WESTMINSTER


BY virtue of Her Majesty's Commission under the Great Seal, and in obedience to Her Majesty’s Commands, Parliament was prorogued on the above-mentioned day to Tuesday the Twenty-fourth day of this instant November, to be then here holden.
Journals
of the House of Commons

From November the 24th, 1998, in the Forty-seventh Year, to November the 11th, 1999, in the Forty-eighth Year, of the Reign of QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND

Session 1998–99

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

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1998–99
Vol. 255
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 half-past Two o’clock.

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

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

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person 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.

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

4 Metropolitan Police.—Ordered, That the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis do take care that during the Session of Parliament the passages through the streets leading to this House be kept free and open and that no obstruction be permitted to hinder the passage of Members to and from this House, and that no disorder be allowed in Westminster Hall, or in the passages leading to this House, during the Sitting of
Parliament, and that there be no annoyance therein or thereabouts; and that the Serjeant at Arms attending this House do communicate this Order to the Commissioner aforesaid.

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

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

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

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

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

8 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,

This is my Government’s second legislative programme. Like the first, it will focus upon the modernisation of the country, its institutions, its public services, and its economy.

They will continue in their drive to raise standards in our education services, to improve care in our health services and to modernise our welfare state upon the principle of work for those who can and security for those who cannot.

My Government will continue with economic policies designed to build stability for the long term, making the United Kingdom well placed not just to weather the international financial storms but to emerge stronger from them. My Government will continue to work with our G7 partners and others to reform the international financial institutions.

At home, the central economic objectives of my Government are high and stable levels of economic growth and employment, enabling everyone to share in higher living standards and greater job opportunities.

My Government believe the historic decision to give the Bank of England the power to set interest rates has been crucial to the meeting of its inflation target and credibility in the system. Having reduced Government borrowing by £20 billion in its first year, my Government will continue to pursue sound public finances and abide by its fiscal rules. Productivity will be improved by measures addressing competition, investment, entrepreneurship and improving the skills of the British people.

Legislation will be introduced to improve the regulation of financial services and markets, with a new statutory regulator, the Financial Services Authority. Legislation will be introduced to promote electronic commerce and start modernising the law, improving competitiveness by enabling the United Kingdom to compete in the new digital marketplace.

Education remains my Government’s top priority. To raise standards in our schools, we must raise standards in teaching. As part of my Government’s drive to raise achievement in schools, a consultation paper will be brought forward on the most far-reaching reforms of the teaching profession for fifty years. These will enhance the status of teachers and reward high performance to secure the delivery of high standards. They will be taking other measures to continue the drive to enhance educational opportunity.

My Government will continue to build a modern National Health Service to meet the needs of the whole nation. A Bill will be introduced to replace the NHS internal market which put hospitals, doctors and nurses in competition with each other. In its place will be decentralised arrangements based on partnership, quality and efficiency to put doctors and nurses in the lead in shaping local services.

Following the White Paper, my Government will be taking forward proposals for the Food Standards Agency.

My Government will continue to tackle crime and its causes and to modernise the justice system. A Bill will be introduced to modernise the youth courts and to give greater protection for vulnerable and intimidated witnesses in criminal cases.

My Government will introduce legislation to modernise legal aid to make the system fairer and more cost effective; to provide for a Community Legal Service; and to make other changes to overhaul the justice system.
MemBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Estimates for the public service will be laid before you. These will include substantial increases for education and health, laying the foundations for investment of £40 billion extra over the next three years. This investment will be tied to meeting the challenges of modernisation.

MY LORDS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

My Government has made clear its determination to modernise the welfare state upon clear principles of work, security, fairness and value for money.

A Bill will be introduced giving greater help to those in need by reforming benefits for people with long-term illness or disabilities, and modernising benefits for widows, including for the first time, provision for widowers. It will include the introduction of a single gateway to the benefit system for those of working age. It will also make provision for pension sharing on divorce and introduce stakeholder pension schemes, offering a new, flexible and good value alternative form of pension.

A Bill will be introduced for the Working Families Tax Credit and Disabled Persons Tax Credit as part of my Government’s determination to make work pay.

My Government will introduce legislation to establish a Disability Rights Commission which will assist disabled people in securing comprehensive civil rights and help employers to meet their obligations.

My Government will continue to work in partnership with business, and welcome the improved relations between business and trade unions, who worked together in informing the Government’s proposals for fairness at work. They will bring forward measures to establish a forward-looking balance of rights and responsibilities for employers and employees and will promote partnership at work.

A Bill will be introduced to transfer the Contributions Agency to the Inland Revenue, paving the way for better and simpler collection of National Insurance Contributions and tax.

My Government have fulfilled their commitment to establish a Scottish Parliament and a Welsh Assembly in accordance with the wishes of the people. People will be able to vote in elections to the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly next year, and my Government will work to ensure that both are established successfully.

In Northern Ireland, my Government will continue to work towards the full implementation of all aspects of the Belfast Agreement and maintain close co-operation with the Republic of Ireland.

My Government will introduce legislation to modernise local government in England and Wales and secure delivery of high quality local services on a sound financial footing.

Legislation will be introduced to create a new Greater London Authority made up of a directly elected Mayor and a separately elected Assembly. There will be a range of powers to help make London a world class city, including new powers to tackle road congestion and improve public transport.

Regional Development Agencies will be established in England, decentralising decision-taking to the English regions. They will have a remit to serve both rural and urban areas.

A Bill will be introduced to remove the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords. It will be the first stage in a process of reform to make the House of Lords more democratic and representative. My Government will publish a White Paper setting out arrangements for a new system of appointments of life peers and establish a Royal Commission to review further changes and speedily to bring forward proposals for reform.

My Government believe in open Government. Consultation on draft legislation is a contribution to this. They propose that a draft Freedom of Information Bill be given pre-legislative scrutiny in both Houses. My Government will also publish in draft several Bills, including those to reform Party funding, to improve councils’ conduct of business and to establish a Strategic Rail Authority.

Legislation will be brought forward to provide a fair basis for water charging in England and Wales.

Parliament will be given an opportunity to vote on the age of consent. The Bill will strengthen the protection of young people from abuse of trust.

A Bill will be introduced to modernise the law on immigration and asylum, including reform of the appeals system and new support arrangements for asylum seekers.
My Government are committed to tackling global poverty and promoting sustainable development. They will introduce a Bill to convert the Commonwealth Development Corporation to a public private partnership to increase investment in developing countries.

Other measures will be laid before you.

The Duke of Edinburgh and I look forward to receiving State Visits by His Excellency the President of the Federal Republic of Germany next month and His Excellency the President of the People’s Republic of China next year. We also look forward to our State Visit to Korea next year and to visiting South Africa for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting.

My Government will play a leading role in preparing the European Union for the historic challenge of enlargement. In particular, they will work to secure reform of the Common Agricultural Policy and Structural and Cohesion Funds and to ensure that the EU policies and institutions meet the concerns of our citizens.

They will pursue their initiative to make the European Union’s foreign and security policy more effective.

My Government will continue to promote with their European partners the economic reforms which will help to create growth and higher employment. They will encourage preparations in the United Kingdom for the introduction in other Member States of the Euro and will maintain the United Kingdom’s abatement.

My Government will ensure strong arrangements for defence based on the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and promote international peace and security, especially in the Middle East and in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They will also actively pursue a resolution to the problems in Kosovo.

My Government will pursue reform of the United Nations and an early resolution of its funding crisis. They will work to maintain the authority of the Resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations, including in relation to Iraq.

As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, my Government remain committed to the effective promotion of human rights worldwide.

My Government will continue the fight against terrorism and serious crime at home and abroad. They will continue their leading role in protecting the environment, including the global climate.

My Government see this as a substantial set of measures, addressing its priorities and seeking to meet the important and difficult challenges before us.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons,

I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.
APPENDIX

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

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

20th November 1998

1 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2771), dated 11th November 1998 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


23rd November 1998


4 Registration of Political Parties,—(1) Registration of Political Parties (Fees) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2872), and
   (2) Registration of Political Parties (Prohibited Words and Expressions) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2873),
   dated 21st November 1998 [Mr Secretary Straw].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Tuesday 24th November 1998:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

8 Agriculture.—(1) Report on smallholdings in England for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown]; and
   (2) Report on smallholdings in Wales for 1995–96 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

9 Appropriation Accounts, 1997–98,—Appropriation Account of sums granted by Parliament for 1997–98 for Class I (Ministry of Defence) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1-1] [Dawn Primarolo].

10 Arts Councils,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Arts Council of Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Michael].

11 Charities (Scotland),—Report of Scottish Charities Nominee for the year ended 31st August 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Army Technical Support Agency for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 8] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

13 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment of new members and of determination of salaries of chairman and members of the Scottish Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

14 Local Government (Wales),—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Michael].

15 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Financial Statements of the Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Industry Trust for 1997–98 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].
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 Keith Hill); And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Water Industry Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Dobson, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Michael, Mr Michael Meacher and Mr Alan Meale, presented a Bill to make further provision in relation to England and Wales as to charges in respect of the supply of water and the provision of sewerage services and to make provision in relation to Scotland for the establishment and functions of a Water Industry Commissioner for 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 1].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Water Industry Bill be printed [Bill 1–EN].

3 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

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

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

Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

4 Adjournment.—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.

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

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

[Adjourned at 10.24 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Town and Country Planning (Scotland).—(1) Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2914), and


dated 17th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Education (Scotland),—Scottish Further Education Funding Council (Establishment) (Scotland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2887), dated 23rd November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


6 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2907),
(2) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2908), and


9 Social Security,—Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 5) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2894), dated 24th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

10 Agriculture (Northern Ireland),—Northern Ireland Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of members of the “Residuary” Milk Marketing Board for Northern Ireland [by Command] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

11 Cereals Marketing,—Report and Accounts of the Home-Grown Cereals Authority for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

12 Consumer Protection,—Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on Consumer Safety for the period 1st April 1993 to 31st March 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 9] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

13 Foreign Affairs,—Government Responses to the following Reports from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98:
(1) 3rd, on Hong Kong [by Command] [Cm. 4156], and
(2) 4th, on Entry Clearance Operations with Particular Reference to Islamabad and New Delhi [by Command] [Cm. 4151] [Mr Secretary Cook].

14 Health Service Commissioner,—First Report of the Health Service Ombudsman, Session 1998–99: Investigations Completed—April to September 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 3] [Clerk of the House].

15 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the National Museum of Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 19] [Clerk of the House].

16 National Heritage,—Report and Accounts of English Heritage for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].


18 Police (Northern Ireland),—Statement of Accounts of the Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 18] [Clerk of the House].

