure to accept the Bank of England's advice and the public finances were in large structural deficit; recalls that under the previous Government inflation rose to 10 per cent, interest rates remained in double figures for four years and one million manufacturing jobs were lost, while net borrowing increased to £50 billion and the national debt doubled in just four years; notes that the previous Government's policies increased inequality and failed to tackle the structural weaknesses in the economy; commends this Government for its decisive action to build a stable economy, introducing a new framework for
monetary policy under which inflation is now at target and set to remain there and interest rates are less than half their previous peak, reducing government borrowing by £20 billion last year and, because of prudent management of the public finances, remaining on track to meet its tough fiscal rules and invest an additional £40 billion in education and health, with an extra £250 million for the National Health Service this year, addressing structural weaknesses by tackling unemployment and poverty with the New Deals and tax and benefit reform, supporting British business by cutting corporation tax, doubling public investment to improve Britain's infrastructure and addressing Britain's productivity gap; and notes that there are now 400,000 more people in employment than at the General Election and that Britain is better placed to steer a course of stability in an uncertain and unstable world"; instead thereof.—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Keith Hill: 303.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (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 notes that the Government inherited an economy set to repeat the same cycle of boom and bust seen over the past 20 years, that inflation was heading way above target because of the previous Government's failure to accept the Bank of England's advice and the public finances were in large structural deficit; recalls that under the previous Government inflation rose to 10 per cent, interest rates remained in double figures for four years and one million manufacturing jobs were lost, while net borrowing increased to £50 billion and the national debt doubled in just four years; notes that the previous Government's policies increased inequality and failed to tackle the structural weaknesses in the economy; commends this Government for its decisive action to build a stable economy, introducing a new framework for monetary policy under which inflation is now at target and set to remain there and interest rates are less than half their previous peak, reducing government borrowing by £20 billion last year, and, because of prudent management of the public finances, remaining on track to meet its tough fiscal rules and invest an additional £40 billion in education and health, with an extra £250 million for the National Health Service this year, addressing structural weaknesses by tackling unemployment and poverty with the New Deals and tax and benefit reform, supporting British business by cutting corporation tax, doubling public investment to improve Britain's infrastructure and addressing Britain's productivity gap; and notes that there are now 400,000 more people in employment than at the General Election and that Britain is better placed to steer a course of stability in an uncertain and unstable world.

Agriculture.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deprecates the failure of the Government to respond to the deepening crisis in agriculture and to secure an end to the beef export ban; applauds the achievements of British farmers in raising animal welfare and environmental standards; recognises that a thriving rural economy depends on a viable agricultural industry and that this can be achieved by giving farmers a chance to compete on equal terms as summarised in the Opposition's call for a Fair Deal for Farmers; calls on the Government to renew or replace the Calf Processing Scheme, restore HLCAs to 1993 levels and take up agri-monetary compensation for the livestock sector financed by the underspends on the agriculture budget; urges action to encourage the purchase of home grown food by all public sector bodies and cut the burden of excessive regulation; calls for an immediate ban on the sale of food not produced to standards required in Britain; and condemns the hostility consistently displayed by Ministers to the country people in local government finance, transport and planning policy—(Mr Tim Yeo);

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 Government's strong commitment to the United Kingdom farming industry and to the wider rural economy; recognises that the lifting of the beef export ban in Northern Ireland represents the first crucial step towards lifting the ban from all parts of the United Kingdom; welcomes the steps which the Government has taken since May 1997 to support the beef and sheep industry via EU agri-monetary compensation and relief from charges; acknowledges the steps taken specifically to help the sheep, pig and cereal sectors with targeted tax and measures; and endorses the Government's intention to bring about a secure and viable future for United Kingdom farming by seeking a reformed Common Agricultural Policy, which is more economically rational, which reduces the bureaucratic burden on farmers, which enhances targeted support for the rural economy, which serves the consumer well and which contains fair and common rules to ensure that the United Kingdom's farming
and food industries can exploit their competitive advantages in European and world markets', instead thereof. — (Mr Nicholas Brown.)

And the Question being put, that the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 325.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 248.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Edward Davey: 132.

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 Government's strong commitment to the United Kingdom farming industry and to the wider rural economy; recognises that the lifting of the beef export ban in Northern Ireland represents the first crucial step towards lifting the ban from all parts of the United Kingdom; welcomes the steps which the Government has taken since May 1997 to support the beef and sheep industry via EU agri-monetary compensation and relief from charges; acknowledges the steps taken specifically to help the sheep, pig and cereal sectors with targeted EU measures; and endorse the Government's intention to bring about a secure and viable future for United Kingdom farming by seeking a reformed Common Agricultural Policy, which is more economically rational, which reduces the bureaucratic burden on farmers, which enhances targeted support for the rural economy, which serves the consumer well and which contains fair and common rules to ensure that the United Kingdom's farming and food industries can exploit their competitive advantages in European and world markets.

9 Public Petitions, — A Public Petition from Mrs Diane Roberts and others relating to benefits for disabled women aged between sixty and sixty-five was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment, — Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. — (Mr David Clelland.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.50 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Representation of the People, — Draft Parliamentary Constituencies (England) (Miscellaneous Changes) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Social Security, — Draft Jobseeker's Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Open Spaces, — Draft The Hyde Park and The Regent's Park (Vehicle Parking) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

5 Fire Services, — Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4086] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Parliamentary Constituencies, — Report of the Boundary Commission for England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1087] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Public Accounts, — Treasury Minute on the Sixty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4075] [Dawn Primarolo].
Paper withdrawn:


APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1998 and the draft Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order and draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harold Best, Mr James Cran, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Fabricant, Jim Fitzpatrick, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr William Ross, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr William Thompson and Mr James Wray.

2 Draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr John Burnett, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Michael Clapham, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoey, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr David Lock, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Bob Russell, Mr Paul Stinchcombe and Mr John M. Taylor.

3 Draft Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to Insurance) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Colin Burgon, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Healey, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Shabir Singh, Mr Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

4 Draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Janet Anderson, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Nigel Jones, Fiona MacTaggart, Dr Doug Naysmith, Jacqui Smith, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Derek Twigg, Joan Walley, Mr Nigel Waterson and Mr David Watts.

European Standing Committees


APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 4th November [The Heritage Lottery Fund]; to be printed [No. 968–iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 4th November [Highly Able Children]; to be printed [No. 1139–i] [Charlotte Atkins].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Millennium Compliance of the Transport Industry]; to be printed [No. 1140–i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].
4 European Legislation,—Thirty-ninth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation: to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 122-XXXIX] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Third Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, on the Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC]; to be printed [No. 1142]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 4th November [Public Expenditure: Special Educational Needs]; to be printed [No. 1032–ii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 4th November [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 826–ii] [Mr David Marshall].

7 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 4th November [The Work of the Department of Trade and Industry]; to be printed [No. 1136–i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 233.]

Thursday 5th November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of Westminster Bill [Lords],—The City of Westminster Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

2 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords], as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means;
   Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Wednesday 11th November.

3 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords];
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Wednesday 11th November.

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Adjournment (Report of the Independent Commission on the Voting System (Cm. 4090)),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Dowd);
   And it being Ten 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 Monday 9th November, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Message from the Lords relating to the Scotland Bill shall have been received.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

7 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 10th November, paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments) shall apply to proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr William Hague as if this day were a half-day Opposition Day allotted under paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business) and the questions on that Motion shall be put at Seven o'clock.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

8 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 10th November, notwithstanding paragraph 1 of Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents), the Speaker shall put the questions on the Motions in the name of Mr William Hague relating to the Personal Equity Plan (Amendment) Regulations 1998, the Individual Savings Account Regulations 1998 and the Individual Savings Account (Insurance Companies) Regulations 1998 not later than one and a half hours after the start of proceedings on the first such Motion.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

9 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered, That Mr Mike Hall be discharged from the Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr Ivor Caplin be added to the Committee.—(Mr Graham Allen.)
10 Committee of Public Accounts,—**Ordered,** That Mr Christopher Leslie and Mr Phil Hope be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Gerry Steinberg and Mr Stephen Twigg be added to the Committee.— *(Mr Graham Allen.)*

11 Procedure Committee,—**Ordered,** That Mr Damian Green be discharged from the Procedure Committee and Mr Robert Syms be added to the Committee.— *(Mr Graham Allen.)*

12 Adjournment,—**Resolved,** That this House do now adjourn.— *(Mr Graham Allen.)*

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till Monday 9th November, pursuant to Order [22nd October].

[Adjourned at 10.25 p.m.]

**APPENDIX I**

**Papers presented or laid upon the Table:**

**Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:**

1 Government Trading Funds,—Draft Forensic Science Service Trading Fund Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Police,—Draft Functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

**Papers subject to Negative Resolution:**


5 Protection of Wrecks,—Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2708), dated 4th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

**Other Papers:**

6 Children’s Safeguards Review,—Paper, entitled The Government’s Response to the Children’s Safeguards Review [by Command] [Cm. 4105] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Defence Diversification,—Paper, entitled Defence Diversification: Getting the most out of defence technology—Proposals for a Defence Diversification Agency [by Command] [Cm. 4088] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Mental Health (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Science and Technology,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Economic and Social Research Council for 1997–98, with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

**Paper withdrawn:**

10 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998 [laid 29th October].

**APPENDIX II**

**Standing Committees**

1 Draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1998,—The Committee on Selection has discharged Mr Michael Clapham and Dr Lynda Clark from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Mark Todd and Audrey Wise.

2 Draft Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to Insurance) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ian Stewart from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Helen Jones.

**APPENDIX III**

**Reports from Select Committees**

1 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 5th November [The World Economy and the Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 1105-v] [Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords].—The Order for consideration of the Bodmin Moor Commons Bill [Lords] on Wednesday was read and discharged.

2 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:
   Competition Act 1998

3 Adjournment (Funding of Political Parties in the United Kingdom).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);
   And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

4 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That at this day's sitting, the Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

5 Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords];
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58 (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, That the Bill be not committed—(Mr Mike Hall):—It was agreed to.
   And a Motion being made, 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, without Amendment.

6 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1973), be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

7 Social Security.—Ordered, That the Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2211) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

8 Social Security.—Ordered, That the Social Security (Welfare to Work) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2231) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

9 Disabled Persons.—Ordered, That the Disability Discrimination (Exemption for Small Employers) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2618), be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

10 Catering.—Ordered, That Mr Thomas Graham be discharged from the Catering Committee and Rosemary McKenna be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Education and Employment.—Ordered, That Ms Margaret Hodge and Mr Gerry Steinberg be discharged from the Education and Employment Committee and Mr Gordon Marsden and Mr Malcolm Wicks be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Home Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Ross Cranston and Ms Beverley Hughes be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee and Miss Melanie Johnson and Mr Paul Stinchcombe be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
13 Information,—Ordered, That Mr John Whittingdale be discharged from the Information Committee and Mr Tim Collins be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

14 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Desmond Browne be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Mr Stephen McCabe be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Social Security,—Ordered, That Mr Paul Goggins, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Frank Roy, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Malcolm Wicks be discharged from the Social Security Committee and Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mrs Joan Humble and Kali Mountford be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That Gillian Merron be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Helen Southworth be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

17 Treasury,—Ordered, That Mr Charles Clarke and Ms Ruth Kelly be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Dr Lewis Moonie and Jacqui Smith be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

18 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that this House do now adjourn—(Mr Mike Hall);

The Speaker suspended the sitting until a Message was received from the Lords relating to the Scotland Bill, pursuant to Order [5th November].

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

The Lords have agreed to the Scotland Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

20 Scotland Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Scotland Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 256].

21 Adjournment,—Question, That this House do now adjourn, put and agreed to.

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 delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 6th November 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, pursuant to Order [22nd October]) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Treaty Series (No. 51, 1998).—Agreement, done at Hong Kong on 5th November 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China for the Transfer of Sentenced Persons [Cm. 4099] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 6th November 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, pursuant to Order [22nd October]) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Aid and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2727), dated 4th November 1998 [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 9th November 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

4 Income Tax,—Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

5 Compliance Cost Assessments,—List of Compliance Cost Assessments for 1st January 1998 to 30th June 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4091] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

6 House of Commons Commission,—Report of the House of Commons Commission on the nomination of a Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards; to be printed [No. 1143] [The Speaker].

7 Science and Technology,—Report of the Natural Environment Research Council for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

8 Statistics of Trade,—Production and Construction Inquiries: Summary Volume 1996 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1998 and the draft Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1998:

The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order and draft Regulations, in place of Mrs Ray Michie.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 9th November [The World Economy and the Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 1105-vi] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 235.]

Tuesday 10th November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1998 and the draft Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1998.

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

2 Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) (Amendment),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Act 1998 to require the Secretary of State to produce a report on reducing traffic levels to below 1997 levels by 2002: And that Mr Tom Brake, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Norman Baker and Mr Andrew Stunell do prepare and bring it in.

3 Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Tom Brake accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Act 1998 to require the Secretary of State to produce a report on reducing traffic levels to below 1997 levels by 2002: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 257].

4 Factory Closures,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House is concerned about the continued spate of factory closures and job losses; condemns the Government’s failure to take urgent action to give manufacturing a chance; believes that this Government’s actions in increasing business taxes and regulation have made the position worse; asks the Government to explain how far they will go in implementing the
McKinsey Report on productivity; and urges the Government to change policy before more jobs are lost—(Mr John Redwood).

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 ‘recognises that the last thing business wants is a return to the boom and bust policies of the past, with interest rates of 15 per cent., inflation above 10 per cent. and a budget deficit averaging £41 billion a year from 1992 to 1996; welcomes the Government’s decisive action in taking politics out of interest rate decisions, a move which the Opposition clearly does not support; notes that employment is currently 400,000 higher than it was when the Government came into office, and that long-term interest rates are at their lowest for 35 years; welcomes the measures that the Government has taken to encourage enterprise, investment and innovation, and to help unemployed people into jobs; welcomes the McKinsey Report as an important contribution to the productivity debate and notes that, unlike its predecessor, this Government acted to increase competitive conditions through a new Competition Act; and condemns the Opposition for its own record in government, when manufacturing employment declined by 2½ million and Britain went into deficit on manufacturing trade for the first time ever in peacetime’, instead thereof. (Mr Secretary Mandelson.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question, pursuant to Order [5th November]:

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 154.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 323.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Order—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House recognises that the last thing business wants is a return to the boom and bust policies of the past, with interest rates of 15 per cent., inflation above 10 per cent. and a budget deficit averaging £41 billion a year from 1992 to 1996; welcomes the Government’s decisive action in taking politics out of interest rate decisions, a move which the Opposition clearly does not support; notes that employment is currently 400,000 higher than it was when the Government came into office, and that long-term interest rates are at their lowest for 35 years; welcomes the measures that the Government has taken to encourage enterprise, investment and innovation, and to help unemployed people into jobs; welcomes the McKinsey Report as an important contribution to the productivity debate and notes that, unlike its predecessor, this Government acted to increase competitive conditions through a new Competition Act; and condemns the Opposition for its own record in government, when manufacturing employment declined by 2½ million and Britain went into deficit on manufacturing trade for the first time ever in peacetime.

5 European Parliamentary Elections Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Reasons for insisting on their Amendments disagreed to by the Commons.

The Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments in page 2, line 1, page 2, line 2, page 2, line 15, and page 2, line 18, was read, as follows:

Because electors should be able to vote for the individual party candidate of their choice.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its disagreement with the Lords in their Amendments—(Mr Secretary Straw);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mrs Anne McGuire: 307.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 125.

So the Question was agreed to.

It being Ten o’clock, further consideration of the European Parliamentary Elections Bill stood adjourned.

6 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted Business), That, at this day’s sitting, the European Parliamentary Elections Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.
7 European Parliamentary Elections Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Reasons for insisting on their Amendments disagreed to by the Commons.

An Amendment was proposed to the Bill, in lieu of the Lords Amendments, in page 3, line 46, at the end to insert the words—

Review of electoral system

(1) The Secretary of State shall appoint one or more persons—

(a) to review the operation of the system of election provided for by section 3 of the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978 as substituted by section 1 of this Act, and

(b) to make a report to the Secretary of State within six months from the day of appointment.

(2) the Secretary of State shall carry out his duty under subsection (1) within one month from the date of the first general election to the European Parliament which takes place after the coming into force of section 1.

(3) The Secretary of State shall lay a copy of any report received under subsection (1)(b) before each House of Parliament.-(Mr Mike Hall.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made:—It was agreed to.

8 Income Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Personal Equity Plan (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1869), dated 31st July 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 31st July, be annulled-(Mr Nick Gibb);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 116.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 293.

So the Question was negatived.

9 Agriculture,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Meat and Livestock Commission Levy (Variation) Scheme (Confirmation) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 21st July, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

10 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Government (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 21st July, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

11 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 23rd July, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

12 Social Action Programme (1998–2000),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Document No. 8328/98, a Commission Communication on its proposed Social Action Programme for 1998–2000; supports the Government’s view that the Programme rightly places jobs at the heart of its framework for action; and also supports the Government’s intention to give due consideration to specific Commission proposals as they come forward—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

13 Forestry,—Ordered, That the Environmental Assessment (Forestry) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1731), dated 21st July 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 23rd July, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr David Hanson.)

14 Animals,—Ordered, That the Cattle Database Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1796), dated 20th July 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th July, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr David Hanson.)

15 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) citizens of Coventry opposed to any reduction in National Health Service emergency facilities in the centre of the city; and

(2) the British Pensioners and Trade Union Action Association of Coventry in support of the welfare state

were presented; 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 David Hanson);

Wednesday 11th November 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Twelve o'clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.08 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Churches Conservation,—Report and Accounts of the Churches Conservation Trust for 1997-98 [by Measure] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4 Environment,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for 1997-98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee on 10th November [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 1104-ii] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 10th November [Local Government Finance]; to be printed [No. 1126-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 10th November [Sierra Leone]; to be printed [No. 1057-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee on 10th November [The Work of the Lord Chancellor's Department]; to be printed [No. 1145-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Eighth Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, on the 1998 Departmental Report]; to be printed [No. 1144] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 10th November [Annual Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1997-98]; to be printed [No. 934-iii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Standards and Privileges,—Nineteenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Retirement of the Parliamentary Commissioner, together with an Appendix (Memorandum by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards); to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1147] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Forty-seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 33-xlvi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee on 10th November [Strategic Export Controls]; to be printed [No. 1146-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].
10 Welsh Affairs,—(1) Fourth Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Investment in Industry 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. 821];

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee on the Present Crisis in the Welsh Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 1148]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Investment in Industry in Wales]

[Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 236.]

Wednesday 11th November 1998.

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 David Hanson);

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

2 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 17th November.

3 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That the promoters of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] shall have leave to suspend proceedings thereon in order to proceed with the Bill, if they think fit, in the next Session of Parliament, provided that the Agents for the Bill give notice to the Clerks in the Private Bill Office of their intention to suspend further proceedings not later than the day before the close of the present Session and that all Fees due on the Bill up to that date be paid;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the next 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 present 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 shall be ordered to be read a second time;

That the Petition against the Bill presented in the present Session which stands referred to the Committee on the Bill shall stand referred to the Committee on the Bill in the next Session;

That no Petitioners shall be heard before the Committee on the Bill, unless their Petition has been presented within the time limited within the present Session or deposited pursuant to paragraph (b) of Standing Order 126 relating to Private Business;

That, in relation to the Bill, Standing Order 127 relating to Private Business shall have effect as if the words "under Standing Order 126 (Reference to committee of petitions against Bill)" were omitted;

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 the present Session;

That these Orders be Standing Orders of the House.—(The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1998.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to Insurance) Order 1998. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Roger Gale reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7046/98, Commission Communication on the Establishment of a new Financial Perspective for the period 2000-2006; 7221/98, Commission report on the implementation of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 29th October 1993 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure together with proposals for renewal; 9302/98, the European Court of Auditors Special Report No. 6/98 on the Court’s assessment of the system of resources based on VAT and GNP; and 11666/98, Commission report on the operation of the Own Resources system; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community and to ensure the fair financing of the EU, reflecting Member States’ ability to pay.

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

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

The Lords have agreed to the Regional Development Agencies Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

8 Regional Development Agencies Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Regional Development Agencies Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 259].

9 Registration of Nannies,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to extend local authority registers under the Children Act 1989 to cover nannies who look after children on domestic premises: And that Mr Keith Vaz, Mr David Taylor, Mr Martin Salter, Jackie Ballard, Mrs Helen Brinton, Ms Ruth Kelly, Caroline Flint, Ms Julie Morgan, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr David Kidney and Mrs Anne Campbell do prepare and bring it in.

10 Registration of Nannies Bill,—Mr Keith Vaz accordingly presented a Bill to extend local authority registers under the Children Act 1989 to cover nannies who look after children on domestic premises: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 258].

11 Scotland Bill (Programme).—Ordered, That the Order [13th January] relating to the Scotland Bill (Programme) be supplemented as follows—

Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed in two allotted days and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion three and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill on the second allotted day.

2.—(1) The Lords Amendments shall be considered in the following order, namely: Nos. 215 to 220, 1 to 87, 125 to 129, 237 to 278, 88 to 124, 130 to 214, 221 to 236 and 279 to 302.

(2) The two allotted days shall be allotted in the manner shown in the Table set out below.

(3) Each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the expiry of the period (calculated from the commencement of proceedings on the Bill) specified in the second column of the Table.

| TABLE |
|---|---|---|
| Allotted day | Lords Amendments | Allotted period |
| First day | Nos. 215 to 220 and 1 | 1 hour 30 minutes |
| | Nos. 2 to 22 | 2 hours |
| | Nos. 23 to 52 | 3 hours 30 minutes |
| | Nos. 53 to 87 | 4 hours |
| | Nos. 125 to 129 | 5 hours 30 minutes |
| | Nos. 237 to 278 | 6 hours 30 minutes |
| Second day | Nos. 88 to 124, 130 to 214, 221 to 236 and 279 to 302 | 3 hours 30 minutes |

3.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2.

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question already proposed from the Chair and not yet decided.
(3) If that Question is for the amendment of a Lords Amendment the Speaker shall then put forthwith—
   (a) the Question on any further amendment to the Lords Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown, and
   (b) the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in the Amendment or (as the case may be) in the Amendment as amended.

(4) The Speaker shall then designate such of the remaining Lords Amendments as appear to the Speaker to involve questions of Privilege.

(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith—
   (a) the Question on any Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords Amendment, and
   (b) the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in the Amendment or (as the case may be) in the Amendment as amended.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees with the Lords in a Lords Amendment.

(7) The Speaker shall then put forthwith with respect to the Lords Amendments designated by the Speaker which have not been disposed of the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in those Amendments.

(8) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(9) 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 which is moved by a Minister of the Crown and relevant to the Lords Amendment.

(10) 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.

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

Supplemental

4. A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting at which it is appointed.

5. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on Consideration of the Lords Amendments—
   (a) on the first allotted day, for any part of the period of six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill which falls after Ten o'clock, and
   (b) on the second allotted day, for any part of the period of three and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill which falls after Ten o'clock.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

12 Scotland Bill (Lords Amendments) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Scotland Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 215.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Secretary Dewar);

And one and a half hours having elapsed since the start of proceedings on the Lords Amendments this day, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Clelland: 303.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 173.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Lords Amendment Nos. 216 to 220 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 1 was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 31 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 32.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Henry McLeish);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Greg Pope: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Tim Collins: 119.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 33 and 34 were disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendments Nos. 32 to 34 disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 35 to 87 and 125 to 127 were agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 128 and 129 were disagreed to.

Amendments ((a), (b) and (c)) were made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendments Nos. 128 and 129 disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 237 to 278 were agreed to.

Ordered, That further consideration of the Lords Amendments be now adjourned.

(Mr Keith Hill.)

Lords Amendments to be further considered to-morrow.

13 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill):—It was agreed to.

14 Representation of the People,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill):—It was agreed to.

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.53 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Draft Broadcasting (Restrictions on the Holding of Licences) (Amendment) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Environmental Protection,—Groundwater Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2746), dated 6th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

5 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas,—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Wales for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].


7 European Communities (No. 5, 1998),—Convention, done at Brussels on 29th November 1996, on the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the Convention on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations opened for Signature in Rome on 19th June 1980, and to the First and
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Harry Cohen, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Kidney, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Tim Loughton, Mrs Theresa May, Laura Moffatt, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Andrew Rowe, Joan Ryan, Mr Paul Truswell, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr David Winnick.

2 Draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1998 and the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nigel Beard, Ms Judith Church, Mr Tim Collins, Yvette Cooper, Mr John Cummings, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Chris Pond, Joan Ryan, Mr Andrew Smith and Steve Webb.

3 Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr John Burnett, Mr Keith Darvill, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Ellyn Llwyd, Mr David Lock, Mr John McDonnell, Ms Joan Ruddock, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Paul Sawford and Mr John M. Taylor.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Julian Brazier, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Paul Goggins, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Kevin Hughes, Judy Mallaber, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Stephen Pound, Angela Smith, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr Stephen Timms and Mr Phil Woolas.

5 Draft Education (Grammar School Ballots) Regulations 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr John Bercow, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Geraint Davies, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Damian Green, Ms Beverley Hughes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Estelle Morris, Dan Norris, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Rachel Squire, Mr Robert Syms and Mr Phil Willis.

6 Draft Parliamentary Constituencies (England) (Miscellaneous Changes) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tom Brake, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr John Greenway, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr George Howarth, Mrs Tess Kingham, Mr David Lepper, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Kerry Pollard, Miss Geraldine Smith, Paddy Tipping and Mr Nigel Waterson.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Paul Goggins, Jane Griffiths, Mr Kevin Hughes, Ms Melanie Johnson, Ms Jenny
Jones, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Edward Leigh, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Desmond Turner and Steve Webb.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Caroline Flint, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr John Grogan, Mr John Hayes, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr Tony McWalter, Mrs Theresa May, Estelle Morris, Rachel Squire, Mr Nick St Aubyn, Dr George Turner and Mr Phil Willis.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Norman Baker, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr George Galloway, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Richard Shepherd and Sir Robert Smith.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Clive Betts, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Richard Burden, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Andrew George, Helen Jones, Mr Richard Livsey, Mr David Prior, Mr Allan Rogers, Mr Jeff Rooker, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr Llew Smith, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Derek Wyatt.

European Standing Committees

11 The Speaker appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Community Document No. 9597/98, relating to Agrimonetary Arrangements and the Introduction of the Euro.

12 The Speaker appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Community Document No. 9690/98, relating to European Community Development Aid to South Africa.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 11th November [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 1127-ii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th November [Integrated Transport White Paper]; to be printed [No. 1141-i]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 11th November [Maritime and Coastguard Agency]; to be printed [No. 1149-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Legislation,—(1) Fortieth Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 155-xl]; and

(2) Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 8th July; to be printed [No. 1150] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Fourth Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Prison Service in Northern Ireland], 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. 716] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee on 11th November [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 627-vii] [Dr Michael Clark].
Thursday 12th November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1998.

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

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

The Lords have agreed to the Waste Minimisation Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords insist on their Amendments to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill to which the Commons have disagreed, and disagree to the Amendment proposed by the Commons in lieu thereof, for which insistence they assign their Reason.

3 European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed and for disagreeing to the Commons Amendment in lieu to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 260].

4 Liaison,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee on 5th November be printed [No. 1152].

5 Adjournment (The Royal Navy),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Graham Allen);

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

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition for the Bricket Wood Residents' Association relating to traffic in Bricket Wood was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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 Graham Allen.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till Monday 16th November, pursuant to Order [22nd October].

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Contracts,—Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Rate of Interest) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2765), dated 12th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

4 Video Recordings,—Proposal by the Home Secretary for the designation of Lord Taylor of Warwick and Janet Lewis Jones as authorities to determine the suitability of video works for classification [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

5 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 12th November 1998, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Winter Supplementary Estimates for 1998–99 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].
6 Defence (Votes A), 1998–99.—Supplementary Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1132] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

7 Environmental Protection.—Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 European Union,—Paper, entitled The Scrutiny of European Union Business [by Command] [Cm. 4095] [Margaret Beckett].

9 Science and Technology.—Report of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

10 Supply Estimates, 1998–99.—(1) Winter Supplementary Estimates for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 857] [Dawn Primarolo]; and
   (2) Winter Supplementary Estimate (Class XVIII, A, House of Commons) for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1133] [The Speaker].

11 Supply Estimates, 1999–00.—(1) Estimates (Classes I-XVIII), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1999–00 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1134] [Dawn Primarolo];
   (2) Estimates for the House of Commons Commission (Class XVIII, A) for which a Vote on Account is required for 1999–00 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1135] [The Speaker]; and
   (3) Estimates for the National Audit Office (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1), for which a Vote on Account is required for 1999–00 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1136] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

12 Voluntary Sector, —Paper, entitled Compact—Getting it Right Together, on Relations between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector in England [by Command] [Cm. 4100] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Harry Barnes and Mr Stephen Hesford from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Roger Berry and Mr Bill Etherington.

2 Draft Education (Grammar School Ballots) Regulations 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ivor Caplin and Mr Roger Casale from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Andrew Dismore and Mr Win Griffiths.

3 Draft Parliamentary Constituencies (England) (Miscellaneous Changes) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Lepper and Mr Gordon Marsden from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Ms Karen Buck and Mr Peter Snape.

4 Education (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1973),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Caroline Flint and Mr John Grogan from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Valerie Davey and Mr Eric Illsley.

5 Cattle Database Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1796),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Allan Rogers from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Gordon Prentice.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 12th November [The Heritage Lottery Fund]; to be printed [No. 968-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee on 12th November [Primary Care Groups]; to be printed [No. 1151] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Treasury,—Ninth Report from the Treasury Committee [The Mis-selling of Personal Pensions], 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. 712] [Mr Giles Radice].
Monday 16th November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Order for second reading of the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] to-morrow was read and discharged.

2 Liaison,—Mr Robert Sheldon reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (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 an allotted day (being the first allotted day in the next Session of Parliament):

That a day not later than 6th February be allotted for the consideration of the following Votes on Account for the financial year 1999–2000:

1. Class IV, Votes 1 and 2: Home Office administration, police, probation, immigration and other services, England and Wales, and Prisons, England and Wales, in so far as they relate to prison sentences and alternatives to prison sentences;

2. Class I, Votes 1 and 3: Department for Education and Employment: programmes and central services and Employment Service; and Class XII: Department of Social Security, insofar as they relate to New Deal Pathfinders and Pathways into Work for Lone Parents;

and that debate on the first Estimate be interrupted not later than three hours after its commencement.

Report to lie upon the Table.

3 Scotland Bill (Lords Amendments) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Lords Amendments to the Scotland Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 88 to 124, 130 to 214, 221 to 236 and 279 to 285 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 106, 112 and 151.

Lords Amendment No. 286

An Amendment (a) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 287 to 302 were agreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 215 to 220.

Ordered, That Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire and Mr Henry McLeish be Members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Henry McLeish be the Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately. —(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

4 Regional Development Agencies Bill [Ways and Means].—Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Regional Development Agencies Bill, it is expedient to authorise the imposition of charges to corporation tax by provisions relating to the taxation of persons who are transferors or transferees in relation to schemes under the Act for the transfer of property, rights or liabilities.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

5 Regional Development Agencies Bill (Lords Amendments).—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Regional Development Agencies Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 7 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 7.

6 European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Lords Amendments).—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed and for disagreeing to the Commons Amendment in lieu.
The Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments in page 2, line 1, page 2, line 2, page 2, line 15, and page 2, line 18 and for disagreeing to the Commons Amendment in lieu, was read, as follows:

Because electors should be able to vote for the individual party candidate of their choice, and this should not be conditional on the outcome of a review.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House insists on its disagreement with the Lords in their Amendments but does not insist on its Amendment in lieu—(Mr Secretary Straw);

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

Business of the House,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted Business), That, at this day's sitting, the European Parliamentary Elections Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Mike Hall):—It was agreed to.

European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed and for disagreeing to the Commons Amendment in lieu.

The House resumed the adjourned Debate on the Question, That this House insists on its disagreement with the Lords in their Amendments but does not insist on its Amendment in lieu.

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Clive Betts: 309.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 122.

So the Question was agreed to.

An Amendment was made to the Bill, in lieu of the Lords Amendments, in page 3, line 46, at the end, to insert

"Review of electoral system—(1) The Secretary of State shall appoint one or more persons—

(a) to review, in accordance with subsection 2, the operation of the system of election provided for by section 3 of the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978 as substituted by section I of this Act, and

(b) to make a report to the Secretary of State within six months from the day of appointment.

(2) The review shall consider, in particular, how the ability of electors to vote for particular persons on a party’s list of candidates might affect the results of an election.

(3) The Secretary of State shall carry out his duty under subsection (1) within one month from the date of the first general election to the European Parliament which takes place after the coming into force of section 1.

(4) The Secretary of State shall lay a copy of any report received under subsection (1)(b) before each House of Parliament."—(Mr David Jamieson.)

Broadcasting,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Channel 4 (Application of Excess Revenues) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

Legal Aid and Advice,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

Contracting Out,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to Insurance) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 22nd October, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

Agenda 2000: Financial Aspects,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Community Documents Nos. 7046/98, Commission Communication on the Establishment of a new Financial Perspective for the period 2000–2006; 7221/98, Commission report on the implementation of the Inter-institutional
Agreement of 29th October 1993 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure together with proposals for renewal; 9302/98, the European Court of Auditors Special Report No. 6/98 on the Court’s assessment of the system of resources based on VAT and GNP; and 11666/98, Commission report on the operation of the Own Resources system; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community and to ensure the fair financing of the EU, reflecting Member States’ ability to pay—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

13 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 17th November, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to Scrutiny of European Business not later than one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the first such Motion, and such Questions shall include the Questions on any amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

14 Liaison,—Ordered, That Mrs Margaret Hodge be discharged from the Liaison Committee and Mr Malcolm Wicks be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

15 Scotland Bill,—Mr Henry McLeish reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 215 to 220 to the Scotland Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason accordingly, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Amendments Nos. 215 to 220 made by the Lords in page 57, line 5; in page 57, line 9; in page 57, lines 15 to 17; in page 57, lines 18 to 37; in page 57, lines 38 to 43; and in page 57, line 46, for the following Reason:

Because the constituencies and regions for the purpose of elections to the Scottish Parliament should be a matter for Parliament.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.50 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 13th November 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, pursuant to Order [22nd October]) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 16th November 1998

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

4 Prisons,—Draft Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) (No. 2) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Education,—Education (Schools and Further Education) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2792), dated 12th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Family Law,—Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2799), dated 16th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 National Health Service,—Bethlem and Maudsley National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2790), dated 12th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
8 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2772), dated 6th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

9 Agricultural Marketing,—Report and Accounts of Food from Britain for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

10 Environmental Audit,—Government Response to the Second Report from the Environmental Audit Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Greening Government Initiative [by Command] [Cm. 4108] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 National Lottery,—Report and Accounts of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland National Lottery Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

12 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [19th October] from residents of East Gomeldon, the Winterbournes and others for the clearance of buried ordnance [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Ms Joan Ruddock (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Alice Mahon.

2 Education (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1973),—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Valerie Davey (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Caroline Flint.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on Monday 16th November [The Forensic Science Service]; to be printed [No. 1186-i] [Mr David Davis].

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

The promoters of the City of Westminster Bill [Lords] shall have leave to suspend proceedings thereon in order to proceed with the Bill, if they think fit, in the next Session of Parliament, provided that the Agents for the Bill give notice to the Clerks in the Private Bill Office not later than the day before the close of the present Session of their intention to suspend further proceedings and that all Fees due on the Bill up to that date be paid;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the next 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 present 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 committed (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read and committed);

That the Petition relating to the Bill presented in the present Session which stands referred to the Committee on the Bill shall stand referred to the Committee on the Bill in the next Session;
That no Petitioners shall be heard before the Committee on the Bill, unless their Petition has been presented within the time limited within the present Session or deposited pursuant to paragraph (b) of Standing Order 126 relating to Private Business;

That, in relation to the Bill, Standing Order 127 relating to Private Business shall have effect as if the words "under Standing Order 126 (Reference to committee of petitions against Bill)" were omitted;

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 the present Session;

That these Orders be Standing Orders of the House.—(The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1998 and the draft Jobseeker's Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1998.

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

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998.

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

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2211).

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

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Education (Grammar School Ballots) Regulations 1998.

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

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Parliamentary Constituencies (England) (Miscellaneous Changes) Order 1998.

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

7 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Social Security (Welfare to Work) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2231).

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 insist on their Amendments to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill to which the Commons have disagreed, and disagree to the further Amendment proposed by the Commons in lieu thereof, for which insistence and disagreement they assign their Reason.

The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Scotland Bill to which the Commons have disagreed, they have agreed without Amendment to the Amendments proposed by the Commons in lieu of certain other Lords Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed, and they have agreed without Amendment to the Amendment made by the Commons to a further Lords Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Northern Ireland Bill, with Amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Lords communicate that they have considered the Message from the Commons [12th November] relating to the Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords]; and that they have come to the following Resolutions in respect of the Bill, viz:

That the promoters of the Bill have leave to suspend any further proceedings thereon in this Session in order to proceed with the Bill in the next Session of Parliament, notice of their intention to do so having been deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than 12 noon to-morrow.
That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than noon on the second sitting day in the next Session with a declaration annexed, signed by the agent stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill at the last stage of the proceedings thereon in this House in the present Session;

That the proceedings on the Bill in the next Session of Parliament be pro forma in regard to every stage through which the Bill has passed in the present Session, and that no new fees be charged to such stages;

That the Private Business Standing Orders apply to the Bill in the next Session only in regard to any stage through which the Bill has not passed during the present Session.

London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolutions in respect of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords]; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House, viz:—

That the promoters of the Bill have leave to suspend any further proceedings thereon in order to proceed with it, if they think fit, in the next Session of Parliament, provided that notice of their intention to do so is lodged in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than 12 noon to-morrow and that all fees due on or before that day have been paid;

That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than noon on the second sitting day in the next Session with a declaration annexed, signed by the agent, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill at the last stage of the proceedings thereon in this House in the present Session;

That the proceedings on the Bill in the next Session of Parliament be pro forma in regard to every stage through which the Bill has passed in the present Session, and that no new fees be charged to such stages;

That the Private Business Standing Orders apply to the Bill in the next Session only in regard to any stage through which the Bill has not passed during the present Session.

European Parliamentary Elections Bill,—Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed, and for disagreeing to the further Amendment proposed by the Commons in lieu to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 262].

Northern Ireland Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Northern Ireland Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 263].

Stakeholder Pension,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require persons to contribute to a personal retirement pension scheme administered by an approved welfare supplier; to make provision with respect to contributions into and payments out of such schemes; to establish arrangements for the strategic direction and monitoring of pensions; and for connected purposes—(Mr Frank Field);

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. 23 (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 James Plaskitt, Mr Paul Stinchcombe: 37.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Howard Flight: 1.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Frank Field, Sir Peter Tapsell, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Jackie Ballard, Steve Webb, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Malcolm Wicks, Mr Clifford Forsythe and Mr David Davis do prepare and bring in the Bill.

Stakeholder Pension Bill,—Mr Frank Field accordingly presented a Bill to require persons to contribute to a personal retirement pension scheme administered by an approved welfare supplier; to make provision with respect to contributions into and payments out of such schemes; to establish arrangements for the strategic direction and monitoring of pensions; 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 261].

Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at this day's sitting the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords shall have been received.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)
14 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 1).—Resolved, That this House approves the Seventh Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons on the Scrutiny of European Business (HC 791) and takes note of the White Paper on the Scrutiny of European Business (Cm. 4095).—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

15 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 2).—Resolved, That the Resolution of the House of 24th October 1990 relating to European Community Legislation be rescinded and the following Resolution be made:

That,

(1) No Minister of the Crown should give agreement in the Council or in the European Council to any proposal for European Community legislation or for a common position or joint action under Title V or a joint position, joint action or convention under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union:

(a) which is still subject to scrutiny (that is, on which the European Scrutiny Committee has not completed its scrutiny) or

(b) which is awaiting consideration by the House (that is, which has been recommended by the European Scrutiny Committee for consideration pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees) but in respect of which the House has not come to a Resolution).

(2) In this Resolution, any reference to agreement to a proposal includes—

(a) agreement to a programme, plan or recommendation for European Community legislation;

(b) political agreement;

(c) in the case of a proposal on which the Council acts in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 189b of the Treaty of Rome (co-decision), agreement to a common position, to a joint text, and to confirmation of the common position (with or without amendments proposed by the European Parliament); and

(d) in the case of a proposal on which the Council acts in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 189c of the Treaty of Rome (co-operation), agreement to a common position.

(3) The Minister concerned may, however, give agreement—

(a) to a proposal which is still subject to scrutiny if he considers that it is confidential, routine or trivial or is substantially the same as a proposal on which scrutiny has been completed;

(b) to a proposal which is awaiting consideration by the House if the European Scrutiny Committee has indicated that agreement need not be withheld pending consideration.

(4) The Minister concerned may also give agreement to a proposal which is still subject to scrutiny or awaiting consideration by the House if he decides that for special reasons agreement should be given; but he should explain his reasons—

(a) in every such case, to the European Scrutiny Committee at the first opportunity after reaching his decision; and

(b) in the case of a proposal awaiting consideration by the House, to the House at the first opportunity after giving agreement.

(5) In relation to any proposal which requires adoption by unanimity, abstention shall, for the purposes of paragraph (4), be treated as giving agreement.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

16 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 3).—Resolved, That, upon the entering into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam, the Resolution on Scrutiny of European Business (No. 2) shall have effect with the following modifications:

In paragraph (1) the words "a common position or joint action under Title V or a joint position, joint action or convention under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union" are replaced by the words "a common strategy, joint action or common position under Title V or a common position, framework decision, decision or convention under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union"; and

in paragraph (2)(c) the words "a common position, to a joint text, and to confirmation of the common position (with or without amendments proposed by the European Parliament)" are replaced by the words "a common position, to an act in the form of a common position incorporating amendments proposed by the European Parliament, and to a joint text".—(Mr Graham Allen.)
Ordered, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session, Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees) be replaced by the following Standing Order (European Standing Committees):

"...(1) There shall be three standing committees, called European Standing Committees, to which shall stand referred for consideration on motion, unless the House otherwise orders, such European Union documents as defined in Standing Order No. 143 (European Scrutiny Committee) as may be recommended by the European Scrutiny Committee for further consideration.

(2) If a motion that specified European Union documents as aforesaid shall not stand referred to a European Standing Committee is made by a Member of the Crown at the commencement of public business, the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(3) Each European Standing Committee shall consist of thirteen Members nominated for the duration of a Parliament by the Committee of Selection; and in nominating such Members, the Committee of Selection shall—

(a) have regard to the qualifications of the Members nominated and to the composition of the House; and

(b) have power to discharge Members from time to time, and to appoint others in substitution.

(4) The quorum of a European Standing Committee shall be three, excluding the chairman.

(5) Any Member, though not nominated to a European Standing Committee, may take part in the committee’s proceedings and may move amendments to any motion made as provided in paragraphs (7) and (8) below, but such Member shall not make any motion, vote or be counted in the quorum; provided that a Minister of the Crown who is a Member of this House but not nominated to the committee may make a motion as provided in paragraphs (7) and (8) below; and the Government may appoint the precedence of notices of motion to be considered in each committee.

(6) The European Standing Committees, and the principal subject matter of the European Union documents to be referred to each, shall be as set out below; and in making recommendations for further consideration, the European Scrutiny Committee shall specify the committee to which in its opinion the documents ought to be referred; and subject to paragraph (2) of this order, the documents shall be referred to that committee accordingly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Standing Committees</th>
<th>Principal subject matter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Matters within the responsibility of the following Departments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Environment, Transport and the Regions; Forestry Commission; and analogous responsibilities of Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>HM Treasury (including HM Customs and Excise); Social Security; Foreign and Commonwealth Office; International Development; Home Office; Lord Chancellor’s Department; together with any matters not otherwise allocated by this order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Trade and Industry; Education and Employment; Culture, Media and Sport; Health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(7) The chairman may permit Ministers of the Crown to make statements and to answer questions thereon put by Members, in respect of each motion relative to a European Union document or documents referred to a European Standing Committee of which a Minister shall have given notice; but no question shall be taken after the expiry of a period of one hour from the commencement of the first such statement:
Provided that the chairman may, if he sees fit, allow questions to be taken for a further period of not more than half an hour after the expiry of that period.

(8) Following the conclusion of the proceedings under the previous paragraph the motion referred to therein may be made, to which amendments may be moved; and, if proceedings thereon have not been previously concluded the chairman shall interrupt the consideration of such motion and amendments when the committee shall have sat for a period of two and a half hours, and shall then put forthwith successively:

(a) the question on any amendment already proposed from the chair; and
(b) the main question (or the main question, as amended).

The chairman shall thereupon report to the House any resolution to which the committee has come, or that it has come to no resolution, without any further question being put.

(9) If any motion is made in the House in relation to any European Union document in respect of which a report has been made to the House in accordance with paragraph (8) of this order, the Speaker shall forthwith put successively—

(a) the question on any amendment selected by her which may be moved; and
(b) the main question (or the main question, as amended);

and proceedings in pursuance of this paragraph, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business.

(10) With the modifications provided in this order, the following Standing Orders shall apply to European Standing Committees:

No. 85 (Chairmen of standing committees);

No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees); and

No. 89 (Procedure in standing committees).” — (Mr Graham Allen.)