19 Treaty Series (No. 52, 1998),—1996 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, Resolution MSC.57 (67), adopted in accordance with Article VIII of the Convention, done at London on 5th December 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 4138] [Mr Secretary Cook].
20 Treaty Series (No. 53, 1998).—1996 Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquified Gases in Bulk (IGC Code), Resolution MSC.59 (67), adopted in accordance with Article VIII of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, done at London on 5th December 1996 [by Command] [Cm. 4159] [Mr Secretary Cook].

21 Treaty Series (No. 57, 1998).—Exchange of Notes, done at Yerevan on 29th and 30th August 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Armenia terminating the 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, signed at Moscow on 13th April 1964 [by Command] [Cm. 4165] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Broadcasting (Restrictions on the Holding of Licences) (Amendment) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First 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 Diane Abbott, Janet Anderson, Sir Paul Beresford, Ann Clwyd, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Barbara Follett, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Robert Maclellan, Fiona Mactaggart, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Ian Stewart, Ms Dari Taylor, Mr Gareth Thomas and Mr Nigel Waterson.

2 Draft Functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order 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.: Miss Anne Begg, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr John Randall, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Sir Robert Smith and Mr Tony Worthington.

3 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Ireland) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third 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 Robert Ainsworth, Mr Tony Baldry, Mr John Burnett, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Edward Davey, Valerie Davey, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Oliver Heald, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Shona Mclsaac, Helen Southworth, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Gerry Suidcliffe, Audrey Wise and Mr Mike Wood.

4 Draft Forensic Science Service Trading Fund Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth 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 Richard Allan, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr David Curry, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Mr Roger Gale, Mr John Greenway, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Nigel Jones, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Allan Rogers, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Nigel Waterson.

5 Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) 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 David Borrow, Mr John Butterill, Mr Paul Clark, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr William Ross, Mr Gareth R. Thomas, Mr William Thompson and Mr Mark Todd.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr John Burnett, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr John Grogan, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr David Lepper, Mr Stephen McCabe, Dawn Primarolo, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Michael Wills and Ms Rosie Winterton.
APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Flood and coastal defence; sea fishing; UK pig industry; badgers and bovine tuberculosis] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Highly Able Children]; to be printed [No. 22-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Railway Safety], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee in the last Session of Parliament; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 30];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Maritime and Coastguard Agency], to be printed [No. 31-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [New Countryside Agency], to be printed [No. 6-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Scrutiny,—First Report from the European Scrutiny Committee together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 25th November [Agenda 2000 and Institutional Reform of the EU]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 34-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Public Expenditure: Special Educational Needs]; to be printed [No. 33-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs & Excise—The Prevention of Drug Smuggling]; to be printed [No. 35-i] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 17-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Work of the Scottish Office]; to be printed [No. 20] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security,—(1) First Report from the Social Security Committee [Tax and Benefits: Implementation of Tax Credits], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee in the last Session of Parliament; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 29]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Tax and Benefits] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mrs Irene Adams, Mr Donald Anderson, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Joe Benton, Mr John Butterill, Dr Michael Clark, Mr Frank Cook, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Barry Jones, Mr John McWilliam, Mr John Maxton, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Edward O’Hara, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr George Stevenson, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Andrew Welsh and Mr Nicholas Winterton to be members of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Speaker appointed The Stationery Office Limited to print the Votes and Proceedings of this House.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

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

   Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] (formerly Girobank plc (Transfer) 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 Rating (Valuation) Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Michael, Hilary Armstrong and Mr Nick Raynsford, presented a Bill to make a provision about valuation for purposes of non-domestic rates in England and Wales: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 2].

   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Rating (Valuation) Bill be printed [Bill 2–EN].

3 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [24th November], That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

   Most Gracious Sovereign,

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

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

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

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

4 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 1.55 times that determined in accordance with paragraph (a) of the Resolution of the House of 10th July 1996 for any quarter beginning with 1st April 1998.

   (2) The limit on the additional costs allowance in relation to Miss Anne Begg should be 1.55 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 1998.—[Mr Kevin Hughes.]

5 Parliamentary Privilege,—Ordered, That, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 9th July 1997, in the last Session of Parliament, a Select Committee of six 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 the proceedings of the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege in the last session of Parliament be referred to the Committee;

   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 Kevin Hughes.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

6 Business of the House.—Ordered, That Private Members’ Bills shall have precedence over government business on 26th February, 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March, 16th, 23rd and 30th April, 7th, 14th and 21st May, 11th June and 23rd July 1999.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

7 Sittings of the House.—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: 4th, 11th and 18th December 1998 and 15th, 22nd and 29th January, 5th and 12th February, 9th July and 22nd October 1999.—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

8 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 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 Housing,—Draft Government of Wales Act 1998 (Housing) (Amendments) Order 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Housing,—North Hull Housing Action Trust (Dissolution) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2871), dated 20th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Intervention Board for 1996–97, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 10] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

4 Animals,—Report of the Animal Procedures Committee for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 14] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Criminal Statistics,—(1) Criminal Statistics for England and Wales for 1997 [by Command] [Cm. 4162] [Mr Secretary Straw]; and

(2) Statistical Bulletin: Homicides in Scotland in 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Local Government Finance,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 26th November 1998 on temporary borrowing by the Audit Commission from Lloyds Bank plc [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo]

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Ireland) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Patricia Hewitt and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Johnson and Dawn Primarolo.

2 Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jim Dowd from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Greg Pope.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Back to the Dome]: to be printed [No. 21–i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 18th November, in the last Session of Parliament [The Future of NATO]: to be printed [No. 39–i] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Future NHS Staffing Requirements]: to be printed [No. 38–i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The Future of the EC Development Budget]: to be printed [No. 44–i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Treasury,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee on 17th November, in the last Session of Parliament, and on 26th November [The November Inflation Report]: to be printed [Nos. 37–i & ii]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-committee of the Treasury Committee [Office for National Statistics]: to be printed [No. 43–i] [Mr Giles Radice].

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

Chairmen’s Panel,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), The Speaker nominated Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Bill O’Brien and Mr Bill Olner to be additional members of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.

PRAYERS.

Friday 27th November 1998.

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

1 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill,—Mr Secretary Dobson, supported by Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Robertson, Mr Secretary Michael and Mr John Hutton, presented a Bill to make provision about the recovery from insurers and certain other persons of charges in connection with the treatment of road traffic casualties in National Health Service, and certain other, hospitals, and for connected purposes; And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 30th November and to be printed [Bill 3].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill be printed [Bill 3–EN].

2 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 Michael 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 on Monday 30th November and to be printed [Bill 4].

3 Welsh Grand Committee,—A Motion being 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 1999–2000 to 2001–2002, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration—[Jane Kennedy]:—It was agreed to.
Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [24th November], 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 30th November.

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 on Wednesday 16th December at half-past Ten o’clock at Westminster to take oral questions under Standing Order No. 103 (Welsh Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)) and to consider the matter of Government Expenditure in Wales 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales))—(Mr Clive Betts.)—It was agreed to.

European Parliamentary Elections Bill.—Ordered, That, in respect of the European Parliamentary 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.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till four minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 30th November.

Adjourned at 2.56 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presentedor laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Criminal Law,—(1) Transfer of Prisoners (Isle of Man) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2797), and
   (2) Transfer of Prisoners (Restricted Transfers) (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2798),
   dated 17th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 3) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2793), dated 17th November 1998 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].


5 Northern Ireland,—Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2839),
   dated 17th November 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 Pensions,—Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2888), dated 16th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2878), dated 23rd November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

8 National Lottery,—Paper, entitled New Links for the Lottery: Proposals for the New Opportunities Fund [by Command] [Cm. 4166] [Mr Secretary Smith].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (Suspension).—The Speaker laid upon the Table a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office that, in respect of the following Bill brought from the House of Lords, and upon which the proceedings were suspended in this House, the Agents 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.:

   Alliance and Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].

2 Private Bills [Lords].—The Standing Orders of 11th November, relating to the Alliance and Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords], being read;

   The Alliance and Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time.

3 Local Government Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Michael, Mr Stephen Byers, Hilary Armstrong, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Jon Owen Jones, presented a Bill to make provision imposing on local and certain other authorities requirements relating to economy, efficiency and effectiveness; and to make provision for the regulation of council tax and precepts: And the same was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time.

   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Local Government Bill be printed [Bill 5–EN].

4 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [24th November], That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

   Most Gracious Sovereign,

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

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

   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words ‘but humbly regret that the Gracious Speech makes no mention of the Government’s determination to remove the right of electors to vote for the candidate of their choice in European Parliamentary Elections; deplore both the Government’s plans to turn the House of Lords into an enormous quango and also its intention to legislate prior to the conclusions of its own Royal Commission; and further urge the Government to accept the recommendations of the Neill Committee to introduce new rules for the fair conduct of referendums’.—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

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

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 133.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Clive Betts: 350.

   So the Question was negatived.

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

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee,—Ordered, That Mr Eric Pickles be discharged from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee and Mrs Teresa Gorman be added to the Committee.—(Charlotte Atkins, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Science and Technology Committee,—Ordered, That Mr David Atkinson be discharged from the Science and Technology Committee and Mr Ian Taylor be added to the Committee.—(Charlotte Atkins, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
7 Treasury Committee.—Ordered, That Mr Nick Gibb be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr David Ruffley be added to the Committee.—(Charlotte Atkins, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

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

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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation.—Draft Deregulation (Pipe-lines) Order 1999, together with a statement from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

2 Northern Ireland.—Draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Registration of Political Parties.—Registration of Political Parties (Access to the Register) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2875), dated 21st November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Tribunals and Inquiries.—Fees for Inquiries (Standard Daily Amount) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2864), dated 16th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

5 Defence.—Ministry of Defence Performance Report for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4170] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

6 Police (Northern Ireland).—Statement of Accounts of the Police Authority for Northern Ireland, including Accounts of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Fund and the Police Property Fund, for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 16] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

7 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [28th October] from the Wyre Forest Committee against Cuts for a re-examination of the provision for social services in Worcestershire [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

8 Science and Technology.—Report and Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

9 Social Services.—Paper, entitled Modernising Social Services: promoting independence, improving protection, raising standards [by Command] [Cm. 4169] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Broadcasting (Restrictions on the Holding of Licences) (Amendment) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ann Clwyd from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Charlotte Atkins.

2 Draft Functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Marion Roe from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Robert Jackson.

3 Draft Forensic Science Service Trading Fund Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Roger Gale from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr William Cash.
4 Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Butterfill from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Jonathan Sayeed.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts.—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [BSE: The Cost of a Crisis]; to be printed [No. 49-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Broadcasting in Wales and the National Assembly]; to be printed [No. 48-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 6.]

Tuesday 1st December 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Sessional Returns.—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Returns for Session 1997–98 of—

(1) Business of the House;
(2) Closure of Debate, Proposal of Question and Allocation of Time (including Programme Motions);
(3) Sittings of the House;
(4) Private Bills and Private Business;
(5) Public Bills;
(6) Delegated Legislation and Deregulation Orders;
(7) European Legislation, &c.;
(8) Grand Committees;
(9) Chairmen’s Panel; and
(10) Select Committees.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Broadcasting (Restrictions on the Holding of Licences) (Amendment) 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:

City of Westminster Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make further provision for the control of street trading in the City of Westminster; and for related purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Select Committee of seven Lords to join with a Committee appointed by the Commons as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, with the same orders of reference as were communicated to this House on 20th May 1997, in Session 1997–98; and that they have ordered that the Committee do meet with the Committee appointed by the Commons this day at a quarter past Four o’clock.

4 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [24th November], That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

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

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

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words ‘but humbly regret that the Gracious Speech contains no proposals to save jobs or help
businesses, but instead continues the policies that are pushing Britain’s economy into a sharper downturn than is forecast for any other major EU economy; call on the Government instead to pursue policies of maintaining Britain’s competitiveness by reversing its proposals which increase costs on business and to return to the policies conducted by the previous Government which left a golden economic legacy of low inflation, steady and sustainable growth and falling unemployment; and also urge the Government to make a clear statement of its position on the question of European tax harmonisation.’—(Mr Francis Maude.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 134.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mrs Anne McGuire: 373.

So the Question was negatived.

Another Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words ‘but humbly regret, while supporting some proposals in the Gracious Speech, such as those which address the issues of ending the voting rights of hereditary peers and improving the administration of the tax and national insurance system, the absence of key measures in the Gracious Speech to modernise the United Kingdom, including a comprehensive package of environmental policies to tackle pollution, reduce car journeys and switch travel to public transport, a second tier pension scheme, a judicial process to replace the Child Support Agency; and the introduction of a parliamentary committee to scrutinise arms exports; believe that additional measures to improve public health, reduce class sizes, abolish tuition fees, widen the provision of early years education and to tackle age discrimination and other forms of inequality should have been brought forward; call for urgent measures to pave the way for Britain’s membership of a successful single currency and to grant proper financial independence and a fair and proportional voting system to local government; further regret any delays in introducing a Food Standards Agency; deplore the absence of rapid progress on measures to ensure a wide-ranging Freedom of Information Act, to pave the way for a referendum on a fair voting system for the House of Commons and to deliver a fully reformed and predominantly elected Second Chamber; and support all possible early steps to speed the passage of the European Parliamentary Elections Bill in order to allow the 1999 European parliamentary elections to be held under a fairer, proportional, voting system’—(Mr A. J. Beith.)

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 Andrew Stunell, Mr Donald Gorrie: 51.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Mike Hall: 317.

So the Question was negatived.

Main Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Mike Hall: 317.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 168.

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 of Her Majesty’s House of Lords.

5 Agrimontary Arrangements Following the Introduction of the Euro.—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. 9597/98, two draft Council Regulations establishing agrimontary 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 agrimontary arrangements by moving to a system which more closely reflects market realities, reducing the cost 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—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.
6 EC Development Aid to South Africa (1986–1996).—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 European Community Document No. 9690/98, the European Court of Auditors Special Report No. 798 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—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.

7 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—
(1) residents of Wheatfield Lane relating to bus services in Haxby and Wigginton; and
(2) Independent Retail News, store owners and their customers relating to bootlegging of tobacco and alcohol
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 Greg Pope).
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Education,—Draft Financing of Maintained Schools Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Employment and Training,—(1) Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1999, and
(2) Draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—(1) Draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998, and
(2) Draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

4 Education (Scotland),—Accounts of the Scottish Qualifications Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 52] [Clerk of the House].

5 European Union,—Paper, entitled Developments in the European Union, January to June 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4152] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 National Lottery,—Report of the Arts Council of Wales Lottery Distribution Activities for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

7 Natural Heritage Scotland,—Report and Summary Financial Statements of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund,—Report by the Government Actuary on the valuation of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund as at 1st April 1996 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 15] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Ireland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Ireland) Order 1998, in place of Mr Joe Benton.

2 Draft Forensic Science Service Trading Fund Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Allan Rogers from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr
Stephen Hesford.

3 Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has
discharged Mrs Diana Organ from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr
Kelvin Hopkins.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—(1) First Special Report from the Education and Employment
Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, Session
1997–98, on Further Education] to be printed [No. 56]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Access for All?]; to be printed
[No. 57–i]
[Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit
Committee [Multilateral Agreement on Investment]; to be printed [No. 58–i] [Mr John
Horam].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Vienna
European Council]; to be printed [No. 42–i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 International Development,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International
Development Committee [The Future of the EC Development Budget]; to be printed
[No. 44–i]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Conflict Prevention and Post-
Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 55–i]
[Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Procedure,—Memoranda laid before the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of
Devolution] [Mr Eric Illsley].

6 Public Administration,—(1) First Special Report from the Select Committee on Public
Administration [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Select Committee
on Public Administration, Session 1997–98, on the Report of the Northern Ireland
Ombudsman for 1997]; to be printed [No. 53]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Annual Report of the Health
Service Commissioner for 1997–98] [No. 54–i]
[Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7 Statutory Instruments,—First Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments,
together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50–i] [Mr David
Tredinnick].

8 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee
[Draft Limited Liability Partnership Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 59–i and ii] [Mr Martin
O’Neill].

[No. 7.]

Wednesday 2nd December 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 (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.

3 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.

4 Chairman’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.

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

6 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Order 1998.

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

7 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Ireland) Order 1998.

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

8 Scottish Enterprise Bill.—Mr Secretary Dewar, supported by Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr Calum Macdonald 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 with respect to the financial limits in section 25(2) of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 6].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Scottish Enterprise Bill be printed [Bill 6–EN].

9 Greater London Authority 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 establish and make provision about the Greater London Authority, the Mayor of London and the London Assembly; to make provision in relation to London borough councils and the Common Council of the City of London with respect to matters consequential on the establishment of the Greater London Authority; to make provision with respect to the functions of other local authorities and statutory bodies exercising functions in Greater London; to make provision about transport and road traffic in and around Greater London; to make provision about policing in Greater London and to make an adjustment of the metropolitan police district; 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 7].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Greater London Authority Bill be printed [Bill 7–EN].

10 European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the following provisions shall apply to proceedings on the European Parliamentary Elections Bill:

**Timetable**

1. Proceedings on Second Reading, in Committee, on Consideration and on Third Reading shall be completed at the sitting this day and shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, four hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

**Questions to be put**

2. When the Bill has been read a second time—

(a) it shall, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 63 (Comittal 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,
(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 an instruction has been given.

3. 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. For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 the Speaker or 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.

5. 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.

Miscellaneous

6. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at the sitting this day; and the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

7. 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 commencement; and Standing Order No. 15(1) shall apply to those proceedings.

8. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply in relation to proceedings on the Bill.

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

10. No dilatory Motion shall be made in relation to the Bill except by a Minister of the Crown.

11. If at the sitting this day a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 stands over to seven o'clock and proceedings on this Motion have begun before that time, the Motion for the Adjournment shall stand over until the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill.

12. If the House is adjourned at the sitting this day, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill, 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 Secretary Straw);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Jamieson: 347.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 124.

So the Question was agreed to.

11. European Parliamentary Elections Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Parliamentary Elections Bill;

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

And it being four hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Allocation of Time), the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 315.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 123.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Committee of the whole House.

Further proceedings on the Bill stood postponed, pursuant to Order [this day].
12 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. 52 (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—(Mr Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 314.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 118.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, 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.

13 European Parliamentary Elections Bill.—The House, pursuant to Order [this day], resumed proceedings on the European Parliamentary Elections Bill, and the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

(In the Committee)

The Chairman put forthwith the Questions necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded, pursuant to Order [this day].

Clause No. 1 (Number of MEPs, electoral regions and electoral system).

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 119.

Clause No. 2 (Electoral regions in England).

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Hanson: 311.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 114.

Clause No. 3 (Amendments and repeals).

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Hanson: 289.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 116.

Clause No. 4 (Expenses).

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Hanson: 285.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 115.

Clause No. 5 (Commencement).

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill: 275.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 116.

Clause No. 6 agreed to.


Question put, That the Schedule be the First Schedule to the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill: 272.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr James Cran: 120.

Schedule No. 2 (Minor and Consequential Amendments of Schedule 1 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978).

Question put, That the Schedule be the Second Schedule to the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Kevin Hughes: 266.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 117.

Schedule No. 3 (Minor and Consequential Amendments).

Question put, That the Schedule be the Third Schedule to the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 262.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 116.

Schedule No. 4 (Repeals and Revocations).

Question put, That the Schedule be the Fourth Schedule to the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Keith Hill: 257.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 121.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr David Jamieson 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, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Clelland: 254.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 122.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

14 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 10th December, Thursday 28th January, Thursday 25th February, Thursday 25th March, Thursday 10th June and Thursday 8th July at 10.30 a.m.—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

15 Adjournment.---A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Jamieson),

Thursday 3rd December 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes past Twelve o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.16 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2. Local Government (Scotland).—Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2957), dated 26th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


5. Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—(1) Statute, dated 8th May 1998, made by the Governing Body of Trinity College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College,
    (2) Statute, dated 26th June 1998, made by the Governing Body of King’s College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and
    (3) Statute, dated 21st August 1998, made by the University of Cambridge amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6. Appropriation Accounts, 1997–98.—Appropriation Account of sums granted by Parliament for 1997–98 for Class II (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) [by Act]; to be printed [No. I-II] [Dawn Primarolo].

7. British Library.—Statement of determination of pay and pensions of Viscount Runciman of Doxford CB, newly appointed member of the British Library Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8. Criminal Injuries Compensation.—Account of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 67] [Clerk of the House].

9. Legal Reform.—Paper, entitled Modernising Justice: the Government’s plans for reforming legal services and the courts [by Command] [Cm. 4155] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


11. Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Social Security on:
    (1) the Petition [4th November] from Mrs Diane Roberts and others relating to benefits for disabled women aged between sixty and sixty-five, and
    (2) the Petition [10th November] from the British Pensioners and Trade Union Action Association of Coventry in support of the welfare state [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12. Radiological Protection.—Accounts of the National Radiological Protection Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 66] [Clerk of the House].

13. 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,
    Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 5) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2894) [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].


16 United States (No. 1, 1998),—Agreement, done at Washington on 13th July 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Maritime and Aerial Operations to Suppress Illicit Trafficking by Sea in Waters of the Caribbean and Bermuda [by Command] [Cm. 4154] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O'Hara Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Joe Ashton, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr James Cran, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Adam Ingram, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Syd Rapson and Christine Russell.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third 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 Nick Ainger, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr David Hanson, Mr John Horam, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Ellynn Llwyd, Dr John Marek, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Lembit Opik, Sir Raymond Powell, Mr Ted Rowlands, Mr Chris Ruane, Mr John Wilkinson and Mr Alan W. Williams.