18 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 5),—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 143 (Select Committee on European Legislation) be replaced by the following Standing Order (European Scrutiny Committee):

“(1) There shall be a select committee, to be called the European Scrutiny Committee, to examine European Union documents and—

(a) to report its opinion on the legal and political importance of each such document and, where it considers appropriate, to report also on the reasons for its opinion and on any matters of principle, policy or law which may be affected;

(b) to make recommendations for the further consideration of any such document pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees); and

(c) to consider any issue arising upon any such document or group of documents or related matters.

The expression ‘European Union document’ in this order and in Standing Orders No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), No. 89 (Procedure in standing committees) and No. 119 (European Standing Committees) means—

(i) any proposal under the Community Treaties for legislation by the Council or the Council acting jointly with the European Parliament;

(ii) any document which is published for submission to the European Council, the Council or the European Central Bank;

(iii) any proposal to define a common position or for joint action under Title V of the Treaty on European Union which is prepared for submission to the Council;

(iv) any proposal for a joint position, joint action or a convention under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union which is prepared for submission to the Council;

(v) any document (not falling within (ii), (iii) or (iv) above) which is published by one Union institution for or with a view to submission to another Union institution and which does not relate exclusively to consideration of any proposal for legislation;

(vi) any other document relating to European Union matters deposited in the House by a Minister of the Crown.

(2) The committee shall consist of sixteen Members.

(3) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have the assistance of the Counsel to the Speaker.
(4) The committee shall have power to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee's order of reference.

(5) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time.

(6) The quorum of the committee shall be five.

(7) The committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees and to refer to such sub-committees any of the matters referred to the committee.

(8) Every such sub-committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report to the committee from time to time.

(9) The committee shall have power to report from time to time the minutes of evidence taken before such sub-committees.

(10) The quorum of every such sub-committee shall be two.

(11) The committee shall have power to seek from any committee specified in paragraph (14) of this order its opinion on any European Union document, and to require a reply to such request within such time as it may specify.

(12) The committee or any sub-committee appointed by it shall have leave to meet concurrently with any committee specified in paragraph (14) of this order or with any committee of the Lords on the European Communities, or any sub-committee of that committee, for the purposes of deliberating or examining witnesses.

(13) The committee shall have power to communicate to any committee specified in paragraph (14) of this order its evidence or any other document related to matters of common interest.

(14) The committees specified for the purpose of this order are those appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) including any sub-committees of such committees, the Select Committee on Public Administration, the Committee of Public Accounts, and the Environmental Audit Committee.

(15) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.——(Mr Graham Allen.)

19 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 6).—Ordered, That the following consequential Amendments to Standing Orders be made:

In Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community Documents), line 3, leave out “Community documents” and insert “Union documents (as defined in Standing Order No. 143 (European Scrutiny Committee))”.

In Standing Order No. 89 (Procedure in standing committees), line 18, leave out “Community” and insert “Union”.

In Standing Order No. 146 (Select Committee on Public Administration), line 20, at the end insert:

“(c) to communicate to the European Scrutiny Committee its evidence and any other document relating to matters of common interest; and

(d) to meet concurrently with the European Scrutiny Committee, or any sub-committee thereof, for the purposes of deliberating or taking evidence.”.

In Standing Order No. 148 (Committee of Public Accounts), line 17, after “departments)’ insert “and to the European Scrutiny Committee”, line 21, at end add:

“(4) The committee shall have power to meet concurrently with the European Scrutiny Committee, or any sub-committee thereof, for the purposes of deliberating or taking evidence.”

In Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) line 31, after “and” insert “to the European Scrutiny Committee,” line 39, at end insert “or with the European Scrutiny Committee or any sub-committee thereof for the purposes of deliberating or taking evidence:” line 46, after “thereof” insert “, or with the European Scrutiny Committee or any sub-committee thereof,”.
In Standing Order No. 152A (Environmental Audit Committee), in line 30, after "thereof" insert "or with the European Scrutiny Committee or any sub-committee thereof".—(Mr Graham Allen.)

20 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 7).—Ordered, That, with effect from the coming into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam, Standing Order No. 143 (European Scrutiny Committee) shall have effect with the following Amendments:

line 17, leave out "to define a common position or for joint action" and insert "for a common strategy, a joint action or a common position";

line 19, after "Council" insert "or to the European Council"; and

line 20, leave out "joint position, joint action" and insert "common position, framework decision, decision".—(Mr Graham Allen.)

21 Scrutiny of European Business (No. 8).—Ordered, That Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Roger Casale, Mr William Cash, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Jimmy Hood, Ms Jennifer Jones, Mrs Rosemary McKenna, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr Anthony Steen and Mr Shaun Woodward be members of the European Scrutiny Committee.—(Mr Graham Allen.)


23 Prisons.—Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) (No. 2) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 16th November, be approved.—(Mr Adam Ingram.)

24 Committee of Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Mr Stephen Twigg be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Derek Twigg be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Hanson.)

25 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Concern for Hospitals in East Kent relating to the health needs of the people of East Kent 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 David Hanson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Ten o’clock, adjourned till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 10 p.m.]

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Prisons.—Draft Parole Board (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Catering at Grant-Maintained Schools in England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1153] [Clerk of the House].

4 Natural Heritage (Scotland).—Accounts of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1188] [Clerk of the House].

5 Provisional Orders (Scotland).—Reports 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 representations which have been made to the Secretary of State for Scotland by
(1) HFC Bank plc and Beneficial Bank PLC 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 HFC Bank plc, Beneficial Bank PLC and Household International (U.K.) Limited, and

(2) the United Reformed Church Trust acting on behalf of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom and the Congregational Union of Scotland Nominees Limited acting on behalf of the Congregational Union of Scotland 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 the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom and the Congregational Union of Scotland

and are of the opinion that the said powers would 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 Dewar].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on

(1) the Petition [31st July] from members of the Charlton and Blackheath Amateur Horticultural Society for a moratorium on the approval of genetically modified crops until their safety has been established,

(2) the Petition [31st July] from residents of Bedfordshire for a nationwide concessionary travel scheme for the elderly and disabled, and

(3) the Petition [21st October] from Walsall Friends of the Earth for improved protection of Sites of Special Scientific Interest [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Environmental Assessment (Forestry) Regulations 1998 (S.I. 1998, No. 1731),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Malcolm Chisholm and Mr Tam Dalyell from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Brown, Dr Norman A. Godman and Mr David Stewart.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee on 17th November [Sea fishing] to be printed [No. 1187-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Flood and coastal defence; CAP reform: rural development; sea fishing; UK pig industry]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 17th November [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 1104-iii] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 17th November [Multilateral Agreement on Investment]; to be printed [No. 1129-ii] [Mr Dominic Grieve].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee on 17th November [Local Government Finance]; to be printed [No. 1126-iii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [New Countryside Agency]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Foreign Affairs,—(1) Third Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee on Dependent Territories: Interim Report]; to be printed [No. 1192]; and
Wednesday 18th November 1998.

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 Kevin Hughes);

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 Bills [Lords] (Suspension).—Ordered, That so much of the Lords Message [17th November] as relates to the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] be now considered.

The House accordingly proceeded to consider so much of the said Message.

Resolved, That this House doth concur with the Lords in their Resolution.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Disability Discrimination (Exemption for Small Employers) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2618).

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

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

5 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Environmental Assessment (Forestry) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1731).

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

6 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Cattle Database Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 1796).

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

7 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 9597/98, two draft Council Regulations establishing agrimonetary arrangements and the transitional arrangements to be applied under the Common Agricultural Policy with a view to the introduction of the euro; and supports the Government’s intention to support the proposals which simplify the current agrimonetary arrangements by moving to a system which more closely reflects market realities, reducing the costs to taxpayers, consumers and businesses, and also the scope for distortions of competition whilst respecting UK international obligations without discriminating against those Member States not participating in the euro.

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

8 European Standing Committee B.—Mr John Butterfill reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Community Document No. 9690/98, the European Court of Auditors Special Report No. 7/98 on the European Development Aid Programme for South Africa (1986–1996) and its recommendations to the Commission; and supports the Government’s position that these recommendations are practical and sensible and that the Government will work with Member States and other partners in all European Community development assistance programmes, and particularly in detailed arrangements to succeed the present EPRD in South Africa, after 1999, to ensure that these recommendations are fully implemented.

Report, together with Resolution, 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 Registration of Political Parties Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

City of Westminster Bill [Lords].—The Lords communicate that they have considered the Message from the Commons [yesterday] relating to the City of Westminster Bill [Lords]; and they have come to the following Resolutions in respect of the Bill, viz.:

That the promoters of the Bill have leave to suspend any further proceedings thereon in this Session in order to proceed with the Bill in the next Session of Parliament, notice of their intention to do so having been deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than 12 noon to-morrow;

That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than noon on the second sitting day in the next Session with a declaration annexed, signed by the agent, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill at the last stage of the proceedings thereon in this House in the present Session;

That the proceedings on the Bill in the next Session of Parliament be pro forma in regard to every stage through which the Bill has passed in the present Session, and that no new fees be charged to such stages;

That the Private Business Standing Orders apply to the Bill in the next Session only in regard to any stage through which the Bill has not passed during the present Session.

10 Registration of Political Parties Bill.—Lords Amendments to be printed [Bill 266].

11 Accommodation and Works.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Accommodation and Works Committee be printed [No. 1154].

12 Administration.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Administration Committee be printed [No. 1155].
13 Agriculture,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Agriculture Committee be printed [No. 1156].

14 Broadcasting,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Broadcasting Committee be printed [No. 1157].

15 Catering,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Catering Committee be printed [No. 1158].

16 Culture, Media and Sport,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee be printed [No. 1159].

17 Defence,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Defence Committee be printed [No. 1160].

18 Education and Employment,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Education and Employment Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Education Sub-Committee and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Employment Sub-Committee [No. 1161].

19 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environment Sub-Committee and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Transport Sub-Committee [No. 1162].

20 Environmental Audit,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environmental Audit Committee be printed [No. 1163].

21 Finance and Services,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Finance and Services Committee be printed [No. 1164].

22 Foreign Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Foreign Affairs Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Entry Clearance Sub-Committee [No. 1165].

23 Health,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Health Committee be printed [No. 1166].

24 Home Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Home Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1167].

25 Information,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Information Committee be printed [No. 1168].

26 International Development,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the International Development Committee be printed [No. 1169].

27 Modernisation,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons be printed [No. 1170].

28 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1171].

29 Procedure,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Procedure Committee be printed [No. 1172].

30 Public Accounts,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee of Public Accounts be printed [No. 1173].

31 Public Administration,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Public Administration be printed [No. 1174].

32 Science and Technology,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Science and Technology Committee be printed [No. 1175].

33 Scottish Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1176].

34 Social Security,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Social Security Committee be printed [No. 1177].

35 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee on Standards and Privileges be printed [No. 1178].

36 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. 1179].
37 Statutory Instruments,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments be printed [No. 1180].

38 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Trade and Industry Committee be printed [No. 1181].

39 Treasury,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Treasury Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Treasury Sub-Committee [No. 1182].

40 Welsh Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Welsh Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1183].

41 European Standing Committee A,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee A be printed [No. 1195].

42 European Standing Committee B,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee B be printed [No. 1196].

43 Scottish Grand Committee,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Grand Committee be printed [No. 1197].

44 Financial Services (Ethical, &c. Considerations) Bill,—Mr Tony Colman presented a Bill to require the Financial Services Authority to issue guidance to persons authorised to provide financial services regarding advice to be given to clients: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 264].

45 Freedom of Information,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to extend the right of access to information held by public authorities; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Dr David Clark, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Martin Bell, Dr Tony Wright and Mr Ronnie Campbell do prepare and bring it in.

46 Freedom of Information Bill,—Mr Andrew Mackinlay accordingly presented a Bill to extend the right of access to information held by public authorities; 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 265].

47 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at this day's sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords shall have been received.(Mr David Hanson.)

48 European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Lords Amendments).—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed and for disagreeing to the further Commons Amendment in lieu.

The Lords Reason for insisting on their Amendments in page 2, line 1, page 2, line 2, page 2, line 15, and page 2, line 18, and for disagreeing to the Commons Amendment in lieu, was read, as follows:

Because the review proposed by the Commons is not an adequate substitute for an electoral system that allows electors to vote for the individual party candidate of their choice.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its disagreement with the Lords in their Amendments but does not insist on its Amendment in lieu—(Mr Secretary Straw):

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Jane Kennedy: 326.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 133.

So the Question was agreed to.

An Amendment was made to the Bill, in lieu of the Lords Amendments, in page 3, line 46, at the end, to insert—

*Review of electoral system

—(1) The Secretary of State shall appoint one or more persons—

(a) to review, in accordance with subsection 2, the operation of the system of election provided for by section 3 of the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978 as substituted by section 1 of this Act, and

(b) to make a report to the Secretary of State within six months from the day of appointment.
(2) The review shall consider, in particular, how the ability of voters to vote for particular persons on a party's list of candidates might affect the results of an election.

(3) The Secretary of State shall carry out his duty under subsection (1) within one month from the date of the first general election to the European Parliament which takes place after the coming into force of section 1.

(4) Before making an appointment under subsection (1) the Secretary of State shall consult such persons appearing to him to be interested as he thinks appropriate.

(5) The Secretary of State shall lay a copy of any report received under subsection (1)(b) before each House of Parliament.

49 Northern Ireland Bill (Programme) (No. 2), —A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed That the Order [17th July] relating to the Northern Ireland Bill (Programme) be supplemented as follows—

Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at this day's sitting and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion four hours after the commencement of the proceedings.

2.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1.

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question already proposed from the Chair and not yet decided.

(3) If that Question is for the amendment of a Lords Amendment the Speaker shall then put forthwith—

(a) the Question on any further amendment to the Lords Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown, and

(b) the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in the Amendment or (as the case may be) in the Amendment as amended.

(4) The Speaker shall then designate such of the remaining Lords Amendments as appear to the Speaker to involve questions of Privilege.

(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith—

(a) the Question on any Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords Amendment, and

(b) the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in the Amendment or (as the case may be) in the Amendment as amended.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees with the Lords in a Lords Amendment.

(7) The Speaker shall then put forthwith with respect to the Lords Amendments designated by the Speaker which have not been disposed of the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in those Amendments.

(8) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(9) 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 which is moved by a Minister of the Crown and relevant to the Lords Amendments.

(10) 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.

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

Supplemental

3. A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting.

4. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on Consideration of the Lords Amendments for any part of the period of four hours after the commencement of the proceedings which falls after Ten o'clock.—(Mr Paul Murphy.)
And it being three quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [17th July].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Clelland: 290.


So the Question was agreed to.

50 Northern Ireland Bill [Money] (No. 2),—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Northern Ireland Bill [Money] (No. 2):

Resolved, That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Northern Ireland Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Lord Chancellor under the Act.—(Mr Adam Ingram.)

51 Northern Ireland Bill (Lords Amendments),—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Northern Ireland Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 82 were agreed to.

And it being Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Lords Amendments stood adjourned.

52 Business of the House,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the consideration of any Lords Messages and Amendments that may be received may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(June Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

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

The Lords insist on their Amendments to the European Parliamentary Elections Bill to which the Commons have disagreed, and disagree to the further Amendment proposed by the Commons in lieu thereof, for which insistence and disagreement they assign their Reason.

54 Northern Ireland Bill (Lords Amendments),—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Northern Ireland Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 83 to 192 were agreed to.

Thursday 19th November 1998

Lords Amendments Nos. 193 to 417 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 194, 277, 278, 347 and 348.

55 Registration of Political Parties Bill,—Ordered, That the Lords Amendments to the Registration of Political Parties Bill be considered forthwith.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

The House proceeded to consider the said Amendments.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 8 were agreed to.

56 Education,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Education (Grammar School Ballots) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 21st October, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

57 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 29th October, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

58 Representation of the People,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Parliamentary Constituencies (England) (Miscellaneous Changes) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 4th November, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

59 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 4th November, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

60 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th November, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.
Adjournment.— A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock on Wednesday 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 eight minutes to One o’clock on Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.52 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 Education (Northern Ireland),—Statements and Summary of the Accounts of the Education and Library Boards for 1996-97, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4094] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

3 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between ARRIVA plc and Lutonian Buses Ltd [by Command] [Cm. 4074] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

4 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the Imperial War Museum for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1199] [Clerk of the House].

5 Police,—Draft Code of Practice on Intrusive Surveillance [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Voluntary Sector (Wales),—Paper, entitled Compact, a shared vision: Compact between the Government and the Voluntary Sector in Wales [by Command] [Cm. 4107] [Mr Secretary Michael].

7 Welfare,—Paper, entitled A new contract for welfare: support in bereavement [by Command] [Cm. 4104] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 18th November [The Heritage Lottery Fund]; to be printed [No. 968-v] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Observations on the Eighth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Strategic Defence Review]; to be printed [No. 1198]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Defence Committee [Operation Resilient] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 18th November [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 1127-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Integrated Transport White Paper]; to be printed [No. 1141-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Scrutiny,—First Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1200] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 18th November [Non-Departmental Public Bodies in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 1201] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Public Accounts,—(1) Sixty-eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Distribution of Lottery Funds by the English Sports Council]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 873];
(2) Sixty-ninth Report from the Committee [The Performance of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme in England], 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. 757]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on Wednesday 18th November [The Sale of British Energy]; to be printed [No. 1202-i]

[Mr David Davis].

8 Science and Technology,—(1) Sixth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Science and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1040]; and

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98 (British Biotech)]; to be printed [No. 1185]

[Dr Michael Clark].

9 Scottish Affairs,—Second Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Operation of Multi-layer Democracy], 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. 460] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 241.]

Thursday 19th November 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the Coatbridge and Chryston constituency concerning the maintenance of adequate Post Office facilities in Muirhead was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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 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 for proroguing this present Parliament.

The Royal Assent was given to the following Acts:

- Statute Law Repeals Act 1998
- Waste Minimisation Act 1998
- Regional Development Agencies Act 1998
- Scotland Act 1998
- Northern Ireland Act 1998
- Registration of Political Parties Act 1998.

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 pleased to receive the State Visits of His Excellency the President of Brazil in December 1997 and of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan in May this year. We remember with great pleasure our visit to Canada in June and our State Visits to Pakistan and India in October 1997 and to Brunei and Malaysia in September of this year. Likewise I remember my visit to France and Belgium on 11 November.

My Government promised to govern for the benefit of the whole nation.
In Northern Ireland, my Government have continued to work towards peace, stability and reconciliation. Their efforts to promote a comprehensive political settlement contributed to the Agreement reached in the multi-party talks. They have moved speedily to implement that Agreement, which was overwhelmingly endorsed by the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum. They have continued to foster the improvement of economic and social conditions through inward investment and other means. New measures for tackling terrorism have been introduced following the Omagh bombing.

The education of young people has been my Government's top priority. Legislation has been enacted to help raise standards in schools and phase out the assisted places scheme. The money saved has been used to cut class sizes. An Act has also been passed to reform teacher training, create a General Teaching Council and introduce new student support arrangements. Green Papers have been published setting out plans to help those with special educational needs and promote lifelong learning.

The process of modernising the National Health Service has begun. The largest ever capital programme is underway following the passage of the NHS (Private Finance) Act. My Government have appointed the first ever Minister for Public Health and outlined their strategy for reducing inequalities in health. Steps have also been taken to ensure that Health and Local Authorities work together effectively, particularly to improve the services for children in care.

My Government have pursued economic policies aimed at delivering stable levels of economic growth, employment and opportunities for all.

To that end, measures have been taken to put the economy firmly on course for steady growth with low inflation. Legislation has been enacted to give the Bank of England operational responsibility for setting interest rates, in order to deliver price stability and support the Government's overall economic policy within a framework of enhanced accountability.

Tough fiscal rules have been introduced and firm action taken to meet them, by reducing public borrowing. The new fiscal policy framework including a Code for Fiscal Stability, underpinned by legislation, will ensure that decisions on the public finances promote Britain's long-term economic goals.

My Government promised to attack youth and long term unemployment. They have already begun to expand employment opportunities and to make work pay. Reform of the tax and benefit systems to ensure that people are better off in work has begun, and the New Deal programmes are already extending new work opportunities to people who had been excluded from the labour market.

An Act has been passed which begins the process of modernising the Social Security system, particularly in the areas of decision making appeals and National Insurance contributions. And proposals for further welfare reform have been presented to Parliament to promote work for those who are able to work and security for those who cannot.

My Government have worked with business to promote sustainable growth. A wide range of measures have been introduced to encourage investment in industry, skills and new technologies and to increase productivity. To encourage entrepreneurship and to help create successful and profitable businesses, an Act to reform the framework for competition for business and industry has been enacted, and the structure of corporation taxes has been reformed.

My Government are committed to fairness at work. Legislation has been passed which will lead to the introduction of a National Minimum Wage.

My Government have completed a comprehensive review of public expenditure, reallocating spending to match priorities and eliminate waste and inefficiency. Within firm three year limits, additional resources have been provided for education, health and transport; and the new Investing in Britain Fund will double net public investment over the Parliament, providing for the renewal, reform and modernisation of Britain's infrastructure.

A White Paper has been published setting out plans for an integrated transport policy in England and Wales, aimed at providing better transport services, and reducing congestion and pollution from transport.

Legislation was enacted to strengthen the local authority capital finance system.

Measures have been put forward to combat crime. Legislation has been passed to provide for radical reform of the youth justice system, local partnerships to cut crime and disorder and measures to reduce offending. Legislation has also been enacted to prohibit the private possession of all handguns.

To ensure that as many people as possible have access to the benefits of the National Lottery, an Act has been passed to extend the scope of Lottery distribution to encompass health, education and the environment. It also included measures to improve regulation.
Decentralisation is essential to my Government’s vision of a modern nation. An Act has been passed to enable people in Scotland and Wales to vote on proposals for a devolved Scottish Parliament and the establishment of the National Assembly for Wales. These have been approved in Referendums in Scotland and Wales and Acts have been passed to implement them. My Government have also taken a first step towards decentralising decision-taking to the English regions.

A White Paper has been published setting out a 10 year programme for the reform and renewal of local governance in England and an Act has been passed which enabled the people of London to vote in a referendum on my Government’s proposals for an elected Mayor and Assembly for London. These proposals were approved in a referendum on 7th May, and a Bill is to be introduced to implement them.

An Act has been passed to establish Regional Development Agencies in England to bring a regional focus to the economic development and regeneration of the English Regions.

My Government are committed to open and transparent Government. Legislation has been passed to strengthen the data protection controls over the use of personal information about individuals and an Act has been passed to give full effect in the United Kingdom law to the rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights.

Members of the House of Commons

I thank you for the provision you have made for the work and dignity of the Crown and for the public service.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

My Government have taken a leading role in the European Union. They negotiated and signed the Treaty of Amsterdam which included provisions enabling the UK to opt into the social chapter. The United Kingdom has now ratified the Treaty. They took part in initial negotiations on the European Commission’s Agenda 2000 proposals which included reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

During the United Kingdom’s Presidency of the European Union, efforts were made to promote employment and to improve competitiveness. Negotiations on enlargement were opened and good progress was made on key Presidency priorities for co-operation in the European Union, including the fight against drugs and crime, an effective external policy, economic reform, and an agreement to a code of conduct on arms export. My Government oversaw the historic decision confirming that eleven Member States met the conditions for joining the single currency, as well as the establishment of the European Central Bank.

My Government have allocated additional resources to tackle global poverty and to promote sustainable development. They are implementing the policies set out in the White Paper on International Development.

In May this year, the G8 Summit in Birmingham agreed measures to promote employability at home and the development of poorer countries abroad, help the environment and tackle international crime. They also successfully hosted an Asia-Europe meeting in April 1998 and the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Edinburgh in October 1997.

Vigorous action has been taken to protect the environment, and against terrorism, drugs, money laundering and organised crime. My Government played a leading part in securing agreement at the Kyoto Conference on Climate Change to commitments to binding reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions.

The United Kingdom played a full part in the negotiations which led to the agreement in July to establish the International Criminal Court.

My Government put human rights at the centre of foreign policy and published the first Annual Report on Human Rights. They ratified the two Additional Protocols to the Geneva convention on the Protection of Victims of War, adopted an abolitionist stance on the death penalty, and took steps to prevent the export of torture equipment. They hosted a conference on Nazi Gold, and helped set up a relief fund for victims of Nazi persecution.

As evidence of their commitment to international peace and security, my Government passed legislation enabling the United Kingdom to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel landmines. They will continue to urge all those who have not done so to adhere to these treaties.

Progress has also been made to reform and strengthen the United Nations.
My Government have worked to modernise our defence capability so that it matches the changing strategic setting. The Strategic Defence Review—the most far reaching reform of our armed forces since the war—reassessed our security interests and defence needs and provided the Armed Forces and all those who work in defence with a clear long-term vision. Arrangements for strong and modern defence based on the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation have been maintained and my Government played a major role in the decisions taken at NATO’s Madrid Summit and in the steps taken to strengthen NATO’s relationships with Russia, and they have notified the UK acceptance of the accession to the Alliance of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland.

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:

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 twenty-fourth day of this instant November, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday the twenty-fourth day of this instant November.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Police.—(1) Draft Police Act 1997 (Authorisation of Action in Respect of Property) (Code of Practice) Order 1998; and
   (2) Draft Police Act 1997 (Notification of Authorisations etc.) Order 1998
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 National Health Service, National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2838), dated 18th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

4 Financial Regulation (Crown Dependencies), Review of Financial Regulation in the Crown Dependencies [by Command] [Cm. 4109-I, II, III and IV] [Mr Secretary Straw].


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 European Legislation, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on European Legislation on 10th December 1997 and 11th February 1998 [Tobacco Advertising]; to be printed [No. 1204] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES ACT 1998

The Speaker has appointed the following Members to serve for the duration of the present Parliament on the committee to advise the registrar of political parties established under section 10 of the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998: Mr Alan Beith, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Derek Foster, Mrs Llin Golding, Sir Alastair Goodlad, Mr Barry Jones, Mr Gerald Kaufman and Mr Peter Viggers.
INDEX to the
Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume
Session 1997–98

46 & 47 Eliz. II. Parl. 52. Sess. 5 1997–98

PART I

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING:
Reports and Accounts of Food from Britain for: 1996-97, 193; 1997-98, 809.

AGRICULTURE:
Government Replies to Reports from the Agriculture Committee: Session 1996-97: 2nd, Environmentally Sensitive Areas and other Schemes under the Agri-Environment Regulation, 125.
Orders: Environmentally Sensitive Areas Designation: 1997: in respect of:- Pennine Dales, 54; Somerset Levels and Moors, 54; South Downs, 54; The Broads, 54; West Penwith, 54.
Orders: Environmentally Sensitive Areas Designation (Amendment): 1997: in respect of:- Cambrian Mountains, 22; Cambrian Mountains – Extension, 22; Clywdian Range, 22; Lleyn Peninsula, 22; Preseli, 22; Radnor, 22; Ynys Mon, 22; Avon Valley, 54; Breckland, 54; Clun, 54; Exmoor, 54; Lake District, 54; North Kent Marshes, 54, North Peak, 54; South Wessex Downs, 54; South West Peak, 54; Suffolk River Valleys, 54; Test Valley, 54; Preseli (Amendment No. 2), 283.
Orders: Environmentally Sensitive Areas Designation (Amendment): 1998: in respect of:- Avon Valley, 586; Breckland, 586; Clun, 586; Exmoor, 586; Lake District, 586; North Kent Marshes, 586; North Peak, 586; Pennine Dales, 586; Somerset Levels and Moors, 586; South Downs, 586; South Wessex Downs, 586; South West Peak, 586; Suffolk River Valleys, 586; Test Valley, 586; The Broads, 586; West Penwith, 586; Cotswold Hills, 750; Upper Thames Tributaries, 750; Avon Valley (No.2), 760; Exmoor (No.2), 760; Lake District (No.2), 760; North Kent Marshes (No.2), 760; North Peak (No.2), 760; South Wessex Downs (No.2), 761; Test Valley (No.2), 761; West Penwith (No.2), 761.
Other Orders: 1997: Home-Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy), 54; Food Industry Development Scheme (Specification of Activities), 209.
Other Orders: 1998: Home-Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy), 590.
Regulations: 1997: Nitrate Sensitive Areas (Amendment), 20; Integrated Administration and Control System (Amendment), 22; Agriculture Act 1986 (Amendment), 54; Environmentally Sensitive Areas (England) Designation Orders (Revocation of Specified Provisions), 54; Fertilisers (Amendment), 74; Potato Marketing Board (Residuary Functions), 80; Bovines and Bovine Products (Despatch Prohibition and Production Restriction), 169; Veal (Marketing Payments), 172; Sheep Annual Premium (Amendment), 219; Sheep Annual Premium and Suckler Cow Premium Quotas, 257; Arable Area Payments (Amendment), 289; Products of Animal Origin (Import and Export) (Amendment), 292.
Regulations: 1998: Beef Carcase (Classification) (Amendment), 299; Nitrate Sensitive Areas (Amendment), 324; Feeding Stuffs (Amendment), 326; Hill Livestock (Compensatory Allowances) (Amendment), 356; Common Agricultural Policy (Wine) (Amendment), 404; Fertilisers (Mammalian Meat and Bone Meal), 511; Fertilisers (Mammalian Meat and Bone Meal) (Conditions of Manufacture), 511; Feeding Stuffs (Establishments and Intermediaries), 522; Feedingstuffs (Zootechnical Products), 522; Apple and Pear Orchard Grubbing Up, 541; Bovines and Bovine Products (Trade), 544; Action Programme for Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (England and Wales), 562; Environmentally Sensitive Areas (England) Designation Orders (Revocation of Specified Provisions), 586; Organic Farming (Amendment), 668; Fertilisers (Amendment), 753; Feeding Stuffs (Amendment) (No. 2), 753; Nitrate Sensitive Areas (Amendment) (No. 2), 759; Olive Oil (Marketing Standards) (Amendment), 763.


AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Meat Hygiene Service, 118; Veterinary Medicines Directorate, 153; Central Science Laboratory, 149; Pesticides Safety Directorate, 149; Veterinary Laboratories Agency, 153.

Reports and Accounts: 1997-98: Central Science Laboratory, 731; Meat Hygiene Service, 731; Pesticides Safety Directorate, 731; Veterinary Medicines Directorate, 731; Veterinary Laboratories Agency, 741.

AID AND TRADE PROVISION:

ODA/DFID Minutes about contingent liabilities consequent on the financing of the Jiangyin Suspension Bridge Project, 19; indemnification of Banque Paribas from tax liability which may be incurred as a result of a loan to finance the Outer Islands Diesel Generation Project in Indonesia, 264.

AIRCRAFT AND SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRIES:

Reports & Accounts of British Shipbuilders for:- 1996-97, 181; 1997-98, 726.

AIR FORCE (CONSTITUTION):

Amendment Lists Nos. 1 and 2 to Regulations for the Royal Air Force Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force (First Edition), 212.

Amendments to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force, 59; 269; 666, 765.


ALIENS’ EMPLOYMENT:

Cabinet Office Minute relating to aliens employed in a civil capacity under the Crown during 1996-97, 146.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS:


ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS:


ANIMALS:


Orders: 1997: Rovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Compensation (Amendment), 177; Mink Keeping, 229; Specified Risk Material, 285.

Orders: 1998: Sheep and Goats Spongiform Encephalopathy Compensation (Amendment), 672; Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act (Amendment to Schedule 2), 708; Brucellosis and Tuberculosis (England and Wales) Compensation (Amendment), 753; Brucellosis and Tuberculosis (Scotland) Compensation Amendment, 759.


Regulations: 1998: Animals and Animal Products (Import and Export), 340; Cattle Identification, 459; Sheep and Goats Spongiform Encephalopathy, 672; Cattle Database, 726.


ANTARCTICA:


ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA:

1997:

1. Agreement between the UK and Antigua and Barbuda concerning the Investigation, Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime, 166.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS, 1996-97:

Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1996-97 for classes:- XVIII, B (National Audit Office), 86; X (National Heritage), 186; IV (Trade and Industry and Export Credits Guarantee Department), 236; XIV (Wales), 252; II (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), 254; XII (Social Security), 299; I (Ministry of Defence), 332; III (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Intervention Board Executive Agency), 344; V (Transport), 344; VI (Environment), 344; VII (Home Office and Charity Commission), 344; VIII (Lord Chancellor’s and Law Officer’s Departments), 344; IX (Education and Employment), 344; XI (Department of Health), 344; XIII (Scotland and the Forestry Commission), 344; XV (Northern Ireland), 344; XVI (Departments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer), 344; XVII (Cabinet Office: Office of Public Service and Science etc), 344; XVIII, XVIIIA and XVIIIB (Cabinet Office: other services, Privy Council Office, Parliament etc; House of Commons; National Audit Office), 344.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS, 1997-98:

Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1997-98 for classes: XVIII, B (National Audit Office), 666.

APPROPRIATIONS IN AID:


ARMED FORCES PAY:

Reports of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay: Supplement to the Twenty-Sixth: Service Medical and Dental Officers, 42; Twenty-seventh, 340; Supplement to the Twenty-seventh, 731.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION:

AVIATION SECURITY:


ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION:


ATOMIC ENERGY:

Accounts of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for:- 1996-97, 82; 1997-98, 666.


AUDIT (NORTHERN IRELAND):

Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on:- Industrial Research and Technology Unit, 31; Towards Better Practice in the Management of Education and Library Board Transport Services, 42; Financial Control in Voluntary Grammar and Grant-Maintained Integrated Schools in Northern Ireland, 103; Funding of the Council for Postively Belfast, 199; Privatisatation of Belfast International Airport, 226; Administration of Disability Living Allowance by the Social Security Agency, 316; Training and Employment Agency: Evaluation of Performance, 332; Department of Education Northern Ireland: Provision of Initial Teacher Training, 369; Control of River Pollution in Northern Ireland, 541; Special Education in Northern Ireland, 668; National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland: Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, 706; Northern Ireland Health and Personal Social Services: Controls to Prevent and Detect Fraud in Family Practitioner Service Payments, 706; Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland: Inward Investment, 777.

AUSTRALIA:

1997:
1. Agreement between the UK and Australia concerning the Investigation, Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime, 166.

AVIATION AND MARITIME SECURITY:


AVIATION SECURITY:


BANK OF ENGLAND:

Remit for the Monetary Policy Committee, 597.


Treasury Minute directing a raising of the limit on the amount of the Bank of England’s fiduciary note issue, 801.

BANKS AND BANKING:


BELGIUM:

1998:
1. Agreement between the UK and Belgium relating to the Transmission of Natural Gas through a Pipeline between the UK and Belgium, 544.

BETTING, GAMING AND LOTTERIES:

Orders: 1997: Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees), 158; Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits), 169; Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits), 174; Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) (No. 2), 174.

Orders: 1998: Gaming Act (Variation of Fees), 414; Gaming (Bingo) Act (Fees) (Amendment), 414; Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees), 414; Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) (No. 2), 759; Gaming (Bingo) Act (Variation of Monetary Limit), 759.

Order (Northern Ireland) 1998: Gaming (Variation of Monetary Limits), 445.

Regulations: 1997: Gaming (Records of Cheques and Debit Card Payments), 21; Licensed Betting Offices (Amendment), 21; Licensed Betting Offices (Scotland) Amendment, 22.

Regulations: 1998: Gaming Clubs (Hours and Charges) (Amendment), 523; Gaming Machines (Maximum Prizes), 759; Gaming Clubs (Multiple Bingo) (Amendment), 759.


BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS:


BRITISH COUNCIL:

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minutes concerning a contingent liability consequent on the indemnification of works of art to be lent to the British Council for exhibitions planned for: the second half of 1997-98, 133, the first half of 1998-99, 391; from 31st July to 20th September 1998, 629.


BRITISH LIBRARY:


Statement of determination of pay and pensions of Chairman and Members of the British Library Board, 125.
BSE INQUIRY:
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Lord Justice Phillips, the members of his Committee, Counsel to the Inquiry and the Inquiry Secretariat, 411.

BUILT PROJECTIONS:
Audit of Assumptions for the July 1997 Budget Projections, 72.

BUILDING AND BUILDINGS:
Regulations: 1997: Building Regulations (Amendment), 173; Building Standards (Relaxation by Local Authorities) (Scotland), 171; Building (Scotland) Amendment, 176.
Regulations: 1998: Building (Approved Inspectors etc.) (Amendment), 762; Building Regulations (Amendment), 774.

BUILDING SOCIETIES:
Orders: 1997: Building Societies (Designation of Prescribed Regulatory Authorities), 176; Building Societies (Prescribed Equitable Interests), 219; Building Societies (Transfer Resolutions), 221; Building Societies (Members’ Resolutions), 251.

CABINET OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:
Reports and Accounts: 1997-98: Property Advisers to the Civil Estate, 736; Civil Service College, 741; Government Car and Despatch Agency, 741.

CANADA:
1997:

CENSUS:
1991 Census: Key Statistics: New Health Areas: England and Wales, 24. Urban and Rural Areas: Great Britain, 220; the Midlands, 349; the North, 349; the South East, 349; the South West and Wales, 349.

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION:

CHANNEL TUNNEL:
Order: 1998: Channel Tunnel (Carriers’ Liability), 517.

CHANNEL TUNNEL SECURITY:

CHARITIES:
Draft Orders: 1998: Charities (Royal Russell School), 676; Charities (Seamen’s Hospital Society), 772.

CHARITIES (SCOTLAND):

CHELSEA HOSPITAL:

CHEMICAL WEAPONS:

CHILDCARE:
Paper: Meeting the Childcare Challenge, 575.

CHILDCARE (SCOTLAND):
Paper: Meeting the Childcare Challenge, a Childcare Strategy for Scotland, 575.

CHILDCARE (WALES):

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS:
Order: 1997: Child Abduction and Custody (Cayman Islands), 212.
Regulations: 1997: Reporters (Conduct of Proceedings before the Sheriff) (Scotland) (Amendment), 22; Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers (Panels) (Amendment), 103; Children (Protection from Offenders) (Miscellaneous Amendments), 176.
Regulations: 1998: Children (Protection at Work), 376; Children (Performances) (Miscellaneous Amendments), 685.

CHILDREN (NORTHERN IRELAND):

CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDS REVIEW:

CHILD SUPPORT:

CHRONICALLY SICK AND DISABLED PERSONS:
Statements by the Secretary of State for Health and the Secretary of State for Wales on Residential care of Handicapped Persons under the age of 65, 279.

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS:
Reports and Accounts of the Church Commissioners for:- 1996, 88; 1997, 731.

CHURCHES CONSERVATION:
Reports and Accounts of the Churches Conservation Trust for:- 1996-97, 196; 1997-98, 797.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND (GENERAL SYNOD) (MEASURES):
National Institutions Measure, 590; Cathedrals Measure, 764.
Reports by the Ecclesiastical Committee on:- the National Institutions Measure, 590; the Cathedrals Measure, 765.

CIVIL AVIATION:
Draft Orders: 1998: Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fourth Amendment), 328; Air Carrier Liability, 581; withdrawn, 635; re-laid, 635.
Orders: 1997: Manchester Airport (Control of Land by Directions), 133; Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) (Amendment), 169.
Orders: 1998: Air Navigation (Third Amendment), 495; Coventry Airport (Designation) (Detention and Sale of Aircraft), 750.
Regulations: 1997: Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Third Amendment), 106; Airports (Groundhandling), 177; Procurement of Air Navigation Equipment (Technical Specifications), 177; Civil Aviation (Air Travel Organisers' Licensing) (Second Amendment), 274; Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services), 274; Civil Aviation (Joint Financing), 279.
Regulations: 1998: Civil Aviation (Canadian Navigation Services) (Second Amendment), 356; Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges), 436; Aviation Security (Air Cargo Agents) (Amendment), 559; Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Amendment), 639; Yugoslavia (Prohibition of Flights), 761; Civil Aviation (Canadian Navigation Services), 774.
Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Highlands and Islands Airports Limited, 136; Civil Aviation Authority, 144.
Statement of determination of pension arrangements for a member of the Civil Aviation Authority Board, 181.

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY:
Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 17th March 1998 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Civil Aviation Authority from the National Westminster Bank plc, 456.

CIVIL LIST:
List of pensions granted under the Civil List Act 1972 for 1997-98, 452.

CLEAN AIR:

COAL AUTHORITY:
Department of Trade and Industry Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the transfer of British Coal property liabilities to the Coal Authority, 442.
COAL INDUSTRY:
Accounts of the Coal Authority for:- 1996-97, 159; 1997-98, 692.
Order: 1997: British Coal Corporation (Change of Quorum), 82.
Report and Accounts: 1996-97: British Coal Corporation, 106; Coal Authority, 133.
Statements of guarantee given by the Treasury on borrowing by the British Coal Corporation, 35; 676.

COAST PROTECTION:
Regulations: 1997: Coast Protection (Variation of Excluded Waters), 209.

COLOMBIA:
1997:
1. Agreement between the UK and Colombia concerning Mutual Assistance in Relation to Criminal Matters, 166.

COMMERCIAL AGENTS:

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO THE PERSONALITY DISORDER UNIT, ASHWORTH SPECIAL HOSPITAL (FALLON INQUIRY):
DoH Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of the Chairman and members of the Inquiry, 679.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:
Statement of guarantee given by the Treasury on borrowing by the Commonwealth Development Corporation, 31.

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP:

COMMUNICATIONS:
Paper: Regulating communications: approaching convergence in the Information Age, 707.

COMMUNITY CHARGES:

COMPANIES:
Order: 1997: Companies Overseas Branch Registers (Hong Kong), 37.
Regulations: 1997: Companies (Membership of Holding Company) (Dealers in Securities), 176; Companies Act 1985 (Insurance Companies Accounts) (Minor Amendments), 220.

COMPETITION:

COMPLIANCE COST ASSESSMENTS:

COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW:

CONSTRUCTION:

CONSTRUCTION (SCOTLAND):

CONSUMER CREDIT:
Order: 1998: Consumer Credit (Further Increase of Monetary Amounts), 517; Consumer Credit (Exempt Agreements) (Amendment), 751.
Regulations: 1998: Consumer Credit (Realisation of Pawn) (Amendment), 518; Consumer Credit Licensing (Appeals), 562.

CONSUMER PROTECTION:
Regulations: 1997: Timeshare, 21; Fireworks (Safety), 176; Wheeled Child Conveyances (Safety), 261; Cosmetic Products (Safety) (Amendment), 268.
Regulations: 1998: Recreational Craft (Amendment), 328; Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours (Amendment), 565; Cosmetic Products (Safety) (Amendment), 696; Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety), 763.

CONTINGENCIES FUND, 1995-96:

CONTINGENCIES FUND, 1996-97:

CONTRACTING OUT:
Draft Orders: 1997: Contracting Out (Functions of Local Authorities in relation to Income-related Benefits), withdrawn, 27; Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the provision of Guardians Ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panels), 49; Contracting Out (Metropolitan Police and Civil Staffs Pensions), 84.
Draft Orders: 1998: Contracting Out (Functions in relation to the Management of Crown Lands), 309; Contracting Out (Functions relating to National Savings), 512; Contracting Out (Functions in Relation to Insurance), 772.
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH VOLUME

CONTRACTS:
- Orders: 1998: Late Payments of Commercial Debts (Interest) (Legal Aid Exceptions), 763; Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Rate of Interest), 763; Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Rate of Interest) (No. 2), 804.

COPYRIGHT:
- Draft Regulations: 1997: Copyright and Rights in Databases, 205.

CORONERS:
- Order: 1997: North Yorkshire (Coroners' Districts), 80.

COUNCIL TAX:

COUNCIL TAX (SCOTLAND):
- Orders: 1998: Council Tax (Discounts) (Scotland) Amendment, 392; Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Amendment, 436.

COUNTRYSIDE:
- Regulations: 1997: Countryside Stewardship (Amendment), 149.

COUNTY COURTS:
- Orders: 1997: Civil Courts (Amendment) (No. 2), 21; County Court Fees (Amendment) (No. 2), 207.

COURTS AND LEGAL SERVICES:
- Statement by the Lord Chancellor with regard to the pension provision of the Legal Services Ombudsman, 181.

COVENT GARDEN:
- Statement of salaries of members of the Covent Garden Market Authority, 663.

CRIMINAL APPEAL:

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION:

CRIMINAL JUSTICE:
- Reports: 1996-97: Serious Fraud Office, 118; withdrawn, 183; re-laid, 193; Parole Board, 186.

CRIMINAL LAW:
- Orders: 1997: Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Designated Countries and Territories) (Amendment), 37; Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 (Enforcement of Overseas Forfeiture Orders) (Amendment), 37; Drug Trafficking Act 1994 (Designated Countries and Territories) (Amendment), 37; Transfer of Prisoners (Isle of Man), 84; Transfer of Prisoners (Isle of Man) (No. 2), 169; Transfer of Prisoners (Restricted Transfers) (Channel Islands and Isle of Man), 170; Sex Offenders (Certificate of Caution), 171; Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Designated Countries and Territories) (Amendment) (No. 2), 298; Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 (Enforcement of Overseas Forfeiture Orders) (Amendment) (No. 2), 298; Drug Trafficking Act 1994 (Designated Countries and Territories) (Amendment) (No. 2), 298.
- Regulations: 1997: Knives (Forfeited Property), 171.
Regulations: 1998: Criminal Justice Act 1991 (Notice of Transfer) (Amendment), 404; Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Serbia (Freezing of Funds), 668; Republic of Serbia (Prohibition on Investment), 745.

Criminal Law (Northern Ireland):

Criminal Law (Scotland):
Order: 1997: Disqualification from Driving (Prescribed Courts) (Scotland), 279.
Regulations: 1998: Restriction of Liberty Order (Scotland), 717.