3 Draft Parole Board (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr John Austin, Mr James Clappison, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Mike Hall, Ms Harriet Harman, Mr George Howarth, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Ellynn Llwyd, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Dennis Skinner, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Peter Temple-Morris and Paddy Tipping.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the First 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 A. J. Beith, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr John Burnett, Mr John Greenway, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Bill O'Brien, Mr Richard Page, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Ms Joan Ruddock, Mr George Stevenson, Ms Gisela Stuart, Ms Claire Ward, Mr NigelWaterson and Mr James Wray.

Grand Committees

1 Northern Ireland Grand Committee:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 10th December; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-four additional Members to serve on the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Mike Gapes, Dr Norman A. Godman, 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 Lembit Opik, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr Gareth R. Thomas.

2 Welsh Grand Committee:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Wednesday 16th December; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated Mr Nigel Evans and Mr Owen Paterson additional Members to serve on the Welsh Grand Committee.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [CAP reform: rural development]; to be printed [No. 61-d]; and
PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (Suspension).—The Speaker laid upon the Table a certificate by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office that, in respect of the following Bill brought from the House of Lords, and upon which the proceedings were suspended in this House, the Agents 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.:

City of Westminster Bill [Lords].

2 Private Bills [Lords].—The Standing Orders of 17th November, relating to the City of Westminster Bill [Lords], being read;
The City of Westminster Bill [Lords] was read the first and second time and ordered to be committed.
3 Committee of Selection.—Ordered, That Mr Fraser Kemp and Mr Ian Davidson be discharged from the Committee of Selection and Ms Karen Buck and Mr Philip Hope be added to the Committee.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Forensic Science Service Trading Fund Order 1998.

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 Rates (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1998.

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

6 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John Maxton reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Input Tax) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2767).

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

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

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 proceedings of the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege in the last Session of Parliament be referred to the Committee; 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.

8 Adjournment (The European Union).—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.

9 Estimates.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That this House agrees with the Report [16th November] of the Liaison Committee—(Mr Keith Hill).—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till Monday 7th December.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Education,—Draft Financing of Maintained Schools Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Civil Aviation,—Airports (Groundhandling) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2918), dated 24th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


6 Mental Health,—Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

7 Deer (Scotland),—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Deer Commission for Scotland for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Education,—Paper, entitled Teachers: meeting the challenge of change [by Command] [Cm. 4166] [Mr Secretary Blankets].


10 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Department of Health on 30th November on temporary borrowing by the Epsom Healthcare National Health Service Trust from Barclays Bank PLC [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Paper withdrawn:

11 Education,—Draft Financing of Maintained Schools Regulations 1998 [laid 1st December].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, in place of Mr Edward O’Hara.

2 Draft Parole Board (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Peter Temple-Morris from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Keen.

European Standing Committees

3 European Standing Committees,—European Community Document No. 5562/98 relating to the Harmonisation of Copyright, originally referred to European Standing Committee B on 25th February 1998, in the last Session of Parliament, has now been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The Future of NATO] to be printed [No. 39-ii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [EU Employment Issues]; to be printed [No. 72-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Multilateral Agreement on Investment]; to be printed [No. 58-ii] [Mr John Horam].

4 Health,—(1) First Report from the Health Committee [Relationship between Health and Social Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 74]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Health Committee [Relationship between Health and Social Services] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 73-i] [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:

The Lords propose, pursuant to their Message of 3rd December, that the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege meet to-morrow at Ten o’clock in Committee Room 4.

2 Parliamentary Privilege.—Ordered, That the Lords Message this day relating to the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege be now considered.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed by this House meet the Lords Committee as proposed by their Lordships.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

3 Water Industry Bill,—The Water Industry Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Water Industry Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Water Industry 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 Water Industry Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other Act—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

5 Government Trading Funds,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Forensic Science Service Trading Fund Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

6 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 5th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

7 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) (Ireland) Order 1998 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 9th November, in the last Session of Parliament—(Mr Graham Allen)—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.

8 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 (Restrictions on the Holding of Licences) (Amendment) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 12th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

9 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 Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 12th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen)—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 (Input Tax) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2767), dated 12th November 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 12th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.
11 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the Comprehensive Spending Review in Northern Ireland, 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 10th December:

(a) the Committee shall consider the matter referred to it in paragraph (1) above; and

(b) a Motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown pursuant to Standing Order No. 116(5).—(Mr Graham Allen.)

12 Accommodation and Works,—Ordered, That Janet Anderson and Mr George Mudie be discharged from the Accommodation and Works Committee and Mr Keith Bradley and Mr David Jamieson be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

13 Catering,—Ordered, That Jackie Ballard be discharged from the Catering Committee and Mr Paul Keetch be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

14 Education and Employment,—Ordered, That Mrs Theresa May be discharged from the Education and Employment Committee and Mr John Hayes be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from

(1) citizens of Slough against cuts in the community health services in Berkshire; and

(2) residents of the Vale of York constituency for research into the health effects of emissions from overhead power lines

were presented and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.26 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 4th December 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Treasury,—Treasury Minute, dated 4th December 1998, concerning government indemnity to cover the personal civil liability of board members of non-departmental public bodies [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 4th December 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments): Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Hallmark,—(1) Hallmarking (Hallmarking Act Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2979), and


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 7th December 1998:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Pensions,—Superannuation (Admission to Schedule 1 to the Superannuation Act 1972)(No. 3) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3030), dated 7th December 1998 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

5 Rating and Valuation,—(1) Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2962), and

Other Papers:

6 Development of Tourism.—Statement of appointment and salary of a new member of the Scottish Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Home Affairs.—Government Response to the Third Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on Alternatives to Prison Sentences [by Command] [Cm. 4174] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Local Government.—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Residuary Body (England) for 1997–98 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Museums and Galleries.—Accounts of the National Library of Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 75] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Modifying Defence Equipment [by Act]; to be printed [No. 24] [Clerk of the House].

11 Police and Criminal Evidence.—Draft Code of Practice for the exercise by police officers of statutory powers of stop and search [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

12 Sports Councils.—Report and Summary Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council for 1997–98 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Police Act 1997 (Notification of Authorities etc.) Order 1998 and draft Police Act 1997 (Authorisation of Action in Respect of Property) (Code of Practice) Order 1998.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Mike Hall, Mr Jim Marshall and Ms Claire Ward from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Christine Butler, Mr Keith Hill and Siobhain McDonagh.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Information.—First Report from the Information Committee [The Supply of Members’ Information Technology, Equipment, Software and Associated Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 76] [Mr Richard Allan].

2 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Special Compliance Office: Prevention of Corruption]; to be printed [No. 77-i] [Mr David Davis].

3 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 17-iii] [Dr Michael Clark].

4 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland and Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [Nos. 84-i and 85-i] [Mr David Marshall].

5 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 73-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

6 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Broadcasting in Wales and the National Assembly]; to be printed [No. 48-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

WEDNESDAY SITTINGS

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings), the Speaker has appointed Wednesday 17th February, Wednesday 17th March and Wednesday 19th May 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.
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 1st December, 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 Deregulation Committee.—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Deregulation (Pipe-lines) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th November 1998, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Police Act 1997 (Notification of Authorisations etc.) Order 1998 and the draft Police Act 1997 (Authorisation of Action in Respect of Property) (Code of Practice) Order 1998.

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

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Parole Board (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998.

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

5 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Road Traffic (NHS Charges) 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 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill because the Bill further adds to the burdens the Government has imposed on both commercial and private motorists in that insurance premiums will rise, notes that the proposal did not appear anywhere in the Labour Party’s election manifesto, and conflicts with the Government’s express opposition to extending charges in the NHS, further notes that these charges will apply only to motorists and not to victims of other insurable accidents; and calls on the Government to clarify its future intentions with regard to both the level and range of any future additional charges in the NHS, and to take into account the impact on the motorist when determining the amounts to be charged’, instead thereof.—(Miss Ann Widdecombe.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Tim Collins: 150.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 347.

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.
6 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Road Traffic (NHS Charges) 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 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) fees and allowances to members of any appeal tribunal established by regulations made under the Act;

(b) any other expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act; and

(c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable by virtue of any other Act—(Mr Jim Dowd).—It was agreed to.

7 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 Thursday 17th December, do adjourn till Monday 11th January 1999—(Mr Jim Dowd).—It was agreed to.

8 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 17th December, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 9.05 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2922), dated 22nd November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

2 National Health Service,—Special Trustees for Newcastle University Hospital (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3028), dated 7th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3031), dated 2nd December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


5 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 21st May 1998, made by the University of Oxford, amending the Statutes of the University,

(2) Statute, dated 29th May 1998, made by the Governing Body of Downing College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and


[by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Electoral Law,—Report of the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 41] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

7 National Audit,—Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on Overseas Operations, Governance and Management at Southampton Institute [by Act]; to be printed [No. 23] [Clerk of the House].
8 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [12th November] from the Bricket Wood Residents' Association relating to traffic in Bricket Wood [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

9 Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of the British Railways Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Dennis Canavan from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Judy Mallaber.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [UK Pig Industry]; to be printed [Nos. 87-i and -ii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [UK Pig Industry]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation,—First Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Pipe-lines) Order 1999]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 79] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee [Access for all?]; to be printed [No. 57-ii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

4 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. 78-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Climate Change: post Buenos Aires]; to be printed [No. 88] [Mr John Horam].

6 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [European Union Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 86-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

7 Home Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Observations on the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Confidentiality of Police Settlements of Civil Claims]; to be printed [No. 80]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Police Training and Recruitment and the Work of HM Inspectorate of Constabulary]; to be printed [Nos. 81-i and 83-i]
   [Mr Chris Mullin].

8 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction]; to be printed [No. 55-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

9 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Role and Responsibilities of the Minister for the Cabinet Office]; to be printed [No. 82] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

10 Statutory Instruments,—Second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-ii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

11 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 73-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].
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 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.

Decommissioning and the Release of Prisoners.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House supports the Belfast Agreement and reasserts that the Agreement has to be implemented in all its parts; believes that several things must happen in parallel in order to build confidence, whether it be decommissioning or the release of prisoners; notes that the only organisations that can qualify to take seats in the government of Northern Ireland and can expect the early release of prisoners are those that have given up violence for good and that decommissioning is part of that; notes that since July over 200 terrorist prisoners have been released early while decommissioning of illegally held arms and explosives has yet to begin; and believes that there should be no further early releases of prisoners, and no place in the Northern Ireland Executive for their representatives in the Assembly, until there has been substantial and verifiable decommissioning—(Mr Andrew MacKay);

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 the Good Friday Agreement represents an historic opportunity to bring agreed government and political stability to Northern Ireland; acknowledges the progress which has been made by the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland parties in reaching and implementing the Agreement; and believes the only way forward for the people of Northern Ireland to find lasting peace is for the Governments and the parties to move urgently to implement every aspect of the Agreement in full’, instead thereof.—(Secretary Marjorie Mowlam.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Andrew MacKay 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 Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 142.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Greg Pope: 376.