Criminal Procedure:

Criminal Procedure and Investigation:

Criminal Procedure (Scotland):

Criminal Statistics:

Criminal Statistics (Scotland):

Crofters (Scotland):

Crown Agents:

Crown Copyright:
Paper: Crown Copyright in the Information Age: A consultation document on access to public sector information, 314.

Crown Estates:

Crown's Nominee Account:
Account of the receipts and payments by the Treasury Solicitor in the administration of estates on behalf of the Crown for 1992-96, 181.

Cultural Objects:

Culture, Media and Sport:
DCMS Minutes concerning contingent liabilities consequent upon:- possible revocation of a licence granting a right of way, 236; future maintenance costs of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, 525.
Government Responses to Reports from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997-98, 2nd, on the Millennium Dome, 404; 4th, on the Multimedia Revolution, 707; 6th, on Not Only the Dome: the Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom, 770.

Culture, Media and Sport Executive Agencies:

Customs and Excise:
Regulations: 1997: Air Passenger Duty and Other Indirect Taxes (Interest Rate), 20; Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 2), 21; Distress for Customs and Excise Duties and Other Indirect Taxes, 51; Dual Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No.3), 125; Gaming Duty, 175; Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 4), 232.
Regulations: 1998: Aircraft Operators (Accounts and Records) (Amendment), 319; Revenue Traders (Accounts and Records) (Amendment), 319; Excise Duty Point (External and Internal Community Transit Procedure), 353; Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment), 376; Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 2), 495; Air Passenger Duty and Other Indirect Taxes (Interest
DEFENCE DIVERSIFICATION:

Proposals for a Defence Diversification Agency, 791.

DEADLY DRUGS:


DANGEROUS DRUGS:

Order: 1998: Misuse of Drugs (Designation) (Variation), 499.

REGULATIONS:

Draft Regulations: 1998: European Primary and Specialist Dental Qualifications, 480.

DENTISTS:

Draft Deregulation Orders, together with statements from the Secretary of State: 1997: (Licence Transfers), 223; (Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions), 550.

DEREGULATION:

Draft Deregulation Orders, together with statements from the Secretary of State: 1998: (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland), 571; Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles), 601; Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences), 646.

DEFENCE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


DEFENCE (ROYAL AIR FORCE):


DEFENCE (VOTES A), 1997-98:

Supplementary estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1997-98, 226.

DEFENCE (VOTES A), 1998-99:

Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1998-99, 403.

DENTAL QUALIFICATIONS:

List of regulations as to pensions for 1996-97: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE:


DEER (SCOTLAND):


DEFERRED PAYMENTS:

DEFERRED PAYMENTS:

List of exceptions to Regulations as to pensions for 1996-97: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE ANALYTICAL SERVICES AGENCY:

List of exceptions to Regulations as to pensions for 1997-98: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE BILLING AGENCY:

List of exceptions to Regulations as to pensions for 1998-99: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE BILLING AGENCY:


DEFENCE CIVIL SUPPORT AGENCY:

Papers: Defence Diversification: Getting the most out of defence technology, 418; Defence Diversification: Getting the most out of defence technology Proposals for a Defence Diversification Agency, 791.

DEFENCE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


DEFENCE ELECTRONICS AGENCY:


DEFENCE (ROYAL AIR FORCE):


DEFENCE (VOTES A), 1997-98:

Supplementary estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1997-98, 226.

DEFENCE (VOTES A), 1998-99:

Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1998-99, 403.

Supplementary Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1998-99, 805.

DEFERRED PAYMENTS:

DEFERRED PAYMENTS:

List of exceptions to Regulations as to pensions for 1996-97: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE BILLING AGENCY:

List of exceptions to Regulations as to pensions for 1997-98: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE CIVIL SUPPORT AGENCY:

List of exceptions to Regulations as to pensions for 1998-99: with respect to: Air Force, 82; Army, 82; Navy, 82.

DEFENCE BILLING AGENCY:


DEFENCE CIVIL SUPPORT AGENCY:

Papers: Defence Diversification: Getting the most out of defence technology, 418; Defence Diversification: Getting the most out of defence technology Proposals for a Defence Diversification Agency, 791.

DESIGNS:

DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL WALES:
Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury in respect of temporary borrowing by the Development Board for Rural Wales from Barclays Bank plc, 533.

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM:
Accounts: 1996-97: Wales Tourist Board, 118; English Tourist Board, 136; British Tourist Authority, 146; Scottish Tourist Board, 162.
Accounts: 1997-98: English Tourist Board, 668; Scottish Tourist Board, 686; Wales Tourist Board, 696; British Tourist Authority, 717.
Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Scottish Tourist Board, 118; English Tourist Board, 136; British Tourist Authority, 181.
Statements of appointments and salaries of members of:- British Tourist Authority, 57; 72; 232; 742; English Tourist Board, 181; Chairman and Members of the Board of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourist Board, 504.

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION:

DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION:
Paper: Promoting Disabled People’s Rights; creating a Disability Rights Commission fit for the 21st century, 707.

DISABLED PERSONS:
Orders: 1998: Disability Discrimination (Repeal of section 17 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944), 421; Disability Discrimination (Exemption for Small Employers), 772.
Reports: on Research and Development Work on Equipment for the Disabled during 1994, 75; of the Secretary of State for Health on Development of Services for People with Learning Disabilities (Mental Handicap) or Mental Illness in England for 1997, 261; on care in Wales for people with a mental illness and people with a mental handicap, 407.

DOCTORS’ AND DENTISTS’ REMUNERATION:

DOGS:
Order: 1997: Dangerous Dogs (Fees), 23.

DRUGS:

DUCHEYS OF CORNWALL AND LANCASTER:
Accounts: 1997-98: Duchy of Cornwall, 635; Duchy of Lancaster, 707.

ECCLESIASTICAL LAW:
Orders: 1997: Ecclesiastical Judges and Legal Officers (Fees), 162; Legal Officers (Annual Fees), 162; Parochial Fees, 162.
Orders: 1998: Ecclesiastical Judges and Legal Officers (Fees), 692; Legal Officers (Annual Fees), 692; National Institutions of the Church of England (Transfer of Functions), 692; Parochial Fees, 692.

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL STRATEGY:

EDUCATION:
Accounts: 1996-97: Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales, 100; Education Assets Board, 106; Funding Agency for Schools, 118; School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, 144; Teacher Training Agency, 144.
Accounts: 1997-98: Education Assets Board, 643; Funding Agency for Schools, 702; Teacher Training Agency, 726; School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, 742.
Draft Regulations: 1998: Education (Student Support), 700; Education (Grammar School Ballots), 770.
Orders: 1997: Worcester College of Agriculture (Dissolution), 23; Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation (No. 2), 49; Education (School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions) (No. 2), 158; Education (School Leaving Date), 171; Education (London Residuary Body) (Suspense Account Properties), 172; Education (Qualifications and Curriculum Authority and Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales) (Transfer of Property and Designation of Staff), 174; Education (Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales) (Conferment of Functions), 175; Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation (No. 3), 175; Teacher Training Agency (Additional Functions), 209; Education (Inspectors of Schools in England), 221.
Orders: 1998: Hyde-Clarendon College (Dissolution), 335; Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation, 360; Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment), 365; Local Government Changes for England (Education) (Miscellaneous Provisions), 430; Education (London Residuary Body) (Property Transfer) (Modification and Amendment), 448; Education (School Teachers’ Pay
 INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-fourth Volume

ELECTORAL LAW:

ELECTIONS REVIEW:

EDUCATION (WALES):

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND):

EDUCATION (NORTHERN IRELAND):

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT:

DfEE Minutes on:- a contingent liability consequent for the indemnification of the administrative receiver of South Thames Training and Enterprise Council Ltd, 46; giving surplus computer equipment to non-profit organisations, 252.

Government replies to Reports from the Education and Employment Select Committee: 1996-97: 5th, Employment Effects of the Proposed Closure of the Gallaher Factory at Hyde, 49; 3rd, Operation of the

Nursery Education Voucher Scheme, 85; 2nd, Security of Staff in Jobcentres, 133.

Paper: The Learning Age: a renaissance for a new Britain, 398.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


EDUCATION (NORTHERN IRELAND):


EDUCATION (SCOTLAND):

Draft Regulations: 1998: Education (Student Loans) (Scotland), 700.

Order: 1997: Scottish Examination Board and Scottish Vocational Education Council (Dissolution) (Scotland), 201.

Orders: 1998: Moray House Institute of Higher Education (Closure) (Scotland), 672; Scottish College of Textiles (Closure) (Scotland), 759.

Order of Council: 1998: Academic Awards and Distinctions (Queen Margaret College) (Scotland), 548.


Regulations: 1997: Education Authority Bursaries and Students' Allowances (Scotland) Amendment, 21; Grants for School Education (Early Intervention and Alternatives to Exclusion) (Scotland), 91; Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment, 99; St Mary's Music School (Aided Places) Amendment, 100; Education (Fees and Awards) (Scotland) Amendment, 173; Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 236; Grants for School Improvements (Scotland), 242.

Regulations: 1998: Teachers (Compensation for Premature Retirement and Redundancy) (Scotland) Amendment, 480; Teachers' Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment, 480; Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment, 676; St Mary's Music School (Aided Places) Amendment, 676; Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 751; Education (Fees and Awards) (Scotland) Amendment, 761.


EDUCATION (WALES):

Accounts: 1997-98: Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales, 668.

ELECTIONS REVIEW:


ELECTORAL LAW:

INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume

ELECTRICITY:
Statement of guarantee given by the Treasury on borrowing by Magnox Electric plc, 35.

ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY:

EMPLOYMENT:
Paper: Fairness at Work, 581.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING:

EMPLOYMENT EQUALITY (NORTHERN IRELAND):

EMPLOYMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND):

EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION:

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS:

ENERGY:

ENERGY CONSERVATION:

ENTERPRISE AND NEW TOWNS (SCOTLAND):
Accounts: 1996-97: Highlands and Islands Enterprise, 118; Scottish Enterprise, 118.
Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Scottish Enterprise, 118; Highlands and Islands Enterprise, 125.
Reports and Accounts: 1997-98: Highlands and Islands Enterprise, 703; Scottish Enterprise, 712.

ENVIRONMENT:
DoE Minute on a contingent liability consequent on the revocation of planning permission on a site forming part of the Medway Estuary and Marshes Special Protection Area, 36.
Government responses to Reports from the Environment Committee: Session 1996-97; 3rd, on the Environmental Impact of Cement Manufacture, 69; 4th, on Shopping Centres, 163.
Reports and Accounts for 1995-96 in respect of the following River Purification Boards: Clyde, 49; Forth, 49; Highland, 49; North East, 49; Solway, 49; Tay, 49; Tweed, 49.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT:

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION:
Government Response to the 20th Report of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, 772.
Reports of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution: 20th, Transport and the Environment - Developments since 1994, 166; 21st, Setting Environmental Standards, 758.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:
Papers: Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse, 805.
Regulations: 1997: Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release and Risk Assessment-Amendment), 170; Waste Management Licensing (Amendment), 175.
Regulations: 1998: Controlled Waste (Registration of Carriers and Seizure of Vehicles) (Amendment), 436; Environmental Protection (Controls on Hexachloroethane), 436; Environmental Protection (Waste Recycling Payments) (Amendment), 436; Waste Management Licensing (Amendment), 436; Environmental Protection (Prescribed Processes and Substances) (Amendment) (Hazardous Waste Incineration), 474; Environmental Information (Amendment), 629; Groundwater, 801.
Reports and Accounts of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, for 1996-97, 181; for 1997-98, 745.


ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS:


ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

Accounts: 1995-96: Transport Research Laboratory, 149.


EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:


ERSKINE BRIDGE TOLLS:


EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES:

Draft Orders: 1997: European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, and the Republic of Slovenia), 225; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and, Georgia) Order 1997, 225; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Armenia) Order 1997, 225; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Azerbaijan) Order 1997, 225; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Armenia), 225; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (European Police Office), 229; European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the European Police Office), 229.

European Community Finances: Statement on the 1997 Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement, 111.

Orders: 1997: European Communities Designation, 23; European Communities (Designation) (No. 2), 170; European Communities (Designation) (No. 3), 212.

Orders: 1998: European Communities (Designation), 495; European Communities (Enforcement of Community Judgments) (Amendment), 587; Communities, European Communities (Designation) (No. 2), 745.

Reports 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: 1996-97, 186; 1997-98, 717, 1997:


8. Protocol to the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement between the EC and Russia, 166.


11. Convention on the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters and to the Protocol on its Interpretation by the Court of Justice, 166.

12. Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of Europol, the members of its organs, the Deputy Directors and employees of Europol, 166.


1998:

1. Protocol to the Agreement on Cooperation and Customs Union between the European Economic Community and the Republic of San Marino consequent upon the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union, with Final Act, 511.
3. Euro-Mediterranean Agreement, done at Brussels on 24th November 1997, establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, including Protocols, with Exchange of Letters, Declarations and Final Act, 700.

4. Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, with Annex, Declaration and Final Act, 799.

5. Convention on the Accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the Convention on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations, opened for Signature in Rome on 19th June 1980, and to the First and Second Protocols on its Interpretation by the Court of Justice, 801.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FINANCES:
Statement on the 1998 EC Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement, 530.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES:
Supplementary Review of the European Parliamentary Constituencies by the Boundary Commission for Wales, 515.

EUROPEAN UNION:

EXCHEQUER:

EXECUTIVE NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES:
Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies Report for 1997, 212.

EXPLOSIVES:
Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Explosives (Fireworks), 176.

EXPORT AND INVESTMENT GUARANTEES:

EXPORT CONTROLS:
Paper, entitled Strategic Export Controls, 653.

EXPORT CREDITS GUARANTEE DEPARTMENT:

EXPORT OF WORKS OF ART:

EXTRADITION:
Orders: 1997: Brazil (Extradition), 24; European Convention on Extradition Order 1990 (Amendment) Order 1997, 170; Extradition (Designated Commonwealth Countries) Order 1991 (Amendment), 170; Extradition (Aviation Security), 180; Extradition (Drug Trafficking), 180; Extradition (Hijacking), 180; Extradition (Internationally Protected Persons), 180; Extradition (Protection of Nuclear Material), 180; Extradition (Safety of Maritime Navigation), 180; Extradition (Terrorism), 180; European Convention on Extradition Order 1990 (Amendment) (No. 2), 207.

FAIR TRADING:

FAMILY LAW:
Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Child Support Commissioners (Procedure) (Amendment), 37; Divorce etc. (Pensions) (Amendment), 55; Child Support Commissioners (Procedure) (Amendment No. 2), 176.

FAMILY PROCEEDINGS:

FEES AND CHARGES:
Draft Order: 1998: Department of Transport (Fees) (Amendment), 309.
Regulations: 1997: Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Fees), 51; Plant Passport (Plant Health Fees) (England and Wales) (Amendment), 171.

FINANCIAL REGULATION:

FINANCIAL REPORTING TO PARLIAMENT:
Departmental Reports for 1998: the Government's expenditure plans for 1998-99: Chancellor of the Exchequer's Departments (including Net Payments to European Community Institutions), 511; Department
for Culture, Media and Sport, 511; Department for Education and Employment and Office for Standards in Education, 511; Department of Health: The Health and Personal Social Services Programmes, 511; HM Customs and Excise, 512; Home Office, 512; Inland Revenue, 512; Department of Trade and Industry, 512; Cabinet Office, Privy Council Office and Parliament, 515; Department for International Development, 515; Department of Social Security, 515; Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, Ordnance Survey, Office of Passenger Rail Franchising, Office of the Rail Regulator and Office of Water Services, 515; Foreign & Commonwealth Office, 515; Lord Chancellor's & Law Officers' Departments, 515; Ministry of Defence, 515; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Intervention Board, 515; Northern Ireland, 515; Welsh Office and the Office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales, 515; Departments of the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Forestry Commission, 522.

FINANCIAL SERVICES:


FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET REPORT, JULY 1997:


FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET REPORT, MARCH 1998:


FIREARMS:

Draft Scheme: Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 Compensation, 35; withdrawn, 38; re-laid, 41; Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997 Compensation Scheme, 246.


FIRE PRECAUTIONS:


FIRE SERVICES:

Draft Orders: 1997: Berkshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Cambridgeshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Cheshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Devon Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Essex Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Hereford and Worcester Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Kent Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; Lancashire Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; withdrawn, 137; re-laid, 149; Nottinghamshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129; withdrawn, 137; re-laid, 149; Shropshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme), 129.

Orders: 1997: Firemen's Pension Scheme (Amendment), 177; Combined Fire Authorities (Protection from Personal Liability) (Wales), 257; Firemen's Pension Scheme (Amendment No. 2), 263.


Reports: 1997-98: Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire Services, 779; Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland, 786.

FISHERIES:

Reports and Accounts of the Sea Fish Industry Authority for: 1996-97, 181; 1997-98, 754.

FOOD:


Orders: 1997: Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control), 175; Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) (Amendment), 296.

Orders: 1998: Food (Cheese) (Emergency Control), 581; Food (Cheese) (Emergency Control) (Amendment), 581; Food (Cheese) (Emergency Control) (Amendment No. 2), 679.

Regulations: 1997: Dairy Produce Quotas (Amendment) (Time Limits), 22; Novel Foods and Novel Food Ingredients, 37; Novel Foods and Novel Food Ingredients (Feet), 37; Eggs (Marketing Standards) (Amendment), 47; Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment), 47; Contaminants in Food, 62; Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits), 133; Animal By-products (Identification) (Amendment), 174; Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment), 174; Processed Cereal-based Foods and Baby Foods for Infants and Young Children, 173; Foods Intended for Use in Energy Restricted Diets for Weight Reduction, 174; Imported Food, 179; Charges for Inspections and Controls, 268; Beef Bones, 283; Specified Risk Material, 284; Specified Risk Material (Amendment), 297.

Regulations: 1998: Bread and Flour, 335; Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (Amendment), 402; Beef Labelling (Enforcement), 430; Welfare Food (Amendment), 448; Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene), 518; Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food, 597; Food Labelling (Amendment), 598; Eggs (Marketing Standards) (Amendment), 696; Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Charges), 754; Specified Risk Material (Amendment), 762; Extraction Solvents in Food (Amendment), 763; Specified Risk Material (Coming into Force Date) (Amendment), 763; Drinking Milk, 763; Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (Amendment) (No. 2), 767.

FOOD STANDARDS:

FOOTBALL SPECTATORS:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:
- FCO Minute concerning the agreement of an exception to the European Union embargo on Croatia, 20.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

FOREIGN COMPENSATION:

FORESTRY:
- Regulations: 1998: Forestry (Exceptions from Restrictions of Felling) (Amendment), 430; Environmental Assessment (Forestry), 717.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION:

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES:
- Regulations: 1998: Friendly Societies (General Charge and Fees), 436.

FUTURE OF LYRIC THEATRE IN LONDON (EYRE REVIEW):

GAMING:

GAS:

GAS LEVY:

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL:

GEORGIA:
- 1. Agreement between the UK and the Government of Georgia on International Road Transport, 749.

GIFT OF PUBLIC PROPERTY:
- MoD Minutes concerning the gifting of vehicles to: the National Army Museum, 261; the HALO Trust, 425.
- OPS Minute concerning the sale of surplus government property at Gill Avenue, Bristol to Bristol Council for Disabled Adults, 668.

GLIDEWELL REPORT:

GOVERNANCE OF LONDON:

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES:

GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

GOVERNMENT REPORT:

GOVERNMENT TRADING FUNDS:
- Accounts of the HMSO Trading Fund for 1st January to 30th September 1996 and 1st October 1996 to 5th October 1996, 100.
- Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Central Office of Information, 122; Meteorological Office, 125; HM
Land Registry, 134; Royal Mint Trading Fund, 144; Vehicle Inspectorate, 153.


GREENWICH HOSPITAL:
Accounts of the Greenwich Hospital and Travers Foundation for 1996-97, 418.

HARBOURS, DOCKS ETC.:
Orders (Northern Ireland) 1998: Ports (Levy on Disposals of Land, etc.) (Amendment), 530; Lanne Harbour, 658.

HEALTH:

HEALTH AND SAFETY:


Regulations: 1997: Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment), 62; Confined Spaces, 149; Offshore Electricity and Noise, 173; Health and Safety (Fees), 186; Section 7 of the Petroleum (Production) Act 1934 and Section 21(1a) of the Petroleum Act 1987 (Modification), 220; Diving at Work, 249.

Regulations: 1998: Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (Certification) (Amendment), 316; Health and Safety (Enforcing Authority), 421; Highway Litter Clearance and Cleaning (Transfer of Responsibility), 425; Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment), 601; Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (Certification) (Amendment) (No. 2), 629; Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) (Amendment), 653; Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment, 762; Provision and Use of Work Equipment, 762; Gas Safety (Installation and Use), 764.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Carriage of Explosives by Road, 209; Carriage of Explosives by Road (Driver Training), 210; Construction (Use of Explosives), 324.


HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES (NORTHERN IRELAND):

HEALTH EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONER:

HIGHER EDUCATION (SCOTLAND):
Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland on Further Education in Scotland for 1997, 712.

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS SHIPPING SERVICES:
Draft Undertaking by the Secretary of State for Scotland with the consent of Her Majesty's Treasury and P&O Scottish Ferries Limited and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the Provision of Passenger Ferry Services to Orkney and Shetland, 696.

HIGHWAYS:
Order: 1998: Humber Bridge (Debts), 737.
Regulations: 1997: Dartford-Thurrock Crossing (Amendment), 171.
Regulations: 1998: Street Works (Inspection Fees) (Amendment), 518; Dartford-Thurrock Crossing, 752.

HILLSBOROUGH STADIUM:
Report by the Rt Hon Lord Justice Stuart-Smith into Scrutiny of Evidence relating to the Hillsborough Football Stadium Disaster, 384.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND ANCIENT MONUMENTS:

HOME AFFAIRS:

HOMELANDS AND ISLANDS SHIPPING SERVICES:
Draft Undertaking by the Secretary of State for Scotland with the consent of Her Majesty's Treasury and P&O Scottish Ferries Limited and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the Provision of Passenger Ferry Services to Orkney and Shetland, 696.

HOME OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

HONG KONG:
Orders: 1997: Hong Kong (Extradition), 23; Hong Kong (Colonial Probates Act), 84.
Report of the Governor of Hong Kong to the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act 1990 for the year ending 19 June 1997, 159.


1998:
1. Agreement between the UK and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China for the Surrender of Fugitive Offenders, 311.
2. Agreement between the UK and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China for the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, 311.
3. Agreement between the UK and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China concerning Air Services, 646.

HORSE RACING AND BETTING:

HOUSE OF COMMONS COMMISSION:
Accounts of the House of Commons Refreshment Department for:- 1996-97, 159; for 1997-98, 742.

HOUSE OF COMMONS MEMBERS’ FUND:

HOUSING:
Accounts: 1997-98: Tai Cymru Housing for Wales, 682.
Draft Statutory Guidance under the Housing Act 1985 on the Relocation Grant, 189; (given by the Secretary of State for Wales), 201.
Orders: 1997: Homelessness (Suitability of Accommodation) (Amendment), 158; Rent Officers (Housing Benefit Functions), 172.
Orders: 1998: Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Amendment), 332; Approval of Codes of Management Practice (Residential Property), 344; Houses in Multiple Occupation (Fees for Registration Schemes) (Amendment), 741; Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount), 753.
Regulations: 1997: Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) (No. 2), 91; Housing (Prescribed Forms) (Amendment) (No. 2), 171; Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Amendment) (No. 2), 173; Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) (No. 3), 173; Relocation Grants, 239.
Regulations: 1998: Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment), 377; Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment), 474; Housing (Change of Landlord) (Payment of Disposal Cost by Instalments) (Amendment) (No. 2), 754.

Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Castle Vale Housing Action Trust, 86; Tai Cymru Housing for Wales, 90; Liverpool Housing Action Trust, 134; Stonebridge Housing Action Trust, 137; North Hull Housing Action Trust, 144; Waltham Forest Action Trust, 153; Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust, 206.
Reports and Summary Financial Statements: 1997-98: Tai Cymru Housing for Wales, 682; North Hull Housing Action Trust, 707; Liverpool Housing Action Trust, 712; Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust, 722; Stonebridge Housing Action Trust, 726; Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust, 737.

Reviews and Accounts of the Housing Corporation for:- 1996-97, 131; 1997-98, 718.

HOUSING CORPORATION:

HOUSING (NORTHERN IRELAND):

HOUSING (SCOTLAND):
Accounts of Scottish Homes for:- 1996-97, 118; 1997-98, 703.
Draft Orders: 1998: Housing Support Grant (Scotland), 340; Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Variation, 340; Homelessness (Decisions on Referrals) (Scotland), 567.
Order: 1997: Rent Officers (Housing Benefit Functions) (Scotland), 173.
Orders: 1998: Housing Revenue Account General Fund Contributions Limits (Scotland), 335; Right to Purchase (Prescribed Persons) (Scotland) Amendment, 581.

Reports under sections 191(9) and 192(3) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 in respect of: draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, 341; draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Variation Order 1998, 341.

HOVERCRAFT:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Growth Hormone</td>
<td>DoH Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the risk of contracting CJD as a result of treatment with human growth hormone, 306.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>1998: Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment), 379; Retirement Benefits Schemes (Restriction on Discretion to Approve) (Excepted Provisions), 450; Retirement Benefits Schemes (Restriction on Discretion to Approve) (Small Self-administered Schemes) (Amendment), 450; Retirement Benefits Schemes (Restriction on Discretion to Approve) (Small Self-administered Schemes) (Amendment No. 2), 587; Individual Savings Account, 745; Individual Savings Accounts (Insurance Companies, 745; Personal Equity Plan (Amendment), 745; Income Tax (Employments) (Notional Payments) (Amendment), 750; Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment), 763; Income Tax (Subcontractors in the Construction Industry) (Amendment), 774.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial and Provident Societies</td>
<td>Regulations: 1998: Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment of Fees), 436; Industrial and Provident Societies (Credit Unions) (Amendment of Fees), 436.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inheritance Tax</td>
<td>Regulations: 1998: Inheritance Tax (Delivery of Accounts), 606; Inheritance Tax (Delivery of Accounts) (Northern Ireland), 606; Inheritance Tax (Delivery of Accounts) (Scotland), 607.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### INLAND REVENUE:

Reports and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of HM Inland Revenue, for:- 1996-97, 189; 1997-98, 783.

### INLAND REVENUE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


### INSOLVENCY:

Accounts prepared pursuant to section 409 of the Insolvency Act 1986 of the sums received and paid by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 403, and of the sums credited and debited to the Investment Account by the National Debt Commissioners for 1996-97, 452.


Report to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Bank of Credit and Commerce International SA (In Liquidation) for 16th January 1996 to 15th January 1997, 42.

### INSURANCE:

Regulations: 1997: Insurance (Fees), 430; Insurance Companies (Overseas Life Assurance Business) (Compliance) (Amendment), 750; Employers’ Liability (Compulsory Insurance), 777.


### INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX:


Regulations: 1998: Insurance (Fees), 430; Insurance Companies (Overseas Life Assurance Business) (Compliance) (Amendment), 750; Employers’ Liability (Compulsory Insurance), 777.


### INTERNATIONAL IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES:


Orders: 1997: Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Exemptions and Reliefs), 32; Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Immunities and Privileges), 175.

### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE:


### INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND:

Draft Order: International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription), 653.

### ITALY:

1998:
1. Agreement between the UK and Italy concerning the Co-Production of Films, 742.

### JAPAN:

1998:
1. Agreement between the UK and Japan for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, 556.

### JUDGMENTS:

Order: 1997: Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982 (Gibraltar), 212; Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982 (Provisional and Protective Measures) (Scotland), 263.

### JUDICATURE (NORTHERN IRELAND):

Rules (Northern Ireland): 1997: Court Funds (Amendment No. 2), 73; withdrawn, 77; re-laid, 77; Court Funds (Amendment No. 3), 221.

### JUDICIAL STATISTICS:


### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:


### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Department for International Development Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the guarantee of a loan to the Day Chocolate Company for the Kuapa Kokoo Project in Ghana, 774.


### INTERNATIONAL IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES:


Orders: 1997: Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Exemptions and Reliefs), 32; Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Immunities and Privileges), 175.

### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE:


### INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND:

Draft Order: International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription), 653.

### ITALY:

1998:
1. Agreement between the UK and Italy concerning the Co-Production of Films, 742.

### JAPAN:

1998:
1. Agreement between the UK and Japan for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, 556.

### JUDGMENTS:

Order: 1997: Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982 (Gibraltar), 212; Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982 (Provisional and Protective Measures) (Scotland), 263.

### JUDICATURE (NORTHERN IRELAND):

Rules (Northern Ireland): 1997: Court Funds (Amendment No. 2), 73; withdrawn, 77; re-laid, 77; Court Funds (Amendment No. 3), 221.

### JUDICIAL STATISTICS:


### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:


### KAZAKHSTAN:

1997:
1. Agreement between UK and Kazakhstan concerning air services, 83.

### LAND AUTHORITY FOR WALES:

Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 8th January 1998 on borrowing by the Land Authority for Wales, 302.

### LAND CHARGES:


### LANDFILL TAX:

INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume

LANDLORD AND TENANT:

Orders: 1997: Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (Fees), 158; Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (Service Charges, Insurance or Appointment of Managers Applications), 158; withdrawn, 183; Agricultural Holdings (Units of Production), 171.

Order: 1998: Agricultural Holdings (Units of Production), 753.

Regulations: 1997: Rent Assessment Committee (England and Wales) (Leasehold Valuation Tribunal) (Amendment), 158; Long Residential Tenancies (Supplemental Forms), 296; Rent Assessment Committees (England and Wales) (Amendment), 296.

Regulations: 1998: Assured and Protected Tenancies (Lettings to Students), 752.

LAND REGISTRATION:

Rules: 1997: Land Registration (Matrimonial Home Rights), 171; Land Registration, 296.

LANDS TRIBUNAL:

Order (Northern Ireland): 1997: Lands Tribunal (Salaries), 91.

Orders (Northern Ireland): 1998: Lands Tribunal (Salaries), 548; Lands Tribunal (Superannuation) (Amendment), 586.

LAW COMMISSION:

Reports of the Law Commission on:- Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Hearsay and Related Topics, 64; Shareholder Remedies, 167; Aggravated, Exemplary and Restitutionary Damages, 283; Legislating the Criminal Code: Corruption, 407; Liability for Psychiatric Illness, 425; Modern Law for Modern Needs, 459; Rules against Perpetuities and Excessive Accumulations, 496; Diligence on the Dependence and Admiralty Arrestments, 500; Execution of Documents by or on behalf of bodies corporate, 749; Land Registration for the Twenty-first Century: a consultative document, 749; Consents to Prosecution, 765.


LAW COMMISSION (SCOTLAND):


LAW REFORM (SCOTLAND):


LEASEHOLD REFORM, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:


LEGAL AID, ADVOCACY AND ASSISTANCE:


Draft Regulations: 1997: Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment) (No. 2), 72.

Draft Regulations: 1998: Legal Advice and Assistance (Scope) (Amendment), 764.

Regulations: 1997: Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 2), 21; Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment No. 2), 20; Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters), 21; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 3), 55; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 2), 55; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 3), 172; Legal Aid in Family Proceedings (Remuneration) (Amendment), 177; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 4), 201.

Regulations: 1998: Civil Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment), 436; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment), 436; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment), 436; Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment), 492; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment), 559; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 2), 793.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Legal Aid and Assistance (Amendment No. 2), 149; Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment), 149.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1998: Legal Aid and Assistance (Amendment), 441; Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions), 442; Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment), 442; Legal Aid (Financial Conditions), 442.


Reports and Accounts of the Legal Aid Board for:- 1996-97, 75; 1997-98, 692.


LEGAL AID AND ADVOCACY (SCOTLAND):

Draft Regulations: 1997: Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland), 246; Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings), 246.

Draft Regulations: 1998: Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment, 41; Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland), 41; Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland), 41; Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment, 414.

Regulations: 1998: Advice and Assistance (Scotland) Amendment, 448; Civil Legal Aid (Scotland) Amendment, 448; Scottish Legal Aid Board (Employment of Solicitors to Provide Criminal Legal Assistance), 751; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 2), 762.

Reports and Accounts of the Scottish Legal Aid Board for: 1996-97, 90; 1997-98, 692.
LEGAL SERVICES:
Order: 1998: Legal Services Ombudsman (Jurisdiction) (Amendment), 504.

LIBRARIES:
Order: 1997: Public Lending Right Scheme 1982 (Commencement of Variations), 77.


LICENSEING:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:
Accounts: 1st April 1997 to 4th July 1997: Staff Commission for Wales, 264.
Draft Regulations: 1998: Local Authorities (Transport Charges), 365; Houses in Multiple Occupation (Charges for Registration Schemes), 632.

Orders: 1997: Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) in respect of the following councils:- Daventry District Council, 22; Dacorum Borough Council, 62; Craven, Kerrier and Mid-DENVY District Councils and Middlesborough Borough Council, 125; Christchurch Borough Council, 172; Hackney and Southwark London Borough Councils and Liverpool City Council, 171; Brent London Borough Council and Harrogate Borough Council, 176; Croydon London Borough Council, 177; Oadby and Wigston Borough Council and Havering London Borough Council, 177; Stockton on Tees Borough Council, 177; Chichester District Council and Mole Valley District Council, 179; Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council, 186; Gloucester City Council and North West Leicestershire District Council, 196; Easington District Council, Epping Forest District Council and London Borough of Merton, 279; Stevenage Borough Council and Three Rivers District Council, 279; Bath and North East Somerset District Council, 284.

Other Orders: 1997: Recreation Grounds Revocation of Parish Council Byelaws), 122; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 133; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Housing Management) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 133; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Works Contracts) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 133; Local Government Act 1988 (Direct Service Organisations) (Accounts etc.) (Extension) (Wales) (Amendment), 133; Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (English Heritage), 149; Cambridgeshire Police Area and Authority, 170; Cheshire Police Area and Authority), 170; Devon and Cornwall Police Area and Authority), 170; Dorset Police Area and Authority), 170; Essex Police Area and Authority), 170; Kent Police Area and Authority), 170; Lancashire Police Area and Authority), 170; Local Government Changes for England (Lord-Lieutenants and Sheriffs), 173; Nottinghamshire Police Area and Authority), 170; Thames Valley (Police Area and Authority), 170; West Mercia (Police Area and Authority), 170; Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 2), 175; Local Government Changes for England (Direct Labour Organisations) (East Riding of Yorkshire District Council, 175; Local Government Changes for England (Direct Labour Organisations) (County of Leicestershire and District of Rutland), 179; Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) (National Health Service Trusts), 232; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Amendment), 233; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Schools), 233; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Housing Management and Security Work) (Exemptions) (England) (Amendment), 233; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 233; Local Government Changes for England (Property Transfer) (Humber), 264; Local Government (Changes for the Registration Service in Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Devon, Essex, Hereford and Worcester, Kent, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Shropshire), 298.

Orders (Northern Ireland): 1997: Local Government (General Grant), 48.

Orders: 1998: Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) in respect of the following councils:- Harlow District Council, 353; Harlow District Council and North Hertfordshire District Council, 402; Basildon, Derwentside and Salisbury District Councils, 436; Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, 445; Maidstone Borough Council, 459; London Boroughs of Hillingdon and Hounslow, and Daventry and Horsham District Councils, 568; Northumberland County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council, 586; Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council, 623; Bournemouth Borough Council and North West Leicestershire District Council, 692; Dacorum, Hertsmere and Luton Borough Councils, 672; Cherwell District Council, 750; Chiltern District Council, Lewes District Council and Eastbourne Borough Council, 754; Castle Morpeth Borough Council and West Somerset and Uttoxeter District Councils, 754; Derwenstide and Wyre Forest District Councils, 754; East Lindsey and Suffolk District Councils, 762; Leicestershire County Council, 774; Rugby Borough Council, 779; Easington District Council, 782; Tendring District Council, 816.

Other Orders: 1998: Local Government Changes (Rent Act Registration Areas), 320, Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment), 404; Berkshire County Council (Staff Transfer), 414; Cambridgeshire County Council (City of Peterborough) (Staff Transfer), 414; Cheshire County Council (Boroughs of Halton and Warrington) (Staff Transfer), 414; Devon County Council (City of Plymouth and Borough of Torbay) (Staff Transfer), 414; Essex County Council (Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock) (Staff Transfer), 414; Hereford and Worcester (Staff Transfer), 414; Kent County Council (Borough of Gillingham and City of Rochester upon Medway) (Staff Transfer), 414; Kent County Council (Boroughs of Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool) (Staff Transfer), 414; Nottinghamshire County Council (City of Nottingham) (Staff Transfer), 414; Shropshire County Council (District of The Wrekin) (Staff Transfer), 414; Charter Trustees (Hereford), 436; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (No. 1), 436; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (No. 2), 437; Local Government Changes for England (Property Transfer) (Humber), 264; Local Government (Changes for the Registration Service in Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Devon, Essex, Hereford and Worcester, Kent, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Shropshire), 298.
 Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 2), 492; Local Government Staff Commission (England) Winding Up, 512; Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 3), 548; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Combined Fire Authorities Etc.) 611; Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 4), 649; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (London Fire and Civil Defence Authority), 653; Local Government Reorganisation (Wales) (Repeal of enactments), 658; Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Insolvency) (Amendment) (Wales), 741; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 759; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Housing Management) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 759; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Works Contracts) (Exemptions) (Wales) (Amendment), 759; Local Government Act 1988 (Direct Service Organisations) (Accounts, etc.) (Extension) (Wales) (Amendment), 759; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions) (No. 3), 764.

Orders (Northern Ireland): 1998: Local Government (General Grant), 601.


Regulations: 1997: Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Wales), 22; Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Wales) (Amendment), 133; Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Wales), 133; Local Government (Compensation for Redundancy) (Amendment), 174; Police Authorities (Standing Orders), 179; Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (England) (No. 2), 233; Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Revocations), 233; Local Government Changes for England (Housing Management) (Miscellaneous Amendments), 233; Local Government (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Amendment), 233; Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Wales) (Amendment), 233; Local Authorities (Contracts), 264.

Regulations: 1998: Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations), 362; Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment), 404; Local Authorities (Members’ Allowances) (Amendment) (No. 2), 421; Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Rate of Discount for 1998/99), 430; Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) (No. 2), 436; National Crime Squad Service Authority (Members’ Interests), 518; National Crime Squad Service Authority (Standing Orders), 518; Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (Insolvency) (England and Wales), 741; Local Government (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Insolvency) (Amendment) (England), 741; Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) (No. 3), 751; Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) (Amendment), 753; Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Wales) (Amendment), 759; Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Wales) (Amendment), 759.


Local Government Finance:
Accounts: 1996-97: Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales, 118; Scottish Office Development Department Non-Domestic Rating, 306; Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in Wales, 328.

Accounts of the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales for the period 1st April to 31st October 1997, 496.


Special Grant Reports: No. 28, 328; No. 29, 328; No. 30, 328; No. 31, 348; No. 32, 372; No. 33, 394; No. 34, 479; No. 35, 581; No. 36, 623.

Statement of guarantee given by the Treasury on borrowing by the Audit Commission, 35.

Local Government Finance (Scotland):
Orders: 1998: Local Government Finance (Scotland), 360; Revenue Support Grant (Scotland), 360.

Reports by the Secretary of State for Scotland on: Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1998, 360; Revenue Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1998, 360.

Special Grant Reports: No. 98/3, 328; No. 98/4, 328.

Special Grant Reports (Scotland) on: Grant in Aid of Local Authority Revenue Costs and Reinstatement Works at Dunblane Cemetery Resulting from the Dunblane Tragedy, 360; Local Taxation Collection Grant Scheme 1997-99, 360; Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area, 489; Grant in aid of expenditure on rural public passenger transport for 1998-99, 676.

Local Government Finance (Wales):


Special Grant Reports (Wales) 1998: 328; (No. 2), 348; (No. 3), 642.

Local Government, Planning and Land:

Accounts: 1996-97: Land Authority for Wales, 100.


Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Black Country Development Corporation, 125; Birmingham Heartlands Development Corporation, 125; Plymouth Development Corporation, 125; Teesside Development Corporation, 125; Trafford Park Development Corporation, 125; Tyne and Wear Development Corporation, 125; Merseyside Development Corporation, 134; Sheffield Development Corporation, 140; Cardiff Bay Development Corporation, 146; Land Authority for Wales, 146; Birmingham Heartlands, 629; Black
Country, 629; London Docklands, 629; Merseyside, 629; Plymouth, 629; Trafford Park, 629; Grants and Loans made to the Urban Development Corporations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, 643.

Report and Accounts: 31st March to 30th June 1997: Sheffield Development Corporation, 140.

Reports and Accounts: 1997-98: Teesside, 696; Tyne and Wear, 696; Land Authority for Wales, 700; Cardiff Bay Development Corporation, 703.

Reports and Accounts: 1st April to 30th June 1998: Birmingham Heartlands, 696; Black Country, 696; London Docklands, 696; Merseyside, 696; Plymouth, 696; Teesside, 696; Trafford Park, 696; Tyne and Wear, 696.


LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND):


Orders: 1997: Local Government (Exemption from Competition) (Scotland) Amendment, 51; Local Government (Publication of Performance Information) (Scotland), 173; Local Government Property Commission (Scotland) (Winding Up), 268.


Regulations: 1997: Local Government Superannuation (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) (Scotland), 23; Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Scotland) Amendment, 51; Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (Competition) (Scotland) Amendment, 51; Local Authorities Etc. (Allowances) (Scotland) Amendment, 91; Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Amendment, 173; Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Scotland) Amendment, 261; Local Authorities (Contracts) (Scotland), 264.


Reports: 1995-96: East of Scotland Water Authority, 80; North of Scotland Water Authority, 80; West of Scotland Water Authority, 80.

Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: East of Scotland Water, 146; North of Scotland Water Authority, 146; West of Scotland Water Authority, 146; Scottish Children's Reporter Administration, 299.


Statements of guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on borrowing by:- The East of Scotland Water Authority, 24; The North of Scotland Water Authority, 24; The West of Scotland Water Authority, 24; East of Scotland Water Authority, 181; West of Scotland Water Authority, 181; The East of Scotland Water Authority, 456; The North of Scotland Water Authority, 456; The West of Scotland Water Authority, 456.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES):

Paper: Modernising Local Government in Wales, 745.


LONDON GOVERNMENT:


LONDON REGIONAL TRANSPORT:


LONDON UNDERGROUND:

DETR Minutes concerning contingent liabilities in respect of a contract to give financial advice to London Regional Transport and the Government on a public-private partnership for London Underground, 611; 726.

LOW PAY COMMISSION:


Magistrates' Courts:


Orders: 1998: Licensing (Fees) (Amendment), 328; Magistrates' Courts Committees (Merseyside) Amalgamation, 555; Magistrates' Courts Committees (West Midlands) Amalgamation, 555; Magistrates' Courts Committees (Merseyside) Amalgamation (Amendment), 586; Magistrates' Courts Committees (Devon and Cornwall) Amalgamation, 607; Magistrates' Courts Committees (Thames Valley) Amalgamation, 629; Magistrates' Courts Committees (Dyfed and Powys) Amalgamation, 779; Magistrates' Courts Committees (Northumbria) Amalgamation, 778; Magistrates' Courts Committees (West Yorkshire) Amalgamation, 808.


MEDICINES:

Rules: 1998: Magistrates’ Courts (Miscellaneous Amendments), 755; Magistrates’ Courts (Sex Offender and Anti-social Behaviour Orders), 783.

MARINE AND AVIATION INSURANCE (WAR RISKS):


MARINE POLLUTION:

Draft Order: 1998: Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution) (SOLAS), 525.

Orders: 1997: Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation Convention), 212; Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Amendment), 212.


Regulations: 1998: Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention), 533; Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) (Amendment), 568; Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage), 607; Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) (Tonnage Amendment), 753; Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) (Fishing Vessels) (Amendment), 753; Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) (Amendment No. 2), 761.

MARAIS PRISON (NAREY INQUIRY):

Return to an Address to Her Majesty this day for a Report of an inquiry by Martin Narey, Director of Regimes, the Prison Service of England and Wales into the escape of a prisoner from HMP Maze on 10 December 1997 and the shooting of a prisoner on 27 December 1997, 507.

MEDICAL PROFESSION:

Order of Council: 1997: General Medical Council (Professional Performance) Rules, 64.

Regulations: 1997: European Specialist Medical Qualifications Amendment, 274.

Regulations: 1998: National Health Service (Vocational for General Medical Practice) Amendment, 437; Human Organ Transplants (Establishment of Relationship), 646; Medical Act 1983 (Approved Medical Practices and Conditions of Residence) and National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment, 679; Medical Act 1983 (Approved Medical Practices and Conditions of Residence) and National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment, 679.

Rules: 1997: General Medical Council (Legal Assessors) (Amendment), 152.

MEDICINES:

Orders: 1997: Medicines (Pharmacy and General Sale—Exemption) (Amendment), 51; Medicines (Control of Substances for Manufacture) (Revocation), 133; Medicines (Steroids and Thyrostatic Substances Prohibition) (Revocation), 133; Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use), 149; Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment, 173; Medicines (Veterinary Drugs) (Pharmacy and Merchants’ List) (Amendment), 268.

Orders: 1998: Medicines (Pharmacy and General Sale—Exemption) Amendment, 326; Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment, 326; Medicines (Exemptions for Merchants in Veterinary Drugs), 522; Prescription Only Medicines (Human use) Amendment (No. 3), 754; Medicines (Pharmacy and General Sale—Exemption) Amendment (No. 2), 762.

Regulations: 1997: Medicines (Products for Animal Use—Fees), 55; Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment, 149; Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment (No. 2), 173; Medicines (Pharmacies) (Applications for Registration and Fees) Amendment, 264; Medicines (Restrictions on the Administration of Veterinary Medicinal Products) Amendment, 264.

Regulations: 1998: Medicines for Human Use and Medical Devices (Fees and Miscellaneous Amendments), 437; Medicated Feedingstuffs, 522; Medicated Feedingstuffs and Feedingstuffs (Zootechnical Products) (Consequential Provisions), 522; Medicines (Exemptions for Merchants in Veterinary Drugs), 522; Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment, 523; Medicines (Products for Animal Use—Fees), 763.


MEMBERS’ INTERESTS:

Register of Members’ Interests as at: 31st October 1997, 196.

MENTAL HEALTH:


Order: 1998: Mental Health Review Tribunals (Regions), 615.

Regulations: 1998: Mental Health (Hospital, Guardianship and Consent to Treatment) Amendment, 777.


Mental Health (Scotland):

Reports and Accounts of the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland, for:- 1996-97, 199; 1997-98, 791.

MERCHANT SHIPPING:


International Labour Organisation Conventions concerning: Inspection of Seafarers’ Working and Living Conditions (No. 178), 544; Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (No. 179), 544; Seafarers’ Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships (No. 180), 544.

International Labour Organisation General Conference Recommendations concerning: Inspection of
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seafarers’ Working and Living Conditions (No 185), 545; Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (No. 186), 545; Seafarers’ Wages and Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships (No. 187), 545.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orders: 1997: Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution: Substances Other than Oil) (Intervention), 170; State Immunity (Merchant Shipping), 195; Merchant Shipping (Liability and Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage) (Transitional Provisions) (Revocation), 212; Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution) (Intervention) (Foreign Ships), 212.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order: 1998: Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (Rate of Interest), 737.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations: 1997: Merchant Shipping (Safe Manning, Hours of Work and Watchkeeping), 37; Merchant Shipping (Mandatory Ships’ Routeing), 42; Shipping (Cargo Ship Construction), 73; Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation), 73; Merchant Shipping (Official Log Books for Merchant Ships and Fishing Vessels) (Amendment), 73; Merchant Shipping (Tonnage), 73; Merchant Shipping (Training, Certification and Safe Manning) (Amendment), 172; Oil Pollution (Compulsory Insurance), 170; Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Cargoes) (Amendment), 178; Statistical Returns (Carriage of Goods and Passengers by Sea), 178; Merchant Shipping (Master’s Discretion), 274; Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work), 290; Merchant Shipping (Port Waste Reception Facilities), 296.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations: 1998: Merchant Shipping (Compulsory Insurance: Ships Receiving Trans-shipped Fish), 376; Merchant Shipping (Light Dues) (Amendment), 430; Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment), 437; Fishing Vessels (Life-Saving Appliances) (Amendment), 514; Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) (Fishing Vessels) (Amendment), 515; Fishing Vessels (Certification of Deck Officers and Engineer Officers) (Amendment), 523; Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection: Large Ships), 523; Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection: Small Ships), 523; Merchant Shipping (Navigation Bridge Visibility), 607; Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) (Amendment), 607; Merchant Shipping (International Safety Management (ISM) Code), 646; Merchant Shipping (Small Workboats and Pilot Boats), 682; Merchant Shipping (Co-operation with Search and Rescue Services), 702; Merchant Shipping (Distress Messages), 702; Merchant Shipping (Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seamen), 750; Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations), 754; Merchant Shipping (Load Line), 762; Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Employment of Young Persons), 763; Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ship Construction: Ships of Classes I, II and III(A)), 765; Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ship Construction: Ships of Classes III to VI(A)), 765.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: General Lighthouse Fund, 697; Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Nautical Publications), 785.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MERCHANT SHIPPING SAFETY:</strong> Regulations: 1997: Merchant Shipping (ISM Code) (Ro-Ro Passenger Ferries), 296.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MINISTERS OF THE CROWN:</strong> Orders: 1997: Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, 170; Transfer of Functions (International Development), 170; Transfer of Functions (Insurance), 264; Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, 298.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL PROVISIONS:**


**MONOPOLIES AND MERGERS:**

Consent by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the transfer of newspapers, 607.


Orders: 1998: Restriction on Agreements and Conduct (Specified Domestic Electrical Goods), 578; Foreign Package Holidays (Tour Operators and Travel Agents), 751; Monopoly References (Deletion of Exclusions), 761.

Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on:- Domestic Electrical Goods: I (A report on the supply in the UK of video cassette recorders, hi-fi systems and camcorders), 159; Domestic Electrical Goods: II (A report on the supply in the UK of washing machines, tumble dryers, dishwashers and cold food storage equipment), 159; Solicitors' estate agency services in Scotland: the supply of residential estate agency services in Scotland, 167; the proposed acquisition by PacifiCorp of The Energy Group plc, 294; the supply in the UK of tour operators' services and travel agents' services in relation to foreign package holidays, 295; the proposed acquisition by Capital Radio plc of Virgin Radio Holdings Limited, 302; courses of conduct pursued by Birds Eye Wall's Ltd in connection with the supply of wrapped ice cream, 737.

Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on proposed mergers and transfers between:- Mirror Group plc and the newspapers of Midland Independent Newspapers plc, 167; Littlewoods Organisation PLC and Freemans PLC (a subsidiary of Sears plc), 226; Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and Stena Line AB, 229; Fresenius AG and Caremark Limited, 548; Johnston Press plc and Home Counties Newspapers Holdings plc, 607.

Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between:- Klaus J Jacobs Holding AG and Société Centrale d'Investissements et Associés, 62; Bass PLC, Carlsberg A/S and Carlsberg Tetley PLC, 83; Technicolor Limited and Metrocolor London Limited, 144; London Clubs International plc and Capital Corporation PLC, 167; National Express Group PLC and Central Trains Limited, 285; National Express Group PLC and ScotRail Railways Limited, 285; Ladbroke Group plc and the Coral betting business, 758; Tomkins plc and Kerry Group plc, 758; ARRIVA plc and Lutonian Buses Ltd, 824.

**MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES:**


Accounts: 1997-98: Museums and Galleries Commissioners, 697; Victoria and Albert Museum, 737; Tate Gallery, 737; National Portrait Gallery, 742; British Museum, 768; National Maritime Museum, 768; National Gallery, 774; National Museum of Science and Industry, 774; National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside, 774; Imperial War Museum, 824.


**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES:**

Regulations: 1998: National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment), 421; National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements), 421; National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment No. 2), 702.

**NATIONAL AUDIT:**


Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on:- Charity Commission Regulation and Support of Charities, 25; Managing the Millennium Threat, 26; The Skye Bridge, 29; University of Portsmouth, 29; Contingent Liabilities in the Dependent Territories, 35; Contract to Develop and Operate the Replacement National Insurance Recording System, 35; Sales of Scottish New Towns' Commercial and Industrial Properties, 35; Vacant Office Property, 42; Ministry of Defence: Improving the Efficiency of the Procurement Commission, 758; Ladbroke Group plc and the Coral betting business, 758; Tomkins plc and Kerry Group plc, 758; ARRIVA plc and Lutonian Buses Ltd, 824.
of Routine Items, 62; Inland Revenue: Employer Compliance Reviews, 75; Value for Money Review of Performance Measurement, 85; Department for Education and Employment Contracting Out of Careers Services in England, 109; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: Protecting Environmentally Sensitive Areas, 129; Department of Social Security: Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud, 140; Tenants' Choice and the Torbay Tenants Housing Association, 150; Major Projects Report 1996, 163; The Sale of the Ministry of Defence's Married Quarters Estate, 163; Further Education Colleges in England: Strategies to Achieve and Manage Growth, 182; The Management of Growth in the English Further Education Sector, 182; PFI Contracts for Bridgend and Fazakerley Priory, 186; Exchange of Information on Direct Taxation within the European Union, 196; Prison Catering, 199; Examinations at Grant-Maintained Schools in England, 1996-97, 210; Cataract Surgery in Scotland, 207; Sale of PSA Projects, 232; Audit of Assumptions for the Pre-Budget Report November 1997, 239; Regulating and Monitoring the Quality of Service Provided to Customers by the Water Industry in England and Wales, 264; Crown Prosecution Service, 269; Management of Sickness Absence in the Metropolitan Police Service, 279; Defence Evaluation and Research Agency Review of Performance, 283; Management of Building Projects at English Higher Education Institutions, 302; The Private Finance Initiative: The First Four Design Finance, Build and Operate Road Contracts, 329; Construction of the Southampton Oceanography Centre, 349; Sale of The Stationery Office, 372, HM Coastguard Civil Maritime Search and Rescue, 384; Home Energy Efficiency Scheme, 392; Reform of Customs Transit in the European Community, 398; Monitoring and Control of Tax Exemptions for Charities, 407; Privatisation of the Rolling Stock Leasing Companies, 411; Water Pensions: Deficit in the Closed Fund, 425; Purchase of the Read Codes and the Management of the following NHS Trusts and Health Authorities: 426; Audit of Assumptions for the Budget March 1998, 450; The Distribution of Lottery Funds by the English Sports Council, 450; The Sale of AEA Technology, 452; Obtaining a Benefit for Electricity Customers from the Floation of the National Grid, 485; Grants to Voluntary Bodies, 504; Countering Anti-competitive Behaviour in the Telecommunications Industry, 512; Performance of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme in England, 523; the European Court of Auditors for 1996, 526; Investigation of Misconduct at Glasgow Caledonian University, 539; Underpayments to Public Service Pensioners on Invalidity Benefit, 539; Corporate Governance and Financial Management in the Scottish Further Education Sector, 541; Disposal of Forest Land, 545; The Forensic Science Service, 550; the Sale of British Energy, 552; Ministry of Defence Major Projects 1997, 559; Managing the Millennium Threat II, 565; Sales of the Royal Dockyards, 587; Cost Overruns, Funding Problems and Delays on Guy's Hospital Phase III Development, 601; Ministry of Defence: Identifying and Selling Surplus Property, 615; BSE: The Cost of a Crisis, 666; HM Customs and Excise: The Prevention of Drug Smuggling, 683; Benefits Agency: Performance Measurement, 707; A Case Study of Store Management in the Ministry of Defence, 712; Ministry of Defence Major Equipment Storage, 726; Inland Revenue: Special Compliance Office Prevention of Offshore Tax Evasion and Avoidance, 767; Development in Financial Reporting, 737; Office of Electricity Regulation: Improving Energy Efficiency Financed by a Charge on Customers, 737; Catering at Grant-Maintained Schools in England, 816.

NATIONAL DEBT:


Order: 1998: National Savings Stock Register (Closure of Register to Gilt), 611.

Regulations: 1997: National Savings Stock Register (Amendment), 152; Premium Savings Bonds (Amendment), 152; Savings Certificates (Amendment), 152; Savings Certificates (Children's Bonus Bonds) (Amendment), 152; Savings Certificates Yearly Plan (Amendment), 152; Savings Contracts (Amendment), 152.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE:


Orders: Transfers of Trust Property: 1997: in respect of the following NHS Trusts and Health Authorities: 430; Essex and Herts Community, 21; South and West Devon Health Authority, 23; Southampton Community Health Services, 23; Southampton University Hospitals, 23; withdrawn, 23; re-laid, 23; Wiltshire Health Authority, 35; Gloucestershire Health Authority, 37; Portsmouth Health Care, 51; Solihull Healthcare, 51; Avon Health Authority, 103; North and East Devon Health Authority, 103; Worcestershire Community Healthcare National Health Service Trust, 103; Birmingham Health Authority, 170; Lambeth Healthcare National Health Service Trust, 174; Portsmouth Health Care National Health Service Trust (No. 2), 176; Oxleas, 179; Oxleas Amendment, 226; East Glamorgan National Health Service Trust, 264; Rhondda Health Care National Health Service Trust, 264.

Orders: Transfers of Trust Property: 1998: in respect of the following NHS Trusts and Health Authorities: 430; Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Montagu Hospital, 348; Isle of Wight Healthcare, 348; Lincoln District Healthcare, 348; North and East Devon Health Authority, 110; Special Trustees for Westminster and Roehampton Hospitals, 421 Glan Hafren, 430; Glan-y-Môr, 430; Rhondda Health Care, 430; Lewisham and Guy's Mental Health, 350; Lincolnshire Ambulance and Health Transport Service, 507; Special Trustees for University College Hospitals, 512; East London and The City, 515; Special Trustees for the Middlesex Hospital, 533; Special Trustees for the Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew, 539; Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health Authority, 763; Bethlehem and Maudsley National Health Service Trust, 808.


Papers: The New NHS, 269; NHS Wales: Putting Patients First, 309.

Regulations: 1997: National Health Service (Fundholding Practices) Amendment (No. 2), 109; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes: Financial Assistance for Preparatory Work), 146; National Health Service Pension Scheme (Amendment), 172; National Health Service (Proposals for Pilot Schemes) and (Miscellaneous Amendments), 176; National Health Service (Traveling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment
(No. 2), 178; National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 3), 179; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Amendment, 179; National Health Service (Vocational Training) Amendment, 239; National Health Service (Vocational Training: General Medical Practice), 242; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes - Health Service Bodies), 274; Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment, 284; National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) Amendment, 285; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes: Financial Assistance for Preparatory Work) Amendment, 293.

Regulations: 1998: National Health Service (Proposals for Pilot Schemes and (Miscellaneous Amendments) Amendment, 299; National Health Service - (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Amendment, 421; National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment, 421; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Amendment, 425; National Health Service (Functions of Health Authorities) (Prescribing Incentive Schemes), 430; National Health Service (Choice of Medical Practitioner), 437; National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment, 437; National Health Service (Injury Benefits) Amendment, 437; National Health Service Pension Scheme Amendment, 437; National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Amendment, 437; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes: Miscellaneous Provisions and Consequential Amendments), 437; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes: Part II Practitioners), 437; National Health Service (Remuneration and Costs of Service) Amendment, 437; National Health Service (Service Committees and Tribunal) Amendment, 437; National Health Service (Fund-holding Practices) Amendment, 445; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes - Health Service Bodies) Amendment, 445; National Health Service (Choice of Dental Practitioner), 760; National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment, 760; National Health Service (Injury Benefits) Amendment (No. 2), 760; National Health Service Pension Scheme Amendment (No. 2), 760; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes for Personal Dental Services: Miscellaneous Provisions and Consequential Amendments), 760; National Health Service (Pilot Schemes for Personal Dental Services: Miscellaneous Provisions and Consequential Amendments), 760; National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment, 763; Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment, 774.

Statements of guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on borrowing by the following NHS Trusts:- Ashford Hospital, 33; Brighton Healthcare, 33; Epsom Healthcare, 33; Heathwood & Wexham Park Hospitals, 33; Isle of Wight Healthcare, 33; James Paget Hospital, 33; North Tees Health, 33; Plymouth Community Services, 33; Queen Mary’s Sidcup, 33; Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospitals, 33; Royal Surrey County Hospital, 33; St James and Seacroft University Hospitals, 33; St Peter’s Hospital, 33; United Bristol Healthcare, 33; Wiltshire Health Care, 33; Hereford Hospitals, 36; Northern General Hospital, 48; Gloucestershire Ambulance, 57; Royal Berkshire & Battle Hospitals, 62; Leicester General Hospital, 299; East Gloucestershire, 382; Hastings and Rother, 382; Southampton Community Health Services, 395; Severn, 398; Bassetlaw Hospital and Community Services, 425; Central Nottinghamshire Health Care, 425; Community Health Care Services (North Derbyshire), 425; Community Health Services (Southern Derby and Pontefract Community Health), 425; Derby City General Hospital, 425; Doncaster Healthcare, 425; Dorset Healthcare, 426; Exeter & District Community, 426; Glenfield Hospital, 426; Hampshire Ambulance Service, 426; Leicester General Hospital, 426; Lincolnshire Ambulance and Health Transport, 426; North Hampshire Loddon Community, 426; Nottingham City Hospital, 426; Pilgrim & Associated Hospitals, 426; Plymouth Community Services, 426; Poole Hospital, 426; Rockingham Forest, 426; Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals, 426; South Devon Healthcare, 426; St James and Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospitals, 426; The Leicester Royal Infirmary, 426; The Royal Shrewsbury Hospitals, 426; Leicester Ambulance & Paramedic Service, 442; Northern General Hospital, 442; Oxford Radcliffe, 442; Queen’s Medical Centre Nottingham University Hospitals, 442; St Helier, 442; Tenbury, 442; A27 Hospital, 442; Winchester & Eastleigh Healthcare, 442; East Berkshire, 445; Plymouth Hospitals, 445; BHH Community Healthcare, 459; East Yorkshire Community Healthcare, 459; South Durham Health Care, 459; Southampton University Hospitals, 459; West Berkshire and Pontefract Community Health, 459; York Health Services, 459; Luton and Dunstable, 459; North Durham Health Care, 459; Carlisle Hospitals, 474; East Anglian Ambulance, 474; East Yorkshire Hospitals, 474; Hadong Hospitals, 474; Huddersfield Health Care Services, 474; Isle of Wight Healthcare, 474; Leicester Mental Health Services, 474; North Hampshire Hospitals, 474; Pinderfields & Pontefract Hospitals, 474; Portsmouth Healthcare, 474; Priority Healthcare Wearsde, 474; South Tees Acute Hospitals, 474; Avalon, 504; East Suffolk Local Health Services, 504; East Wiltshire Health Care, 504; East Coast Mental Health, 504; Gloucestershire Royal, 504; Hinchingbrooke Healthcare, 504; Leeds Teaching Hospitals, 504; Mid Cheshire Hospitals, 504; Norfolk Mental Health Care, 504; Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, 504; Phoenix, 504; Portsmouth Hospitals, 504; South Buckinghamshire, 504; Southern Derbyshire, 504; Stoke Mandeville Hospital, 504; Swindon & Marlborough, 504; West Dorset General Hospitals, 504; Andover District Community Health, 504; Chase Farm Hospitals, 507; Dewsbury Health Care, 507; Harrogate Health Care, 507; Heathwood & Wexham Park Hospitals, 507; Norfolk and Norwich Health Care, 507; Northallerton Health Services, 507; Northampton General Hospital, 508; Oxfordshire Mental Healthcare, 508; Fosse Health, 512; Bath Mental Health Care, 512; Lifecare, 512; Merton & Sutton Community, 512; Weston Area Health, 512; Rotherham General Hospitals, 545; North Tees Health, 550; Kent Ambulance, 555; Kent and Canterbury Hospitals, 555; Surrey and Sussex, 555; The Royal Surrey County Hospital, 575; Thanet Healthcare, 575; Royal Berkshire & Battle Hospitals, 575; Scunthorpe Community Health Care, 575; Central Derby Healthcare, 578; North West Anglia Healthcare National Health Service Trust, 587; Ashford & St Peters Hospital, 668.

Statements of guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Wales on borrowing by the following NHS Trusts:- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, 757; Aberdare, 757; Cardiff, 757; Trecare, 757; Newport & Gwent University Hospitals, 757; Mid Glamorgan, 757; Swansea General Hospital, 757; University Hospital of Wales, 757; Vale of Glamorgan, 757; Vale of Glamorgan District, 757; Glan Clwyd National, 38; Llanelli/Dinefwr, 38; North Glamorgan, 38.
Summarised Accounts: 1995-96: Health Authorities, Family Health Service Authorities and NHS Trusts in England, the Dental Practice Board and Special Health Authorities providing central services in England, and of Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, NHS Trusts, Special Health Authorities and Special Trusts in England, 126; District Health Authorities, Family Health Service Authorities and NHS Trusts in Wales; of the Welsh Health Common Services Authority and the Health Promotion Authority for Wales; and of Funds held on Trust by District Health Authorities, the Welsh Health Common Services Authority, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales and NHS Trusts in Wales, 126.

Summarised Accounts: 1996-97: Health Authorities, NHS Trusts in Wales, the Welsh Health Common Services Authority, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales, and of Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales and NHS Trusts in Wales, 539; Health Authorities and NHS Trusts in England, the Dental Practice Board and Special Health Authorities providing central services in England, and of Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, NHS Trusts, Special Health Authorities and Special Trustees in England, 700.

Treasury Minute concerning the remission of outstanding debt consequent on dissolution and reconfiguration of certain National Health Service Trusts, 395.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND):

Paper: Designed to Care: Renewing the National Health Service in Scotland, 209.

Regulations: 1997: NHS (Fund-Holding Practices) (Scotland), 21; NHS (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment, 21; NHS (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment, 21; NHS Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment, 52; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 53; National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 172; National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 179; National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices Audit) (Scotland), 179; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 179.

Regulations: 1998: National Health Service (Vocational Training for General Medical Practice) (Scotland), 299; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment, 298; National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment, 430; National Health Service (Dental Charges) (Scotland) Amendment, 430; National Health Service (Choice of Medical Practitioner) (Scotland), 437; National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices) (Scotland) Amendment, 437; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 437; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland), 437; National Health Service (Service Committees and Tribunal) (Scotland) Amendment, 437; National Health Service (Service Committees and Tribunal) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 607; Health Boards (Membership and Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment, 615; National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) (Additional Voluntary Contributions), 632; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3), 663; National Health Service (General Dental Services) (Scotland) Amendment, 679; National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment, 679; National Health Service (Choice of Dental Health Practitioner) (Scotland), 761; National Health Service (Dental Charges) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 761; National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment, 809; National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2), 828.

Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Scottish Hospital Trust, 129; Scottish Hospital Endowments Research Trust, 303.


Statements of guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on borrowing by the following NHS Trusts:- Dumfries and Galloway Acute and Maternity Hospitals, 26; Dundee Healthcare, 26; Hairmyres & Stonehouse Hospitals, 26; Monklands and Bellshill, 26; Moray Health Services, 26; Raigmore Hospital, 26; Stirling Royal Infirmary, 26; Glasgow Dental Hospital and School, 35; Central Scotland Healthcare, 75; Grampian Healthcare National Health Service Trust, 182; Central Scotland Healthcare, 598; Dundee Healthcare, 598; Moray Health Services, 598; Dumfries & Galloway Acute & Maternity Hospitals, 598; Stirling Royal Infirmary, 598; Fife Healthcare, 619; Glasgow Dental Hospital & School, 619; Raigmore Hospital, 619.

Summarised Accounts: 1995-96: Health Boards, NHS Trusts, the Common Services Agency, the Health Education Board for Scotland, the State Hospital Management Committee, State Hospital, Carstairs, the Scottish Council for Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland, 126.

Summarised Accounts: 1996-97: Health Boards, the Common Services Agency, NHS Trusts, the State Hospital Management Committee, State Hospital, Carstairs, the Health Education Board for Scotland, the Scottish Council for Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland, 541.

NATIONAL HERITAGE:


DNH Minutes:- on a contingent liability consequent on increased indemnity cover for 'Large Standing Figure: Knife Edge' on loan from the Henry Moore Foundation, 52; on the proposed gifting of the freehold of the British Library building and part of the land on which it stands to the Board of the British Library, 57.


Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: £4C, 57; English Heritage, 236.

NATIONAL HERITAGE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

NATIONAL HERITAGE (SCOTLAND):

NATIONAL INSURANCE:
Account of Securities held for the National Insurance Fund as at 31st March 1997, 303.

NATIONAL LOANS:
Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1996-97, 290.
Accounts relating to issues from the National Loans Fund for 1996-97, 571.
Supplementary Statements of Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1996-97, 290.

NATIONAL LOTTERY:
Paper: The People’s Lottery, 134.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK:

NATURAL HERITAGE (SCOTLAND):
Scottish Natural Heritage Facts and Figures, 283.

NAVAL AND MARINE PAY AND PENSIONS:

NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS:

NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS (SCOTLAND):

NEW TOWNS:
NEW TOWNS (SCOTLAND):

Accounts: Dissolution: 1st January 1997 to 21st March 1997: Cumbernauld Development Corporation, 42; Irvine Development Corporation, 42; Livingston Development Corporation, 42.

NORTHERN IRELAND:


Draft Orders: 1997: Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc.) Act 1996 (Revival of Section 3), 26; Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Act 1997, 29; Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension), 64; Further Education (Northern Ireland), 90; Commissioner for Complaints (Amendment) (Northern Ireland), 99; Housing (Northern Ireland), withdrawn, 145; Civil Evidence (Northern Ireland), 185; Deregulation (Northern Ireland), 185; Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland), 185; Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland), 185; Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland), 185; Activity Centres (Young Persons’ Safety) (Northern Ireland), 239; Museums and Galleries (Northern Ireland), 239; Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland), 278; Road Traffic (New Drivers) (Northern Ireland), 278.

Draft Orders: 1998: Financial Provisions (Northern Ireland), 284; Appropriation (Northern Ireland), 376; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct), 391; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines), 391; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules), 391; Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period), 407; Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc.) Act 1996 (Cessation of Section 3), 523; Northern Ireland Negotiations (Referendum), 523; New Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections), 588; Fire Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland), 562; Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland), 587; Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension), 587; Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland), 587; Education (Northern Ireland), 601; Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland), 619; Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) (Northern Ireland), 676; withdrawn, 717; re-laid, 718; Local Government (Amendment) (Northern Ireland), 706; Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment), 764; Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland), 804.

Government Replies to Reports from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee: Session 1996-97: 2nd, on Underachievement in Northern Ireland Secondary Schools, 109; 3rd, on the BSE Crisis and the Export Ban on Northern Ireland Beef, 131.


Orders: 1997: Health Services (Primary Care) (Northern Ireland), 24; Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland), 24; Social Security Administration (Fraud) (Northern Ireland), 24; Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) (Northern Ireland), 24; Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Amendment), 41; Police (Health and Safety) (Northern Ireland), 171; Health and Personal Social Services (Private Finance) (Northern Ireland), 199.

Orders: 1998: Education (Student Loans) (Northern Ireland), 379; Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Code of Practice), 379; Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Silent Video Recording of Interviews), 379; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Notice of Processions (Exceptions), 512; Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Northern Ireland), 518; Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) (Northern Ireland), 587; Social Security (Northern Ireland), 642; Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland), 712; Public Interest Disclosure (Northern Ireland), 712; Employment Rights (Time off for Study or Training) (Northern Ireland), 751.


NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


NUCLEAR LIABILITIES:

Trade and Industry Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the merger of Magnox Electric plc and British Nuclear Fuels plc, 296.

NURSES, MIDWIVES AND HEALTH VISITORS:


Order: 1998: Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors (Miscellaneous Amendments), 777.

NURSING STAFF, MIDWIVES, HEALTH VISITORS AND PROFESSIONS ALLIED TO MEDICINE:
Fifteenth Reports of the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors, 341; Professions Allied to Medicine, 341.

OIL AND PIPELINES:

OPEN SPACES:

OPTICIANS:

OSTEOPATHS:

OUTER SPACE:

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION:

OVERSEAS PENSIONS:

PACKAGING:

PARLIAMENT:

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER:

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES:

PARLIAMENTARY OMBUDSMAN (NORTHERN IRELAND):

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS:

PATENTS:

PAYMASTER AGENCY:
Treasury Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon privatisation of the Paymaster Agency, 26.

PENSIONS:
Draft Orders: 1998: Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase, 360, Social Security (Minimum Contributions to Appropriate Personal Pension Schemes), 414; Social Security (Reduced Rates of Class 1 Contributions, and Rebates) (Money Purchase Contracted-out Schemes), 414.
Regulations: 1997: Register of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes (Amendment), 49; Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 52; Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3), 52; Local Government Pension Scheme, 90; Local Government Pension Scheme (Transition Provision), 90; Judicial Pensions (Miscellaneous) (Amendment), 118; Local Government Pension Scheme (Burnley and Pendle Transport Company Limited), 178; Occupational Pension Schemes (Payments to Employers) Amendment, 196; Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment...
(No. 4), 296; Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2), 296.

Regulations: 1998: Local Government (Discretionary Payments) (Amendment), 430; Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment), 431; Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Environment Agency), 431; Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland), 431; Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions) (Scotland), 431; Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes (Levy and Register) (Amendments), 437; Judicial Pensions (Contributions), 568; Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 (Amendment), 586; Occupational Pension Schemes (Contracting-out) (Amount Required for Restoring State Scheme Rights and Miscellaneous Amendment), 611; Occupational Pension Schemes (Modification of the Pension Schemes Act 1993), 755; Judicial Pensions (Transfer Between Judicial Pension Schemes) (Amendment), 764.


PENSIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND):


PESTICIDES:


Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Control of Pesticides (Amendment), 229; Plant Protection Products (Basic Conditions), 229.

PETROLUM:


PILOTAGE:


PLANNING:

Paper: Planning for the Communities of the Future, 392.

PLANT BREEDERS' RIGHTS:

Order: 1998: Plant Breeders' Rights (Farm Saved Seed) (Specification of Species and Groups), 522.

Regulations: 1998: Plant Breeders' Rights (Farm Saved Seed) (Specified Information), 522; Plant Breeders' Rights (Fees), 522; Plant Breeders' Rights (Information Notices) (Extension to European Community Plant Variety Rights), 522; Plant Breeders' Rights (Information Notices), 522; Plant Breeders' Rights, 522.

PLANT HEALTH:

Orders: 1997: Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment), 22; Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2), 269.

Orders: 1998: Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) Order, 392; Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2), 539; Plant Health (Forestry) (Great Britain) (Amendment), 760; Disposal of Waste (Control of Beet Rhizomania Disease) (Revocation), 761; Plant Health (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 3), 761.


POLICE:


Draft Code of Practice on Intrusive Surveillance, 824.


Orders: 1997: Police Act 1997 (Commencement No. 1 and Transitional Provisions), 44; Police Act 1997 (Provisions in relation to the NCIS Service Authority) (No. 1), 86; Police Act 1997 (Commencement No. 3 and Transitional Provisions), 172; National Crime Squad Service Authority (Levying), 176; NCIS Service Authority (Levying), 176; Police Act 1997 (Commencement No. 4 and Transitional Provisions), 178; Police Act 1997 (Provisions in relation to the NCIS Service Authority) (No. 2), 178; Number of Members of Thames Valley Police Authority, 180.

Orders: 1998: National Crime Squad (Secretary of State's Objectives), 326; NCIS (Secretary of State's Objectives), 326; Police (Secretary of State's Objectives), 380, Police Act 1997 (Commencement No. 5 and Transitional Provisions), 398; Police Information Technology Organisation (Additional Bodies), 418; National Crime Squad (Senior Police Members) (Appeals), 437; NCIS (Senior Police Members) (Appeals), 438; Police Act 1997 (Provisions in relation to the NCIS Service Authority), 438; Police Grant (Scotland), 438; Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions (Provision of Information) Regulations 1998, 474; Police Grant (No. 2) (Scotland), 484.

Regulations: 1997: Police Pensions (Amendment), 52; Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions (Amendment), 52; Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) Pensions (Amendment), 52; Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Part-time) Pensions (Amendment), 52; Police (Property), 171; Police Pensions (Protection of Information), 171; Royal Ulster Constabulary (Amendment), 172; Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) (Appointment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment), 172; Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Part-time) (Appointment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment), 172; Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions (Additional Vouuntary Contributions) (Amendment), 196; Police Cadets (Scotland) Amendment, 242; Police Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2), 264.

Regulations: 1998: Police (Amendment), 431; Police Pensions (Amendment), 431; National Crime Squad (Complaints), 437; National Crime Squad (Discipline) (Senior Police Members), 437; NCIS (Discipline) (Senior Police Members), 437; Royal Ulster Constabulary Pensions (Amendment), 682.


Reports: 1996-97: Commissioner of Police for the Metropolitan, 137; HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 186.


POLICE AND CRIMINAL EVIDENCE:


POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY:
Report by the Police Complaints Authority on the Investigation of a Complaint against the Metropolitan Police Service by Mr N and Mrs D Lawrence, 283.

POLICE (NORTHERN IRELAND):


POLICE (SCOTLAND):

POLICYHOLDERS PROTECTION:

PORT OF LONDON AUTHORITY:

POST OFFICE:


PRE-BUDGET REPORT:

PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISM:

PRISONS:

Home Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of members of the Health Research Ethics Committee for the Prison Service, 261.


Rules: 1997: Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment, 173.

Rules: 1998: Prison (Amendment), 299; Prison (Amendment) (No. 2), 646; Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment, 679; Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Sentence Review Commissioners), 741; Parole Board (Scotland) Amendment, 750.


PRISONS (NORTHERN IRELAND):

PRISONS (SCOTLAND):


Rules: 1998: Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment (No.2), 764.

PROBATION BOARD:

PROCEEDS OF CRIME (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Draft Code of Practice in connection with the exercise by Financial Investigators of the powers conferred by Schedule 2 to the Proceeds of Crime (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, 324.

PROSECUTION OF OFFENCES:

PROTECTION OF WRECKS:
Orders: 1997: Protection of Wrecks (Designation), 64; Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 2), 131; Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 3), 131; Protection of Wrecks (SS Castilian), 172; Protection of Wrecks (Designation No.4), 179.
Orders: 1998: Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 1), 672; Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 2) Order 1984 (Amendment), 702; Protection of Wrecks (Designation No. 2), 791.

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 Balloch Footbridge Order should be allowed to proceed, subject to any recommendations as they may hereafter make with respect to the said Order, 738.
Reports 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 representations which have been made to the Secretary of State for Scotland by (1) HFC Bank plc and Beneficial Bank PLC 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 HFC Bank plc, Beneficial Bank PLC and Household International (U.K.) Limited, and (2) the United Reformed Church Trust acting on behalf of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom and the Congregational Union of Scotland Nominees Limited acting on behalf of the Congregational Union of Scotland 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 the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom and the Congregational Union of Scotland and are of the opinion that the said powers would 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, 816.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS:
Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on following Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997-98: Fifth and Sixth, 445; Thirty-eighth, 722; Forty-third and Forty-fourth, 758.
Treasury Minutes on Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1996-97: Twelfth to Twenty-Fifth, 126.
Treasury Minutes on Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997-98: First to Fourth, 398; Seventh, Eighth and Tenth to Twelfth, 485; Ninth and Thirteenth to Twentieth, 545; Twenty-first, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth, 653; Twenty-sixth and Twenty-eighth to Thirtieth, 607; Thirty-first to Thirty-seventh, 712; Thirty-Ninth and Fortieth, 738; Forty-first, Forty-fifth, and Forty-eighth to Fifty-sixth, 758; Forty-second, Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh and Fifty-seventh, 758; Fifty-eighth to Sixtieth and Sixty-second to Sixty-seventh, 758; Sixty-first, 788.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE:

PUBLIC HEALTH:
Orders: 1997: Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation No. 2), 57; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning), 77; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 Partial Revocation, 137; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish), 169; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997 Revocation Order 1997, 180; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Revocation), 180; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Dounreay Nuclear Establishment), 195; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997 (Partial Revocation), 223.

INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume

PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND):
- Regulations: 1998: Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Amendment, 438; Trade Effluent (Registries) (Scotland), 764.

PUBLIC HEALTH (WALES):

PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT:
- Report by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Public Lending Right Scheme for 1996-97, incorporating the Registrar's Annual Review and Summary Financial Statement of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 1996-97, 403.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS:
- Report by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on Library and Information Matters during 1997, 743.

PUBLIC ORDER:

PUBLIC PASSENGER TRANSPORT:
- Regulations: 1997: Community Bus (Amendment), 274; Minibus and Other Section 19 Permit Buses (Amendment), 274.

PUBLIC PETITIONS:
- Observations: 26; 38; 52; 63; 88; 134; 182; 189; 285; 293; 311; 344; 372; 407; 480; 512; 530; 545; 550; 571; 575; 615; 666; 688; 731; 745; 745; 766; 766; 768; 772; 784; 809; 817; 817.

PUBLIC RECORDS:

PUBLIC SERVICE:

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN:

RACE RELATIONS:

RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION:

RAILWAYS:
- Objectives, Instructions and Guidance to the Passenger Rail Franchising Director, 206.
- Reports: 1996-97: Rail Regulator, 109; Central Rail Users' Consultative Committee, 152; Rail Users' Consultative Committee for Wales, 258.
- Reports: 1997-98: Rail Regulator, 738; Central Rail Users' Consultative Committee, 754.

RATES:
- Order (Northern Ireland) 1998: Rates (Regional Rates), 431.

RATING AND VALUATION:
- Draft Order: 1998: Valuation and Rating (Exempted Classes) (Scotland), 309, Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland), 404.
- Orders: 1997: Non-Domestic Rating (Rateable Areas and Rateable Value Limits) (Scotland), 249; Non-Domestic Rating (Rural Settlements) (England), 249; Non-Domestic Rating (Rural Settlements) (Wales), 274.
- Orders: 1998: Non-Domestic Rate (Scotland), 335; Rating Lists (Valuation Date), 335; Non-Domestic Rating (Rural Settlements) (Wales) (Amendment), 404; Non-Domestic Rating (Rural Settlements) (England), 410.
- Regulations: 1997: Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (England) (Amendment), 293; Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Wales) (Amendment), 293.
- Regulations: 1998: Non-Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (Wales) (Amendment) (Rural Rate Relief), 356; Non-Domestic Rates (Levying) (Scotland), 414.

REFERENDUM:
- Draft Order: 1998: Greater London Authority (Referendum), 425, withdrawn, 432; Greater London Authority (Referendum Arrangements), 430.

REFERENDUM (LONDON):

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES ETC.:
- Order: (Northern Ireland) 1998: Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees), 763.
- Regulations: 1997: Registration of Overseas Births and Deaths (Amendment), 52; Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment, 111; Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees), 290.
- Regulations: 1998: Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces (Fees) (Scotland), 438.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES (SCOTLAND):
REGISTRATION SERVICES:


REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE:


Rules: 1998: Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (Amendment), 448; Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Amendment), 448.

RESERVE FORCES:
Amendments to: Territorial Army Regulations 1978: 25; 369; 754.

Change 1 to the Regulations for the Naval and Marine Reserve (BR 64), 247.

Change 1 to the Regulations for the Royal Naval Reserve (BR 60), 593.

Order amending the Territorial Army Regulations 1978, 480.

Regulations: Royal Marines Reserve, 33; Royal Naval Reserve, 33.

Report under section 54(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 on the making of a call-out order under section 54(1) of that Act, 519.

Statements on the call-out of members and personnel of the Reserve Forces: 25.

RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES:
Orders: 1997: Restrictive Trade Practices (Non-notifiable Agreements) (Sale and Purchase, Share Subscription and Franchise Agreements), 279; Restrictive Trade Practices (Non-notifiable Agreements) (Turn-over Threshold) Amendment, 279.


ROAD TRAFFIC:
Alterations in the provisions of the Highway Code, 593; 765.

Draft Regulations: 1997: Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty), 232; withdrawn, 237; re-laid, 236; Community Drivers' Hours and Recording Equipment (Amendment), 632.

Orders: 1997: London Priority Route (Amendment), 21; Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Croydon), 42; Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (City of Westminster) (Amendment), 48; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Kent) (Borough of Maidstone), 174; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Herefordshire) (Borough of Watford), 177; Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Designation of Areas), 274; Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Bromley) (Amendment), 298; Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Harrow) (Amendment), 289.

Orders: 1998: Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames) (Amendment), 384; Road Traffic (Special Parking Areas) (The London Borough of Wandsworth) (Amendment), 445; Road Traffic (Special Parking Area) (London Borough of Sutton), 556; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Edinburgh) Designation, 685; Road Traffic Act 1991 (Amendment of Schedule 3) (Scotland), 753.

Regulations: 1997: Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 2), 22; New Drivers (Appeals Procedure), 22; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 3), 37; Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment), 48; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment), 48; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment), 48; Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Fees), 52; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 4), 52; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 5), 73; Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) (No. 2), 74; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2), 74; Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment) (No. 2), 111; International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs (Amendment), 133; Motor Vehicles (DrivingLicences) (Amendment) (No. 4), 174; Local Authorities' Variation of Charges at Off-road and Designated Parking Places (Notice Procedure) (Scotland), 176; M8 and M9 Special Roads (Newbridge Grade Separation) Speed Limit, 177; Motor Cycle (EC Type Approval) (Amendment), 177; Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles), 178; Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) (No. 2), 274; Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 3), 274; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2), 274; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 6), 274; Road Vehicles (Statutory Off-Road Notification), 293; Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobiliation, Removal

INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume

867
and Disposal of Vehicles) (Amendment), 298; Traffic Signs (Temporary Control) (Amendment), 312.

Regulations: 1998: Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment), 299; Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment), 298; Temporary Traffic Signs (Prescribed Bodies) (England and Wales), 340; Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 2), 431; Road Vehicles Registration Fee, 438; Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment), 518; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) (Amendment), 518; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval for Goods Vehicles) (Great Britain) (Amendment), 518; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment No. 2), 518; Road Vehicles Registration Fee (Amendment), 518; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 3), 559; Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) (Amendment), 581; Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 3), 587; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 4), 590; Driving Licences (Community Driving Licence), 604; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 5), 665; Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) (Amendment), 679; Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment), 679; M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits), 696; Motor Cycles (Protective Helmets), 741; Parking Attendants (Wearing of Uniforms) (Edinburgh Parking Area), 753; Removal and Disposal of Vehicles (Amendment), 753; Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval), 754; Road Traffic (Parking Adjudicators) (City of Edinburgh), 761; Motor Cars (Driving Instruction) (Amendment), 761; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 6), 763.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Road Traffic Fixed Penalties (Enforcement of Fines), 149.


ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES:

Orders (Northern Ireland): 1997: Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 4), 24; Road Traffic Offenders (Appropriate Driving Test), 175.

Order (Northern Ireland): 1998: Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Designation of District), 418.

ROMANIA:

1997:


ROYAL FINE ART COMMISSION:


ROYAL FINE ART COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND:


ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND CORPORATION:

Reports and Accounts of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation for:- 1996, 226; 1997, 758.

SALARIES:

Order (Northern Ireland): 1997: Salaries (Comptroller and Auditor General), 86.


SAVILLE INQUIRY:

Northern Ireland Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Lord Saville, Sir Edward Somers and William Hoyt, Counsel to the Inquiry and the Inquiry Secretariat, 500.

SCHOOL INSPECTIONS:


SCHOOL TEACHERS:


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

Accounts: 1996-97: Economic and Social Research Council, 119; Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, 186; Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, 206; Research Councils' Pension Scheme, 206; Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, 226; Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council, 252; Medical Research Council, 299; Natural Environment Research Council, 299.

Accounts: 1997-98: Economic and Social Research Council, 727; Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, 768; Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, 777; Research Councils' Pension Scheme, 777.

Government replies to Reports of the House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology: Session 1996-97: 5th, on Cloning of Animals from Adult Cells, 293.


SCOTTISH LAND COURT:

Reports as to the proceedings of the Scottish Land Court for: 1996, 72; 1997, 604.

SCOTTISH OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

- Reports and Accounts: 1996-97: Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency, 122; Registers of Scotland, 130; Scottish Court Service, 130; Historic Scotland, 140; Scottish Agricultural Science Agency, 158; Scottish Office Pensions Agency, 158; Student Awards Agency for Scotland, 341.

SCOTTISH SPORTS COUNCIL:

- Sea Fisheries:
  - Draft Orders: 1998: Devon Sea Fisheries District (Variation), 414; Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District (Variation), 414; Sussex Sea Fisheries District (Constitution of Committee and Expenses) (Variation), 414.
  - Orders: 1997: Fishing Boats (Specified Countries) Designation (Variation), 90; Third Country Fishing (Amendment), 90; Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Conservation Measures), 170; Camus an Lighne, Loch Ceann Traigh, Argyll, Oysters and Scallops Several Fishery, 221; Sole, Plaice, etc. (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 232; Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Conservation Measures) (Amendment), 251; Sole, Plaice, etc. (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 269; Mackerel (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 285; Sole, etc. (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 297.
  - Orders: 1998: Sole, etc., (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) (Variation), 356; Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota Measures), 379; Third Country Fishing (Enforcement), 379; Conservation of Seals (Common Seals) (Shetland Islands Area) Order 1998 (Revocation), 518; Penrhos Point Mussel Fishery, 556; Cod (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 559; Razor Shells, Trough Shells and Carpet Shells (Specified Sea Area) (Prohibition of Fishing), 581; Cod (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) (Revocation), 759; Sole (Specified Sea Area) (Prohibition of Fishing), 759; Broadford Bay and Loch Ainort, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery, 774; Loch Siggachan, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery, 774; Scalpay Island, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery, 774.

SECURE TRAINING CENTRES:


SECURITIES:

- Regulations: 1997: Stock Transfer (Gilt-Edged Securities) (CGO Service) (Amendment), 31; Gilt Strips (Consequential Amendments), 201.

SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS:

- Departmental minute from HM Treasury relating to the Securities and Investments Board, 163.

SECURITY SERVICE:


SEEDS:

- Regulations: 1997: Seeds (Fees) (Amendment), 49; Seed Potatoes (Amendment), 55.
- Regulations: 1998: Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) (Fees) (Amendment), 522; Seed Potatoes (Fees), 571; Seeds (Fees) (Amendment), 598; Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) (Amendment), 793.

SENIOR SALARIES:


SESSIONAL RETURNS, 1996-97:

INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH VOLUME

SEVERN BRIDGES:

SOCIAL SECURITY:

SOCIAL EXCLUSION:

SIERRA LEONE ARMS INVESTIGATION:

SHERIFF COURT (SCOTLAND):
Acts of Sederunt: 1997: (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment), 22; (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) No. 2, 24; (Fees of Sheriff Officers), 249.
Acts of Sederunt: 1998: (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment), 518; (Fees of Sheriff Officers) 1998, 783; (Fees of Solicitors in the Sheriff Court)(Amendment), 783.