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 Keith Hill, Mr Greg Pope: 352.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House recognises that the Good Friday Agreement represents an historic opportunity to bring agreed government and political stability to Northern Ireland; acknowledges the progress which has been made by the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland parties in reaching and implementing the Agreement; and believes the only way forward for the people of Northern Ireland to find lasting peace is for the Governments and the parties to move urgently to implement every aspect of the Agreement in full.

Tax Harmonisation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the Government’s attempts to be all things to all men on the issue of
EU tax harmonisation; urges the Government to explain what confidence can be placed in Ministers’ undertakings to use the veto, given the Chancellor’s decision to sign up to the Party of European Socialists’ “New European Way” document and given the EU Tax Commissioner’s insistence that the UK is “fully on board” for progress towards tax harmonisation; asks the Government to place in the Library the list of 85 instances of alleged “harmful tax competition” identified by the Code of Conduct Working Group chaired by the Financial Secretary, ten of which are believed to relate to the UK; and urges the Government to make a clear statement of its policy towards EU tax harmonisation—(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 ‘recalls that the last Government’s record on tax was one of broken promises, that it raised taxes 22 times having promised to cut taxes, including putting VAT on domestic fuel and power having specifically promised not to do so, and further that it tried to raise VAT on fuel to 17.5 per cent.; welcomes the fact that this Government has kept all of its promises on taxation, including its promises not to raise the basic or top rates of income tax and cutting VAT on fuel to 5 per cent.; and further welcomes the Government’s approach to taxation at an international level, favouring fair tax competition, supporting concerted action at European level, including through the EU Code of Conduct Group, to deal with discriminatory and unfair tax practices that distort real competition, stating that it will not support measures that are not in Britain’s national economic interest or that damage British business, harm investment and jobs, or damage Europe’s competitiveness, and reiterating that it will retain the veto on tax issues and that decisions on tax will remain subject to unanimity’, 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 Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 140.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Jane Kennedy: 359.

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, Jane Kennedy: 316.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 161.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House recalls that the last Government’s record on tax was one of broken promises, that it raised taxes 22 times having promised to cut taxes, including putting VAT on domestic fuel and power having specifically promised not to do so, and further that it tried to raise VAT on fuel to 17.5 per cent.; welcomes the fact that this Government has kept all of its promises on taxation, including its promises not to raise the basic or top rates of income tax and cutting VAT on fuel to 5 per cent.; and further welcomes the Government’s approach to taxation at an international level, favouring fair tax competition, supporting concerted action at European level, including through the EU Code of Conduct Group, to deal with discriminatory and unfair tax practices that distort real competition, stating that it will not support measures that are not in Britain’s national economic interest or that damage British business, harm investment and jobs, or damage Europe’s competitiveness, and reiterating that it will retain the veto on tax issues and that decisions on tax will remain subject to unanimity.

3 Section 155 of the Finance Act 1998,—Resolved, That the Code for Fiscal Stability, which was laid before this House on 3rd November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved.—(Mr Stephen Byers.)

4 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Police Act 1997 (Notification of Authorisations etc.) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 19th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

5 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Police Act 1997 (Authorisation of Action in Respect of Property) (Code of Practice) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 19th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.
6 Prisons.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Parole Board (Transfer of Functions) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 17th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

7 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 18th January, Monday 1st February, Monday 8th March and Monday 22nd March, in each case at half-past Ten o’clock at New Parliament House, Edinburgh, to consider a substantive motion for the adjournment of the Committee—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Save Our Schools Association against the closure of five schools in Borehamwood 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—(Mr David Jamieson);

Thursday 10th December 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Twelve o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.25 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting.—Foreign Satellite Service Proscription (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3083), dated 9th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Education.—General Teaching Council for Wales Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2911), dated 18th November 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

3 Local Government.—(1) Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 5) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2956), and


[by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


(19) Public Telecommunication System Designation (UTG Communications (Europe) AG) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3022),

(20) Public Telecommunication System Designation (VersaTel Telecom BV) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3023),


(22) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Witley Communications Limited) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3015), and


dated 3rd December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

Other Papers:

7 Courts and Legal Services,—Report and Financial Statements of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct for 1997–98 [by Act] to be printed [No. 40] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


9 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [31st July] from Doctors and Lawyers for Responsible Medicine and their supporters for an end to experiments in xenotransplantation [by Standing Order], to be printed [Clerk of the House].

10 Science and Technology,—Report of the Medical Research Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

11 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—
Committees established under Standing Orders relating to Private Business

1 Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel).—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, that it had appointed eighteen 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.: John Austin, Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr David Marshall, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Robert Walter, Mrs Ann Winterton and Audrey Wise.

2 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.: Mr Douglas Alexander, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Donald Gorrie, Rosemary McKenna, Mr David Marshall, Mr John Maxton, Mr Michael Moore, Sir Robert Smith, Mr John Swinney, Mr Andrew Welsh and Mr James Wray.

3 Standing Orders Committee.—The Committee of Selection has nominated seven Members to serve on the Standing Orders Committee under Standing Order 103 relating to Private Business (Appointment of Standing Orders Committee), viz.: Mrs Lin Golding, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Bill O’Brien, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Andrew Stunell and Mr Nicholas Winterton.

Standing Committees

4 Water Industry Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and has appointed Mr John McWilliam and Mr Peter Atkinson Chairmen; and

(1) Cignal Global Communications U.K. Limited,
(2) Data Marine Systems Limited,
(3) EGN BV,
(4) Ibercom Limited,
(5) International Computers Limited,
(6) International Telecommunications Group Inc,
(7) International Telecom Plc,
(8) Internet Network Services Limited,
(9) KPN Telecom UK Limited,
(10) MLL Telecom Limited,
(11) NETs Limited,
(12) NorSea Com A/S,
(13) PT-1 Communications UK Limited,
(14) Qwest Communications International Limited,
(15) Storm Telecommunications Limited,
(16) Telecom One Limited,
(17) Teleport London International Limited,
(18) The JNT Association,
(19) UTG Communications (Europe) AG,
(20) VersaTel Telecom BV,
(21) Viatel UK Limited,
(22) Witley Communications Limited, and
(23) Worldport Communications Limited

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

12 Treaty Series (No. 56, 1998).—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 concerning Air Services [by Command] [Cm. 4163] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Committees established under Standing Orders relating to Private Business

1 Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel).—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, that it had appointed eighteen 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.: John Austin, Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr David Marshall, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Robert Walter, Mrs Ann Winterton and Audrey Wise.

2 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.: Mr Douglas Alexander, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Donald Gorrie, Rosemary McKenna, Mr David Marshall, Mr John Maxton, Mr Michael Moore, Sir Robert Smith, Mr John Swinney, Mr Andrew Welsh and Mr James Wray.

3 Standing Orders Committee.—The Committee of Selection has nominated seven Members to serve on the Standing Orders Committee under Standing Order 103 relating to Private Business (Appointment of Standing Orders Committee), viz.: Mrs Lin Golding, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Bill O’Brien, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Roger Stott, Mr Andrew Stunell and Mr Nicholas Winterton. 
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Tony Colman, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr James Gray, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Calum Macdonald, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Michael Meacher, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Terry Rooney, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Shaun Woodward.

5 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr George Stevenson Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Clelland, Mr Andrew Dismore, Julia Drown, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Jeff Ennis, Dr Ian Gibson, Dr Evan Harris, Mr John Hutton, Sir David Madel, Laura Moffatt, Ms Linda Perham, Mr John Randall, Sir Robert Smith, Mr David Stewart, Mr Robert Syms and Mr Gareth R. Thomas.

6 Draft Financing of Maintained Schools Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Paul Clark, Mr Jim Cunningham, Valerie Davey, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Don Foster, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Jim Marshall, Mrs Theresa May, Estelle Morris, Sir Raymond Powell, Mr Nicholas Soames, Rachel Squire, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Ms Claire Ward and Mr Phil Willis.

7 Draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 and the draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second 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 Douglas Alexander, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Dennis Canavan, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Ian Davidson, Maria Fyfe, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLesh, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Desmond Swa yne and Mr James Wray.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third 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.: Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr David Marshall, Dr Lewis Moone, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Frank Roy, Sir Robert Smith, Mr John Townend, Mr Peter Viggers and Mr Robert Walter.

9 Draft Government of Wales Act 1998 (Housing) (Amendments) Order 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Sir Raymond Powell from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr John Smith.

European Standing Committees

10 European Community Document No. 6378/98, relating to the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms, and the unnumbered explanatory memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 7th December 1998 relating to Fisheries: TACs and quotas for 1999, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Back to the Dome]; to be printed [No. 21-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Restructuring of the Territorial Army]; to be printed [No. 70-ii] [Mr Bruce George].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills.—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported, That, in accordance with Standing Order 81 relating to Private Business (Division of bills between this House and the House of Lords), he had conferred with the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords, for the purpose of determining in which House of Parliament the respective Private Bills should be first considered, and they had determined that the Bills contained in the following list should originate in the House of Lords, viz.:

- Baxi Partnership Limited
- City of Newcastle upon Tyne
- Kent County Council
- Medway Council
- United Reformed Church

and that the Bills contained in the following list should originate in the House of Commons, viz.:

- City of London (Ward Elections)
- HFC Bank
- Imperial College
- Transport Salaried Staffs' Association (Amendment of Rules) etc.
- University College London.
Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Comprehensive Spending Review in Northern Ireland, referred to it on 7th December, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House:

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 99].

Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Government of Wales Act 1998 (Housing) (Amendments) Order 1998.

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

Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998.

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

Tax Credits Bill.—Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, supported by Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Dawn Primarolo and Ms Patricia Hewitt presented a Bill to provide for family credit and disability working allowance to be known, respectively, as working families tax credit and disabled persons tax credit; to make further provision with respect to those credits, including provision for the transfer of functions relating to them: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 14th December and to be printed [Bill 9]

Ordered, that the Explanatory Notes relating to the Tax Credits Bill be printed [Bill 9—EN]

Estimates [1st allotted day].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [3rd December], to consider the Estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee).