SIERRA LEONE ARMS INVESTIGATION:
Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of Sir Thomas Legg KCB QC, Sir Robin Ibbs KBE and the Secretariat of the Investigation, 643; Return to an Address to Her Majesty this day for a Return of the Report of an inquiry by Sir Thomas Legg KCB QC and Sir Robin Ibbs KBE into arms sales to Sierra Leone, 727.

SOCIAL EXCLUSION:
Reports by the Social Exclusion Unit on: Truancy and School Exclusion, 559; Rough Sleeping, 668; Bringing Britain together: a national strategy for neighbourhood renewal, 758.

SOCIAL SECURITY:
Draft Regulations: 1997: Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment, 62; withdrawn, 78; re-laid, 77; Jobseeker’s Allowance (Works skill Courses) Pilot (No. 2), 90.
Draft Regulations: 1998: Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Amendment, 360; Social Security Amendment (New Deal), 419; withdrawn, 415; re-laid, 425; Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and Adjustment of Rates) (Amendment), 601; Pneumoconiosis etc.(Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) Amendment, 658; Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations, 782; Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal), 788.

Orders: 1997: Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Subsidy), 22; Social Security Revaluation of Earnings Factors, 23.

Regulations: 1997: Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (New Deal), 22; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3), 111; Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment, 159; Social Security (Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) (Miscellaneous Amendments), 159; Social Security (Incident Benefits) (Amendment), 159; Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2), 172; Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 3), 172;Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2), 174; Income-related Benefits and Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2), 175; Social Security (Recovery of Benefits), 175; Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) (Appeals), 175; Social Security (Claims and Payments and Adjudication) Amendment No. 2, 176; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 4), 177; Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment, 178; Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2), 178; Housing Benefit (Information from Landlords and Agents), 178; Housing Benefit (Recovery of Overpayments), 178; Social Fund Maternity and Funeral Expenses (General) Amendment, 180; Housing Benefit (Recovery of Overpayments) (No. 2), 193; Income Support (Gener- al) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 3), 195; Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2), 210; Social Security (National Insurance Number Information: Exemption), 210; Social Security (National Insurance Number Information: Exemption) (No. 2), 246; Social Security (Penalty Notice) (Income-related Benefits) (Consequential Amendment), 251; Social Security Amendment (New Deal), 281; Social Security (Claims and Payments) Amendment, 296.

Regulations: 1998: Social Fund Winter Fuel Payment, 299; Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment), 326; Social Security Benefits Up-rating, 431; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment, 431; Statutory Maternity Pay (Compensation of Employers) Amendment, 431; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments), 438; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2), 448; Social Security Amendment (Lone Parents), 452; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2), 456; Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment, 495; Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment), 550; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3), 559; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 4), 559; Social Security (Incident Benefits) (Amendment), 604; Social Security (Student Amounts Amendment), 604; Social Security Amendment (Personal Allowances for Children), 649; Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2), 685; Social Security Amendment (Categorisation of Earners) Amendment, 702; Social Security (Guardian’s Allowances) Amendment, 741; Social Fund Winter Fuel Payment Amendment, 752; Social Security Amendment (New Deal)
(No. 2), 755; Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Amendment (New Deal), 759; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 3), 760; Social Security (Welfare to Work), 761; Social Security Amendment (Capital), 762; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 4), 762; Housing Benefit (Recovery of Over-payments) Amendment, 764; Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment, 764.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1997: Pneumococci, etc., (Workers' Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment), 176; Social Security Commissioners Procedure Amendment, 177.


Scheme: 1998: Workmen's Compensation (Supplementation) (Amendment), 442.


Social Services: Regulations: 1998: Residential Care Homes and the Nursing Homes and Mental Nursing Homes (Amendment), 518.


South Africa: 1998:

1. Protocol between the UK and South Africa to the Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 372.


Special Procedure Orders: Report by the Chairman of Committees and the Chairman of Ways and Means that no Petitions had been presented against the Manchester Airport (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997, 182.


Orders: 1998: Football Spectators (Corresponding Offences in France), 578; Football Spectators (Seating), 658; Safety of Sports Grounds (Designation) (Scotland), 663; Sports Grounds and Sporting Events (Designation) (Scotland) Amendment, 676; Safety of Sports Grounds (Designation), 741; Sports Grounds and Sporting Events (Designation) (Scotland), 762.


Statutory Instruments (Notification): Communications declaring and explaining the coming into force of Instruments before copies having been laid before Parliament, in respect of: Act of Sedenrun (Fees of Shorthand Writers In the Sheriff Court) (Amendment No. 2) 1997, 25; Public Order (Prescribed Form) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997, 25; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Partial Revocation No. 2) Order 1997, 59; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning) Order 1997, 80; Bovines and Bovine Products (Despatch Prohibition and Production Restriction) Regulations 1997, 182; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish and Plants) (Reversion) Order 1997, 325; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil and Chemical Pollution of Fish) Order 1997, 189; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Dounreay Nuclear Establishment) Order 1997, 197; Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Oil

SUGAR:

Order: 1998: Sugar Beet (Research and Education), 407.

SUMMER TIME:


SUPERANNUATION:

Scheme: 1997: Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment), 269.

Schemes: 1998: Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment), 495; Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment), 495; Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1998 (No. 2), 743; Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1998 (No. 2), 743.

SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1996-97:

Statement of the sums required to be voted in order to make good excesses on certain grants for 1996-97, 403.

SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1997-98:


SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1998-99:

Estimates for which a Vote on Account is required for 1998-99: Classes I-XVIII, 226; House of Commons Commission (Class XVIII, A), 226; National Audit Office (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1), 226.


SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1999-2000:

Estimates for which a Vote on Account is required for 1999-2000: Classes I-XVIII, 805; House of Commons Commission (Class XVIII, A), 805; National Audit Office (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1), 805.

SUPREME COURT:

Order: 1997: Civil Courts (Amendment No. 3), 177.


Rules: 1998: Non-Contentious Probate (Amendment), 750; Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment), 750; Civil Courts (Amendment), 751; Crown Court (Amendment), 756.

SUPREME COURT (NORTHERN IRELAND):

Land Purchase Account of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Northern Ireland for 1996-97, 281.


Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland): Amendment No. 2, 44; Amendment No. 3, 296.

SUPREME COURT OF ENGLAND AND WALES:


Orders: 1997: Supreme Court Fees (Amendment), 207; Civil Courts (Amendment No. 4), 232.

SURROGACY:

Report of the Review of Current Arrangements for Payments for and Regulation of Surrogacy, 758.

TAXES:


TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

Amendments to the Convention and the Operating Agreement relating to the International Mobile Satellite Organization (Inmarsat), 647.

Licences granted under the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to:- ACC Long Distance UK Limited, 182; Advanced Radio Telecom Limited, 182; Coventry Cable Limited, 182; Diamond Cable Communications (UK) Limited, 182; RadioTel Systems Limited, 183; Viatel UK Limited, 190; American Telemedia Limited, 236; Atlantic Telecommunications Limited, 236; First Telecom plc, 236; TotalTel International Inc., 236; WORLDXCHANGE Communications Limited, 236; Cable Thames Valley Limited, 247; Eubell (Holdings) PLC, 247; General Telecommunications Limited, 247; Shropshire Cable & Telecoms Limited, 209; Sussex Cable & Telecoms Limited, 209; AXS Telecom (UK) Limited, 341; Eubell (Holdings) Plc, 341; GT UK Limited, 341; Izenkom Limited, 341; Teleport (Northern Ireland) Limited, 341; The Phone Company, 341; Frontel Communications Limited, 349; HighwayOne Corporation Limited, 349; IDT Global Limited, 349; Internet Network Services Limited, 349; KDD Europe Limited, 349; Skylight Holdings Incorporated, 349; LCI Telecom UK Limited; 419; Primetc
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume
TRADE UNION AND LABOUR RELATIONS:

Accounts: 1997-98: Commissioner for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action, 712; Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members, 738; Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service and of the Certification Officer and the Central Arbitration Committee, 768.

Draft ACAS Codes of Practice on:- Disciplinary practice and procedures in employment, 186; Disclosure of information to trade unions for collective bargaining purposes, 186; Time off for trade union duties and activities, 186.


Reports: 1996-97: Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members, 85; Commissioner for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action, 85.

Reports: 1997: Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, 495; the Certification Officer, 500.

Reports: 1997-98: Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members, 649; Commissioner for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action, 649.

TRAINING AND ENTERPRISE COUNCILS:


TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS:

Orders: 1998: Development Board for Rural Wales (Transfer of Staff), 760; Land Authority for Wales (Transfer of Staff), 760.

Transport:

Order: 1997: Railways (Heathrow Express Temporary Network) (Exemptions), 77.


Regulations: 1998: Railways, 598; Railways (Amendment), 635; Service Subsidy Agreements (Tendering) (Amendment), 761.


Statements of salaries of members of the:- British Waterways Board, 283, the British Railways Board, 388.

1997:

18. Amendment to Annex I of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage (ATP) 1970, 59.

1998:

19. Proposed Amendments to Articles 5, 10 and 18 of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage (ATP) 1970, 666.

TRANSPORT AND WORKS:


TRANSPORT (SCOTLAND):


TREASURY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


TREASURY SOLICITOR:


TREASURY SOLICITOR'S EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


TREATY SERIES:

1996:

109. 4th supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1996, 31.

110. Index to Treaty Series 1996, 42.

1997:


21. UN Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries experiencing serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 20.


27. Amendments to the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank, the Regulations of the Board of Governors and The General Rules Governing Admission of Non-Regional Countries to Membership in the Bank, 27.

28. Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between UK and France concerning Montserrat and Guadeloupe, 27.
29. Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between UK and France concerning Anguilla, on the one hand, and Saint Barthelemy, on the other, 27.

30. Convention between UK and Bolivia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, with Exchange of Notes, 33.

31. Notes exchanged between UK and Mali concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Mali Debt Agreement No. 4 (1996)), 37.

32. Convention between UK and Jamaica on Social Security, with Protocol, 37.

33. Agreement between UK and Hungary concerning the Extension and Refurbishment of the Peto Institute Building at Villányi Ut 67, 49.

34. Notes exchanged between UK and the USA concerning an Amendment to the Air Services Agreement done at Bermuda on 23rd July 1977, as amended, 49.

35. Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement, 52.

36. Convention between UK and Russia 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, 57.

37. Agreement between UK and Chile for the promotion and protection of investments, 69.

38. Notes exchanged between UK and Georgia terminating the agreement constituted by an exchange of notes between UK and the USSR concerning the mutual abolition of consular fees on visas, 69.

39. Agreement between the UK and Romania concerning air services, 69.


41. First supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1997, 103.

42. Notes exchanged between UK and Guyana concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Agreement No. 4 (1996)), 126.

43. Notes exchanged between UK and Thailand extending the Agreement between UK and Thailand on the Transfer of Offenders and on Co-operation in the Enforcement of Penal Sentences to the Isle of Man, 126.

44. Notes exchanged between UK and China concerning the Establishment of a British Consulate-General in Hong Kong, 126.


46. Exchange of Notes between the UK and Mozambique concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Mozambique Debt Agreement No. 4 (1993) Amendment), 168.

47. Agreement between the UK and the Ukraine concerning the Restriction and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Criminal Activity other than Drug Trafficking.

48. Notes exchanged between the UK and Bolivia concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Bolivia Debt Agreement No. 6 (1995)), 168.

49. Notes exchanged between the UK and the USA concerning the Establishment on Ascension Island of an Additional Facility to be operated on behalf of the United States Air Force, 168.


52. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Bulgaria for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments, 168.

53. Supplementary Agreement amending the Agreement on Social Security between the UK and the USA, with Supplementary Administrative Agreement, 168.

54. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Ireland establishing the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning.

55. Notes exchanged between the UK and the Republic of Senegal concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Senegal Debt Agreement No. 11 (1995)), 168.

56. Notes exchanged between the UK and the Republic of Zambia concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Zambia Debt Agreement No. 6 (1996)), 168.


58. Extradition Treaty between the UK and the Federative Republic of Brazil, 169.


60. Notes exchanged between the UK and the Republic of Yemen concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Yemen Debt Agreement No. 1 (1997)), 169.


63. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Chile concerning Mutual Assistance in relation to Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 169.

64. Adjustments to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (done at Montreal on 16th September 1987), 169.


66. Treaty between the UK and Thailand on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 190.

67. Protocol between the UK and Denmark to Amend the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains, 195.

68. Convention between the UK and Ghana for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains, 207.
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume  [1997-98]

69. Agreement between the UK and Uruguay for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 216.
70. Convention between the UK and Malta 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, 221.
71. Agreement between the UK and Tonga for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 229.
72. Convention determining the State responsible for examining Applications for Asylum lodged in one of the Member States of the European Communities, 243.
74. Notes exchanged between the UK and Madagascar concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Madagascar Debt Agreement No. 8 (1997)), 283.
75. Additional Protocol No. 1 to amend the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air, 290.
76. Additional Protocol No. 2 to amend the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air, 290.
77. Protocol relating to an Amendment to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 290.
78. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Côte D'Ivoire for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 297.
80. Third supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1997, 320.
81. Fourth Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 1997, 519.
82. Index to Treaty Series 1997, 585.
1998:
1. Convention, open for signature at Vienna from 26 September 1986 and at New York from 6 October 1986, on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, 320.
2. Convention, open for signature at Vienna from 26 September 1986 and at New York from 6 October 1986, on assistance in the case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, 320.
5. Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (MSC.1(57)), 357.
6. Notes between the UK and Burkina concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Burkina Faso Debt Agreement No. 3 (1996)), 357.
10. 1983 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (MSC.6(48)) Volume 1, 530.
12. Exchange of Notes between the UK and Uruguay concerning the Transfer of the Hut Located in Hope Bay (Baha Esperanza) in the Antarctic Peninsula, 522.
13. Exchange of Notes between the UK and Tanzania concerning certain commercial debts (The United Kingdom/Tanzanian Debt Agreement No. 5 (1997)), 545.
15. International Code for the Safe Carriage of Grain in Bulk (MSC.23(59)), 537.
16. Exchange of Notes between the UK and Macedonia concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Macedonia Debt Agreement No. 1 (1995)), 565.
17. Exchange of Notes between the UK and Ethiopia concerning certain commercial debts (United Kingdom/Ethiopian Debt Agreement No. 2 (1997)), 578.
18. Agreement between the UK, Belgium and France concerning Rail Traffic between Belgium and the United Kingdom using the Channel Fixed Link, 585.
20. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Uganda concerning Air Services, 646.
23. First Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc. for 1998, 700.

30. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China for the Surrender of Fugitive Offenders, 749.

31. Convention on the accession of the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic to the Convention on the Law applicable to Contractual Obligations, 749.


33. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Czech Republic concerning Air Services, 755.

34. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Republic of South Africa for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, with Protocol to the Agreement, 750.

35. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania concerning Air Services, 754.


37. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania concerning Air Services, 754.

38. Adjustments to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer, 758.


40. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Indonesia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains, 758.


43. Convention on Social between the UK and the Government of Canada, 759.

44. International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code: Resolution MSC.48 (66), 759.

45. 1996 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974; Resolution MSC.47 (66), 759.

46. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the Disposal of the "Brent Spar" Offshore Installation, 759.

47. Convention between the UK and Argentina for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, 770.

48. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Republic of Guinea concerning Certain Commercial Debts (The United Kingdom/Guinea Debt Agreement No. 6 (1997)), 770.

49. Convention between the UK and Estonia 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, 774.


51. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China for the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, 793.

TRIBUNALS AND INQUIRIES:


TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO:

1998:

1. Agreement between the UK and Trinidad and Tobago concerning Mutual Assistance in Relation to Crime, 492.

UNITED KINGDOM ECOLABELLING BOARD:


UNITED NATIONS:

Orders: 1997: Iraq and Kuwait (United Nations Sanctions) (Dependent Territories) (Amendment), 25; United Nations (International Tribunal) (Former Yugoslavia) (Amendment), 180; United Nations (International Tribunal) (Rwanda) (Amendment), 180; United Nations (International Tribunals) (Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda) (Dependent Territories), 180; Angola (United Nations Prohibition of Flights), 196; Angola (United Nations Prohibition of Flights) (Dependent Territories), 196; Angola (United Nations Sanctions), 196; Angola (United Nations Sanctions) (Channel Islands), 196; Angola (United Nations Sanctions) (Dependent Territories), 196; Angola (United Nations Sanctions) (Isle of Man), 196; Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions), 196; Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions) (Channel Islands), 196; Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions) (Dependent Territories), 196; Sierra Leone (United Nations Sanctions) (Isle of Man), 196.

Yugoslavia and Rwanda) (Amendment), 712; High Court of Justiciary (Proceedings in the Netherlands) (United Nations), 761.

UNITED STATES:
1998:

UNIVERSITIES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE:
Statutes: Cambridge:- Magdalene College, 32; the University, 68; Trinity College, 88; Magdalen College, 257; the University, 257; Clare College, 456; Sidney Sussex College, 765; Christ's College, 765; Trinity Hall College, 765. Oxford:- Hertford College, 24; Lady Margaret Hall, 24; Merton College, 24; New College, 24; the University, 24; St. John Baptist College, 32; the University, 68; the University, 69; the University, 72; Somerville College, 86; St Hilda's College, 86; All Souls College, 90; the University, 226; the University, 226; the University, 362; St Edmund Hall, 601.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

UTILITY REGULATION:

VALUE ADDED TAX:
Orders: 1997: Value Added Tax (Place of Supply of Services) (Amendment), 85; Value Added Tax (Reverse Charge) (Anti-avoidance), 85; Value Added Tax (Cars) (Amendment), 88; Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits), 88; Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) (Amendment), 149; Value Added Tax (Input Tax) (Amendment), 269.
Orders: 1998: Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 2), 84; Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 3), 88; Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 4), 178; Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 5), 269.

VIDEO RECORDINGS:
Proposals by the Home Secretary for the designation of the following as authorities to determine the suitability of video works for classification: Mr Andreas Whittam-Smith, 293; Lord Taylor of Warwick and Janet Lewis Jones, 804.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR:

VOLUNTARY SECTOR (SCOTLAND):

VOLUNTARY SECTOR (WALES):
Paper: Compact, a shared vision: Compact between the Government and the Voluntary Sector in Wales, 824.

WAR PENSIONS:

WATER (SCOTLAND):
**WATER SUPPLY (SCOTLAND):**

- Regulations: 1998: Domestic Sewerage Charges (Reduction) (Scotland), 438; Mines (Notification of Abandonment) (Scotland), 679; Private Water Supplies (Scotland) Amendment, 741.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:**


**WELFARE REFORM:**


**WELSH AFFAIRS:**

- Government Response to the 2nd Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee; Session 1996-97, on Further Education in Wales, 137.
- Paper: A Voice for Wales, 137.

**WELSH CHURCH:**

- Scheme: 1997: Council of the City and County of Swansea (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund), 190.

**WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY:**

- Directions given by the Secretary of State for Wales to the Welsh Development Agency: 210; 388, 766.

**WELSH LANGUAGE:**


**WELSH OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:**


**WILDLIFE:**

- Regulations: 1997: Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement), 37; Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment), 299.

**WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE:**


**YOUNG OFFENDER INSTITUTIONS:**


**YOUTH JUSTICE:**

PART II

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS—continued

V. MISCELLANEOUS:
   Papers ordered to be printed, 25, &c.
   Papers withdrawn, 27, &c.

ACQUISITION AND POSSESSION OF AIR WEAPONS (RESTRICTION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 317.

ADDRESSES:

I. OF THANKS (QUEEN’S SPEECH):
   Motion made; Debate stood adjourned (at Ten o’clock), 19. Resumed and ordered to be adjourned, 26, 27. Resumed; Amendment negatived on Division; Debate stood adjourned (after Ten o’clock), 28. Resumed; another Amendment negatived on Division; another Amendment negatived on Division, Question having been put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Calling of amendments at end of debate); Main Question agreed to, on Division, 30. Queen’s Answer, 38.

II. RELATING TO DELEGATED LEGISLATION:
   Addresses for Statutory Instruments to be made, 192, &c. Queen’s Answers, 245, &c.

III. QUESTIONS FOR ADDRESSES NEGATIVED:
   Relating to a Statutory Instrument, 368. [See DELEGATED LEGISLATION III.]

V. MISCELLANEOUS:
   Questions for presenting Addresses:
      —agreed to, 30, &c.
      —negatived, 368.
   Amendments to Question negatived on Division, 29, 30.
      —after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Calling of amendments at end of debate), 30.
   Addresses to be presented by Privy Counsellors or members of Her Majesty’s Household, 31, &c.
   Queen’s Answers to Addresses, 38, &c.

ADJOURNMENT DEBATES ON SPECIFIED SUBJECTS:
   (other than on Wednesday mornings)
   Modernisation of House of Commons Procedure, 34.
   Governance of London, 48.
   Child Support Agency, 73.
   Sport for All, 83.
   Review of International Development Policies, 86.
   The Information Society, 110.
   The Schools White Paper, Cm. 3681, 130.
   White Paper on Government’s Proposals for a Welsh Assembly, Cm. 3718, 145.
   British Defence Policy, 165, 185.
ADJOURNMENT DEBATES ON SPECIFIED SUBJECTS—continued

Innovation and the Role of Small Firms, 207.
Policing of London, 221.
Review of Civil Justice and Legal Aid, 233.
European Union, 261.
Special Educational Needs, 262.
Welfare to Work, 294.
Government’s Priorities for Women, 404.
Royal Air Force, 533.
Hillsborough, 555.
Government Support for Sport, 598.
Cardiff European Council, 610.
The Small Business Sector, 628.
Public Expenditure, 695.
NATO Enlargement, 698.
Reports from Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee and Trade and Industry Committee, 772.
The Army, 778.
Quarantine for Pets, 781.
Security and Intelligence Agencies, 783.
Personal Pensions Mis-selling, 784.

AMENDMENTS TO QUESTIONS:

I. AMENDMENTS MADE:

— Opposition days:
— to Motions for Resolutions, 78, &c.
— to Questions on Amendments thereto, 773, 774, 795.
### BILLS, PRIVATE:

#### I. PRIVATE BILLS PROCEEDED UPON, &c.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill or Act</th>
<th>First Proceeding</th>
<th>Last Proceeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alliance &amp; Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 628</td>
<td>Suspended, 798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bodmin Moor Commons [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 71</td>
<td>Order for consideration discharged, 792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Westminster [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 766</td>
<td>Suspended, 809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial College</td>
<td>First Reading, 65</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King’s College London [Lords]</td>
<td>First Reading, 65</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lever Park</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 312</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyds TSB [Lords]</td>
<td>To originate in the Lords, 282</td>
<td>Suspended, 811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London Local Authorities [Lords]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 596</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southampton International Boat Show</td>
<td>First Reading, 65</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamar Bridge</td>
<td>First Reading, 71</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyne Tunnels</td>
<td>First Reading, 322</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 516</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### II. REVIVED BILLS, AT BEGINNING OF SESSION:

Messages from the Lords communicating Resolutions relating to revived Bills:

- Lords Bills in Lords, 28.
- Commons Bills in Lords, 70.
- Lords Bills in Commons (parallel Resolution), 70.
- Revived Lords Bills brought from the Lords, 71, 766.

Revived Lords Bills:

- read the first and second time and committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means, 71. As amended, reported, 71.
- read the first and second time, 71.
- Certificates of Declaration, 71.
- read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 766.

Commons Order relating to revived Bills, 60.

- Order read, 65.
- Bills read the first, second and third time, and passed, 65.
- Bill read the first time, 65.
- Bill read the first and second time and committed, 71.

#### III. BILLS SUSPENDED AT END OF SESSION:

Orders relating to suspension of proceedings on Bills (to be Standing Orders):

- Lords Bills in Commons, 798, 809.
- Lords communicate parallel Resolutions, 810, 819.
- Lords communicate Resolutions relating to suspension of Lords Bill in Lords, 811.
- Commons concur, 818.

#### IV. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND FIRST READINGS:

Report of Bills to originate in the House of Lords and the House of Commons, 282.

Commons Bill read the first time, 322.

Lords Bills read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 312, &c.

#### V. REPORTS FROM THE EXAMINERS:

Petitions for Bills:

- Standing Orders complied with, 292
- Lords Bills referred after First Reading:
  - no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 325, &c.

#### VI. SECOND READINGS AND COMMITTAL:

Order for Second Reading read; Bill to be read a second time on a future day, 85, &c.

- on a future day at Seven o’clock, 496.
- Bills read a second time and committed, 329, &c.
- at Seven o’clock, 521.

Order for second reading on a future day read and discharged, 806.

#### VII. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Bills reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills:

- with Amendments, 260.
- without Amendment, 374, &c.

Preamble proved, 260.

#### VIII. CONSIDERATION:

Bill considered:

- as amended in the Committee, 307.

Day appointed for consideration, 739.

Order for consideration read; Bill to be considered on a future day, 771.

- Order discharged, 792.
BILLS, PRIVATE—continued

IX. THIRD READINGS:

Days appointed for Third Reading, 75, &c.
Order for Third Reading read; Bill to be read the third time on a future day, 85, &c.

Bills read the third time, and passed:
—Commons Bills, 395, &c.
—Lords Bill, 151, &c.
Queen's Consent signified, 496.

X. LORDS AMENDMENTS, &c.:

Commons Bills agreed to by the Lords:
—without Amendment, 90, &c.
—with Amendments, 714.
Lords Amendments agreed to, 728

XI. LORDS BILLS:

Bills brought from the Lords, 312.
Lords Bills read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 312.
Lords Bills passed:
—without Amendment, 151, &c.

XII. QUEEN'S CONSENT:

Queen's Consent on Third Reading, 496.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS:

—ordered, 38.
—made, 154.

BILLS, PROVISIONAL ORDER (SCOTLAND):

[see also PROVISIONAL ORDERS (SCOTLAND)].

I. BILLS TO CONFIRM PROVISIONAL ORDERS UNDER THE PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1936:

Bills which received Royal Assent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First Proceeding</th>
<th>Proceeded with under section</th>
<th>Cited as</th>
<th>Royal Assent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways)</td>
<td>Presented, 687</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Agricultural College</td>
<td>Presented, 255</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. PROCEEDINGS ON BILLS UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE ACT:

Bills presented, read the first time and ordered to be considered on future days, 255, &c.

—considered and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow, 263, &c.
—read the third time, and passed, 270, &c.
—agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 283.

BILLS, PUBLIC:

I. PUBLIC BILLS INTRODUCED, &c.:

1. Government Bills which received Royal Assent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First proceeding</th>
<th>Cited as</th>
<th>Royal Assent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audit Commission [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 455</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 422</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund</td>
<td>Ordered, 267</td>
<td>—C.F. (No. 2) Act 1997</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund (No. 2)</td>
<td>Ordered, 429</td>
<td>—C.F. Act 1998</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund (Appropriation)</td>
<td>Ordered, 121</td>
<td>Appropriation (No. 2) Act 1997</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2)</td>
<td>Ordered, 684</td>
<td>Appropriation Act 1998</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and Disorder [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 501</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy)</td>
<td>Presented, 746</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Protection [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 482</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Schools)</td>
<td>Presented, 34</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Student Loans)</td>
<td>Presented, 108</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Communities (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 191</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Ordered, 99</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### BILLS, PUBLIC I.1—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First proceeding</th>
<th>Cited as</th>
<th>Royal Assent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance (No. 2)</td>
<td>Ordered, 473</td>
<td>Finance Act 1998</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 34</td>
<td>(No.2 Act 1997</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fossil Fuel Levy [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 165</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority (Referendum)</td>
<td>Presented, 185</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 361</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmines</td>
<td>Presented, 659</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 400</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Officers [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 92</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government (Contracts)</td>
<td>Presented, 58</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals)</td>
<td>Presented, 33</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magistrates’ Courts (Procedure) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 184</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministerial and other Salaries</td>
<td>Presented, 81</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Health Service (Private Finance) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 89</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Lottery [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 446</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>Presented, 688</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (Elections)</td>
<td>Presented, 524</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (Sentences)</td>
<td>Presented, 596</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 165</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 455</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Varieties [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 58</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police (Northern Ireland)</td>
<td>Presented, 262</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Processions (Northern Ireland) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 265</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendums (Scotland and Wales)</td>
<td>Presented, 25</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Development Agencies</td>
<td>Presented, 271</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration of Political Parties</td>
<td>Presented, 563</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Standards and Framework</td>
<td>Presented, 261</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>Presented, 286</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>Presented, 104</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Immigration Appeals Commission [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 120</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statute Law Repeals [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 701</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court (Offices)</td>
<td>Presented, 188</td>
<td>—Act 1997</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure)</td>
<td>Presented, 532</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Higher Education [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 433</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Telegraphy [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 132</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Government Bill which did not receive Royal Assent:

European Parliamentary Elections, presented, 188. Commons insist on disagreement to Lords Amendments, etc., 820.
BILLS, PUBLIC I—continued

3. Private Members' Bills which received Royal Assent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First proceeding</th>
<th>Cited as</th>
<th>Royal Assent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Health (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 123</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Care (Residential Accommodation)</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice (International Co-operation)</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 526</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 304</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticides</td>
<td>Presented, 67</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Interest Disclosure</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Establishments (Scotland)</td>
<td>Presented, 527</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Minimisation</td>
<td>Presented, 263</td>
<td>—Act 1998</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Private Members' Bills which did not receive Royal Assent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First proceeding</th>
<th>Last proceeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to the Countryside</td>
<td>Ordered, 139</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition and Possession of Air Weapons (Restriction)</td>
<td>Ordered, 317</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption and Fostering</td>
<td>Ordered, 427</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption (League Tables)</td>
<td>Ordered, 776</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding and Sale of Dogs</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Museum (Lindisfarne Gospels)</td>
<td>Ordered, 517</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Nationality (St. Helena) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 237</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Regulations (Energy Rating Information)</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 637</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Societies (Joint Account Holders)</td>
<td>Ordered, 543</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Improvement Districts [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 509</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title)</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Nurseries (Safety)</td>
<td>Ordered, 527</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 165</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities (Process and Criteria for Designation)</td>
<td>Ordered, 589</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Weather Payments (Wind Chill Factor)</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td>Second Reading adjourned, 325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Reinvestment Disclosure</td>
<td>Ordered, 688</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies (Millennium Computer Compliance)</td>
<td>Ordered, 151</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies (Political Funds)</td>
<td>Ordered, 155</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concessionary Television Licence (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 460</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concessionary Travel Schemes (Scotland)</td>
<td>Ordered, 572</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct of Referendums</td>
<td>Ordered, 784</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-ordinated Universal Time [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countryside Protection (Landfill and Opencast Mining)</td>
<td>Ordered, 767</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown Estate (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 476</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deregulation of Racecourses</td>
<td>Ordered, 524</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Discrimination (Provision of Voting Facilities)</td>
<td>Ordered, 104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Rights Commission</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks)</td>
<td>Ordered, 452.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal and Re-use of White Goods</td>
<td>Ordered, 620</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door Supervisors (Registration)</td>
<td>Ordered, 333</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinks Containers (Redemption)</td>
<td>Ordered, 592</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Schools Parenting Role)</td>
<td>Ordered, 683</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elections (Visually Impaired Voters)</td>
<td>Presented, 123</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity Generation [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 509</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity (Maintenance of Supplies)</td>
<td>Ordered, 354</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electro-Convulsive Therapy (Restrictions on Use)</td>
<td>Ordered, 256</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment (Age Discrimination in Advertisements)</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td>Second Reading adjourned, 361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment of Children</td>
<td>Presented, 65</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty Homes (Value Added Tax)</td>
<td>Ordered, 670</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH VOLUME**

**BILLS, PUBLIC I.4—continued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First proceeding</th>
<th>Last proceeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy Conservation (Housing)</td>
<td>Presented, 67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>Presented, 65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency (Information)</td>
<td>Ordered, 286</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition)</td>
<td>Ordered, 286</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Classification Accountability and Openness</td>
<td>Ordered, 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services (Ethical, &amp;c. Considerations)</td>
<td>Ordered, 821</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireworks</td>
<td>Presented, 67</td>
<td>Debate on Lords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>adjourned,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Warnings (Vulnerable Properties)</td>
<td>Ordered, 709</td>
<td>Withdrawn,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football Sponsorship Levy</td>
<td>Ordered, 513</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom of Information</td>
<td>Ordered, 821</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geneva Conventions (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 165</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairdressers Registration (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hare Coursing</td>
<td>Ordered, 188</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Zones</td>
<td>Ordered, 329</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (Home Repossessions)</td>
<td>Ordered, 786</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Service Charges (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 433</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—(No. 2)</td>
<td>Presented, 446</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Bribery and Corruption</td>
<td>Ordered, 396</td>
<td>Report, 687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet (Dissemination of Child Pornography)</td>
<td>Presented, 78</td>
<td>Consideration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>adjourned,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labeling of Products</td>
<td>Ordered, 304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead in Paint (Health and Safety)</td>
<td>Ordered, 228</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid (Reform)</td>
<td>Ordered, 616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Reform</td>
<td>Ordered, 502</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 513</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authority Tenders</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Exchange Trading Schemes</td>
<td>Ordered, 482</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Boundary Changes (Referendum)</td>
<td>Ordered, 300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government (Consultation with Young People)</td>
<td>Ordered, 651</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government (Experimental Arrangements) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 386</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 65</td>
<td>Second Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>adjourned,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 523</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millennium Conformity</td>
<td>Ordered, 497</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Telephones (Prohibition of Use in Designated Places)</td>
<td>Presented, 142</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Accident Injury Compensation</td>
<td>Ordered, 370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Health Service (Equity of Funding)</td>
<td>Ordered, 224</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Transport Safety</td>
<td>Ordered, 253</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North American Free Trade Area (Parliamentary Commission)</td>
<td>Presented, 781</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organ Donation</td>
<td>Ordered, 728</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary Boundary Commissions (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 315</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary Currency Commission</td>
<td>Ordered, 350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary Declaration</td>
<td>Presented, 300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary Reform</td>
<td>Presented, 683</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants in Sporting Events (Assaults, Etc.)</td>
<td>Presented, 688</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 733</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet Ownership (Residential and Sheltered Accommodation)</td>
<td>Presented, 709</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Presented, 74</td>
<td>Withdrawn,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ports of Entry (Special Status)</td>
<td>Presented, 417</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ports of Entry (Special Status) (No. 2)</td>
<td>Ordered, 576</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press Complaints Commission</td>
<td>Ordered, 265</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventive Healthcare and House Insulation</td>
<td>Presented, 606</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention of Delay in Trials</td>
<td>Ordered, 185</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prohibition of Bull Bars</td>
<td>Ordered, 197</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostitutes' Advertisements (Public Telephone Boxes)</td>
<td>Ordered, 778</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of Animals (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 551</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public House Names</td>
<td>Presented, 85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### BILLS, PUBLIC 1.4—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>First proceeding</th>
<th>Last proceeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Records (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 74</td>
<td>Second Reading adjourned, 342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycled Content of Newsprint</td>
<td>Presented, 417</td>
<td>Second Reading adjourned, 310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendum (English Parliament)</td>
<td>Presented, 65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reform of Quarantine Regulations</td>
<td>Ordered, 237</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration of Dogs</td>
<td>Ordered, 549</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration of Nannies</td>
<td>Ordered, 799</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation of Wet Bikes</td>
<td>Ordered, 211</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Discrimination</td>
<td>Presented, 219</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Discrimination and Remedies</td>
<td>Ordered, 408</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remission of Third World Debt (Jubilee 2000)</td>
<td>Ordered, 704</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Dependencies at Westminster</td>
<td>Presented, 86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Gibraltar at Westminster and in the European Union</td>
<td>Presented, 85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of the People (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 214</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Care Homes and Nursing Homes (Medical Records)</td>
<td>Presented, 354</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration of Damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest</td>
<td>Ordered, 606</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 794</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural and Community Hospitals</td>
<td>Ordered, 560</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Alcohol to Young Persons (Prohibition)</td>
<td>Ordered, 637</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Absenteeism</td>
<td>Ordered, 86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Buses (Safety)</td>
<td>Ordered, 380</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Children’s Clothing and Footwear (Value Added Tax)</td>
<td>Ordered, 284</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools and Colleges (Funding Formula)</td>
<td>Ordered, 769</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Transport</td>
<td>Ordered, 563</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 637</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Orientation Discrimination [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 701</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder Pension</td>
<td>Ordered, 811</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption)</td>
<td>Ordered, 120</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Classrooms</td>
<td>Ordered, 633</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town and Country Planning (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 540</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom Passports</td>
<td>Ordered, 667</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsolicited Facsimile Messages</td>
<td>Ordered, 647</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Personal Security Cards</td>
<td>Ordered, 394</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War Memorials Preservation</td>
<td>Ordered, 366</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War Widows and Pensioners (Equal Treatment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme)</td>
<td>Presented, 304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Prevention</td>
<td>Presented, 66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Charges (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Industry (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 384</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider)</td>
<td>Presented, 67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare of Broiler Chickens</td>
<td>Ordered, 412</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare of Pigs</td>
<td>Ordered, 241</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widening of the M25 Motorway</td>
<td>Presented, 120</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife</td>
<td>Presented, 784</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs)</td>
<td>Presented, 65</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Parliament</td>
<td>Ordered, 601</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-fourth Volume

BILLS, PUBLIC I—continued

5. Questions negatived for leave to bring in bills:
   Doctor Assisted Dying, 771.
   Parliamentary Oaths (Amendment), 733.

II. INTRODUCTIONS AND FIRST READINGS:
   Outlawries Bill read the first time, 17.
   Bills presented and read the first time:
   —Government Bills, 25, &c.
   —Private Members’ Bills, 65 &c.
   Private Members’ Bills ordered, presented and read the first time, 86, &c.
   Bills presented under Standing Order (Procedure upon Bills whose main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue), 81.
   Bills ordered to be brought in upon:
   —Estimates Resolutions, 121, &c.
   Motions for leave to bring in Bills, Question put pursuant to Standing Order (Motions for leave to bring in Bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):
   —and agreed to, 92 &c.
   —and agreed to, after brief explanatory statements, 811.
   —and negatived, after brief explanatory statements, 271, &c.

III. SECOND READINGS AND COMMITTAL:
   Days appointed for Second Readings:
   —(Government Bills), 25, &c.
   —(Private Members’ Bills), 65, &c. Revival of dropped Order, 403, &c.
   —this day (Consolidated Fund Bill), 267.
   Days appointed for resumption of adjourned Debate on Reasoned Amendment on Second Reading, 32, &c.
   Orders for Second Readings read; Bills ordered to be read a second time on future days, 248, &c.
   Orders for Second Readings on future days read and discharged:
   —Bills withdrawn, 204, &c.
   —Bills to be read a second time on other future days, 240, &c.
   —no Order made (Lords Bill), 650.
   Queen’s Consent (prerogative) signified on Order being read for Second Reading, 263.
   Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment proposed; Debate stood adjourned (at Ten o’clock), 32, &c. Debate resumed; Reasoned Amendment negatived 34, &c.
   Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived, 56, &c.
   Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned, at half-past Two o’clock on a Friday, 280, &c.
   Orders read for resuming adjourned Debate on Second Reading; Debate to be resumed on a future day, 311, &c.

BILLS, PUBLIC III—continued

Motion for Second Reading; Motion, by leave, withdrawn, 376. Bill withdrawn, 376.
   Bills read a second time, 34, &c.
   —on Division, 36, &c.
   —after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Amendment on Second or Third Reading), 34 &c.
   —after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Consolidation bills), 583, &c.
   Consolidated Fund Bills read a second time, after Question put forthwith, 128, &c.
   Bills committed to a Committee of the whole House, 34, &c.
   Bills stand committed to a Standing Committee, 63, &c.
   Specified clauses of [and Schedules to] Bills committed to a Committee of the whole House and the remainder of the Bill committed to a Standing Committee, 108, 524, &c.
   Bill stands committed to a Committee of the whole House, pursuant to Programme Order, 701, &c.

IV. ORDERS FOR COMMITTAL VARIED:
   Order, That Bill be committed in part to a Standing Committee and in part to a Committee of the whole House, discharged; and Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House, 307.
   Order for House to resolve itself into a Committee on a Bill on a future day read and discharged. Order, That Bill be committed to a Standing Committee, 555.

V. COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:
   [for Bills considered in Committees of the whole House see COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE.]
   Orders for House to resolve itself into a Committee on a future day, 34, &c.
   —again, on a future day, 41, &c.
   —again this day, 47.
   —(specified clauses), 108, 524, &c.
   Order for Committee on a future day read and discharged; Committee ordered for another future day, 354, &c.
   Order for the day for Committee read; Committee on a future day, 458, &c.
   Order for Committee on a future day read and discharged; Bill committed to a Standing Committee, 604.
   House resolves itself into a Committee:
   —according to Order, 41, &c. [Allotted days, 121, &c.]
   —again (after Ten o’clock), 47, &c.
   —again, according to Order, 42, &c. [Allotted days], 123, &c.
   —again, after Private Business at Seven o’clock, 60.
   —immediately (after Second Reading), 75, &c.
   —pursuant to Programme Order (after resumption of proceedings on a Bill), 528.
   Bill (specified Clauses) to be considered in Committee in a certain order, 538.
   Amendments made, 327, &c.
Question proposed, That Amendment be made:
—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn, 53, &c.
—Chairman left Chair &c. (at Ten o'clock), 41, &c.
—Question again proposed at same sitting, 47, &c.
—Question again proposed at subsequent sitting, 43.

Question put, that Amendment be made:
—and negatived, 43, &c.; on Division, 234, &c.
—Question put, pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 43, &c.
Clauses agreed to, 43, &c.; on Division, 234, &c.
—Question put, pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 43, 121, &c.
—Question put, pursuant to Programme Order, 529, &c.
Clauses, as amended, agreed to, 327, &c.
Question proposed, that Clause stand part, 60.
—Question again proposed, 67.
—Question put and agreed to, 67.
Chairman puts Question on Clause stand part forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Debate on clause or schedule standing part), 710.
Clauses disagreed to, 621, &c.
New Clauses brought up, read the first and second time, and added, 656.
New Clause brought up and read the first time, 53, &c.
—Question proposed, That Clause be read a second time, 53, &c.
—Clause, by leave, withdrawn, 53, &c.
—Question put, That Clause be read a second time, 68.
—and negatived, 68: on Division, 656, &c.
Schedules agreed to, 43, &c.; on Division, 234, &c.
—Question put, pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 43: pursuant to Programme Order, 622, &c.
Schedule, as amended, agreed to, 397, &c.
Schedule added; Question put pursuant to Programme Order, 656.
To report progress and ask leave to sit again, 41, &c.
Chairman leaves Chair to report progress, pursuant to programme Order, 639 &c.
Chairman leaves Chair at (or after) Ten o'clock to report progress, &c., 41, &c. [On an allotted day], 121, &c.
Chairman leaves Chair at Seven o'clock, 60.
Chairman leaves Chair at Eleven o'clock, pursuant to Order, 390.

Bills to be reported:
—without Amendment, 53, &c.
—with Amendments, 418, &c.
—with an Amendment, 343.
Questions put at specified hours etc., pursuant to Allocation of Time and Programme Orders, 43, &c.
Chairman leaves Chair at specified hour to report Bill, pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 43, 124, &c.

VI. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Chairman leaves Chair at Eleven o'clock on a Friday, pursuant to Standing Order (Friday sittings), 720.

VII. RECOMMUTALS:

VIII. CONSIDERATION:

Days appointed for consideration of Bills:
—as amended in the Standing Committee, 81, &c.; further consideration, 435.
—not amended in the Standing Committee, 151, &c.
—not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, 142, &c; further consideration, 147, &c.
—as amended in the Committee, 343, &c; further consideration, 484, &c.
Order for consideration of Bill on a future day read and discharged; Bill to be considered on another future day, 354, &c; further consideration, 476.
Order for consideration read; Bill to be considered on a future day, 377, &c.; further consideration, 660.
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, considered, 101, &c.
—further considered, 633.
Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, considered, 194, &c.
Bill, as amended in the Committee, considered, 482, &c.
—further considered, 488, &c.
Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee considered, [1st allotted day], 147. Further considered [2nd allotted day], 151.
Bills to be considered in a certain order, 272, &c.
$order contained in Report from Business Committee, 475.
No amendments on consideration, 660, 749.
BILLS, PUBLIC VIII—continued

New Clauses brought up, and read the first time, 101, &c.
New Clauses brought up, and read the first and second time, and added to the Bill, 278, &c.
Question put, That (new) Clauses be read a second time:
—and negatived, 101, &c.; on Division, 323, &c.
Question proposed, That (new) Clause be read a second time; Clause, by leave, withdrawn, 101, &c.
Clause added, after Division on Second Reading, 479.
Clause added, Question put forthwith, pursuant to Programme Order, 482, &c.
Question proposed, That (new) Clause be read a second time; Debate stood adjourned (at Ten o'clock), 272, &c.
—Debate resumed at same sitting, 272, &c.
—Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 420, &c.
—Debate resumed at later sitting, 444.
Amendments made to the Bill, 151, &c.
—On Division, 355, &c.
Amendments proposed to the Bill, 101, &c.
Question proposed, That Amendment be made:
—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn, 101, &c.
Question put, That Amendment be made:
—and negatived, 147, &c.
—on Division, 434, &c.
Amendments made; Question put forthwith, pursuant to Programme Order, 484, &c.
(New) Schedule brought up, and read the first time, 272.
Question put, That (new) Schedule be read a second time:
—and negatived, 272.
Title amended, 572, 602, 634, &c.
Further consideration of Bill stood adjourned (at Ten o'clock), 422, &c.
—Bill again considered at same sitting, 422, &c.
Further consideration stood adjourned:
—pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, etc., 148,
—pursuant to Programme Order, 484, 552, &c.
Further consideration ordered to be adjourned, 435, &c.
Questions put at specified hours, pursuant to Allocation of Time or Programme Orders:
—That Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown be made, 152, &c.
—Question on Motions made by a Minister of the Crown for adding new clauses, 599.
—Question necessary to bring to a decision Questions previously decided, 599, 630.
—Question on an Amendment selected to a new Clause, 630.
Questions put at specified hours, pursuant to Programme Orders:
—Questions already proposed from the Chair, 482, &c.
—Questions necessary to dispose of remaining business to be concluded at those hours, 482, &c.
Speaker declines to propose Question, That further consideration be now adjourned, pursuant to Standing Order (Dilatory Motion in abuse of rules of House), 482.
Bill, as amended on consideration, ordered to be printed, 493.

IX. THIRD READINGS:

Days appointed for Third Reading, 235, &c.
Bills read the third time, and passed, 43, &c.
—on Division, 194, &c.
—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Amendment on second or third reading), 241.
—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Consolidation Bills), 583.
—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Consolidated Fund Bills), 128, &c.
Order for Third Reading read; Bill to be read the third time on a future day, 362, &c.
Motion for Third Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 457, &c.
—day appointed for resumption of adjourned Debate, 457, &c.
Question put at specified hour, pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 152, 635, 679.
Reasoned Amendment negatived, 241.
Resumed Debate, 490.

X. LORDS BILLS:

Bills brought from the Lords:
—and read the first time on the same day, 89, &c.
—and read the first time on a later day, 197, &c.
Lords Bills passed:
—without Amendment, 115, &c.
—with Amendments, 242, &c.
—with an Amendment, 435, &c.
Lords agree to Commons Amendments, 253, &c.
—a single Amendment 440, &c.
—remaining Amendments, 637.
Lords disagree to Commons Amendments:
—with an Amendment in lieu, 637.
—with a Reason, 637.
Lords Amendment in lieu and Lords Reason to be considered on a future day, 641.
Lords Amendment in lieu and Lords Reason considered: Commons insist on their Amendments, 651.
Lords do not insist an Amendment in lieu of Commons Amendment and do not insist on disagreement to another Commons Amendment, but propose an Amendment in lieu, 666.
Lords Amendment in lieu to be considered on a future day, 667, &c.
**BILLS, PUBLIC X—continued**

Lords Amendment in lieu considered and disagreed to, 681.

Lords do not insist on Amendment in lieu (of words left out of the Bill) but propose (another) Amendment in lieu thereof, 683.

Lords Amendment in lieu of Lords Amendment disagreed to, agreed to. Commons being willing to waive their privileges, 691.

Lords agree to certain Commons Amendments and disagree to others, with Reasons, 714.

Lords Reasons considered; Commons do not insist on Amendments disagreed to, 728.

Title accordingly amended, 729.

**XI. LORDS AMENDMENTS, &C.:**

**COMMONS BILLS:**

Bills agreed to by the Lords.
- without Amendment, 142, &c.
- with Amendments, 151, &c.
- with an Amendment, 139, &c.

Days appointed for consideration of Lords Amendments, 139, &c.
- further consideration, 800.

Lords Amendments considered, 143, &c.

Lords Amendments to be considered in a certain order, 709.

Lords Amendments disagreed to, 143, &c.
- Amendments made to Bill in lieu, 157, &c.

Lords Amendments amended, some on Division, and, so amended, agreed to, 564, &c.

Lords Amendments agreed to, 157, &c.
- Commons being willing to waive their privileges, 157, &c.
- privilege waived in respect of specified Amendment(s), 242, &c.

Debate on Lords Amendments stood adjourned, 660, &c.

Further consideration of Lords Amendments ordered to be adjourned, 800.

Words restored to the Bill amended, 689.

Lords agree to Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment; do not insist on other Amendments disagreed to, and agree to Commons Amendment in lieu and Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill, 704.

Title accordingly amended, 710.

Amendment in lieu made, 801.

Consequential amendment made to the Bill, 730.

Commons insist on disagreement to Lords Amendments, 795.

Committees appointed to draw up Reasons, 143, &c.
- Reasons reported and agreed to, 143, &c.

[See COMMITTEES, SELECT IV.]

Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, 145, &c.

Lords agree to Commons Amendments to Lords Amendments, 569, &c.

Lords agree to Commons consequential Amendment, 733.

**BILLS, PUBLIC XI—continued**

Further consideration of Lords Amendments stands adjourned (at Ten o'clock), 564, &c.
- Lords Amendments again considered at same sitting, 564, &c.

Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, with Reason, 786.

Day appointed for considering Lords Reason for insisting on Amendments, 786.

Lords Reason for insisting on Amendments considered, 795, &c.
- further consideration stood adjourned (at Ten o'clock), 795.
- consideration of Lords Reason resumed at same sitting, 796.

Commons insist on disagreement to Lords Amendments, but propose Amendment in lieu, 795, 796.

Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to and disagree to Commons Amendment in lieu, with Reason, 804.

Lords Reason for insisting on Amendments and for disagreeing to Amendment in lieu to be considered on a future day, 804.
- Lords Reason considered, 806.
- Commons insist on disagreement to Lords Amendments, but do not insist on Amendment in lieu, 806, 821.
- Commons make further Amendments in lieu, 807, 821.

Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to and disagree to further Commons Amendment in lieu, 810.

Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to, agree to Amendments in lieu of others and agree to Amendment to a Lords Amendment, 810, 823.

Lords Reason for insisting on Amendments disagreed to and for disagreeing to further Amendment in lieu to be considered on a future day, 811.

**XII. QUEEN'S AND PRINCE OF WALES'S CONSENT:**

Queen's Consent (prerogative) signified:
- to Government Bill on Second Reading, 263, 297, 677 (prerogative only), 701 (prerogative only).

Queen's Consent signified:
- to Government Bill on Third Reading, 658.

Prince of Wales's Consent signified:
- to Government Bill on Third Reading, 658.

**XIII. BILLS WHOSE MAIN OBJECT IS TO CREATE A CHARGE ON THE PUBLIC REVENUE:**

Ministerial and other Salaries Bill, 81.

Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill, 532.

**XIV. MONEY BILLS:**

Bills endorsed with the Speaker's Certificate as Money Bills under the Parliament Act 1911:
- Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, 131.
- Ministerial and other Salaries Bill, 145.
- Finance Bill, 161.
- Consolidated Fund Bill, 276.
- Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill, 440.
BILLS, PUBLIC XIV—continued

Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill, 568.
Finance (No. 2) Bill, 659.
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2), 695.
Resolution, that section 1(1) of Parliament Act 1911 shall not apply to Ministerial and other Salaries Bill, 201.

XV. BILLS PASSED THROUGH SEVERAL STAGES IN ONE DAY:
Consolidated Fund Bill read the first, second and third time and passed, 267.
Consolidated Fund Bills read the second and third time and passed, 128, &c.
Bills read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time and passed, 75, &c.
Bills considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 567.
Bills again considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 42, &c.
Bills considered, read the third time, and passed:
— as amended in the Standing Committee and not amended on consideration, 101, &c.
— not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee and amended on further consideration, 151, &c.
— not amended in the Standing Committee and amended on consideration, 194, &c.
— as amended in the Standing Committee and amended on consideration, 242, &c.
— not amended in the Standing Committee and not amended on consideration, 429, &c.
— as amended in the Committee and amended on further consideration, 488, &c.

XVI. ALLOCATION OF TIME and PROGRAMME ORDERS:
Allocation of time orders:
European Communities (Amendment) Bill, 287.
—Supplemental Order, 603.
Finance Bill, 112.
Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill, 39.
—Supplemental Order, 155.

Programme Orders:
Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], 618.
Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy), 746.
Human Rights Bill [Lords], 584, (No. 2) 623, (No. 3) 769.
Landmines Bill, 675.
Northern Ireland Bill, 698, (No. 2) 822.
Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill, 527.
Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill, 610.
Regional Development Agencies Bill, 491.
Scotland Bill, 301, 799 (Supplemental).
Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], 574.
Programme Orders amended as to time limit for particular sittings, 389, 396, 482, 493, 547.

BILLS, PUBLIC XVI—continued

—(No. 2 Order), 623, &c.
Reports from Business Committee considered and agreed to, 147, &c.
[See COMMITTEES, SELECT V].
Order in which Bills are to be considered contained in Resolutions from Business Committee, 142, &c.
—contained in Programme Orders: [Committee], 307; [Consideration], 549.
Scope of Orders:
—Second Reading, Committee, Consideration and Third Reading, 527, 675, 698, 746.
—Committee, Standing Committee, Consideration and Third Reading, 112.
—Committee, Consideration and Third Reading, 39, 287, 301, 307, 610.
—Committee, 584.
—Consideration and Third Reading, 491, 574, 618, 769.
—Lords Amendments, 155, 603, 799, 822.
Programme Order containing other matter, 746.
At specified hours Chairman puts Question already proposed from the Chair:
—that an Amendment be made, 43, &c.
At specified hour Chairman puts Questions necessary for disposal of specified business:
—that a Clause stand part of the Bill, 43, 121, &c.
—remaining proceedings on specified Clauses and Schedules, 313, &c.
—remaining proceedings in Committee, 406, &c.
At specified hour Chairman puts Questions necessary to conclude remaining proceedings in Committee, 43, 623, &c.
—pursuant to Programme Order, 529, 623.
Chairman leaves Chair at specified hour, to report Bill, 43.
—at Eleven o’clock, to report progress, 390.
Chairman leaves Chair, without Question put, to report progress on an allotted day, 121, &c.
Further consideration stood adjourned:
—pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 148.
—pursuant to Programme Orders, 484, 552.
Speaker puts Questions at specified hours (or after specified periods):
On Consideration:
—Questions already proposed from the Chair, 482, &c.
—Questions on Amendments moved by a Minister, 152, &c.
—Question on Motion made by a Minister for adding a new Clause, 573.
—Question on a selected Amendment to a new Clause, 630.
—Question necessary to bring to a decision Question previously decided, 599, 630.
On Third Reading, 152, &c.
On Question for supplemental Programme Order, 823.
On consideration of Lords Amendments:
BILLS, PUBLIC XVI—continued

—that this House disagrees with the Lords in an Amendment, 157, 800.

—that this House agrees with the Lords in the Lords Amendments designated by the Speaker, 157.

—Questions on Motions made by a Minister to disagree with the Lords in certain Lords Amendments, 157.

—that this House agrees with the Lords in all remaining Lords Amendments, 157.

—Questions necessary to dispose of required business, 800.

Questions relating to appointment, etc., of Committee to draw up Reasons put forthwith, pursuant to Supplemental Allocation of Time Order, 157.

XVII. MISCELLANEOUS:

Orders, That, in respect of specified Bills, notices of Amendments, new Clauses and new Schedules to be moved in Committee may be accepted by the Clerks at the Table before the Bills have been read a second time, 73, &c.

Orders, That, in respect of a particular Bill, if the Bill be 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 Resolutions come to by the House on [Money and Ways and Means] Resolutions have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill, 130, &c.

Order, That, at a future sitting, 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 (Consolidated Fund Bills) shall apply, 254.

Bills withdrawn, 204, &c.

Bill referred to the Examiners, 378.

Specified Clauses of a Bill ordered to lie upon the Table, 124, 544.

Consolidation bills not committed, 583, &c.

Return relating to Public Bills for Session 1996–97:

—ordered, 38.

—made, 154.

BODMIN MOOR COMMONS BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords (revived from last Session); read the first and second time and committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means; as amended, reported, 71. Order for consideration discharged, 792.

Certificate of declaration, 71.

BREEDING AND SALE OF DOGS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 66. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 342. C. 360. Transferred to A, 419. Reported, with Amendments, 481.

BRITISH MUSEUM (LINDISFARNE GOSPELS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 517.

BRITISH NATIONALITY (ST. HELENA) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 222. Read the first time, 237.

BROADCASTING: Draft Orders approved, 273, 558, 807. Draft Regulations approved, 84.

BUILDING REGULATIONS (ENERGY RATING INFORMATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 637.

BUILDING SOCIETIES (JOINT ACCOUNT HOLDERS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 543.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 509.

CATHEDRALS MEASURE: Laid, 765.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:

Leaves Chair at (or after) Ten o’clock, to report progress, &c., 41, &c.

Puts Questions at specified hours, pursuant to Allocation of Time Orders, 43, &c. [See BILLS, PUBLIC XVI].

Leaves Chair at specified hour to report Bill, pursuant to Allocation of Time Order, 43, 124.

Leaves Chair, without Question put, to report progress on an allotted day, 121.

Puts Question forthwith on clause stand part, pursuant to Standing Order (Debate on clause or schedule standing part), 710.

Leaves Chair at Eleven o’clock on Friday, pursuant to Standing Order (Friday sittings), 720.

CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS:

[References to the Chairman of Ways and Means include the First and Second Deputy Chairmen unless the context otherwise requires.]

Member appointed Chairman of Ways and Means:

—Sir Alan Haselhurst, 17.

Member appointed First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means:

—Mr Michael J. Martin, 17.

Member appointed Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means:

—Mr Michael Lord, 17.

Chairman reports: that he has gone through Lords Private Bill, revived from the last Session, and made amendments thereunto, 71.

Chairman reports Resolutions from Business Committee, 142, &c.

Chairman lays report from Chairmen’s Panel, 187.

Chairman reports lists of Private Bills to originate in the House of Lords and House of Commons, 282.

Chairman’s Reports relating to Special Procedure Orders:

—that no Petition has been presented, 182.

—that Provisional Order should be allowed to proceed, 738.

—that powers sought would be more properly obtained by the promotion of a Private Bill and a Provisional Order under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, 817. [see Provisional Orders (Scotland).]
CHAIRMEN'S PANEL:
Members nominated by the Speaker to be the Chairmen's Panel during the Session:
—fifteen Members, 44.
—one Member, 78.
—two Members in place of two others, 100.
—two Members, 138.
—one Member, 145.
—four Members, 262.
Procedural Resolutions relating to Standing Committees reported, 78.
Report made to House, 187.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND:
1. MEASURES PROCEEDED UPON &C.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Measure</th>
<th>Laid</th>
<th>Report of Ecclesiastical Committee laid</th>
<th>To be presented for Royal Assent</th>
<th>Cited as</th>
<th>Royal Assent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Institutions</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>Measure 1998</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedrals</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>765</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. ECCLESIASTICAL COMMITTEE:
Members nominated by the Speaker for duration of the Parliament, 217.

CITIES (PROCESS AND CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION) BILL:
Ordered, presented and read the first time, 589.

CITY OF EDINBURGH (GUIDED BUSWAYS) ORDER CONFIRMATION BILL:
Presented (under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936) and read the first time, 687. Considered, 704. Read the third time, and passed, 709. (Cited as City of Edinburgh (Guided Busways) Order Confirmation Act 1998) Royal Assent, 729.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER BILL [Lords]: Message from the Lords relating to revival of proceedings, 28. Brought from the Lords, 766. Read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 766. Examiner's Report, no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 783. Read a second time and committed, 790. Order relating to suspension of proceedings (to be Standing Order), 809. Lords communicate parallel Resolutions, 819.

CIVIL AVIATION: Draft Orders approved, 238, 381, 646.

CLERK OF THE CROWN:
Delivers to the Clerk of the House a book containing the names of the Members returned to serve in the new Parliament, 1.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (PROTECTION OF TITLE) BILL:
Presented and read the first time, 66. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 325. Order for Committee discharged; Bill committed to a Standing Committee, 555. C, 565. Reported, with Amendments; Title amended (changed to Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.)) Bill, 605. Considered, as amended, 660.

CHANNEL TUNNEL RAIL LINK: Order approved, 58.

CHILDREN'S NURSERIES (SAFETY) BILL:
Ordered, presented and read the first time, 527.

CHRONICALLY SICK AND DISABLED PERSONS (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 165. Read the first time, 197.

CLERKS OF THE HOUSE:

I. CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Journal and Index to be printed under his direction, 17.

Lays Papers on the Table, 25, &c.

II. CLERKS AT THE TABLE:
Orders, That in respect of particular Bills, notices of Amendments, &c. may be accepted by the Clerks at the Table before the Bills have been read a second time, 73, &c.

III. OTHER CLERKS:
Clerks Assistant and Principal Clerk of the Table Office attend in the House, and other Clerks attend according to their duty, at the beginning of the new Parliament, 1.

Clerk in Private Bill Office certifies that, in respect of revived Lords Private Bills, Agents have deposited declarations, 71.
CLOSURE OF DEBATE:

I. CLOSURE CLAIMED AND QUESTION PUT:

1. In House:
   Public Bills:
   — on Question for an Amendment in Committee of the whole House, 47.
   — on Question that a Clause stand part, 46.
   — on Question for Second Reading of Private Member’s Bill, 248.
   — on Question for Second Reading of a new Clause on consideration:
     — Government Bill, 272.
     — Private Members’ Bills, 420, 443, 444.
   — on Question, That a Reasoned Amendment be made on Second Reading, 747.
   — on Question for disagreement to a Lords Amendment, 371.

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:

I. GOVERNMENT BILLS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Committed to Committee of the whole House</th>
<th>House resolves itself into Committee</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) (Scotland)</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>(stood committed by Order) 507</td>
<td>With Amendments, 749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Procedure (Intermediate Diets) Education (Schools)</td>
<td>507</td>
<td></td>
<td>Without Amendments, 507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Communities (Amendment)</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>46, 52</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Parliamentary Elections</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>245, 253, 256, 308, 312</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance (specified Clauses)</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>394, 400, 417</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance (No. 2) (specified Clauses)</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>121, 123</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms (Amendment)</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>539, 540, 543</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Wales</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>60, 61, 67</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority (Referendum)</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>315, 318, 327, 345, 350, 396, 405</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights [Lords]</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>228, 234</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmines</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>576, 592, 621, 637, 655</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Officers [Lords]</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministerial and other Salaries</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Health Service (Private Finance) [Lords]</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(by Order)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With Amendments, 725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (Elections)</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>710, 715, 720, 723</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (Sentences)</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Varieties [Lords]</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>613, 621</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendums (Scotland and Wales)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>41, 42</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court (Offices)</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>333, 338, 366, 374, 389, 412, 493, 497</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure)</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>567</td>
<td>Without Amendments, 567</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COLD WEATHER PAYMENTS (WIND CHILL FACTOR) BILL:
Presented and read the first time, 66. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday)), 325.
### COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

**continued**

#### II. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Committed to Committee of the whole House</th>
<th>House resolves itself into Committee</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title)</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>Order for Committee discharged, 555</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Care (Residential Accommodation)</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>661</td>
<td>661</td>
<td>With an Amendment, 343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) [Lords]</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>343</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Hire Vehicles (London)</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>Order for Committee discharged, 604</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Establishments (Scotland)</td>
<td>536</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### COMMITTEES, JOINT:

**I. APPOINTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS:**

1. **CONSOLIDATION, &c., BILLS:**
   
   Members appointed, 152.

   Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee to join with a Commons Committee; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons Committee as to the Chairman; and propose time and place of meeting, 304.

   —Commons committee to meet Lords Committee as proposed, 307.

   Reports in connection with Bills pending in the Lords:
   
   - Audit Commission Bill [Lords], 395.
   - Petroleum Bill [Lords], 317.
   - Statute Law Repeals Bill [Lords], 636.

2. **STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS:**
   
   Lords communicate Resolution that it is desirable that a Joint Committee be appointed to scrutinise delegated legislation, 30. Commons concur, 41. Commons propose time of meeting, 41.

   Commons Committee nominated, 44.

   Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of seven Lords to join with a Commons Committee [and setting out terms of reference etc. of the Committee], 46.

   Reports from the Joint Committee:
   


   Reports from the Select Committee:
   
   First, 87. Second, 411. Third, 818.

   Special Report:
   
   First, 501.

   Minutes of Proceedings to be printed:
   
   —Joint Committee, 820.
   —Select Committee, 821.

**II. JOINT COMMITTEE ON A SPECIAL PROCEDURE ORDER:**

Lords to be acquainted that three Members have been appointed to serve on the Joint Committee to which a Petition of General Objection to the Woodford Aerodrome (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997 stands referred, 147. Members nominated, 150. Lords appointed; Lords propose time and place of meeting, 191. Commons agree, 194. Order reported, without Amendment, 214.

**III. OTHER COMMITTEES:**

**PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGE:**

Resolution, That it is desirable that a Joint Committee be appointed to review Parliamentary Privilege and to make recommendations, 105.

—Lords concur with Commons, 128.

Six Members appointed, etc., 158.

Lords appointed, etc., 161.

Commons agree with Lords as to time and place of meeting, 415, 211.

Minutes of Evidence reported, 255, &c. Memoranda reported, 818.
COMMITTEES, SELECT:

I. APPOINTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS:

1. Domestic Committees:

ACCOMMODATION AND WORKS:
Nominated, 148. Member discharged; another added, 328.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 819.

ADMINISTRATION:
Nominated, 148. Member added, 263. Member discharged; another added, 631.
Report:
First [Childcare Facilities Survey], 619.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 819.

CATERING:
Nominated, 148. Members discharged; others added, 263, 614, 631, 792.
Minutes of proceedings to be printed, 820.

INFORMATION:
Nominated, 148. Member discharged; another added, 793.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

2. Select Committees related to Government Departments:

AGRICULTURE:
Nominated, 117. Member discharged; another added, 614.
Memoranda laid before Committee in last Parliament referred to Committee, 151.

Reports:
First [MAFF Intervention Board Departmental Report 1997], 280.
Third [The UK Beef Industry], 385.
Fourth [Food Safety], 531.
Fifth [Vitamin B6], 615.
Sixth [Flood and Coastal Defence], 743.
Seventh [Vitamin B6: The Government’s Decision], 743.

Special Reports:
Fifth [ Replies by Government and Environment Agency to Sixth Report], 777.


CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT:
[Changed from NATIONAL HERITAGE, 145].
Nominated, 117. Member discharged; another added, 631.

Reports:
First [The Royal Opera House], 239.
Second [The Millennium Dome], 280.
Third [Preservation of Historic Ships: The Case of HMS Cavalier], 399.
Fourth [The Multi-Media Revolution], 553.
Fifth [Objectives and Performance of Department for Culture, Media and Sport], 597.
Sixth [Not Only the Dome: Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom], 719.
Seventh [The Eyre Review and the Royal Opera House], 743.
Eighth [Report and Accounts of BBC for 1997-98], 785.
Ninth [The Future of News at Ten], 785.

Special Reports:
Second [Responses by Government and Arts Council of England to First Report], 360.
Third [Government Response to Third Report], 553.

DEFENCE:
Nominated, 117.
Memorandum laid before Committee in last Parliament referred to Committee, 123.

Reports:
First [Peace Support Operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina], 259.
Third [NATO Enlargement], 454.
Fourth [Lessons from Chinook Helicopter Crash on the Mull of Kintyre], 566.
Sixth [Defence Evaluation and Research Agency], 654.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Seventh [Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy], 697.
Eighth [The Strategic Defence Review], 756.

Special Reports:

First [Government Replies to the First to Sixth Reports from the Committee, Session 1996–97, on the Sale of the Married Quarters Estate, the Army Terms of Service (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I., 1996, No. 2973), Defence Medical Services, Defence Spending, Heavy Lift and Gulf War Illnesses: Latest Developments], 127.
Second [Government Reply to First Report], 358.
Third [Government Responses to Third and Second Reports], 654.
Fourth [Government Responses to Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Reports], 771.
Minutes of Evidence reported, 154, &c.
Concurrent meeting with Foreign Affairs Committee, 314.
—with with Trade and Industry Committee, 505, &c.
Memoranda, 697, &c.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT:

Nominated, 117. Members discharged; others added, 263, 792.

Reports:

First [Teacher recruitment: what can be done?], 187.
Second [The New Deal], 213.
Third [The Dearing Report: Some Funding Issues], 255.
Fourth [The Relationship between TECs and proposed Regional Development Agencies], 399.
Fifth [Disaffected children], 505.
Sixth [Further Education], 575.
Seventh [Pathways into Work for Lone Parents], 708.
Eighth [The New Deal Pathfinders], 732.
Ninth [Role of headteachers], 778.

Special Reports:

First [Government Response to Eighth Report], 778.
Minutes of Evidence reported, 163, &c. Taken before Sub-Committees, 183, &c. Memoranda, 183, &c. Minutes of Evidence taken before Sub-Committee and another Committee, 385. Memoranda laid before Sub-Committee, 719.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS:

Nominated, 117. Members discharged; others added, 223, 631, 702.

Reports:

First [Regional Development Agencies], 293.
Second [Sewage Treatment and Disposal], 373.
Third [Proposed Strategic Rail Authority and Railway Regulation], 416.
Fourth [UK Air Traffic Control], 492.
Fifth [The Future for Allotments], 612.
Sixth [Sustainable Waste Management], 625.
Seventh [London Underground], 674.
Eighth [Regional Air Services], 694.
Ninth [English Nature], 694.
Tenth [Housing], 714.
Eleventh [Implementation of the Best Value Framework], 714.
Thirteenth [Protection of Field Boundaries], 785.

Special Reports:

First [Government Response to First Report from Transport Committee, Session 1996–97, on Road and Bridge Maintenance Programme], 160.
Government Response to Third Report, 703.
Government Responses to Fifth, Sixth and Eleventh Reports, 757.
Government Response to Tenth Report, 765.
Government Responses to Seventh and Twelfth Reports, 782.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Minutes of Evidence reported, 190, &c. Taken before Sub-Committee 137, &c. Memorandum reported, 187, &c. Memorandum laid before Sub-Committee, 625.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

Nominated, 124.

Reports:

First [The Treaty of Amsterdam], 227.
Second [Dependent Territories Review: Interim Report], 342.
Third [Hong Kong], 743.
Fourth [Entry Clearance Operations in Islamabad and New Delhi], 743.

Special Reports:

First [Sierra Leone: Exchange of correspondence with the Foreign Secretary], 582.
Second [Sierra Leone: Further correspondence with Foreign Secretary], 636.

Minutes of Proceedings on a specified day reported, 659.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

HEALTH:

Nominated, 117. Members discharged; others added, 132, 702.

Reports:

First [Tobacco Advertising and the proposed EC Directive], 244.
Second [Children looked after by Local Authorities], 654.

Government Response to Second to Fifth Reports, Session 1996–97, on Health Services for Children and Young Persons, 200.
Minutes of Evidence reported, 206, &c. Memoranda reported, 193, &c. Minutes of Evidence taken before Committee and Sub-Committee of another Committee, 385.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

HOME AFFAIRS:

Nominated, 125. Members discharged; others added, 407, 600, 792.

Reports:

First [Police Disciplinary and Complaints Procedures], 285.
Second [Confidentiality of Police Settlements of Civil Claims], 732.
Third [Alternatives to Prison Sentences], 732.

COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Special Reports:

First [Government Response to Third Report, Session 1996–97, on Freemasonry in the police and the judiciary], 388.

Minutes of Proceedings on a particular day to be printed, 387.
Minutes of Evidence reported, 154, &c. Memoranda reported, 286, &c.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Nominated, 117.

Reports:

First [Montserrat], 227.
Second [The Development White Paper], 286.
Third [Debt Relief], 551.
Fourth [Renegotiation of the Lomé Convention], 582.
Fifth [Department of International Development: Departmental Report for 1998], 708.
Sixth [Montserrat—further developments], 732.
Seventh [Sudan], 738.
Eighth [The Future of the Commonwealth Development Corporation], 744.

Special Reports:

First [Government Response to First Report], 353.
Fourth [Government Response to Fourth Report], 739.
Fifth [Government Response to Sixth Report], 768.
Sixth [Government Response to Seventh Report], 768.
Seventh [Government Response to Eighth Report], 768.
Eighth [Government Response to Fifth Report], 797.

Minutes of Evidence reported, 184, &c. Memoranda reported, 184, &c. Memoranda to be printed, 582.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

NORTHERN IRELAND AFFAIRS:

Nominated, 148. Members discharged; others added, 387, 793.

Reports:

Second [Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland], 439.
Third [Competition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC], 674.
Fourth [Prison Service in Northern Ireland], 803.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Special Reports:
Minutes of Evidence reported, 191, &c. Memoranda reported, 191, &c.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:
Nominated, 117. Member discharged; another added, 631.

Reports:
First [Implications of the Dearing Report for the structure and funding of University research], 486.
Second [The Year 2000—Computer Compliance], 506.
Third [Glaxo-Wellcome and Smithkline Beecham: merger proposals], 594.
Fourth [Cloning of Animals from Adult Cells], 733.
Fifth [British Biotech], 755.
Sixth [Science and the Comprehensive Spending Review], 825.

Special Reports:
Third [Government Response to the First Report], 625.
Fourth [Government Response to the Fifth Report], 825.
Government Response to the Fifth Report, Session 1996–97, on Cloning of Animals from Adult Cells, 293.
Government Response to Second Report, 703.
Minutes of Evidence reported, 204, &c. Memoranda, 486, &c.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

SCOTTISH AFFAIRS:
Nominated, 117. Member discharged; another added, 407.

Reports:
First [Welfare to Work in Scotland: The New Deal], 337.
Second [The Operation of Multi-Layer Democracy], 825.

Special Reports:

Minutes of Evidence reported, 191, &c.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

SOCIAL SECURITY:
Nominated, 117. Members discharged; others added, 249, 702, 793.

Reports:
First [Tax and Benefits: an Interim Report], 231.
Second [Social Security Reforms: Lessons from the USA], 374.
Third [Tax and Benefits: Pre-Budget Report], 416.
Fourth [Disability Living Allowance], 566.
Fifth [Pensions on Divorce], 771.

Special Report:
First [Government Response to Third Report], 582.
Government Response to Fourth Report, 718.
Minutes of Evidence reported, 184, &c. Memoranda reported, 416, &c.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

Reports:
First [Co-ordination of Inward Investment], 291.
Second [Progress in Liberalisation of the Gas Market], 307.
Third [The Post Office], 307.
Fourth [Coal], 480.
Fifth [Energy Policy], 591.
Sixth [Small and Medium-sized Enterprises], 605.
Seventh [Reform of European Structural Funds], 625.
Eighth [Aspects of Defence Procurement and Industrial Policy], 697.
Ninth [Georgian Nuclear Material at Dounreay], 708.
Tenth [Development in the Liberalisation of the Domestic Electricity Market], 708.
Eleventh [Industrial and Trade Relations with Japan], 739.
Twelfth [Industrial and Trade Relations with Central Europe], 781.

Special Reports:
Second [Responses from the Government and the Office of Electricity Regulation to the Second Report, Session 1996–97, on Liberalisation of the Electricity Market], 141.
COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.2—continued


**Seventh [Government Observations on Sixth, Seventh and Ninth to Eleventh Reports]**, 781.


**Government Response to Fourth and Fifth Reports**, 757.

**Minutes of Evidence reported**, 200, &c. Concurrent Meetings with Defence Committee, 505, &c.

**Minutes of Proceedings to be printed**, 821.

**TREASURY:**

- Nominated, 125. Members discharged; others added, 407, 614, 745, 793.

**Reports:**

- **Second [The Barnett Formula]**, 283.
- **Third [Confirmation Hearings]**, 388.
- **Fourth [The 1998 Budget]**, 519.
- **Fifth [The UK and Preparations for Stage Three of Economic and Monetary Union]**, 532.
- **Sixth [Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England: Confirmation Hearings]**, 628.
- **Ninth [Mis-selling of Personal Pensions]**, 805.

**Special Reports:**

- **Third [Government Response to Third Report]**, 768.
- **Minutes of Evidence reported**, 138, &c. Memoranda reported, 291, &c.
- **Minutes of Proceedings to be printed**, 821.

3. **Other Committees under Public Business Standing Orders:**

**BROADCASTING:**

- Nominated, 148. Member discharged; another added, 402.
- **Minutes of Evidence reported**, 693.
- **Minutes of Proceedings to be printed**, 820.

**DEREGULATION:**

- Nominated, 152. Members discharged; others added, 262, 391, 521, 628.

**Resolutions reported:**

- **in respect of draft Orders**, that Orders should be approved, 234, &c.
- **in respect of proposals for Orders**, that proposals should be amended before draft Orders are laid, 380, &c.
- **in respect of proposals for Order**, that draft Order in same terms as proposals should be laid, 560, &c.
- **Minutes of Evidence reported**, 669.

**Reports:**

- **First [Draft Deregulation (Licence Transfers) Order 1997]**, 237.
- **Fourth [Proposal for Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998]**, 432.

**WELSH AFFAIRS:**

- Nominated, 117. Members discharged; others added, 263, 521, 631.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.3—continued

Sixth [Draft Deregulation (Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail) (Scotland) Order 1998], 590.

Seventh [Draft Deregulation (Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles) Order 1998], 635.

Eighth [Draft Deregulation (Exchangeable Driving Licences) Order 1996], 609.


ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT:

Standing Order made, 209. Amended (Number of Members), 289.


Reports:

First [Pre-Budget Report], 419.

Second [The Greening Government Initiative], 650.

Third [Pre-Budget Report: Government Response and Follow-up], 694.

Fourth [Climate Change: UK Emission Reduction Targets and Audit Arrangements], 743.

Government Response to Second Report, 809.

Minutes of Evidence reported, 336, &c.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

EUROPEAN LEGISLATION:

Nominated, 122.

Members discharged; others added, 136, 352, 521.

Reports:


COMMITTEES, SELECT I.3—continued

Minutes of Evidence reported, 217, &c. Appendix thereto, 803.

Minutes of Evidence taken on specified dates to be printed, 828.

EUROPEAN SCRUTINY:

Appointed 814. Nominated, 816.

First Report, 824.

FINANCE AND SERVICES:

Standing Order amended with respect to size of the Committee, 130.

Nominated, 221. Member added, 544. Member discharged; another added, 598.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

LIAISON:

Nominated, 145, Members added, 192, 254, 544, 784.

Select Committee Reports chosen for debate on Wednesday mornings designated by the Speaker, 322, 417, 595.

Recommendations relating to consideration of Estimates reported, 641, 806.

—recommendations agreed to, 652.

Minutes of Proceedings on particular days to be printed, 304, 688, 804.

PROCEDURE:

Nominated, 162. Members discharged; others added, 207, 791.

Reports:

First [Use of Welsh Language in Parliamentary Proceedings in Wales], 383.

Second [Resource Accounting and Budgeting], 480.

Third [Objections to Questions in Select Committees], 694.

Special Report:


Resolution approving First Report, 459.

Minutes of Evidence reported, 286, &c.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reports:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First [NHS Suppliers in England], 224.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second [Health and Safety in NHS acute hospital trusts in England], 224.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third [South and West Regional Health Authority: Disposal of Swift], 230.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth [Ministry of Defence: management of utilities], 230.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth [Coronary Heart Disease in Northern Ireland], 244.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth [Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland): Control of Belfast Action Team's Expenditure], 244.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh [Resignation of Chief Executive of English Heritage], 252.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth [Overseas Courses at Swansea Institute of Higher Education], 252.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninth [Property Services in English occupied Royal Palaces, Royal Household Remuneration and Provision of Accommodation], 252.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenth [HMSO: Trade with Uzbekistan and 1995 operating results], 260.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleventh [MAFF: Tackling Common Agricultural Policy Irregularities], 260.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twelfth [ODA: Irregularities in pension payments in Amman, Jordan], 260.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirteenth [Criminal legal aid means testing in Magistrates' Courts], 264.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourteenth [HM Customs and Excise: Seizure of drug traffickers' assets], 264.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteenth [UK Atomic Energy Authority: Sale of Facilities Services Division], 265.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixteenth [HM Customs and Excise: Accounts Matters], 276.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventeenth [Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust: Progress in regenerating housing estates], 276.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighteenth [DTI Redundancy Payments Service: Management and recovery of debt], 276.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nineteenth [Aid to Indonesia], 291.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twentieth [Motability], 291.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-first [Child Support Agency: Client Funds Account 1996-97], 392.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-second [NIAO Excess Votes], 399.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-third [NAO Excess Votes], 399.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-fourth [Department of Education and Employment: Remploy Limited], 408.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-fifth [Highlands and Islands Enterprise: Value for Money Review of Performance Measurement], 426.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-sixth [Vacant Office Property], 426.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-seventh [Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud], 440.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-eighth [Charity Commission: Regulation and Support of Charities], 486.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.3—continued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-ninth [HM Customs and Excise: Checking Large Traders' VAT Liability], 496.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirtieth [The Prison Service: Prison Catering], 496.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-first [Inland Revenue: Employer Compliance Reviews], 540.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-second [Cataract Surgery in Scotland], 540.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-third [Crown Prosecution Service], 546.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-fourth [FCO: Irregular Payments at the British Embassy in Amman, Jordan], 553.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-sixth [Regulating and Monitoring Quality of Service provided to customers by the water industry in England and Wales], 559.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-seventh [FCO: Contingent liabilities in Dependent Territories], 559.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-eighth [Industrial Research and Technology Unit (NI)], 571.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-ninth [MAFF: Protecting Environmentally Sensitive Areas], 571.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortieth [Management of Building Projects at English Higher Education Institutions], 571.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-first [Construction of Southampton Oceanography Centre], 608.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-second [The Skye Bridge], 609.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-third [Privatisation of Belfast International Airport], 609.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-fourth [Northern Ireland Social Security Agency: Administration of Disability Living Allowance], 609.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-fifth [The Home Energy Efficiency Scheme], 609.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-sixth [Contract to develop and operate the Replacement National Insurance Recording System], 609.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-eighth [Sale of the Married Quarters Estate], 615.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-ninth [Sale of the Stationery Office], 616.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiftieth [Management of Sickness absence in Metropolitan Police Service], 625.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty-fifth [Inland Revenue: Monitoring and control of tax exemptions for charities], 654.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty-sixth [Department of Education and Employment: Overpayments to Training and Enterprise Councils], 655.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty-seventh [PFI Contracts for Bridgend and Fazakerley Prisons], 694.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.3—continued

Fifty-ninth [HM Coastguard (Civil Maritime Search and Rescue)], 694.

Sixtieth [Sale of AEA technology], 694.

Sixty-first [Getting Value for Money in Privatisations], 694.

Sixty-second [Purchase of Read Codes and Management of NHS Centre for Coding and Classification], 727.


Sixty-fourth [Countering anti-competitive behaviour in telecommunications industry], 727.

Sixty-fifth [Privatisation of rolling stock leasing companies], 727.

Sixty-sixth [Managing the Millennium threat], 727.


Sixty-eighth [Distribution of Lottery Funds by the English Sports Council], 824.


**Treasury Minutes relating to Reports:**

— Twelfth to Twenty-fifth, Session 1996–97, 126.

— Seventh, Eighth and Tenth to Twelfth, 485.

— Ninth and Thirteenth to Twentieth, 545.

— Twenty-first, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh, 578.

— Twenty-sixth and Twenty-eighth to Thirtieth, 607.

— Thirty-first to Thirty-seventh, 712.

— Thirty-ninth and Fortieth, 738.


**Resolution relating to specified Reports in Session 1996–97,** 231.

**Minutes of Evidence reported,** 204, &c. Part, 244, &c. Memoranda reported, 291, &c.

**Minutes of Proceedings to be printed,** 820.

### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION:

Standing Order (Select Committee on Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration) amended so as to re-name the committee and to provide new duties relating to civil service, 102; to alter the size of the committee, 122.

Nominated, 124. Member discharged; another added, 352.

**Reports:**

— First [Public Appointments], 369.


— Third [Your Right to Know: Government’s Proposals for a Freedom of Information Act], 575.

— Fourth [Ministerial Responsibility and Parliamentary Questions], 620.

### COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.3—continued


Sixth [Government Information and Communication Service], 739.

**Special Reports:**


— Third [Responses to First Report], 551.


— Minutes of Evidence reported, 154, &c. Memoranda to be printed, 576.

— Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

### STANDARDS AND PRIVILEGES:

Nominated, 80. Members discharged; others added, 257, 631.

Minutes of Evidence taken before, and Memoranda submitted to, the Committee on Standards and Privileges in the last Parliament referred to the Committee, 91.

**Reports:**

— First [Complaints from Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, The Guardian and others against Twenty-five Members and former Members], 89.

— Second [Complaint against Mr George Galloway], 137.

— Third [Complaint against Mr Kenneth Clarke], 137.

— Fourth [The Register of Members’ Interests: Category 4, Sponsorship], 137.

— Fifth and Sixth [Complaint against Mr Robert N. Wareing], 154.

— Seventh [Complaints from Mr Al Fayed, The Guardian and others: Further Report], 163.

— Eighth [Complaints from Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, The Guardian and others against 25 Members and former Members: Second Further Report: Mr Neil Hamilton], 204.

— Ninth [Public Access to Registers of Interest], 286.

— Tenth [Complaint against Mr Geoffrey Robinson], 317.

— Eleventh [Complaint against Mr Howard Flight], 317.

— Twelfth [Complaint against Sir David Steel], 369.


— Fourteenth [Complaint against Mr Tony Blair], 455.

— Fifteenth [Complaint against Mr John Prescott], 500.

— Sixteenth [Complaint against Mr Stephen Dorrell], 563.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.3—continued

Seventeenth [Complaint against Mr Tony Banks], 591.

Eighteenth [Complaints against Mr Geoffrey Robinson (No. 2)], 687.

Nineteenth [Retirement of the Parliamentary Commissioner], 797.

Twentieth [Complaints against Mr Geoffrey Robinson (No. 3)], 818.

Twenty-first [Appeal procedures], 818.

Resolution approving Sixth Report and suspending a Member, 191.

Resolution approving Seventh and Eighth Reports, 223.


Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.

II. APPOINTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PRIVATE BUSINESS:

SELECTION:

Nominated, &c., 42.

Members discharged; others added, 75, 599, 733.

Resolutions reported:

—relating to changes in the composition of Standing Committees, 55.

—relating to the tabling of Motions to alter the membership of Select Committees, 55.

Reports relating to:

—appointment of Two Members to be consulted, &c., by the Speaker on Money Bills, 57.

—designation of Standing Committee C as the Standing Committee on which Government Bills are not to have precedence, 57.

—nomination of Members to serve on Standing Committees:

—Standing Committees on Bills, 69, &c.

—Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 57, &c.

—European Standing Committees A and B, 119, &c.

—Discharge of Members of Standing Committees and appointment of others, 75, &c.

—additional Members of Standing Committees, 122, &c.

—nomination of the Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel), 88, 385, 546.

—nomination of Members to serve on a Joint Committee on a Special Procedure Order, 150.

—additional Members of Northern Ireland Grand Committee, 229.

—additional Members of Welsh Grand Committee, 546.

—nomination of Provisional Orders (Scotland Panel), 335.

—nomination of the Standing Orders Committee, 335.

COMMITTEES, SELECT II—continued

Orders, in the name of Chairman of the Committee, relating to nomination of Select Committees:

—Select Committees related to Government Departments, 117, &c.

—Domestic Committees, 148.

Orders, in name of Chairman etc. relating to changes in membership of Select Committees, 132, &c.

Motions, in the name of the Chairman of the Committee, relating to changes in Membership of Select Committee, opposed after hour of interruption, 348.

STANDING ORDERS:

Nominated by Committee of Selection, 335, 385.

UNOPPOSED BILLS:

Panel of Members appointed by the Committee of Selection, 88, 546.

Bills reported:

—with Amendments, 260.

—without Amendments, 374, &c.

III. OTHER COMMITTEES:

MODERNISATION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Appointed and nominated, 44. (Standing Order until end of present Parliament.)

Members discharged; others added, 83, 158, 352, 391, 598, 735, 790.

Reports:

First [The Legislative Process], 141.

Second [Explanatory Material for Bills], 260.

Third [Carry-over of Public Bills], 407.

Fourth [Conduct in the Chamber], 416.

Fifth [Consultation Paper on Voting Methods], 532.

Sixth [Voting Methods], 594.

Seventh [Scrutiny of European Business], 605.

Special Report:

First [Work of the Committee: First Progress Report], 141.

Resolutions approving Reports from the Committee:

—First, 219.

—Third and Fourth, 596.

—Seventh, 812.

Memoranda reported, 141.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 820.
COMMITTEES, SELECT—continued

IV. REASONS COMMITTEES (LORDS AMENDMENTS DISAGREED TO):

1. Committees Appointed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
<th>Reasons agreed to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank of England</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Schools)</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Communities (Amendment)</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Parliamentary Elections</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms (Amendment)</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Wales</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority (Referendum)</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Minimum Wage</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendums (Scotland and Wales)</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Standards and Framework</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Higher Education [Lords]:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—Commons insistence</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—Lords Amendment in lieu</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>682</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Miscellaneous:
Chairman appointed by Order, 157, &c.