Vote on Account, 1999–2000 (Class IV, Vote 1).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That a sum, not exceeding £2,299,414,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 for expenditure by the Home Office on police; the Forensic Science Service; registration of forensic practitioners; emergency planning; fire services; the Fire Service College; criminal policy and programmes including offender programmes; the prevention of drug abuse; crime reduction and prevention; provision of services relating to the Crime and Disorder Act; criminal justice service planning and other services related to crime; support to the voluntary sector; family policy issues; research; criminal injuries compensation; organised and international crime; control of immigration and nationality; issue of passports; community and constitutional services; firearms compensation and related matters; and on administration (excluding the provision for prisons administration carried on Class IV, Vote 2)—(Mr Paul Boateng)

The Debate was concluded, and the Question being proposed, That a sum, not exceeding £6,826,077,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 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 Community 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 provisions 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; information and publicity services; expenditure via Training and Enterprise Councils and amounts retained by them as surpluses and spent by them on training; 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 the Welfare to Work Programme and Millennium Volunteers.—(Mr. Andrew Smith).

And it being Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, and the Question necessary to dispose of 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 Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the other estimates appointed for consideration this day.

Class IV, Vote 1

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £2,299,414,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 for expenditure by the Home Office on police; the Forensic Science Service, registration of forensic practitioners; emergency planning; fire services; the Fire Service College; criminal policy and programmes including offender programmes; the prevention of drug abuse; crime reduction and prevention; provision of services relating to the Crime and Disorder Act; criminal justice service planning and other services related to crime; support to the voluntary sector; family policy issues; research; criminal injuries compensation; organised and international crime; control of immigration and nationality; issue of passports; community and constitutional services; firearms compensation and related matters; and on administration (excluding the provision for prisons administration carried on Class IV, Vote 2).

Class IV, Vote 2

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £766,651,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 for expenditure by the Home Office in England and Wales on prisons (including central administration and other costs arising from the detention of prisoners); placements in secure accommodation under section 53 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933; Prison Service colleges; the Parole Board; the storage and maintenance of equipment; transport management; grants to “Prisoners Abroad”, and Welfare to Work Schemes.

Class I, Vote 1

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £6,826,077,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 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 Community 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; information and publicity services; expenditure via Training and Enterprise Councils and amounts retained by them as surpluses and spent by them on training; 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 the Welfare to Work Programme and Millennium Volunteers.

Class I, Vote 3

Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding £782,937,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 for expenditure by the Employment Service of the Department for Education and Employment on: measures to help people, particularly people who are unemployed and people with disabilities, into work; the elements of the delivery of the Jobseeker’s Allowance undertaken by the Employment Service; the administration of, and where appropriate the payment of allowances to people participating in, the Welfare to Work programme and other employment programmes, pilot programmes and new measures to help people into work; the payment of temporary subsidies to employers; the
payment of grants to voluntary bodies and local authorities towards the provision of supported employment; and grant in aid and the provision of a temporary loan facility to Remploy Limited; assistance and advice on employment service and labour market issues to international organisations; research; publicity; and administration.

Class XII

Resolved, that a sum, not exceeding £22,716,706,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account for or towards defraying the charge for the year ending on 31st March 2000 for expenditure by the Department of Social Security.

7 Estimates.—The Deputy Speaker then put the Questions required to be put, pursuant to Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Estimates, 1998–99 (Navy) Vote A

Resolved, That during the year ending on 31st March 1999 an additional number not exceeding 10 officers be maintained for Service in the Reserve Marine Forces.

Supplementary Estimates, 1998–99

Resolved, That a supplementary sum, not exceeding £924,068,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, to defray the charges for civil services which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1999, as set out in HC 857 of Session 1997–98.

Estimates, 1999–2000 (Vote on Account)

Resolved, That a further sum, not exceeding £69,610,689,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account for or towards defraying the charges for civil and defence services in Class I, Votes 2 and 4; Class II and III; Class IV, Vote 3; Classes V to X, Classes XIII to XVIII; and Classes XVIII, A and XVIII, B for the year ending on 31st March 2000, as set out in HC 1134, 1135 and 1136 of Session 1997–98.

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 Stephen Byers, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Dawn Primarolo and Ms Patricia Hewitt do prepare and bring it in.

8 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 1999 and 2000: and the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 14th December and to be printed [Bill 8].

9 Business of the House.—Resolved, That the following provisions shall apply to the Second Reading of the Greater London Authority Bill:

(a) at the sitting on Monday 14th December, proceedings thereon may continue, though opposed, until midnight; and

(b) at the sitting on Tuesday 15th December, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on Second Reading of the Bill at Seven o’clock.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

10 Business of the House.—Resolved, That at the sitting on Tuesday 15th December, Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union Documents) shall not apply to any Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to fisheries, and the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings thereon not later than Ten o’clock.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

11 European Scrutiny Committee.—Resolved, That Mr Russell Brown and Mrs Linda Gilroy be discharged from the European Scrutiny Committee and Mr Michael Connarty and Dr Nick Palmer be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till Monday 14th December.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Companies.—(1) Companies (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3088), and

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2975), dated 2nd December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


6 Education (Scotland),—Grants for Improvements in School Education (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3051), dated 2nd December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Housing,—(1) Home Repair Assistance (Extension) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2998), and
   (2) Housing (Right to Buy) (Limits on Discount) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2997), dated 3rd December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


11 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2976), dated 1st December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

12 National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (Choice of Dental Practitioner) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3052), dated 4th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


14 Road Traffic,—(1) Motor Vehicles (Type Approval of Reduced Pollution Adaptations) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3093), and
   (2) Vehicle Excise Duty (Reduced Pollution) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3094), dated 9th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


   (2) Statute, dated 13th February 1998, made by the Governing Body of Magdalen College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College (Statutes IV.14(1), IV.14(2), IV.16(2) and IV.17(2)),
   (3) Statute, dated 13th February 1998, made by the Governing Body of Magdalen College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College (Statute IV.14(2)),
   (4) Statute, dated 13th February 1998, made by the Governing Body of Magdalen College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College (Statute VIII.1.1) and
   (5) Statute, dated 13th February 1998, made by the Governing Body of Magdalen College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College (Statute XI.2) [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].
**Other Papers:**

17 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 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 46] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

18 Coal Industry.—Report of the Office of the Subsidence Adviser for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

19 Education.—Report and 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] [Mr Secretary Michael].

20 Museums and Galleries.—Report and Accounts of the National Library of Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Michael].

21 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Flotation of Railtrack [by Act]; to be printed [No. 25] [Clerk of the House].


24 Reserve Forces.—Change 2 to the Regulations for the Naval and Marine Reserve (BR 64) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

25 Smoking.—Paper, entitled Smoking Kills: a White Paper on Tobacco [by Command] [Cm. 4177] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

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**APPENDIX II**

Committee of Selection

Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Stewart from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Stephen Hesford.

**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 [TECs/ RDAs and other lifelong learning issues]; to be printed [No. 97-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 European Scrutiny.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the European Scrutiny Committee [1999 European Community Draft Budget]; to be printed [No. 98] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Foreign Affairs.—(1) First Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy and Human Rights]; 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. 100]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Foreign Policy and Human Rights] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Future NHS Staffing Requirements]; to be printed [No. 38-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

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**MEMORANDUM**

Public Bills (Scotland).—In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 97 (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Speaker certified that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Scottish Enterprise Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.
Monday 14th December 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Greater London Authority Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Greater London Authority 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, while welcoming the proposal for a directly elected mayor for Greater London, declines to give a second reading to the Greater London Authority Bill because, instead of creating an Assembly consisting of representatives nominated by each London borough and the Corporation of London, which would best serve London's interests, it provides for the establishment of a directly elected assembly which would diminish the status of the London boroughs and would be likely to lead to conflict between the boroughs and the Greater London Authority; and because, in failing to provide for the transfer of London Underground to the private sector so as to boost investment and in proposing the imposition of new taxes on motorists in London to pay for cuts in central government spending, the Bill offers an inadequate response to the problems of transport in London', instead thereof.—(Mrs Gillian Shephard.)

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

Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

2 Fisheries,—Ordered, That the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 7th December 1998 relating to Fisheries: TACs and quotas for 1999 shall not stand referred to European Standing Committee A.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

3 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 Government of Wales Act 1998 (Housing) (Amendments) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 26th November, be approved.—(Mr Keith Hill.) 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 Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, which was laid before this House on 30th November, be approved.—(Mr Keith Hill.) It was agreed to.

5 Social Security,—Ordered, That the Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2878), dated 23rd November 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th November, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

6 Catering,—Ordered, That Helen Jones be discharged from the Catering Committee and Mr Gerry Steinberg be added to the Committee.—(Ms Karen Buck, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Information,—Ordered, That Mr Jon Owen Jones be discharged from the Information Committee and Mr Ian Stewart be added to the Committee.—(Ms Karen Buck, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

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

Tuesday 15th December 1998

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Twelve o'clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.23 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 11th December 1998 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—(1) Civil Aviation (Joint Financing) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3000), dated 2nd December 1998, and
   [Mr Secretary Prescott].


3 Education,—(1) Afan College (Dissolution) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2967), dated 29th November 1998 [Mr Secretary Michael]; and
   [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


5 Land Registration (Scotland),—Land Registration (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3100), dated 4th December 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


8 Medicines,—(1) Medicines for Human Use (Marketing Authorisations Etc.) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3105), dated 10th December 1998, and


10 Registers and Records (Scotland),—Register of Sasines (Registers Direct) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3099), dated 4th December 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


(2) Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3111), and

(3) Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 7) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3112), dated 11th December 1998 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 14th December 1998:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

12 Deregulation,—Draft Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1999, together with a statement by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

17 Health,—Government Response to the Third Report from the Health Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Welfare of Former British Child Migrants [by Command] [Cm. 4182] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

18 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the BBC World Service: New Financial Arrangements [by Act]; to be printed [No. 26] [Clerk of the House].

19 Trade and Industry,—Department of Trade and Industry Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon an agreement between the Company Law and Investigations Directorate of the Department of Trade and Industry and British Telecommunications PLC concerning access to an automated information service [by Command] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

20 Voluntary Sector (Northern Ireland),—Paper, entitled Building Real Partnership: Compact between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector in Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 4167] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Financing of Maintained Schools Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jim Marshall from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations), and nominated in substitution Dr Phyllis Starkey.

2 Draft Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 and the draft Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998,—The Committee of
Selection has discharged Mr Dennis Canavan and Mr Douglas Alexander from the
Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft
Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Eric Clarke and Ms Sandra Osborne.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—(1) First Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of
Defence: Major Projects Report 1997]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of
the Committee relating to the Report [No. 101];

(2) Second Report from the Committee [NHS (Scotland) Summarised Accounts
1996–97]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the
Report [No. 102];

(3) Third Report from the Committee [Obtaining a Benefit for Electricity Customers
from the Flotation of the National Grid]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings
of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 103]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [MOD: Identifying and Selling
Surplus Property]; to be printed [No. 104-i]

[Mr David Davis].