V. BUSINESS COMMITTEES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Bill</th>
<th>Nominated</th>
<th>Reports</th>
<th>Resolutions agreed to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Wales</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>315, 345, 396, 482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Development Agencies</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Higher Education [Lords]</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights [Lords]</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>588, 632</td>
<td>592, 637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and Disorder [Lords]</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Miscellaneous:
Order enabling nine other Members to be nominated to Business Committee in respect of a particular Bill, 311.
—in Programme Order, 308.
Changes in membership, 486, 506, 542, 553, 628.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Number of members appointed:
   - Five (Reasons Committees), 143, &c.
   - Eight (Business Committee), 128, &c.
   - Nine (Business Committee), 310, 314.
   - Fifteen (Modernisation of the House of Commons), 44, (Environmental Audit), 209.

2. Quorum appointed:
   - Three (Reasons Committees), 143, &c.
   - Four (Environmental Audit), 209.
   - Five (Modernisation of the House of Commons, 44.

3. Chairmen:
   - Chairmen appointed by Order (Reasons Committees), 157, &c.

4. Powers or leave given:
   - To send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any Adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place and to report from time to time, 44, 209.
   - To appoint specialist advisers to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee's order of reference, 209.
   - To communicate its evidence and any other documents relating to matters of common interest to any committee appointed by this House or by the Lords, 209.
   - To meet concurrently with any committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments), or any sub-committee thereof, or with any committee appointed by the Lords, or any sub-committee thereof, for the purposes of deliberating or examining witnesses, 209.

5. Instructions or Orders given:
   - To seek to make a first Report before the Summer adjournment, etc., 44.
   - To withdraw immediately (Reasons Committees), 143, &c.

6. Nomination of members:
   - Committees nominated (being appointed by Standing Orders):
COMMITTEES, SELECT VI.6—continued

—Private Business Standing Orders, 42, &c.
—Public Business Standing Orders, 44, &c.

Members added, 192, &c.
Members discharged, others added, 75, &c.
Members nominated to a Select Committee under Standing Order until the end of the present Parliament, 44.
Resolution reported by Committee of Selection relating to Motions to alter the membership of Select Committees, 55.

7. Matters referred:
Minutes of Evidence etc. of Committee in previous Parliament (to Committee on Standards and Privileges), 91.
Memoranda laid before Committee in last Parliament (to Defence Committee), 123, (to Agriculture Committee), 151.

8. Reports:
[For Reports from Committees see alphabetical entries above.]
Government replies to Reports:
—contained in Special Reports from Committees, 127, &c.

COMMITTEES, STANDING:

1. GOVERNMENT BILLS COMMITTED TO STANDING COMMITTEES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Stood Committed</th>
<th>Allocated by the Speaker</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank of England</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>D, 216</td>
<td>With Amendments, 277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition [Lords]</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>G, 565</td>
<td>With Amendments, 641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and Disorder [Lords]</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>B, 531</td>
<td>With Amendments, 609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Protection [Lords]</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>D, 531</td>
<td>With Amendments, 595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Student Loans)</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>A, 141</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance (except specified Clauses)</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>A, 111</td>
<td>With Amendments, 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance (No. 2)(except specified Clauses)</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>E, 531</td>
<td>With Amendments, 633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fossil Fuel Levy [Lords]</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>A, 216 Transferred to D, 373</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Wales (specified Clause)</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>Order for committal discharged, 307</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) [Lords]</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>F, 552</td>
<td>With Amendments, 567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government (Contracts)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>B, 81</td>
<td>With Amendments, 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals)</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>A, 70</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) [Lords]</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>B, 216 Transferred to D, 392</td>
<td>With Amendments, 408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Lottery [Lords]</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>A, 519</td>
<td>With Amendments, 560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Minimum Wage</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>D, 290</td>
<td>With Amendments, 380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions)</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>A, 230</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) [Lords]</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>D, 216 Transferred to E, 392</td>
<td>With an Amendment, 408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police (Northern Ireland)</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>B, 290</td>
<td>With Amendments, 449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Proceedings (Northern Ireland) [Lords]</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>B, 294</td>
<td>With an Amendment, 329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Development Agencies</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>E, 320</td>
<td>With Amendments, 393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration of Political Parties</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>A, 607</td>
<td>With Amendments, 633</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Committees, Standing I

#### Title of Bill

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Stood Committed</th>
<th>Allocated by the Speaker</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Standards and Framework</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>A, 306</td>
<td>With Amendments, 408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>B, 141</td>
<td>With Amendments, 237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Immigration Appeals Commission [Lords]</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>D, 202</td>
<td>With Amendments, 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Higher Education [Lords]</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>F, 453</td>
<td>With Amendments, 540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Telegraphy [Lords]</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>A, 202</td>
<td>With an Amendment, 221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### II. Private Members' Bills Committed to Standing Committees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Stood Committed</th>
<th>Allocated by the Speaker</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Health (Amendment)</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>C, 252. Transferred to D, 416</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding and Sale of Dogs</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>C, 360. Transferred to A, 419</td>
<td>With Amendments, 481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce (Protection of Title) [by Order]</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>C, 565</td>
<td>With Amendments and changed title, 605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Conservation (Housing)</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>C, 365. Transferred to E, 421. Transferred to D, 453.</td>
<td>With Amendments, 481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>C, 365</td>
<td>With Amendments, 481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireworks</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>C, 252. Transferred to A, 398</td>
<td>With Amendments, 433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing (Amendment)</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>C, 673</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authority Tenders</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>C, 314</td>
<td>With Amendments, 451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticides</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>C, 252</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Interest Disclosure</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>C, 290. Transferred to D, 403.</td>
<td>With Amendments, 432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Hire Vehicles (London)</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>D, 624</td>
<td>With Amendments, 633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets)</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>C, 360. Transferred to E, 407</td>
<td>With Amendments and changed title, 455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Minimisation</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>C, 290. Transferred to A, 416</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weights and Measures (Beer and Cider)</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>C, 290</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs)</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>C, 252</td>
<td>With Amendments, 396</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### III. Second Reading Committees:

—

#### IV. Special Standing Committees:

—

#### V. Scottish Grand Committee:

Orders Relating to Sittings of the Committee:

Committee to meet at Westminster on specified date to take Questions and consider substantive Adjournment Motion, 72.

Orders (for duration of present Parliament) relating to allocation and number of days for considering substantive Adjournment Motions, 84.

Orders relating to time, place and nature of future sittings, 233, 311, 355, 459, 547.

—Order amending a previous Order, 675.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 821.

#### VI. Welsh Grand Committee:

1. Matters referred:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Matter</th>
<th>Referred</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government's Programme for Wales</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Wales and Government proposals for Welsh Assembly</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Expenditure in Wales in 1998–99</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural economy in Wales</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Economic Agenda for Wales</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMITTEES, STANDING VI—continued

2. Miscellaneous:

Orders relating to sittings:

—Committee to meet at specified places in Wales, 59, 521, 631.
—Committee to meet in Westminster, 194, &c.

VII. NORTHERN IRELAND GRAND COMMITTEE:

1. Matters and Instruments referred:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Referred</th>
<th>Reported, &amp;c.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public expenditure in Northern Ireland 1998–99</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priorities in education in Northern Ireland</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1998</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>400. Approved, 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland economy</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional strategic framework for Northern Ireland</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) (No. 2) Order</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>655. Approved, 665</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Miscellaneous:

—Days appointed for meetings of the Grand Committee, 205.
—Twenty-four additional Members nominated, 229.

Orders relating to particular sittings, 242, 305, 379, 435, 577, 623.

Orders approved, after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (delegated legislation)), 410, &c.

Member discharged; another appointed, 454.

VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION:

Instruments referred to Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 63, &c.

Instruments allocated to particular Standing Committees by the Speaker, 57, &c.

Instruments reported from Standing Committees, 63, &c.

References of instrument to Standing Committee discharged, 73.

Government assessment under European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993 referred to Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 706.

—approved, 735.

IX. EUROPEAN STANDING COMMITTEES:

Reports by Committee of Selection, nominating Members of European Standing Committees A and B, 119, 126, 203.

—Members discharged; others added, 454, 654.

Documents and Resolutions reported, 138, &c.

Documents referred to European Standing Committees, 127, &c.

Orders, That documents shall not stand referred to European Standing Committees, 281, &c.

Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committees A and B to be printed, 821.

X. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Chairmen:

Members appointed Chairmen of Standing Committees:

—Standing Committees on Bills, 69, &c.
—Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 57, &c.
—Welsh Grand Committee, 70, &c.
—Scottish Grand Committee, 81, &c.
—European Standing Committees, 130, &c.
—Northern Ireland Grand Committee, 259, &c.
—several Chairmen, 111, &c.
—in place of other Chairmen, 206, &c.
—additional Chairmen, 224.

2. Members:

Resolution by Committee of Selection relating to changes in membership of Standing Committees, 55.

Members nominated by Committee of Selection to serve on Standing Committees:

—Standing Committees on Bills, 69, &c.
—Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 57, &c.
—European Standing Committees, 119, &c.

Members discharged and others appointed in substitution, 75, &c.

Additional Members appointed, 122, &c.

3. Leave, &c.:

Leave given to Standing Committee on a Bill to sit twice on first day of meeting, 294, &c.

4. Allocations and Referrals &c.:

Delegated Legislation allocated to particular Standing Committees, 57, &c.

Delegated Legislation referred to Standing Committees, 63, &c.

Bills stand committed to Standing Committees, 63, &c.

Bills allocated to particular Standing Committees, 70, &c.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMITTEES, STANDING X.4—continued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>— transferred to other Committees, 373, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matters referred:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— to Welsh Grand Committee, 58, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— to Northern Ireland Grand Committee, 241, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Standing Committees discharged:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference of Delegated Legislation to Standing Committee discharged, 73.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orders, That documents shall not stand referred to European Standing Committees, 281, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Business Sub-Committees:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members nominated by the Speaker in respect of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Finance Bill, 119.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Miscellaneous:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return relating to Standing Committees for Session 1996–97:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— ordered, 38.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— made, 154.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedural Resolutions relating to Standing Committees reported from Chairmen's Panel, 78.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| COMMUNITY CARE (RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION) BILL:  |
| Presented and read the first time, 66. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 248. Considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment, 343. Read the third time, and passed, 457. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 601. (Cited as Community Care (Residential Accommodation) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 610.  |

| CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL:  |
| Ordered, presented and read the first time, 121. Read the second and third time, and passed, 128. Speaker's Certificate, 131. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 142. (Cited as Appropriation (No. 2) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 161.  |

| CONSOLIDATED FUND BILL:  |
| Ordered, presented, and read the first, second and third time, and passed, 267. Speaker's Certificate, 276. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 283. (Cited as Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 286.  |

| CONSOLIDATED FUND (No. 2) BILL:  |
| Ordered, presented, and read the first time, 429. Read the second and third time, and passed, 433. Speaker's Certificate, 440. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 446. (Cited as Consolidated Fund Act 1998) Royal Assent, 452.  |

| CONSTRUCTION:  |
| Draft Order approved, 381.  |
| Draft Regulations approved, 381.  |

| CONSTRUCTION (SCOTLAND):  |
| Draft Order approved, 381.  |
| Draft Regulations approved, 381.  |

| CONSUMER CREDIT:  |
| Draft Order approved, 368.  |

| CONTRACTING OUT:  |
| Draft Orders approved, 84, 128, 354, 600, 807.  |

| COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME BILL [Lords]:  |
| Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 112.  |

| COPYRIGHT:  |
| Draft Regulations approved, 273.  |

| COUNCIL TAX:  |
| Draft Orders approved, 128, 617.  |

| COUNTRYSIDE PROTECTION (LANDFILL AND OPENCAST MINING) BILL:  |
| Ordered, presented and read the first time, 767.  |

| COURT OF REFEREES ON PRIVATE BILLS:  |
| Members appointed by the Speaker, 110.  |
DEBATE:

1. **Addresses:**
   - Address of Thanks (Queen's Speech):
     - stood adjourned, 19, 29.
     - ordered to be adjourned, 26, 27.
     - resumed, 26, 27, 28, 30.

2. **Bills, Public:**
   - Reasoned Amendment on second reading:
     - stood adjourned, 32, 263, 297.
     - resumed at subsequent sitting, 34, 265, 300.
   - Second Reading of new Clause on consideration:
     - stood adjourned, 272, &c.
     - resumed at same sitting, 272, &c.
     - ordered to be resumed at future sitting, 420, &c.
     - resumed at later sitting, 443.
   - Second Reading of Private Member's Bill:
     - stood adjourned, 280, &c.
   - Question on Motion to agree to a Lords Amendment:
     - stood adjourned, 660, 730.
     - resumed at same sitting, 730.
   - Question on Motion to disagree to a Lords Amendment:
     - stood adjourned, 370, &c.
     - resumed at same sitting, 371, &c.
   - Question on Motion to insist on Commons Amendment to a Lords Bill:
     - stood adjourned, 651.
     - resumed at same sitting, 651.
   - Order read for resumption of adjourned Debate on Question for Second Reading; Debate to be resumed on a future day, 311, &c.
     - Motion for Third Reading, 457, &c.
     - Debate resumed, 490.

3. **Ways and Means:**
   - Motion relating to the windfall tax:
     - stood adjourned, 87.
     - ordered to be adjourned, 90, 91.
     - resumed at subsequent sitting, 90, 91, 92.
   - Motion relating to amendment of the law:
     - stood adjourned, 449, 452, 456.
     - resumed at subsequent sitting, 452, 455, 460.

4. **Allocation of Time Order, Motion for:**
   - Stood adjourned, 289
   - Resumed at same sitting, 289.

5. **Motion for Resolution:**
   - Amendment stood adjourned, 757.
   - Debate on Amendment resumed, 767.
**DEBATE—continued**

II. MISCELLANEOUS:

Debates stood adjourned, it being:

—Ten o’clock, 19, &c.
—after Ten o’clock, 29.
Debates ordered to be adjourned, 26, &c.

Debates to be resumed on a future day, 19, &c.
Debates ordered to be resumed on a future day, 19, &c.
Debates on estimates concluded, 664.

DEFENCE: Draft Orders approved, 74, 354, 600.

**DELEGATED LEGISLATION, &c.:**

I. RESOLUTIONS TO APPROVE STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS AND OTHER DELEGATED LEGISLATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description of Instrument, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order and agreed to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banks and Banking</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>645, 716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadcasting</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>570(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Tunnel Rail Link</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>273,558, 807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Aviation</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>238, 381, 646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Credit</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting Out</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copyright</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Tax</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangerous Drugs</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deregulation: (Licence Transfers)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>74, 354, 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Deduction from Pay of Union Subscriptions)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Methylated Spirits Sale by Retail)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Exchangeable Driving Licences)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment and Training</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>735, 823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>368(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Communities</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Export and Investment Guarantees</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>116(3), 267(2), 331(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Law</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and Charges</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms</td>
<td>Draft Schemes</td>
<td></td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlands and Islands Shipping Services</td>
<td>Draft Undertaking</td>
<td></td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hovercraft</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>387(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>225, 630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Organisation and Development</td>
<td>Draft Rules</td>
<td></td>
<td>525(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Premium Tax</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Immunities and Privileges</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Monetary Fund</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>74, 725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## DELEGATED LEGISLATION I—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description of Instrument, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order and agreed to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid and Advice</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>116, 807</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>282(4), 494(4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Services</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>521, 735</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>273</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>424, 701</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>143</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance (Scotland)</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>359(3)</td>
<td>391(3), 447, 479, 521, 631, 701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance (Scotland)</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>387(3)</td>
<td>391(2), 521, 740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance (Scotland)</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>387</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Pollution</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchant Shipping</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>225, 525</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monopolies and Mergers</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland:</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Entry to Negotiations, etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Emergency Provisions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Appropriations) (No. 2) 1997</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Interim Period Extension) 1997</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Further Education)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Commissioner for Complaints)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Deregulation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Shops (Sunday Trading, etc.))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Industrial Pollution Control)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Waste and Contaminated Land)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Civil Evidence)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Criminal Law)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Museums and Galleries)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Activity Centres (Young Persons’ Safety))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Road Traffic (New Drivers))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Family Homes and Domestic Violence)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Financial Provisions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Public Processions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>405(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Appropriation) 1998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Decommissioning (Amnesty Period) (Negotiations) (Referendum)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Entry to Negotiations) Act 1996 (Cessation of S. 3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(New N.I. Assembly (Elections))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Fire Services) (Amendment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Criminal Justice) (Children)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Interim Period Extension) 1998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Producer Responsibility Obligations)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Education)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Appropriation) (No. 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Local Government) (Amendment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Health and Safety at Work) (Amendment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Local Elections) (Amendment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Development and Co-operation</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>128(2), 499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>499(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>354</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>418</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### DELEGATED LEGISLATION I—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description of Instrument, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order and agreed to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prisons</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>124, 205, 225, 631, 645, 702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating and Valuation</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating and Valuation (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendum (London)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of the People</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>413, 447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of the People (Northern Ireland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads and Bridges (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td>278, 716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Fisheries</td>
<td>Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td>716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 5 of European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993</td>
<td>Government assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>384(3)</td>
<td>105, 143, 495, 645, 716, 823(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court of England and Wales</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms and Conditions of Employment</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport and Works</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>148, 215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Development</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Added Tax</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orders</td>
<td></td>
<td>225, 268, 521, 645</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### II. ADDRESSES FOR STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS TO BE MADE:

1. **Addresses in present Session:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to</th>
<th>Question put forthwith pursuant to S.O. and agreed to</th>
<th>Queen’s Answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income Tax (Draft Orders)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>192(4)</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>681–2(3)</td>
<td>739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### III. QUESTIONS NEGATIVED FOR PRESENTING ADDRESSES FOR ANNULMENT OR REVOCATION OF STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS:

- Food, 368.
- Income Tax, 796.
- Social Security, 667 (Motion for revocation).

Terms and Conditions of Employment, 776.

### IV. STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS REFERRED TO STANDING COMMITTEES ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description of Instrument</th>
<th>Referred</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Persons</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>517, 792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>201, 271, 514, 792(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### V. MISCELLANEOUS:

Delegated legislation approved, 36, &c.

—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), 74, &c.

—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (consideration of draft deregulation orders), 278, &c.
DELEGATED LEGISLATION V—continued

—after Question put after one and a half hours, pursuant to Standing Order (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), 51.

—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Northern Ireland Grand Committee), 410, &c.

Delegated legislation referred to Standing Committees, 63 &c. Reference discharged, 73.

Delegated legislation allocated by the Speaker to particular Standing Committees, 57, &c.

Questions put, pursuant to Business Orders, 359, &c.

—forthwith, 702.

Communications declaring that specified Statutory Instruments had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, laid upon the Table by the Speaker, 25, &c.

Return relating to Delegated Legislation and Deregulation Proposals for Session 1996–97:

—ordered, 38.
—made, 154.

DEREGULATION: Draft Orders approved, 278, 581, 618, 725(2).

[For subjects see Table in DELEGATED LEGISLATION I.]

DEREGULATION OF RACECOURSES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 524.

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION (PROVISION OF VOTING FACILITIES) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 104.

DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 66. Withdrawn, 297.

DISABLED PERSONS: Order referred to Standing Committee, 792.

DISABLED PERSONS AND CARERS (SHORT-TERM BREAKS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 452.

DISPOSAL AND RE-USE OF WHITE GOODS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 620.

DIVISIONS:

Tellers report error in report of number in a Division; and number corrected in Journal, 197, 409, 446.

The House proceeded to a Division; but no member being willing to act as Teller for the Noes, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Ayes had it, 448, 524–525.

DOOR SUPERVISORS (REGISTRATION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 333.

DRINKS CONTAINERS (REDEMPTION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 592.

ECCLESIASTICAL COMMITTEE: See CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

ECONOMY, THE: Resolution (after original Question amended), 773.

EDUCATION: Draft Regulations approved, 735, 823.

Regulations referred to Standing Committee, 517, 792.

EDUCATION (SCHOOLS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 34. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 36. Considered in Committee; Progress reported, 46. Again considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 52. Agreed to by the Lords, with an Amendment, 139. Lords Amendment disagreed to; Committee appointed to draw up a Reason, 143. Reason reported and agreed to, 143. Lords do not insist on Amendment disagreed to, 145. (Cited as Education (Schools) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 161.

Money Resolution, 36.

EDUCATION (SCHOOLS PARENTING ROLE) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 683.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND): Draft Regulations approved, 735.

EDUCATION (STUDENT LOANS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 108. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 132. A, 141. Reported, without Amendment, 151. Not amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 194. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 329. (Cited as Education (Student Loans) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 329.

Money Resolution, 132.

ELECTIONS:

I. WRITS ISSUED:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>In the room of</th>
<th>On what account</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uxbridge, 104.</td>
<td>Sir Julian Michael Shersby</td>
<td>Deceased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paisley South, 164.</td>
<td>Gordon McMaster, Esq.</td>
<td>Deceased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester, 184.</td>
<td>Mark Oaten, Esq.</td>
<td>Election void</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beckenham, 191.</td>
<td>Piers Rolf Garfield Merchant, Esq.</td>
<td>Manor of Northstead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEX TO THE TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH VOLUME

ELECTIONS—continued

II. CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS:
Certificate and Report relating to Election Petition ordered to be entered in Journal, 165.

III. MISCELLANEOUS:
Sessional Order relating to double returns, 16.
Sessional Resolution relating to voting by Peers, 16.
Sessional Resolution relating to bribery, 16.
Speaker's appointment of Members to exercise her powers under the Recess Elections Act 1975 when there is no Speaker or the Speaker is outside the United Kingdom, 64.
Writ issued during Adjournment, 164.

ELECTIONS (VISUALLY IMPAIRED VOTERS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 123.

ELECTRICITY GENERATION BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 509. Read the first time, 592.

ELECTRICITY (MAINTENANCE OF SUPPLIES) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 354.

ELECTRO-CONVULSIVE THERAPY (RESTRICTIONS ON USE) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 256.

EMPLOYMENT (AGE DISCRIMINATION IN ADVERTISEMENTS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 66. Motion for Second Reading: Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 361.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING: Draft Orders approved, 368(2).

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Motion for Second Reading: Motion withdrawn; Bill withdrawn, 376.

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS (DISPUTE RESOLUTION) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 304. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 311. Considered in Committee; reported, with an Amendment, 343. As amended, considered; Motion for Third Reading: Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 457. Debate resumed; Bill read the third time and passed, with an Amendment, 490. To which the Lords agree, 493. (Cited as Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 516.

Money Resolution, 319.

EMPTY HOMES (VALUE ADDED TAX) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 670.

ENERGY CONSERVATION (HOUSING) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 67. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 361. C, 365. Transferred to E, 421. Transferred to D, 453. Reported, with Amendments, 481.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 361. C, 365. Reported, with Amendments, 481.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY (INFORMATION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 286.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: Draft Regulations approved, 277.

ESTIMATES:

I. REPORTS FROM LIAISON COMMITTEE:
Relating to consideration of Estimates pursuant to Standing Order (Liaison Committee), 641.
—Report agreed with, 652.

II. MISCELLANEOUS:
Bills ordered on Estimates Resolutions, 121, 267, 429, 684.

III. PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER (CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotted day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Question deferred</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to at 10 o'clock</th>
<th>Sum granted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Estimates 1998–99 (Class IX, Vote I) insofar as it relates to further education</td>
<td>Debate concluded, 664</td>
<td>664</td>
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<td>Estimates 1998–99 (Class XVII, Vote I) insofar as it relates to a Freedom of Information Act</td>
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<td>Estimates 1998–99 (Class IV, Votes 1 and 2) insofar as they relate to the beef industry (Class V, Vote 2) insofar as it relates to university research</td>
<td>Debate interrupted, 684</td>
<td>684</td>
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<td>Estimates 1998–99 (Class IV, Vote I) insofar as it relates to the beef industry (Class V, Vote 2) insofar as it relates to university research</td>
<td>Debate interrupted, 684</td>
<td>684</td>
<td>£719,838,000</td>
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</table>
IV. PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER (QUESTIONS ON VOTING OF ESTIMATES, &C.):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day not later than</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to at Ten o’clock</th>
<th>Sum granted</th>
</tr>
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<td>5th August 1997</td>
<td>Supplementary Estimates, 1997–98</td>
<td>121</td>
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<td>267</td>
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<td>267</td>
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<td>Supplementary Estimates, 1997–98</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th February 1998</td>
<td>Estimates, 1997–98 (Vote on Account)</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>£634,729,000</td>
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<td>18th March 1998</td>
<td>Estimates, 1997–98 (Navy)</td>
<td>429</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vote A</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Estimates, 1997–98 (Army)</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>—</td>
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<td>Vote A</td>
<td>429</td>
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EUROPEAN BUSINESS, SCRUTINY OF: Resolutions, 812-816.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES: Draft Orders approved, 116(3), 267(2), 331(5).

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT 1993, SECTION 5: Resolutions, 139, 524.

Order, that, for the purposes of their approval under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review shall be treated as if they were instruments subject to the provisions of Standing Order (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), 706.

—document approved, 735.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DOCUMENTS:

I. QUESTIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS AGREED TO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Union (E.C.D.8 Nos. SN600/97, 6946/97, 6947/97, 10867/96, 7766/97, 7767/97), 50.</td>
<td>Amendment negatived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries (Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum by M.A.F.F.), 287.</td>
<td>Amendment negatived</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DOCUMENTS I—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic and Monetary Union (E.C.D.s Nos. 7161/98 and 7188/98), 547.</td>
<td>Amendment negatived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Agricultural Policy (E.C.D. No. 7073/98 etc.), 580.</td>
<td>Amendment negatived</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. QUESTIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS PUT FORTHWITH, PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER (EUROPEAN STANDING COMMITTEES), AND AGREED TO:

1998 Preliminary Draft Budget (COM (97)280), 142.
Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (E.C.D.s 7310/97 and 10385/97), 211.
Landfill of Waste (E.C.D. 6692/97), 238.
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Controls on Sheep, Cattle and Goats (E.C.D. 10040/97), 238.
Food Law (E.C.D.s 8150/97 and 8386/97), 246.
Harmful Tax Competition (E.C.D. 10427/97 and COM (97), 564), 246.
Tobacco Advertising (E.C.D. No. 6292/92), 257.
Cocoa and Chocolate (E.C.D. no. 8164/96), 316.
Aid to Shipbuilding (E.C.D.s Nos. 11165/97 and 11167/97), 495.
Bananas (E.C.D.s Nos. 5357/98 and 6150/98), 495.
Telecommunications, Media and Information Technology (E.C.D. No. 13289/97), 525.
Water Policy and Bathing Water (E.C.D.s Nos. 7531/97, 12929/97, 6177/94 and 12591/97), 549.
Fisheries Monitoring (E.C.D. No. 6123/98), 584.
EC Preliminary Draft Budget for 1999 (COM(98) 300 and SEC(98) 800), 681.

III. MISCELLANEOUS:

Order, that specified documents shall not stand referred to European Standing Committees, 281, &c.
Numbered European Community Documents referred to a Standing Committee in place of Explanatory Memorandum, 534.
Documents referred to Standing Committees, 127, &c.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 188. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 237. Considered in Committee; progress reported, 394. Again considered in Committee; progress reported, 400. Again considered in Committee; reported, with Amendments, 417. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 440. Agreed to by the Lords with Amendments, 766. Lords Amendments considered and disagreed to; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, 776. Reasons reported and agreed to, 776. Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to by Commons, with Reason, 786. Lords Reason considered; Commons insist on disagreeing to and propose Amendment in lieu, 795, 796. Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to and disagree to Commons Amendment in lieu, with Reason, 804. Lords Reason for insisting on Amendments and for disagreeing to Commons Amendment in lieu considered; Commons insist on disagreement to Lords Amendments, do not insist on Amendment in lieu, but propose further Amendment in lieu, 806, 807. Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to and disagree to further Commons Amendment in lieu, with Reason, 810. Lords Reason for insisting on Amendments and for disagreeing to further Commons Amendment in lieu considered; Commons insist on disagreement to Lords Amendments, do not insist on Amendment in lieu, but propose further Amendment in lieu, 821. Lords insist on Amendments disagreed to and disagree to further Commons Amendment in lieu, with Reason, 823.
Money Resolution, 238.

EXAMINERS:

1. BILLS REFERRED TO THE EXAMINERS:
   Lords Bills after First Reading, 312, &c.
   Public Bill after First Reading, 378.

2. REPORTS FROM THE EXAMINERS:
   1. Private Bills:
      In case of Petitions for Bills:
      —Standing Orders complied with, 292.
      In case of Lords Bills referred after First Reading:
      —no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 325, &c.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:
   Examiner appointed by the Speaker, 15.
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH VOLUME

Export and Investment Guarantees: Draft Order approved, 665.

Family Law: Draft Regulations approved, 268.

Farming and the Food Industry: Resolution (after original Question amended), 774.

Farming of Animals for Fur (Prohibition) Bill: Presented and read the first time, 446.

Fees and Charges: Draft Order approved, 368.

Film Classification Accountability and Openness Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 100.

Finance Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 99. Read a second time and committed, partly to a Committee of the whole House and partly to a Standing Committee, 108. Allocated (except specified Clauses) A, 111. Considered in Committee [1st allotted day]; progress reported, 121. Again considered in Committee [2nd allotted day]; specified Clauses reported, without Amendment, 123. Bill, except specified Clauses, reported from Standing Committee A, with Amendments, 142. Not amended in Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, considered [1st allotted day], 147. Again considered [2nd allotted day]; read the third time, and passed, 151. Speaker’s certificate, 161. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 161. (Cited as Finance Act 1997) Royal Assent, 161.

Allocation of Time Order, 112. Business Committee nominated, 128. Resolution reported, 142; and agreed to, 147.

Amendments, &c., may be tabled before Second Reading, 91.

Order, 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 has been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee, 108.


Bill (specified Clauses) to lie upon the Table, 124.

Finance (No. 2) Bill—continued


Order, 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 has been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee, 524.

Bill (specified Clauses) to lie upon the Table, 544.

Order, That more than one stage may be taken at any one sitting, 651.

Financial Services: Order approved, 225.

Financial Services (Ethical, &c. Considerations) Bill: Presented and read the first time, 821.

Firearms Bill: Present and read the first time, 34. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 56.

Considered in Committee; Progress reported, 60, 61. Again considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 67. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 184. Lords Amendments considered; one agreed to, with special entry; others disagreed to; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons; Reasons reported and agreed to, 194. Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to, 211. (Cited as Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 245.

Money Resolution, 56.

Fireworks Bill: Present and read the first time, 67. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 252. Transferred to A, 398. Reported, with Amendments, 433. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 457. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 644. Lords Amendments considered; several agreed to; Debate on Motion to agree to a Lords Amendment stood adjourned (at half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday)), 659.

Money Resolution, 339.

Flood Warnings (Vulnerable Properties) Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 709.

Food: Motion for annulment of Regulations; Question negatived, 368.
FOOTBALL SPONSORSHIP LEVY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 513.

FORESTRY: Regulations referred to Standing Committee, 796.


FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 821.

GENEVA CONVENTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 165. Read the first time, 197.

GIROBANK PLC (TRANSFER) BILL [Lords]: Message from the Lords relating to revival of proceedings, 28. [See ALLIANCE & LEICESTER PLC (GROUP REORGANISATION) BILL [Lords].]

GOVERNMENT OF WALES BILL: Presented and read the first time, 241. Order read for Second Reading; Queen’s prerogative Consent signified; Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment moved; Debate stood adjourned, 263. Debate resumed; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Read a second time, and committed in part to a Committee of the whole House and in part to a Standing Committee, 265. Allocated (except specified Clauses) to A, 290. Committal Order discharged; Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House, 307. Considered in Committee [1st allotted day]; progress reported, 315. Again considered in Committee [2nd to 6th allotted days]; progress reported, 318, 327, 345, 350, 396. Again considered in Committee [7th allotted day]; reported, with Amendments, 405. As amended, considered [1st allotted day]; further consideration stood adjourned, 482. Further considered [2nd allotted day]; read the third time, and passed, 488. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 359. Lords Amendments considered and disagreed to; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons; Reasons reported and agreed to, 371. Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to, 386. (Cited as Greater London Authority (Referendum) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 389.

Money Resolution, 208.

HAILSHAM CATTLE MARKET BILL [Lords]: Message from the Lords relating to revival of proceedings, 28.

HAIRDRESSERS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 92.

HARE COURSING BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 188.

HARMON (CFEM) FACADES (UK) LIMITED V. CORPORATE OFFICER OF HOUSE OF COMMONS: Resolution relating to Court proceedings, 281.

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS SHIPPING SERVICES: Draft Undertaking approved, 740.

HOME ZONES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 329.

HOUSE:

I. HOUSE ADJOURNS:

House resolves to adjourn now, 2, 9, &c. House adjourned by the Speaker without Question put, Motion for the Adjournment having been made:

—-at or after Ten o’clock, 19, &c.
—-at or after half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday), 49, &c.

House adjourns:

—-till to-morrow, 2, &c.
—-till this day, 47, &c.
—-from Friday till Monday, 27, &c.
—-from Friday till Tuesday, 11.
—-from Thursday till Monday, 59, &c.

[See also PERIODIC ADJOURNMENTS below.]

II. MOTIONS FOR THE ADJOURNMENT GENERALLY:

Lapse:

—-at Ten o’clock, 34, &c.
HOUSE II—continued

— at Two o'clock (on a Wednesday), 31, &c.
— at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday), 73, &c.
Withdrawn, 48, &c.
Motions for the Adjournment on specified subjects,
34, &c.
[See Adjournment Debates on Specified Subjects].

III. Periodic Adjournments:
House resolves at its rising on a future day to adjourn until a specified day, 28, 148, 282, 459, 537, 556, 721, 746.

Spring Adjournment (1997): House adjourns from Thursday 22nd May to Monday 2nd June, 35.
Summer Adjournment (1997): House adjourns from Thursday 22nd May to Monday 27th October, 162.
Easter Adjournment (1998): House adjourns from Wednesday 8th April to Monday 26th April, 517.

IV. Earlier Recall of House:
Notice by Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order (Earlier meeting of House in certain circumstances), That House shall meet on a specified date, 746.

V. Sittings of the House:
House meets:
— at twenty-five minutes past Eleven o'clock (Queen's Speech), 16.
— at half-past Two o'clock, 1, &c.
— at half-past Nine o'clock (on a Friday), 9, &c.
— at half-past Nine o'clock (on a Wednesday), 31, &c.
— at half-past Two o'clock (on a Wednesday) pursuant to Standing Order (Earlier meeting of House), 746.

Order, under Standing Order (House not to sit on certain Fridays), specifying ten non-sitting Fridays, 28.
— amendments, to leave out one of the Fridays, 83, 658.
— amendment, to add a Friday, 744.

House not to sit on remaining Fridays during session, 772.

Order, That at a future sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified Royal Assent, 145, 511, 552, 721, 747 (in wider Motion).
— at this day's sitting, 554.

Order, That at a future sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until a Lords Message relating to a specified Bill has been received, 790.

Order, That, at this Day's sitting the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Lords Messages have been received, 811, 821.

HOUSE—continued

VI. Business of the House:
[For Orders relating to proceedings on Bills see Bills, Public XIX.]

1. Order relating to precedence of business:
Order providing for Private Members' Bills to have precedence on thirteen Fridays, 28.

2. Orders, under Standing Order (Exempted business), enabling specified business [at this day's sitting] to be proceeded with, though opposed:
[Agreed to at Ten o'clock]
Until any hour:
Motion relating to appointment of a Select Committee, 43.
Government Bills, 46, &c.; several Bills, 435.
Lords Amendments, 211, &c.
Allocation of Time Order, 289.
Lords proposals (re Commons Amendments), 651, &c.
Any Lords Messages and Amendments which may be received, 823.

3. Orders providing for Questions to be put at a specified hour or at the end of a specified period:
Government Motions:
— not later than one and a half hours after commencement, 83. (Scottish business)
— not later than one and a half hours after commencement of first of several Motions, 808.
— (Scrutiny of European Business)
— Questions to include Questions on selected Amendments, 808.
— not later than Ten o'clock:
— (Motion relating to Standards and Privileges), 219.
— (Several Motions relating to Modernisation of the House), 584.

4. Orders providing for Questions to be put at a specified hour or at the end of a specified period in relation to proceedings on Delegated Legislation and European Community Documents:
Standing Order (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) shall not apply to specified Motions and Speaker shall put necessary Questions not later than:
— one and half hours after commencement of proceedings on first of several Motions, 790.
— three hours after commencement, 59, &c. [E. C. Documents], 111, &c. [Delegated Legislation]
— Seven o'clock, 262, &c.
— Eight o'clock, 281.
— Ten o'clock, 48, &c.
— shall put Question forthwith, 699.

Standing Orders (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents) and (Delegated Legislation (negative procedure)) to apply to a specified Motion, 663.
Order discharged, 281.
HOUSE VI—continued

5. Order relating to programming of a Bill:
That a specified Motion (relating to programming a Bill) may be proceeded with at any hour though opposed, and, notwithstanding Standing Order (Allocation of time to bills), the Speaker shall put any Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings thereon (including the Question on any Amendment which may have been selected and may then be moved) not later than three-quarters of an hour after their commencement:
—Scotland Bill, 294.

6. Orders requiring Questions to be put forthwith:
Motions to amend Programme Orders, 301, 307.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS:
House attends Her Majesty in the House of Peers at the opening of the Session, 1.
House attends the Lords Commissioners in the House of Peers for prorogation of Parliament, 825.
Return relating to Business of the House for Session 1996–97:
—ordered, 38.
—made, 153.
Return relating to Sittings of the House for Session 1996–97:
—ordered, 38.
—made, 154.

HOUSE OF COMMONS COMMISSION:
Two Members appointed, 48. Member discharged; two Members added, 254.
Estimates laid:


HOUSING (HOME REPOSSESSIONS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 786.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND): Draft Orders approved, 387(2), 225, 630.

HOUSING SERVICE CHARGES (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 433.

HOUSING SERVICE CHARGES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 446.

HOVERCRAFT: Draft Orders approved, 525(2).

HUMAN RIGHTS BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 361. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 378. Considered in Committee; progress reported, 576. Again considered in Committee; progress reported [1st to 3rd allotted days], 592, 621, 637. Again considered in Committee [4th allotted day]; reported, with Amendments, 655. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 769. To which the Lords agree, 781. (Cited as Human Rights Act 1998) Royal Assent, 792.

Money Resolution, 378.
Programme Order 584 (No. 2), 623 (No. 3), 769. Business Committee nominated, 588, 628. Resolutions reported, 588, 632. Resolutions agreed to, 592, 637.

IMMIGRATION: Draft Rules approved, 358, 725.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE BILL: Read the first, second and third time, and passed (revived from last Session), 65. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 112. (Cited as Imperial College Act 1997) Royal Assent, 121.

INCOME TAX: Orders to be made in form of drafts, 192 (4), 681-2 (3). Queen’s Answers, 245, 739.
Motion for annulment of Regulations; Question negatived, 796.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT: Draft Order approved, 116.

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. To REASONS COMMITTEES:
To withdraw immediately, 143, &c.

2. To OTHER SELECT COMMITTEES:
To seek to make first Report by specified time, etc., 44.

INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX: Order approved, 148.

INTERNATIONAL BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 396.

INTERNATIONAL IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES: Draft Order approved, 268.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND: Draft Orders approved, 74, 725.

INTERNET (DISSEMINATION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 78. Withdrawn, 204.

IRAQ: Resolution, 381.

JOURNAL:
To be printed, with an Index thereto, by the appointment and under the direction of the Clerk of the House, by such persons as shall be licensed by the Speaker, 17.

The Speaker directs that Her Majesty’s Speech be entered in the Journal, 17.
LEGAL AID AND ADVICE (SCOTLAND): Draft Regulations approved, 116, 807.

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE (SCOTLAND): Draft Regulations approved, 282(4), 494(4).

LEGAL AID (REFORM) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 616.

LEGAL REFORM BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 502.

LEGAL SERVICES: Draft Orders approved, 521, 735.

LEVER PARK BILL: Read the first time (revived from last Session), 65.

LICENSING (AMENDMENT) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 513. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 662. C, 673. Reported, without Amendment, 687.

LIMON, SIR DONALD WILLIAM, K.C.B.: Resolution on his retirement as Clerk of the House, 292.

LLOYDS TSB BILL [Lords]: Message from the Lords relating to revival of proceedings, 28. Brought from the Lords, 312. Read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 312. Examiner's Report, no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 325. Read a second time and committed (at Seven o'clock), 521. Reported from Unopposed Bills Committee, without Amendment, 566. Read the third time, and passed, without Amendment (at Seven o'clock), 729. (Cited as Lloyds TSB Act 1998) Royal Assent, 744.

LOCAL AUTHORITY TENDERS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 67. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 310. C, 314. Reported, with Amendments, 451. As amended, considered; further consideration stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 491.

LOCAL EXCHANGE TRADING SCHEMES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 482.


LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY CHANGES (REFERENDUM) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 300.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CONSULTATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 651.

LOCAL Government (Contracts) Bill: Presented and read the first time, 58. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 74. B, 81. Reported, with Amendments, 85. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 143. (Cited as Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 245.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (EXPERIMENTAL ARRANGEMENTS) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 586.


INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH VOLUME [1997–98]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE (SUPPLEMENTARY CREDIT APPROVALS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 33. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 63. A. 70. Reported, without Amendment, 81. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 101. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 184. (Cited as Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 204.

Money Resolution, 63.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE (WALES): Reports approved, 370(3), 391, 701.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND): Draft Order approved, 143.

LONDON LOCAL AUTHORITIES BILL [Lords]: Message from the Lords relating to revival of proceedings, 28. Lords communicate Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings, 811. Commons concur, 818.

MAGISTRATES' COURTS (PROCEDURE) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 184. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 201. B. 216. Transferred to D, 392. Reported, with Amendments, 408. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 549. To which the Lords agree, 579. (Cited as Magistrates' Courts (Procedure) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 580.

MARINE POLLUTION: Draft Order approved, 600.

MEMBERS—continued

VI. SALARIES, PENSIONS &C.:

1. House of Commons Members' Fund:
Accounts of House of Commons Members' Fund, 1st October 1995 to 30th September 1996, 136. Motion to appoint Managing Trustees withdrawn, 208.

Managing Trustees appointed, 219.


2. Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund:

Managing Trustees appointed, 219.

3. Allowances:
Bicycle Allowance, 458.

Office Costs etc. Allowances:—(Mrs Anne Begg), 458.

VII. EXPENSES:

Resolution amending Schedule to previous Resolutions relating to expenses of Members for Inner London constituencies, 83.

VIII. INTERESTS:
Resolution of 17th December 1985 amended, 735.

MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 280.

MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 523.

MERCHANT SHIPPING: Draft Orders approved, 225, 525.

MESSAGES:

I. FROM HER MAJESTY:
At the opening of the Session, 16.

II. FROM THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS:
At the first meeting of the new Parliament, 1.
For the presentation of Madam Speaker Elect for the Royal approbation, 2.

To hear a commission from Her Majesty for giving the Royal Assent to Acts and for proroguing Parliament, 825.

III. FROM THE LORDS:

1. Bills, Private:
That they have come to Resolutions relating to revival of proceedings on Bills:
—Lords Bills in Lords, 28.

That they have agreed to Commons Bills:
—without Amendment, 90, &c.

—with Amendments, 714.

That they have come to Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings on Bills:
—Lords Bill in Commons, 810.

—Lords Bill in Lords, 811.
MESSAGES III—continued

2. Bills, Public:
   That they have passed a Bill, to which they desire the concurrence of the Commons, 89, &c.
   That they have agreed to Bills originating in the Commons:
   —without Amendment, 142, &c.
   —with Amendments, 151, &c.
   —with an Amendment, 139.
   That they have agreed, without Amendment, to Commons Amendments to Lords Bills, 253, &c.
   —to a single Amendment, 440, &c.
   That they do not insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, 145, &c.
   That they have agreed to Commons Amendments to Lords Amendments, 569.
   That they have disagreed to one Commons Amendment, but propose an Amendment in lieu, and have disagreed to another with a Reason, and have agreed to the remaining Amendments, 637.
   That they do not insist on an Amendment in lieu of Commons Amendment and do not insist on disagreement to that Amendment; and do not insist on disagreement to another Commons Amendment, but propose an Amendment in lieu, 666.
   That they do not insist on an Amendment in lieu (of words left out of the Bill) but propose another Amendment in lieu thereof, 683.
   That they have agreed to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment; do not insist on other Amendments disagreed to; and have agreed to Commons Amendment in lieu and Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill, 704.
   That they have agreed to certain Commons Amendments and have disagreed to others, 714.
   That they have agreed to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment, 733.
   That they have agreed to Commons consequential Amendment, 733.
   That they insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, 786.
   That they insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons and disagree to Amendment in lieu, 804.
   That they insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons and disagree to further Amendment in lieu, 810, 823.
   That they do not insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, agree to Amendments in lieu of some, and agree to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment, 810.

3. Committees, Joint:
   Communicating Resolution that it is desirable that a Joint Committee be appointed to scrutinise delegated legislation, 30.
   —Commons concur, 41.
   Communicating terms of reference, etc., of Lords Committee on Statutory Instruments, 45.
   Lords concur with Commons Message relating to Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, 128.
   Lords appointed to serve on Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, etc., 161.

MESSAGES III.3—continued

Lords propose time and place of meeting, 165, 211.
—Commons concur, 165, 211.
Lords appointed to serve on Joint Committee on a Petition against a Special Procedure Order; Lords propose time and place of meeting, 191.
—Commons agree, 194
Lords have appointed a Committee of Lords to join with a Committee of the Commons as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills; that they have ordered that such Committee have power to agree with the Committee of the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman; and propose time and place of meeting, 304.
—Commons Committee to meet Lords Committee as proposed, 307.

IV. TO THE LORDS:

1. Committees, Joint:
   Commons concur with Lords Message relating to Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments and propose time of meeting, 41.
   —Commons Resolution relating to desirability of Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, 105.
   —Lords concur, 128.
   To acquaint the Lords with appointment of Commons Members of Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, etc., 157.
   —Lords pass parallel Resolution, 161.
   Commons concur with Lords as to time and place of meeting, 165, 211, 307.
   That the Commons have appointed three Members to join with a Lords Committee as the Joint Committee to which a Petition of General Objection against a Special Procedure Order stands referred, 147.
   —Commons agreement to Lords proposals as to meeting etc., 194.

2. Private Bills:
   To acquaint the Lords with Orders made by the Commons relating to revived Private Bills, 60.
   To acquaint the Lords with Orders made relating to suspension of proceedings on a Lords Bill, 798, 809.
   To acquaint the Lords with Commons concurrence with a Lords Resolution relating to suspension of proceedings on a Lords Bill, 818.

3. Public Bills:
   To communicate Reasons for disagreeing to Lords Amendments, 144, 776, &c.
   To communicate Resolution that section 1(1) of Parliament Act shall not apply to a Bill, 201.
   To communicate insistence on Commons Amendments to a Lords Bill, 653.
   To communicate disagreement to a Lords Amendment in lieu, 682.

METROPOLITAN POLICE:

Sessional Order, 16.

MILLENNIUM CONFORMITY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 497.
**MINISTERIAL AND OTHER SALARIES BILL [Presented (under Standing Order (Procedure upon bills whose main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue)) and read the first time, 81. Read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 139. Speaker's Certificate, 140. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 165. (Cited as Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1997) Royal Assent, 204.**

Resolution, That section 1(1) of Parliament Act 1911 shall not apply to the Bill, 201.

Money Resolution, 139.

Amendments, &c., may be tabled before Second Reading, 130.

Order, That 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 Resolution come to by the House on [Money] have been concluded, this House will immediately resolve itself into a Committee on the Bill, 130.

**MOBILE TELEPHONES (PROHIBITION OF USE IN DESIGNATED PLACES) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 142.**

**MODERNISATION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS: Resolution, 596.**

**MONOPOLIES AND MERGERS: Draft Order approved, 124.**

**MOTOR ACCIDENT INJURY COMPENSATION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 370.**

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (EQUITY OF FUNDING) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 224.**

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (PRIVATE FINANCE) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 89. Read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 115. (Cited as National Health Service (Private Finance) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 121.**

Amendments, &c., may be tabled before Second Reading, 91.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS MEASURE: Laid, 590. To be presented for Royal Assent, 627. (Cited as National Institutions Measure 1998) Royal Assent, 655.**

**NATIONAL LOTTERY BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 446. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 513. A, 519. Reported, with Amendments, 560. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 583. To which the Lords agree, 630. (Cited as National Lottery Act 1998) Royal Assent, 655.**

Money Resolution, 514.

**NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE BILL: Presented and read the first time, 241. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 284. D, 290. Reported, with Amendments, 380. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 422. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 723. Lords Amendments considered; several agreed to, and a consequential Amendment made in respect of one such Amendment; others disagreed to; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons; Reasons reported and agreed to, 729. Lords agree to Commons consequential Amendment and do not insist on Amendments disagreed to, 733. (Cited as National Minimum Wage Act 1998) Royal Assent, 744.**

Money Resolution, 284.

**NATIONAL TRANSPORT SAFETY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 253.**

**NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AREA (PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION) BILL: Presented, 781.**

**NORTHERN IRELAND: Draft Orders approved, 36, &c. [For subjects see Table in Delegated Legislation I].**

**NORTHERN IRELAND BILL: Presented and read the first time, 688. Read a second time, and stood committed to a Committee of the whole House, pursuant to Programme Order, 701. Considered in Committee, [1st allotted day]; progress reported, 710. Again considered in Committee [2nd and 3rd allotted days]; progress reported, 715, 720. Again considered in Committee [4th allotted day]; reported, with Amendments, 723. As amended, considered [allotted day], 740. Read the third time, and passed, 744. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 810. Lords Amendments agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of some, 823. (Cited as Northern Ireland Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.**

Programme Order, 698. (No. 2) 822.

Money Resolution, 701. (No. 2) 823.

Amendments, &c., may be tabled before second reading, 691.

**NORTHERN IRELAND (ELECTIONS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 524. Read a second time; stood committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time and passed, 529. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 554. (Cited as Northern Ireland (Elections) Act 1998), Royal Assent, 555.**

Programme Order, 527.

Money Resolution, 528.

Amendments, etc., may be tabled before Second Reading, 525.


Money Resolution, 224.
NORTHERN IRELAND (SENTENCES) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 596. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 606. Considered in Committee [1st allotted day]; progress reported, 613. Again considered in Committee [2nd allotted day]; reported, with Amendments, 621. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed [allotted day], 627. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 709. Lords Amendments agreed to, 728. (Cited as Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 729.

Money Resolution, 606.
Programme Order, 610.

NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS (PROHIBITION AND INSPECTIONS) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 165; Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 205. D, 216. Transferred to E, 392. Reported, with an Amendment, 408. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment, 447. To which the Lords agree, 449. (Cited as Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 452.

Money Resolution, 205.

OFFICE COSTS ETC. ALLOWANCE: Resolution relating to Mrs Anne Begg, 458.

OPPOSITION:

I. DAYS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question amended and agreed to, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Future of the London Underground</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charging for NHS services</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Government Proposals for Student Finance</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Threats to Rural Life and the Rural Economy</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Government Policies on Welfare, Pensions and Disabled People</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burdens on Business</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Government Responsibility for Protection of the Countryside</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plans for London Underground</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>ISAs, TESSAs and PEPs</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Listening to the Countryside</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Government’s Record on Taxation</td>
<td>427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Effects of Government’s Policies on Pensioners’ Incomes</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Trade Union Recognition</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Manufacturing Industry</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>British’s Electoral System</td>
<td>589</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### OPPOSITION I—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question amended and agreed to, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>National Health Service</td>
<td>616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waiting Lists</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Scottish Local Government</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>The Economy</td>
<td>644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class Sizes</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Release of Information to Select Committees</td>
<td>667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Manufacturing and Industrial Relations</td>
<td>680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Social Security</td>
<td>680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Presentation and Government Policy</td>
<td>734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quality of Life in Rural Areas</td>
<td>734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>The Economy</td>
<td>786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### II. DAYS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE LEADER OF THE SECOND LARGEST OPPOSITION PARTY:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question amended and agreed to, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th [1st part]</td>
<td>Public Services</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child Support Agency</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Railway Services</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th [2nd part]</td>
<td>International Arms Trade</td>
<td>Main Question agreed to, 506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sitting on Friday 3rd July</td>
<td>Main Question agreed to, 641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Government Strategy for Social Welfare</td>
<td>641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relationship of Government to Parliament</td>
<td>704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>European Single Currency</td>
<td>705</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### III. PROCEEDINGS ON OPPOSITION DAYS:

*Question, That the original words stand part of the Question, negatived, 79, &c.,—without a Division, 641.

*Question, That the proposed words be there added, put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Questions on amendments) and agreed to, 79, &c.,—on Division, 410, &c.

The Speaker forthwith declared the main Question, as amended, to be agreed to, 79, &c.

Main Question agreed to, 506, &c.

### IV. MISCELLANEOUS:

Orders applying Standing Order (Questions on Amendments) to specified proceedings as if specified days were opposition days or half-days, 773, 790.

Motions proceeded with accordingly:

—The Economy, 773
—Farming and the Food Industry, 774.
—Factory Closures, 794.
ORGAN DONATION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 728.

OUTLAWRIES BILL: Read the first time, 17.

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION: Draft Orders approved, 128(2), 499.

PARLIAMENT:

PARLIAMENT (MINISTERIAL SALARIES): Draft Order approved, 77.

PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 515.


PARLIAMENTARY CURRENCY COMMISSION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 350.

PARLIAMENTARY DECLARATION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 683.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM BILL: Presented and read the first time, 683.

PARTICIPANTS IN SPORTING EVENTS (ASSAULTS, ETC.) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 688.

PENSIONS: Draft Orders approved, 384, 499(2).

PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 733. Read the first time, 740.


PET OWNERSHIP (RESIDENTIAL AND SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 709.

PETITIONS, PUBLIC:
Presented, 63, &c. Present and read, 80, &c.
Ministerial replies laid upon the Table pursuant to Standing Order (Printing of petitions and of ministerial replies), 26, &c.

PETROLEUM BILL [Lords]: Report from Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills, That it had gone through the Bill, 317. Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 455. Read a second time; not committed; read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 583. (Cited as Petroleum Act 1998) Royal Assent, 610.

PLANT VARIETIES BILL: Presented and read the first time, 58. Read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 75. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 211. Lords Amendments agreed to, one with special entry, 242. (Cited as Plant Varieties Act 1997) Royal Assent, 245.

Amendments, etc., may be tabled before Second Reading, 73.

POLICE: Report approved, 354.

POLICE BILL: Presented and read the first time, 74. Referred to the Examiners, 378.

POLICE (NORTHERN IRELAND) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 262. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 282. B, 290. Reported, with Amendments, 449. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 554. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 714. (Cited as Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 720.

Money Resolution, 282.

PORTS OF ENTRY (SPECIAL STATUS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 417. Withdrawn, 538.

PORTS OF ENTRY (SPECIAL STATUS) (No. 2) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 576.

PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 265.

PREVENTATIVE HEALTHCARE AND HOME INSULATION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 606.

PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISM: Draft Order approved, 418.

PREVENTION OF DELAY IN TRIALS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 185.

PRINCE OF WALES:
Prince of Wales, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his consent, as far as the Prince of Wales' interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit, in respect of:
—Government Bill, on Third Reading, 658.

PRISONS: Draft Order approved, 816.

PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LONDON) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 325. Order for Committee discharged; committed to a Standing Committee, 604. D, 624. Reported, with Amendments, 633. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 660. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 723. (Cited as Private Hire Vehicles (London) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 729.


Leave given to Standing Committee to sit twice on first day of meeting, 628.

PRIVILEGE, PARLIAMENTARY [See COMMITTEES, JOINT].
PROCEEDINGS OR BUSINESS:

I. PROCEEDINGS OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTED: By the Speaker.
   —at Eleven o'clock on a Friday, 73, 221, 457, 659, 698, 720 (Committee).
   Estimates:
   —after three hours, pursuant to Resolution, 684.
   —at Ten o'clock, 684.

II. PROCEEDINGS LAPSE:
   Motions for the Adjournment:
   —at Ten o'clock, 34, &c.
   —at Two o'clock, (on a Wednesday), 31, &c.
   —at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday), 73, &c.

III. PROCEEDINGS POSTPONED, STAND ADJOURNED QUESTIONS DEFERRED, &c.:
   Further proceeding stood postponed at Seven o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order (Time for taking private business):
   —Committee of the whole House, 60.
   —consideration of Lords Amendments, 729.
   Further proceedings on a Bill stood postponed, pursuant to Order, to permit Money Resolution to be moved, 139, &c.
   —pursuant to Programme Orders, 528, 678.
   Questions on estimates deferred:
   —after three hours, 684.
   —at Ten o'clock, 684.
   —on conclusion of debate, 664.

PROHIBITION OF BULL BARS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 197.

PROSTITUTES' ADVERTISEMENTS (PUBLIC TELEPHONE BOXES) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 778.

PROTECTION OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 551.

PROVISIONAL ORDERS (SCOTLAND):
   [See also BILLS, PROVISIONAL ORDER (SCOTLAND)].
   Report by Committee of Selection. That it had appointed fifteen Members to form the Parliamentary Panel of Members of this House to act as Commissioners, 335.
   Report by the Lord Chairman and Chairman of Ways and Means under Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936 that Provisional Order should be allowed to proceed, &c.:
   —Balloch Footbridge Order, 738.
   Report by the Lord Chairman and the Chairman of Ways and Means under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, That powers sought would be more properly obtained by the promotion of a Private Bill than by the promotion of a Private Bill and a Provisional Order:
   —HFC Bank plc, Beneficial Bank plc and Household International (UK) Ltd, 817.
   —United Reformed Church Trust, 817.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: Resolution, 231.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMISSION:
   Two Members discharged, and six Members appointed, 48.
   Chairman of Committee of Public Accounts appointed ex officio Member, 163.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Orders approved, 124, 205, 225, 631, 645, 702.

PUBLIC HOUSE NAMES BILL: Presented and read the first time, 85.

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE BILL: Presented and read the first time, 66. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 280, C, 290. Transferred to D, 403. Reported, with Amendments, 432. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 534. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 647. (Cited as Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998) Royal Assent, 655.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 265. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 292. B, 294. Reported, with an Amendment, 329. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 355. To which the Lords agree, 363. (Cited as Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 378.
   Money Resolution, 292.
   Leave given to Standing Committee to sit twice on first day of meeting, 294.

PUBLIC RECORDS (AMENDMENT) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 74. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 342.

QUEEN:

I. QUEEN'S SPEECHES:
   Queen's Speech at opening of Session reported by the Speaker and ordered to be entered in the Journal, 17.
   Queen's Speech at end of Session delivered to both Houses by Lord High Chancellor, 825.

II. QUEEN'S ANSWERS TO ADDRESSES:
   To Address of Thanks, 38.
   To Addresses re Statutory Instruments, 245, &c.

III. QUEEN'S RECOMMENDATION SIGNIFIED:
   To proposed Motions authorising expenditure in connection with Bills, 36, &c.

IV. QUEEN'S CONSENT (PREROGATIVE):
   Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of a Bill, has consented to place her prerogative and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill:
   —Government Bills, on Second Reading, 263, 297, 677 (prerogative only), 701 (prerogative only).
QUEEN—continued

V. QUEEN'S CONSENT:

Her Majesty, being informed of the purport of the bill, gives Her Consent, so far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, that the House may do therein as it shall think fit, in respect of:

—Government Bill, on Third Reading, 658.

—Private Bill, on Third Reading, 496.

VI. ROYAL ASSENT:

To Acts:


—by Lords Commissioners authorised by virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, 825.

To Measure, 655.

RATING AND VALUATION: Draft Order approved, 375.

Draft Regulations approved, 278.

RATING AND VALUATION (SCOTLAND): Draft Order approved, 479.

RECYCLED CONTENT OF NEWSPRINT BILL: Presented and read the first time, 417.

REFERENDUM (ENGLISH PARLIAMENT) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Motion for Second Reading: Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 310.

REFERENDUM (LONDON): Draft Orders approved, 413, 447.

REFERENDUM (SCOTLAND AND WALES) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 25. Motion for Second Reading: Question proposed on Reasoned Amendment; Debate stood adjourned, 32. Debate resumed; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 34. Considered in Committee; Progress reported, 41. Again considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 42. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 151. Lords Amendments considered; several agreed to, some with special entries; others disagreed to; and Amendments made to the Bill in lieu of two of them; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, 157. Reasons reported and agreed to, 158. Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, and agree, without Amendment, to Amendments made to the Bill in lieu of two such Amendments, 161. (Cited as Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 161.


REFORM OF QUARANTINE REGULATIONS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 237.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES BILL: Presented and read the first time, 271. Motion for Second Reading: Reasoned Amendment negatived; Bill read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 304. E, 320. Reported, with Amendments, 393. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 502. Agreed to by the Lords with Amendments, 799. Lords Amendments agreed to; the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of one, 806. (Cited as Regional Development Agencies Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.

Ways and Means Resolution, 806.

Money Resolution, 305; (No. 2), 502.

Programme Order, 491, Business Committee nominated, 496. Resolution reported from Business Committee 497. Resolution agreed to, 502.

REGISTER OF INTERESTS: Resolution amending previous Resolution, 735.

REGISTERED ESTABLISHMENTS (SCOTLAND) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 527. Read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 536. Agreed to by the Lords without Amendment, 664. (Cited as Registered Establishments (Scotland) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 674.

REGISTRATION OF DOGS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 549.

REGISTRATION OF NANNIES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 799.

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES: Members appointed by Speaker to advise registrar of political parties, 828.

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES BILL: Presented and read the first time, 563. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 596. A, 607. Reported, with Amendments, 633. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 685. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 819. Lords Amendments agreed to, 823. (Cited as Registration of Political Parties Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.

Money Resolution, 596.

REGULATION OF WET BIKES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 211.

REMARKS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 219. Withdrawn, 345.

REMARKS DISCRIMINATION AND REMEDIES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 408.

REMISSION OF THIRD WORLD DEBT (JUBILEE 2000) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 704.

REPRESENTATION OF DEPENDENCIES AT WESTMINSTER BILL: Presented and read the first time, 86.

REPRESENTATION OF GIBRALTAR AT WESTMINSTER AND IN THE EUROPEAN UNION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 85.
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume  [1997-98]

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE: Draft Orders approved, 801; (Northern Ireland), 823.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 214.

RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES AND NURSING HOMES (MEDICAL RECORDS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 354.

RESOLUTIONS:
[For Resolutions for Addresses, see ADDRESSES; for Estimates Resolutions, see ESTIMATES; for Resolutions relating to European Community Documents, see EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DOCUMENTS; for Resolutions come to on Opposition days, see OPPOSITION; for Resolutions relating to Delegated Legislation, see DELEGATED LEGISLATION; for Ways and Means Resolutions, see WAYS AND MEANS; for Resolutions relating to Members' pensions, salaries, &c., see MEMBERS; for Resolutions relating to Business, Sittings and Adjournment of the House, see HOUSE].

I. QUESTIONS AGREED TO:

Bicycle Allowance, 458.
The Economy, 773 (original Question amended).
European Business, Scrutiny of (eight Resolutions), 812–816.
European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, Section 5, 139, 524, 735 (Question put forthwith).
Factory Closures, 794 (original Question amended).
Farming and the Food Industry, 774 (original Question amended).
Government’s Strategic Defence Review; Debate on Amendment stood adjourned, 757. Debate resumed; Amendment negatived; Main Question agreed to, 767.
Harmon (CFEM) Facades (UK) Limited v. the Corporate Officer of the House of Commons, 281.
Iraq, 381. [Question amended.]
Modernisation of the House of Commons, 596.
Office Costs etc. Allowances, 458.
Public Accounts (Private Member’s Resolution), 231.
Register of Interests (earlier Resolution amended), 735.
Service Candidates, Advisory Committee, 744.
Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921 [Loss of Life in Londonderry on 30th January 1972], 343.
Welsh Language in Parliamentary Proceedings in Wales, 459.

II. MONEY RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolutions authorising expenditure in connection with Government Bills, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

   Competition Bill [Lords], 558.*
   Crime and Disorder Bill [Lords], 517.*
   Data Protection Bill [Lords], 520.*
   Education (Schools) Bill, 36.*
   Education (Student Loans) Bill, 132.*
   European Parliamentary Elections Bill, 238.*

2. Resolutions authorising expenditure in connection with Private Members’ Bills, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

   Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords], 319.
   Fireworks Bill, 339.
   Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill, 424.
   Waste Minimisation Bill, 445.

3. Other Resolutions authorising expenditure, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

   Data Protection, 537.

III. MISCELLANEOUS:

Questions put under Standing Order (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills):

—forthwith, 34, &c.
—after three quarters of an hour, 424.

RESOLUTIONS II.—continued

Finance Bill, 99.
Finance (No. 2) Bill, 473.
Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 56.*
Government of Wales Bill, 266.*
Greater London Authority (Referendum) Bill, 208.*
Human Rights Bill [Lords], 378.*
Landmines Bill, 678.*
Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approvals) Bill, 63.*
Ministerial and other Salaries Bill, 139.*
National Lottery Bill [Lords], 514.*
National Minimum Wage Bill, 284.*
Northern Ireland Bill, 701.* (No.2), 823.
Northern Ireland (Elections) Bill, 528.*
Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 224.*
Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill, 606.*
Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill [Lords], 205.*
Police (Northern Ireland) Bill, 282.*
Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], 292.*
Refere ndums (Scotland and Wales) Bill, 34.* (No.2), 155.
Regional Development Agencies Bill, 305.* (No.2), 502.
Registration of Political Parties Bill, 596.*
School Standards and Framework Bill, 295.*
Scotland Bill, 301.*
Social Security Bill, 135.* (No.2), 564.
Special Immigration Appeals Commission Bill [Lords], 192.*
Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill, 554.*
Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords], 447.*
Wireless Telegraphy Bill [Lords], 188.*
*Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order.

2. Resolutions authorising expenditure in connection with Private Members’ Bills, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

   Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Bill [Lords], 319.
   Fireworks Bill, 339.
   Road Traffic Reduction (United Kingdom Targets) Bill, 424.
   Waste Minimisation Bill, 445.

3. Other Resolutions authorising expenditure, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

   Data Protection, 537.
RESTORATION OF DAMAGE TO SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 606.

ROAD TRAFFIC: Draft Regulations approved, 278, 716. Regulations referred to Standing Committee, 556.

ROAD TRAFFIC REDUCTION (NATIONAL TARGETS) (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 794.

ROAD TRAFFIC REDUCTION (UNITED KINGDOM TARGETS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 342. C, 360. Transferred to E, 407. Reported, with Amendments, 455 [changed to ROAD TRAFFIC REDUCTION (NATIONAL TARGETS) BILL]. As amended, considered, 490. Read the third time, and passed, 534. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 651. (Cited as Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 655.

Money Resolution, 424.

ROADS AND BRIDGES (SCOTLAND): Draft Regulations approved, 716.

RURAL AND COMMUNITY HOSPITALS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 560.

SALE OF ALCOHOL TO YOUNG PERSONS (PROHIBITION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 637.

SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 86.

SCHOOL BUSES (SAFETY) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 380.

SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (VALUE ADDED TAX) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 284.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 563.

SCHOOL STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK BILL: Presented and read the first time, 261. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 295. A, 306. Reported, with Amendments, 408. As amended, considered; further consideration ordered to be adjourned, 433. Further considered; read the third time, and passed, 476. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 680. Lords Amendments considered; several agreed to, some with special entries; others disagreed to; amendments made to the Bill in lieu of some of those disagreed to; further consideration of Lords Amendments ordered to be adjourned, 800. Lords Amendments further considered [2nd allotted day]; several agreed to; others disagreed to; Amendments made to the Bill in lieu of some of those disagreed to; further consideration of Lords Amendments ordered to be adjourned, 800. Lords Amendments further considered [2nd allotted day]; several agreed to, some with special entries; another amended and, as amended, agreed to, 808. Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to; agree to an Amendment to a Lords Amendment, 810. (Cited as Scotland Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.

Money Resolution, 301. Ways and Means Resolution, 301.

Programme Orders, 301, 799 (Supplemental).

Business Committee nominated, 314, 486, 506, 542, 553.


Programme Order varied as to extent of particular sittings, 389, 493, 547.

Order of proceedings on Consideration contained in report from Business Committee, 549.

SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ORDER CONFIRMATION BILL: Presented (under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936) and read the first time, 255. Considered, 265. Read the third time and passed, 270. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 283. (Cited as Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Act 1997) Royal Assent, 287.

SCRUTINY OF EUROPEAN BUSINESS: Resolutions, 812-16.

SEA FISHERIES: Scheme approved, 215.

SEA FISHERIES (SHELLFISH) (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 637. Read the first time, 641.

SERJEANT AT ARMS:

To communicate Sessional Order to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, 16.

SERVICE CANDIDATES, ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON: Resolution to rescind Resolution of 1963, 744.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (FUNDING FORMULA) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 769.

SCOTLAND BILL: Presented and read the first time, 286. Order read for second Reading; Queen's prerogative Consent signified; Motion for second Reading; Reasoned Amendment moved; Debate stood adjourned, 297. Debate resumed; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole House, 300. Considered in Committee [1st allotted day]; progress reported, 333. Again considered in Committee [2nd to 7th allotted days]; progress reported, 338, 366, 374, 389, 412, 493. Again considered in Committee [8th allotted day]; reported, with Amendments, 497. As amended, considered [1st allotted day]; further consideration stood adjourned, 552. Further considered [2nd allotted day]; further consideration stood adjourned, 560. Further considered [3rd allotted day]; Title amended; read the third time, and passed, 572. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 793. Lords Amendments considered [1st allotted day]; several agreed to; others disagreed to; Amendments made to the Bill in lieu of some of those disagreed to; further consideration of Lords Amendments ordered to be adjourned, 800. Lords Amendments further considered [2nd allotted day]; several agreed to, some with special entries; another amended and, as amended, agreed to, 808. Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to; agree to an Amendment to a Lords Amendment, 810. (Cited as Scotland Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.

Money Resolution, 301. Ways and Means Resolution, 301.

Programme Orders, 301, 799 (Supplemental).

Business Committee nominated, 314, 486, 506, 542, 553.


Programme Order varied as to extent of particular sittings, 389, 493, 547.

Order of proceedings on Consideration contained in report from Business Committee, 549.

SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ORDER CONFIRMATION BILL: Presented (under section 7 of the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936) and read the first time, 255. Considered, 265. Read the third time and passed, 270. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 283. (Cited as Scottish Agricultural College Order Confirmation Act 1997) Royal Assent, 287.

SCRUTINY OF EUROPEAN BUSINESS: Resolutions, 812-16.

SEA FISHERIES: Scheme approved, 215.

SEA FISHERIES (SHELLFISH) (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 637. Read the first time, 641.

SERJEANT AT ARMS:

To communicate Sessional Order to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, 16.

SERVICE CANDIDATES, ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON: Resolution to rescind Resolution of 1963, 744.

Money Resolution, 295.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SEXUAL ORIENTATION DISCRIMINATION BILL [Lords]:</strong></th>
<th><strong>SPEAKER I—continued</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 701. Read the first time, 773.</td>
<td>Speaker Elect goes away without the Mace before her, 2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SHREWSBURY AND ATCHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL BILL [Lords]:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Speaker reports Her Majesty's approbation and that she has made the usual claim of privileges, 2.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| **SOCIAL SECURITY: Draft Orders approved, 384(3).** | **To license printing of Journal, 17.** |
| Draft Regulations approved, 105, 143, 384, 495, 645, 716, 823(2). | —Reports Her Majesty's Speech at opening of Session and orders it to be entered in the Journal, 17. |
| Regulations referred to Standing Committees, 201, 271, 514, 792(2). | —Goes with the House to attend Her Majesty in the House of Peers, 16. |
| —reported, 214, 543. | —Having returned, resumes Chair at a quarter past Two o'clock, 16. |
| —Motion, That Regulations be revoked; Question negatived, 667. | —To peruse the Votes and Proceedings and appoint their printing, 17. |

| **SOCIAL SECURITY BILL:** Presented and read the first time, 104. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Bill read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 135. B, 141. Reported, with Amendments, 237. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 272. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 554. Lords Amendments considered; several agreed to, some with special entries; others amended and, so amended, agreed to, with special entries, 564. Lords agree to Commons Amendments to Lords Amendments, 569. (Cited as Social Security Act 1998) Royal Assent, 580. | **COMMUNICATES MATTERS TO THE HOUSE:*** |
| Money Resolution, 135. Ways and Means Resolution, 136. Money Resolution [No. 2], 564. | **Notifies the House of Royal Assent to Acts, 121, &c.** |

| **SOUTHAMPTON INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW BILL: Read the first, second and third time, and passed (revived from last Session), 65. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 90. (cited as Southampton International Boat Show Act 1997) Royal Assent, 121.** | **[See QUEEN]** |
| **SPEAKER:** | **Informs the House of the deaths of Members, 2, &c.** |
| —[References to the Speaker include references to the Deputy Speaker unless the context otherwise requires.] | **Notifies House of issue of Writ for election during Adjournment, 164.** |

| **I. ELECTION OF SPEAKER:** | **Notifies House of Certificate and Report relating to Election Petition, 164.** |
| Her Majesty's pleasure signified (at the meeting of the new Parliament) that the House should choose a Speaker, 1. | **Notifies House of disqualification of a Member, 165.** |
| Member proposed to be Speaker stands up in her place and expresses the sense she had of the honour proposed to be conferred upon her, and submits herself to the House, 1. | **IV. LAYS PAPERS:** |
| Miss Betty Boothroyd elected as Speaker, 1. | Communications declaring that Statutory Instruments had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, 25, &c. |
| Speaker Elect conducted to the Chair and expresses her respectful and humble acknowledgement to the House, &c. and sits down in the Chair; the Mace placed upon the Table; several Members congratulate Speaker Elect; Motion for the adjournment made and agreed to; | Certificates of declaration relating to revived Lords Private Bills, 71. |

| **II. PROCEEDINGS RELATING TO THE SPEAKER AT OPENING AND CLOSE OF SESSION:** | **Estimates for House of Commons Commission:** |
| Having returned, resumes Chair at a quarter past Two o'clock, 16. | —Estimates for 1998–99, 515. |
| —To peruse the Votes and Proceedings and appoint their printing, 17. | Reports of House of Commons Commission: |
| —Reports Her Majesty's Speech at opening of Session and orders it to be entered in the Journal, 17. | —for 1996–97, 159. |
| **III. COMMUNICATES MATTERS TO THE HOUSE:** | **Accounts of Refreshment Department:** |
| Informs the House of the deaths of Members, 2, &c. | **Report of House of Commons Commission on nomination of a Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, 794.** |
| Notifies House of disqualification of a Member, 165. | **V. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:** |

| **V. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:** | **Appoints Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills, 15.** |
| Appoints Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills, 15. | **Nominates Chairmen's Panel, 44, &c.** |
| Nominates Chairmen's Panel, 44, &c. | **[See CHAIRMEN'S PANEL].** |
| Appoints Chairmen of Standing Committees, 57, &c. | **[See COMMITTEES, STANDING X].** |
SPEAKER V—continued

Appoints Members to exercise her powers under Recess Elections Act 1975, 64.
Appoints The Stationery Office Limited to print Votes and Proceedings, 33.
Appoints Members to the Court of Referees on Private Bills, 110.
Nominates Business Sub-Committee, 119.
Nominates Business Committee, 128, &c.
—change of membership, 486, &c.
Nominates Ecclesiastical Committee, 217.

VI. CERTIFICATES AND ALLOCATIONS:
Makes allocations to Standing Committees:
—Bills, 70, &c. (transfers between Committees) 373, &c.
—Delegated Legislation, 57, &c.
Certifies Bills as Money Bills under Parliament Act 1911, 131, &c.
[See Bills, Public XIV].

VII. PUTS QUESTIONS FORTHWITH:
1. Pursuant to Standing Orders:
   (Amendment on second or third reading), 34, &c. (Business Committee), 147, &c.
   (Calling of amendments at end of debate), 30.
   (Committal of Bills):
   — Motion, That Bill be committed to a Committee of the Whole House, 34, &c.
   — Motion, That Bill be committed partly to a Committee of the Whole House and partly to a Standing Committee, 108, &c.
   (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), 278, &c.
   (Consolidated Fund Bills), 128, &c.
   (Consolidation Bills), 583.
   (Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House), 482.
   (European Standing Committees):
   — Questions for Resolutions, taking note, &c., of documents, 142, &c.
   — Amendment and Main Question, 277.
   (Exempted business):
   — Questions put at Ten o’clock, 43, &c.
   (House not to sit on certain Fridays), 28.
   (Liaison Committee), 652.
   (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), 34, &c.
   (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (Delegated Legislation)):
   — Question that Instrument be referred to the Committee, 379.
   — Question that Instrument be approved, 410.
   (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (Legislative proposals and matters)), 241, &c.
   (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), 205, &c.
   (Periodic adjournments), 28, &c.
   (Questions on amendments), 79 &c.
   (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), 72.

SPEAKER VII.1—continued

(Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation):
— Question that instrument be referred to a Committee, 63.
— Question that instrument be approved, 74, &c.
(Ways and Means Motions), 92, &c.
(Welsh Grand Committee (Matters relating exclusively to Wales)), 58.
(Welsh Grand Committee (Sittings), 59, &c.

2. Pursuant to Allocation of Time and Programme Orders:
   Questions relating to appointment, etc., of Committee to draw up Reasons, 157.
   Questions relating to amendment of Programme Orders, 389, &c.
   Questions required to be put at specified hours (on consideration of bills):
   — Questions already proposed, 482, &c.
   — Questions necessary to dispose of remaining business, 482, &c.

3. Pursuant to Business Order:
   Question on Motion to approve a Statutory Instrument, 702.

VIII. PUTS QUESTIONS AT SPECIFIED TIMES OR AFTER SPECIFIED PERIODS:
1. Pursuant to Standing Orders:
   (Committal of Bills), after brief explanatory statements, 266.
   (consideration of estimates)
   — at Ten o’clock, 664, &c.
   (Delegated Legislation (negative procedure)), 368.
   (Motions for leave to bring in Bills and nomination of Select Committees at commencement of public business), after brief explanatory statements, 92, &c.
   (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills):
   — after three quarters of an hour, 424.
   (Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents):
   — after one and a half hours, 51, &c.
   (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.), 429, &c.

2. Pursuant to Allocation of Time and Programme Orders:
   [See Bills, Public XVI].

3. Pursuant to Business Orders:
   Motions made pursuant to an Act:
   —at Seven o’clock (several Motions), 370.
   —at Ten o’clock (further Motions), 359, &c.
   Motion relating to a European Community Document:
   —after three hours, 580.
IX. OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPEAKER:

Directs that Queen’s Speech be entered in the Journal, 17.

Adjourns House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, 19, &c.

Resumes Chair on conclusion of proceedings in Committee of the whole House, 41, &c.

Interrupts proceedings at Eleven o’clock on a Friday, 73, &c. [see PROCEEDINGS OR BUSINESS].

—(House in Committee), 720.

 Declares Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to, pursuant to Standing Order (Questions on amendments), 79, &c.

 Designates Lords Amendments as appearing to involve questions of privilege, pursuant to allocation of time order, 157.

 Directs Clerk to correct numbers in a Division in the Journal, 197.

 Appoints certain Wednesdays for debates on Select Committee Reports chosen by Liaison Committee, 349.

 Declares that (in a Division) the Ayes had it, there being no Tellers for the Noes, 448.

 Declines to propose Question, pursuant to Standing Order (Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House), 482.

 Orders, That Speaker shall not adjourn House until she shall have notified Royal Assent, 145, &c.

 Interrupts debates on Estimates, 684.

 Gives notice relating to earlier meeting of the House, 746.

 Suspends sitting, pursuant to Order, 793.

 Appoints Members to serve on committee to advise registrar of political parties, 828.

X. MISCELLANEOUS:

 Takes and subscribes the Oath, 2.

 Members appointed whom the Speaker is to consult, if practicable, before certifying a Bill to be a Money Bill, 57.

 Orders, That the Speaker do issue her Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out new writs for the electing of Members, 104.


SPECIAL PROCEDURE ORDERS:

Report by Lord Chairman and Chairman of Ways and Means:

that no petition has been presented against:

—Manchester Airport (Control of Land by Directions) Order 1997, 182.

Return relating to Special Procedure Orders for Session 1996–97:

SPECIAL PROCEDURE ORDERS—continued

—ordered, 38.

—made, 154.

STAKEHOLDER PENSION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 811.

STANDING ORDERS:

I. STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS:

1. New Standing Orders made:

—(Environmental Audit Committee), 209.

—Suspension of salary of Members suspended, 596.

—(European Standing Committees), 813

—by replacement of existing Standing Order, from start of next Session.

—(European Scrutiny Committee), 814.

—by replacement of Standing Order (Select Committee on European Legislation).

—with Amendment on coming into force of Treaty of Amsterdam, 816.

2. Standing Orders amended:

—(Select Committees related to government departments), 102, 145, 209.

—(Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration), 102, 122.

—(Domestic Committees), 130.

—(Finance and Services Committee), 130.

—(Committee of Public Accounts), 185.

—(Environmental Audit Committee), 289.

—(Short speeches), 596.

—(Members suspended, &c., to withdraw from precincts), 597.

—(Order in debate), 597.

—(Withdrawal of strangers from House), 597. [Title changed to ‘Motions to sit in private’.]

—(Proceedings under an Act or on European Community documents), 815.

—(Procedure in Standing Committees), 815.

—(Select Committee on Public Administration), 815.

—(Committee of Public Accounts), 815.

—(Select Committees related to government departments), 815.

—(Environmental Audit Committee), 816.

3. Standing Orders varied for remainder of present Parliament:

—(Select Committees related to government departments), 108.

—(Scottish Grand Committee (substantive motions for the adjournment)) and (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), 84.

4. Miscellaneous:

Standing Orders relating to Public Business to be printed, 247. Order discharged and new Order made, 350.
STANDING ORDERS—continued

II. STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PRIVATE BUSINESS:


STATUTE LAW REPEALS BILL [LORDS]: Report from Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c, Bills, That it had gone through the Bill, 636. Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 701. Read a second time; not committed; read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 792. (Cited as Statute Law Repeals Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.

SUMMER TIME: Order to be made in form of draft, 225. Queen’s Answer, 245.

SUPREME COURT OF ENGLAND AND WALES: Draft Order approved, 823.

SUPREME COURT (OFFICES) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 188. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 204. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 283. (Cited as Supreme Court (Offices) Act 1997) Royal Assent, 287.

Amendments, etc., may be tabled before Second Reading, 195.

TAMAR BRIDGE BILL: Read the first and second time and committed (revived from last session), 71. Reported from the Unopposed Bills Committee, with Amendments, 260. As amended, considered, 307. Motion for Third Reading; Queen’s Consent signified; Read the third time, and passed, 496. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 728. Lords Amendments agreed to, 729. (Cited as Tamar Bridge Act 1998) Royal Assent, 729.

Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Bill: Present and read under Standing Order (procedure upon bills whose main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue) and read the first time, 532. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 554. Considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 567. Speaker’s Certificate, 568. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 579. (Cited as Tax Credits (Initial Expenditure) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 590.

Money Resolution, 554. Amendments, etc., may be tabled before Second Reading, 537.

Teaching and Higher Education Bill [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 433. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; Bill read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 446. F, 453. Reported, with Amendments, 540. As amended, considered [1st allotted day]; further consideration stood adjourned, 599. Again considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments; Title amended [2nd allotted day], 602. Lords disagree to one Commons Amendment, with an Amendment in lieu, disagree to another with a Reason; and agree to other Amendments, 637. Commons insist on Amendments disagreed to; committee appointed to draw up Reason; Reason reported and agreed to, 651. Lords do not insist on their Amendment in lieu of a Commons Amendment and do not insist on their disagreement to that Amendment; and they do not insist on their disagreement to another Commons Amendment, but propose an Amendment in lieu, 666. Commons disagree to Lords Amendment in lieu; Committee appointed to draw up Reason; Reason reported and agreed to, 681. Lords do not insist on their Amendment in lieu but propose another Amendment in lieu thereof, 683. Lords Amendment in lieu agreed to, with special entry, 691. (Cited as Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998) Royal Assent, 695.


Television Licence Payments (Age Exemption) Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 120.

Temporary Classrooms Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 633.


Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921: Resolution, That it is expedient that a Tribunal be established, etc:—relating to loss of life in connection with a procession in Londonderry on 30th January 1972, 343.


United Kingdom Passports Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 667.

Unsolicited Facsimile Messages Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 647.

Unsolicited Facsimile Messages Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 647.
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fourth Volume

URBAN DEVELOPMENT: Order approved, 424.
Draft Order approved, 424.

VALUE ADDED TAX: Orders approved, 225, 268, 521, 645.

VOLUNTARY PERSONAL SECURITY CARDS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 394.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS:
Sessional Order for printing, 17.
The Stationery Office Limited appointed to print, 33.

WAR MEMORIALS PRESERVATION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 366.

WAR WIDOWS AND PENSIONERS (EQUAL TREATMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 201.

WAYS AND MEANS:

I. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Question put</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to S.O. and agreed to</th>
<th>Other proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Resolutions relating to Finance Bill:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The windfall tax</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Debate adjourned, 87. Resumed and adjourned, 90, 91. Resolved, 92. Agreed to on Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (fuel and power)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirits (rate of duty)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer (rate of duty)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine and made-wine (rates of duty)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cider (rates of duty)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duties and rebates)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco products (rates of duty)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle excise duty (increase in rates)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle licensing (fees with licence applications)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal of relief on medical insurance premiums</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax (rates for financial year 1997)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus franked investment income</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax credits (pension funds)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance companies and friendly societies</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance companies, friendly societies and Lloyd's underwriters</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealers in shares and other securities</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments representing tax credits etc.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised unit trusts</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief for losses etc.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital allowances</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief for film production and acquisition expenditure</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamp duty (conveyances and transfers on sale)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory effect of resolutions</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WARM HOMES AND ENERGY CONSERVATION (FIFTEEN YEAR PROGRAMME) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 304.

WASTE MINIMISATION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 263. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 280. C, 290. Transferred to A, 416. Reported, without Amendment, 451. Not amended, considered; Motion for Third Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock on a Friday), 535. Debate resumed; Bill read the third time, and passed, 660. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 804. (Cited as Waste Minimisation Act 1998) Royal Assent, 825.

Money Resolution, 445.

WASTE PREVENTION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 66.

WATER CHARGES (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 135.

WATER INDUSTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 384.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Resolutions relating to Finance (No. 2) Bill:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment of the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer (rate of duty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparkling wine, made-wine and cider (rates of duty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine and made-wine (rates of duty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cider (rates of duty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer (drawback)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil (production in the United Kingdom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil (rates of duties and rebates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil (ultra low sulphur diesel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil (mixing of heavy oil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco products (rates of duty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rates of gaming duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amusement machine licence duty (rates of duty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amusement machine licence duty (excepted machines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle excise duty (old vehicles)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle excise duty (payments in respect of void licences)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments for excise duty purposes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (deemed supplies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (place of supply orders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (bad debt relief)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (long leases in Scotland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax (charge and rates for 1998-99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax (additional relief in respect of children)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax (charge and rate for 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax (small companies rate for 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax (due and payable date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance corporation tax and tax credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest payable under the Tax Acts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rents and other receipts from land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computation of profits and losses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration in the form of shares or securities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-contractors in the construction industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction workers supplied by agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment termination benefits and retirement benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits in kind (car fuel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit-related pay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign earnings deduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYE (trade debts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYE (non-cash benefits etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise investment scheme etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture capital trusts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question put and agreed to</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to S.O. and agreed to</th>
<th>Other proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>461</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>462</td>
<td>462</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>463</td>
<td>463</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>464</td>
<td>464</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>465</td>
<td>465</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>468</td>
<td>468</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>469</td>
<td>469</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Debate stood adjourned, 449. Resumed and stood adjourned, 452, 455. Resumed, 460. Agreed to on Division.
WAYS AND MEANS I.2—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to S.O. and agreed to</th>
<th>Other proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relief for loan to buy interest in close company</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief for losses on certain unlisted shares</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group relief</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life policies etc.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance companies (provisional repayments)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension schemes etc.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Futures and options</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange of securities etc.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double taxation relief on foreign interest and dividends</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of adjustment of foreign tax</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer pricing (new regime)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange gains and losses and financial instruments</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlled foreign companies</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax (change of ownership)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax self-assessment etc.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (rate for trustees etc.)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (indexation and taper relief)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (pooling and identification)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (stock dividends)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (non-residents)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (offshore settlements)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (transfers within a group etc.)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (abolition of reliefs)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (pre-entry gains)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inheritance tax (property of historic interest etc.)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inheritance tax (gifts for public benefit)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance premium tax</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landfill tax</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamp duty (conveyances and transfers on sale)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas valuation</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European single currency</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief from tax (incidental and consequential charges)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamp duty reserve tax (exchange of securities)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital allowances</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Resolutions under Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968:
   —having provisional statutory effect, 87, 449.
   —having statutory effect, 92, &c., 460, &c.

2. Procedure Resolutions:
   Procedure (Future Taxation), 98, 473.

3. Bills ordered:
   Upon Ways and Means Resolutions and upon Resolution relating to Procedure (Future Taxation), 99, 473.
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (BEER AND CIDER) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 67. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 280. C, 290. Reported, without Amendment, 433.

WELFARE OF BROILER CHICKENS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 412.

WELFARE OF PIGS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 241.

WELSH LANGUAGE IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS IN WALES: Resolution, 459.

WIDENING OF THE M25 MOTORWAY BILL: Present and read the first time, 120.

WILDLIFE BILL: Presented and read the first time, 784.

WILD MAMMALS (HUNTING WITH DOGS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 65. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 248. C, 252. Reported, with Amendments, 396. As amended, considered; debate on Second Reading of new Clause stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 419. Debate resumed; debate on Second Reading of another new Clause stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 443. Bill withdrawn, 655.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time, 132. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 188. A, 202. Reported, with an Amendment, 221. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment, 435. To which the Lords agree, 440. (Cited as Wireless Telegraphy Act 1998) Royal Assent, 452.

Money Resolution, 188. Ways and Means Resolution, 188.

WITNESSES:

Sessional Resolution relating to tampering with witnesses, 16.
Sessional Resolution relating to false evidence, 16.

WOODFORD AERODROME (CONTROL OF LAND BY DIRECTIONS) ORDER 1997 (PETITION OF GENERAL OBJECTION): Message to the Lords relating to the appointment of three Members to serve on the Joint Committee, 147. Members nominated, 150. Lords appointed; Lords propose time and place of meeting, 191. Commons agree, 194. Order reported, without Amendment, 214.

YOUTH PARLIAMENT BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 601.