[No. 14.]

Tuesday 15th December 1998.

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

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the
First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Financing of Maintained
Schools Regulations 1998.

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

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the
Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Legal Aid
(Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 and the draft
Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment
(No. 2) Regulations 1998.

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

3 Greater London Authority 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 Greater London Authority 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, while welcoming the proposal for a directly elected mayor
for Greater London, declines to give a second reading to the Greater London Authority
Bill because, instead of creating an Assembly consisting of representatives nominated by
each London borough and the Corporation of London, which would best serve London’s
interests, it provides for the establishment of a directly elected assembly which would
diminish the status of the London boroughs and would be likely to lead to conflict
between the boroughs and the Greater London Authority; and because, in failing to
provide for the transfer of London Underground to the private sector so as to boost
investment and in proposing the imposition of new taxes on motorists in London to pay
for cuts in central government spending, the Bill offers an inadequate response to the
problems of transport in London’, instead thereof;

And the Question being again proposed, That the Amendment be made:—The House
resumed the adjourned Debate;

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order
[10th December].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 140.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Keith Hill: 396.
So the Question was negatived.
Main Question put and agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.
Ordered, That—
(1) Clauses 1 to 4 and Schedules 1 and 2 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 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 Mike Hall.)
Committee to-morrow.

4 Greater London Authority Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Greater London Authority 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 Bill, it is expedient to authorise—
(1) the charging on, and payment out of, the Consolidated Fund of expenditure incurred by returning officers in relation to the holding of the first ordinary election of the Greater London Authority; and
(2) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
(a) any expenditure incurred by a 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 such money under any other Act.—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

5 Greater London Authority 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 Greater London Authority Bill, it is expedient to authorise—
(1) the making of provision for and in connection with—
(a) the levying of charges on persons using or keeping motor vehicles on roads in Greater London;
(b) the levying of charges on persons providing parking places for motor vehicles in Greater London; and
(c) charges to tax in connection with transfers of property, rights and liabilities; and
(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund.—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

6 Fisheries: Total Allowable Catches and Quotas 1999.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Union Document No. COM(98)680, relating to the fixing of total allowable catches for 1999 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 regional differences of fisheries are fully recognised—(Mr Elliot Morley);
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 6, at the end to add the words ‘recalls that the previous Government added to the burden of UK fishing communities, missed crucial opportunities to develop and enhance the industry, failed to take decisive action to reduce the loss of British fish quota to “flag of convenience” vessels and brought forward Spanish access to western waters by six years; welcomes the forthcoming reform of the Common Fisheries Policy as an opportunity to establish a decentralised system based on the regional management of fisheries which should aim to reduce the need for discards and improve the accuracy of the scientific base for decision making, ensure equality of monitoring and enforcement across the EU, protect the six and 12 mile fishing limits and develop a policy to encourage low-impact and sustainable fishing methods, and recognises that the fishing industry should continue to be exempt from the EU Working Time Directive’—(Mr Andrew George);
And it being Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [10th December], put the Question, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Phil Willis: 50.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 340.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Dowd: 377.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 129.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Union Document No.COM(98)680, relating to the fixing of total allowable catches for 1999 and certain conditions under which they may be fished; and supports the Government’s intentions to negotiate the best possible fishing opportunities for British fisherman based on sustainable fisheries management, effective enforcement and the need to ensure that regional differences of fisheries are fully recognised.

7 Consolidated Fund Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund 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.

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.

8 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 16th December, proceedings on any Motions in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to modernisation of the House of Commons, sittings of the House or meetings of standing committees may continue, though opposed, until any hour and the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings at eight o’clock, or four hours after the commencement of proceedings, whichever is the later, and such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by her which may then be moved.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

9 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Colchester and district relating to the sale of old people’s homes in Essex;

(2) residents of Moreton and others relating to the proposed creation of a permanent showman’s site in Moreton, and

(3) users and supporters of the Forum of Derbyshire Community Transports relating to community transport services

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.59 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Police.—Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 5) Order 1998, dated 8th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Building and Buildings.—Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3129), dated 14th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Legal Aid and Advice.—Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3154), dated 11th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

4 Sea Fisheries.—Sole, Plaice and Other Species (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3118), dated 11th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

5 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—Statute, dated 22nd June 1998, made by the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies.—Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies Report for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4157] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

7 Explosives.—Report of Her Majesty’s Inspectors of Explosives for Northern Ireland for 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 36] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

8 Human Fertilisation and Embryology.—Report and Accounts of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for 1996–97 and 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Museums and Galleries.—Accounts of the Natural History Museum for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 107] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Heritage.—Account of the Board of Trustees of the Armouries for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 108] [Clerk of the House].

11 National Insurance.—Account of Securities held for the National Insurance Fund as at 31st March 1998 [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

12 Northern Ireland.—Northern Ireland Appropriation Accounts for 1997–98 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. 47] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

13 Pensions.—Paper, entitled A New Contract For Welfare: Partnership in Pensions [by Command] [Cm. 4179] [Mr Secretary Darling].

14 Tribunals and Inquiries.—Report of the Council on Tribunals for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 45] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Town and Country Planning (Minerals) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2913) and Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998 No. 2914).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell and Mrs Sandra Osborne from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Miss Anne Begg, Mr Malcolm Chisholm and Mr David Stewart.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [UK Pig Industry], to be printed [No. 87–iii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; UK Pig Industry; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People], to be printed [No. 111–i] [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. 78–ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission], to be printed [No. 106–i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The Future of the EC Development Budget], to be printed [No. 44–iii] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee on 14th December [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 84–iii] [Mr David Marshall].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50–i ii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Trade and Industry,—(1) Third Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Multilateral Agreement on Investment], 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. 112]; and
   (2) First Special Report from the Committee [The Future of the Post Office: Conduct of Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 113]
   [Mr Martin O’Neill].

9 Treasury,—(1) First Report from the Treasury Committee [The Office for National Statistics], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 43]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 73–iv]
   [Mr Giles Radice].

10 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Broadcasting in Wales and the National Assembly]; to be printed [No. 48–iii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 15.]

Wednesday 16th December 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 Income Tax,—The Vice Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That its Address of 7th December relating to Income Tax had been presented to Her Majesty,
and that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and to give
the following Answer:

I have received your Address praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on
Income) (Ireland) Order 1998 be made in the form of the draft laid before your House.
I will comply with your request.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the
Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Town and Country Planning
(Minerals) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2913) and the Town and
Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral

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

4 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Welsh Grand Committee,
That it had considered the matter of Government expenditure in Wales (1999–2000 to
2001–2002), referred to it on 27th November, and had directed him to report accordingly
to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 115].

5 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Secretary Straw, supported by the Prime Minister,
Mr Secretary Blankett, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Dobson, Secretary Marjorie
Mowlam, Mr Secretary Michael and Mr Paul Boateng presented a Bill to reduce the age
at which certain sexual acts are lawful; to make it an offence for a person aged 18 or over
to engage in sexual activity with or directed towards a person under that age if he is in a
position of trust in relation to that person; and for connected purposes: And the same
was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed
[Bill 10].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill
be printed [Bill 10-EN].

6 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—A Motion was made, and the Questio
being proposed, That this House approves the First Report from the Select Committee on
Modernisation of the House of Commons on the Parliamentary Calendar: Initial
Proposals (HC 60)—(Margaret Beckett);

And it being four hours after commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the
Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [yesterday]:—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House approves the First Report from the Select Committee on
Modernisation of the House of Commons on the Parliamentary Calendar: Initial
Proposals (HC 60).

7 Sittings of the House,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, with
effect from Monday 11th January until the end of the present session of Parliament, the
Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications
set out below:

(1) The House shall meet on Thursdays at half-past eleven o’clock, and will first
proceed with private business, motions for unopposed returns and questions;
(2) proceedings on business on Thursdays shall be interrupted at seven o’clock; and
(3) in their application to Thursday sittings of the House, reference to a specified
time in the Standing Orders shall be interpreted as reference to a time three hours before the
time so specified, save that reference to half-past ten o’clock shall be substituted for
reference to twelve o’clock in Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on a specific and
important matter that should have urgent consideration)—(Mr Mike Hall);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘will’ to the
end of the Question and add the words:

proceed with public business, which may include a motion for the adjournment of
the House;
(2) at two o’clock on Thursdays, the Speaker shall interrupt the business without
question put and the sitting shall be suspended until half-past two o’clock; the House will
then proceed with private business, motions for unopposed returns and questions, after
which any business interrupted at two o’clock shall be resumed;
(3) proceedings on business on Thursdays shall be interrupted at seven o’clock; and
(4) in their application to Thursday sittings of the House, reference to a specified
time in the Standing Orders shall be interpreted as reference to a time three hours before the
time so specified, save that reference to a quarter to three o’clock in Standing Order No.
20 (Time for taking private business), to half-past three o’clock in Standing Order No. 21
(Time for taking questions) and to twelve o’clock in Standing Order No. 24
(Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration) shall remain unaltered.'.—(Sir George Young.)

Question put forthwith, pursuant to Order [yesterday]. That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr John Bercow: 140.

Tellers for the Noes, Miss Melanie Johnson, Dr Phyllis Starkey: 311.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Miss Melanie Johnson, Dr Phyllis Starkey: 325.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr John Bercow: 120.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, with effect from Monday 11th January until the end of the present session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

1. The House shall meet on Thursdays at half-past eleven o’clock, and will first proceed with private business, motions for unopposed returns and questions;

2. proceedings on business on Thursdays shall be interrupted at seven o’clock; and

3. in their application to Thursdays sittings of the House, reference to a specified time in the Standing Orders shall be interpreted as reference to a time three hours before the time so specified, save that reference to half-past ten o’clock shall be substituted for reference to twelve o’clock in Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on a specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration).

Meetings of Standing Committees.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [yesterday]. That, with effect from Monday 11th January 1999 until the end of the present Session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

Meetings of standing committees

Standing Committees shall have leave to sit at any hour and notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, subject to the following provisions:

a) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays when the House is sitting, no standing committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of one o’clock and half-past three o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees); and

b) on Thursdays when the House is sitting, no standing committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of half-past eleven o’clock and half-past twelve o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees) with the substitution in that paragraph of “half-past eleven o’clock” for “one o’clock” and “a quarter to twelve o’clock” for “a quarter past one o’clock”.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Miss Melanie Johnson, Dr Phyllis Starkey: 307.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Dominic Grieve: 66.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, with effect from Monday 11th January 1999 until the end of the present Session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

Meetings of standing committees

Standing Committees shall have leave to sit at any hour and notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, subject to the following provisions:

a) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays when the House is sitting, no standing committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of one o’clock and half-past three o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees); and

b) on Thursdays when the House is sitting, no standing committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of half-past eleven o’clock and half-past
twelve o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees) with the substitution in that paragraph of “half-past eleven o’clock” for “one o’clock” and “a quarter to twelve o’clock” for “a quarter past one o’clock”.

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 Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 1st December, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);—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 Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 1st December, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);—It was agreed to.

11 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 Financing of Maintained Schools Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);—It was agreed to.

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Patricia Revell and Kate Coull, mothers of autistic children, for research into the safety of the MMR vaccine, for research into autism and for a register of autistic children, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—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.

14 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.

[Adjourned at 10.27 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Aid and Advice.—Draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 1st April 1998, made by the University of Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the University,
   (2) Statute, dated 13th May 1998, made by the Governing Body of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College,
   (3) Statute, dated 19th May 1998, made by the Governing Body of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College, and
   [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

7 Appropriation Accounts, 1997–98,—Appropriation Account of sums granted by Parliament for 1997–98 for Class XII (Social Security) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1-ix] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Broadcasting,—Statement of principles and administrative arrangements of qualifying revenue and multiplex revenue by the Independent Television Commission [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

9 Competition,—Paper, entitled Our Competitive Future: Building the Knowledge Driven Economy [Cm. 4176] [by Command] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

10 Forestry,—(1) Accounts of the Forestry Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11] [Dawn Primarolo].
   (2) Accounts of the Forestry Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 117] [Clerk of the House].
   (3) Reports and Accounts of:
      (i) Forest Enterprise,
      (ii) Forest Research, and
      (iii) the Forestry Commission for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 12, 13 and 11] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

11 Hong Kong (No. 4, 1998),—Agreement, done at Hong Kong on 30th July 1998, 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 Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 4173] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 International Monetary Arrangements,—Indemnity given by the Treasury to the Bank of England covering its commitment to the Bank for International Settlements in respect of a loan to Brazil [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

13 Local Government Finance,—Accounts of the Scottish Office Development Department Non-Domestic Rating for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 119] [Clerk of the House].

14 Local Government (Scotland),—Accounts of the Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 120] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Department of Health on 14th December on temporary borrowing by the Queen Mary’s Sidcup National Health Service Trust from National Westminster Bank PLC [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

16 Policyholders Protection,—Statement by the Treasury under section 28 of the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 concerning assistance given by the Policyholders Protection Board to—
   (1) BAI (Run-Off) Limited, and
   (2) Black Sea and Baltic General Insurance Company Limited
   [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

17 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the:
   (1) Medical Research Council, and
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Greater London Authority Bill (except Clauses 1 to 4 and Schedules 1 and 2):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton and Mr Edward O’Hara Chairmen; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-nine Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Peter Brooke, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Paul Burstow, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Keith Davill, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Jim Dowd, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Mike Gapes, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Kate Hoey, Mr Simon Hughes, Glenda Jackson, Mr Ken Livingstone, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Richard Ottaway, Ms Linda Perham, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr John Randall, Mr Nick Raynsford, Joan Ryan, Mr John Smith, Mr John M. Taylor and Mr John Wilkinson.

2 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1999 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Peter Bottomley, Ann Clwyd, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Stephen Day, Mr David Drew, Mr Frank Field, Mr Damian Green, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr George Mudie, Mr Allan Rogers, Debra Shipley, Mr David Taylor and Mr Phil Willis.

3 Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2878):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Tim Collins, Angela Eagle, Mr David Faber, Mr Paul Goggins, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Kevin Hughes, Ann Keen, Mr Mark Oaten, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr Tom Pendry, Mr Eric Pickles, Miss Geraldine Smith, Steve Webb and Audrey Wise.

Grand Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Edinburgh on Monday 18th January.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee [Highly Able Children]; to be printed [No. 22-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Second Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Millennium Compliance of the Transport Industry]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 90];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Integrated Transport White Paper]; to be printed [No. 32-ii]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Eurolines Regional Services], to be printed [No. 89-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
3 European Scrutiny.—Fourth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-iv][Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Foreign Affairs.—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Sierra Leone]; to be printed [No. 116-i][Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Operation of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [No. 95-ii][Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Controls to Prevent and Detect Fraud in Family Practitioner Service Payments]; to be printed [No. 123-i][Mr David Davis].

7 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration on 15th December [Annual Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 54-i][Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 17-v][Dr Michael Clark].

9 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [Child Benefit]; to be printed [No.114-i][Mr Archy Kirkwood].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 16.]

Thursday 17th December 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 Consolidated Fund Bill, without Amendment.

2 Standing Orders.—Ordered, That the Standing Orders relating to Public Business, as amended, be printed [No. 7].

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 Act, agreed upon by both Houses:

Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Act 1998.

4 Adjournment (Iraq).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Jamieson).

Mr Tony Benn 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 this House do now adjourn:—It was negatived.

5 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from persons opposing plans by West Hertfordshire Health Authority in relation to Hemel Hempstead General Hospital was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
6 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire).

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 Monday 11th January, pursuant to Resolution [8th December].

[Adjourned at 10.43 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 No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3096), dated 8th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

   (2) Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3176), dated 17th December 1998 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo]; and

3 Plant Health,—(1) Potatoes Originating in Egypt (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3167), and

4 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc,—Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3171), dated 15th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].


8 Telecommunications,—Telecommunications (Data Protection and Privacy) (Direct Marketing) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3170), dated 16th December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

Other Papers:

9 Comprehensive Spending Review,—Paper, entitled Public Services for the Future—Modernisation, Reform, Accountability: Comprehensive Spending Review Public Service Agreements 1999–2002 [by Command] [Cm. 4181] [Mr Stephen Byers].

10 Covent Garden,—Report and Accounts of the Covent Garden Market Authority for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

11 Export Credits Guarantee Department,—Report and Trading Accounts of the Export Credits Guarantee Department for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 2] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].


13 Health,—Government Response to the Second Report of the Health Committee, Session 1997–98, on Children Looked After by Local Authorities [by Command] [Cm. 4175] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

14 International Labour Conference,—Paper, entitled Presentation of a Convention and a Recommendation 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 and Recommendation [by Command] [Cm. 4153] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
15 Local Government Finance,—Account of the Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 127] [Clerk of the House].

16 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence Management of Office Space [by Act]; to be printed [No. 105] [Clerk of the House].

17 National Loans,—(1) Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 27] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Supplementary Statements of Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 28] [Dawn Primarolo].

18 National Lottery,—Account of the Sports Council for Northern Ireland’s Lottery Distribution for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 126] [Clerk of the House].

19 Registration Service,—Mortality Statistics: Review of the Registrar General on deaths by cause, sex and age in England and Wales for 1997 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

20 Science and Technology,—Government Response to the Seventh Report from the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, Session 1997–98, on Resistance to Antibiotics and other Antimicrobial Agents [by Command] [Cm. 4172] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

21 Terrorism,—Paper, entitled Legislation against Terrorism: A consultation paper [by Command] [Cm. 4178] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1999 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Debra Shipley from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders), and nominated in substitution Mr Martin Caton.

European Standing Committees

2 European Standing Committee A,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated thirteen Members to serve on European Standing Committee A, viz.: Jackie Ballard, Mr David Chaytor, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr George Stevenson, Mr William Thompson, Mr Peter Viggers and Dr Rudi Vis.

3 European Standing Committee B,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated thirteen Members to serve on European Standing Committee B, viz.: Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Paul Clark, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Jane Griffiths, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr David Lepper, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr William Ross, Mr Robert Walter, Sir Raymond Whitney and Mr John Wilkinson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—First Report from the Agriculture Committee [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 125] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Future NHS Staffing Requirements]; to be printed [No. 38-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
The House met 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.:
   - Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts
   - City of London (Ward Elections)
   - City of Newcastle upon Tyne
   - HFC Bank
   - Imperial College
   - Kent County Council
   - Medway Council
   - Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) etc.
   - United Reformed Church
   - University College London.

2 Rating (Valuation) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Rating (Valuation) 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 Greg Pope, Mr Mike Hall: 268.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Paul Burstow: 30.
   So the Question was agreed to.
   The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Rating (Valuation) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Rating (Valuation) 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 Rating (Valuation) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other Act—(Mr Clive Betts).
   It was agreed to.

4 Rating (Valuation) Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Town and Country Planning (Minerals) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2913), dated 17th November 1998, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts).
   It was agreed to.

5 Town and Country Planning (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working and Mineral Waste Depositing) (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2914), dated 17th November 1998, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts).
   It was agreed to.

6 European Scrutiny.—Ordered, That Mr Quentin Davies be discharged from the European Scrutiny Committee and Mr Robert Walter be added to the Committee.—(Mr Clive Betts.)
Adjournment,—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.56 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):


2 Museums and Galleries.—(1) Financial Statements of the Museum of London for 1997-98, and

(2) Paper concerning the indemnification for works of art lent to the Tate Gallery for its Spring Exhibition of works by Jackson Pollock [Mr Secretary Smith].

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:

18th December 1998


4 Plant Health.—Plant Health (Forestry) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3109), dated 14th December 1998 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

21st December 1998


7 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.—Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3191), dated 11th December 1998 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

22nd December 1998


23rd December 1998


4th January 1999


16 Social Security,—Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3257), dated 22nd December 1998 [Mr Secretary Darling].

6th January 1999


19 Environmental Protection,—Financial Assistance for Environmental Purposes (No. 4) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3234), dated 22nd December 1998 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

20 Health and Safety,—(1) Asbestos (Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3233), and


7th January 1999

22 Education,—(1) Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2), and

8th January 1999


24 Police,—(1) National Crime Squad Service Authority (Levying) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3259), and
(2) NCIS Service Authority (Levying) (Amendment) Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3258), dated 22nd December 1998 [Mr Secretary Straw].


Other papers:

23rd December 1998

27 Police,—Number of Members of South Wales Police Authority Order 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3215), dated 18th December 1998 [Mr Secretary Straw].

4th January 1999


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 11th January 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

29 European Communities,—(1) Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999, and
(2) Draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

30 Landlord and Tenant,—Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6), dated 11th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

31 Medicines,—Medicines (Standard Provisions for Licences and Certificates) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 4), dated 5th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

32 Air Force Constitution,—Amendments to Air Publication 400B–0001 (First Edition) Regulations for the Royal Air Force Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

33 Biological Standards,—Accounts of the National Biological Standards Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 133] [Clerk of the House].

34 Culture, Media and Sport,—Departmental Minute, dated 11th January 1999, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the proposed lease of the Tower Hill Vaults site [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

35 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—Account of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 134] [Clerk of the House].

36 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the Milk Development Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

37 Isle of Man,—Commissioners of Customs and Excise in Account with the Government of the Isle of Man: an Account of Receipts and Payments for 1997–98 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

38 Reserve Forces,—Amendment No. 20 to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

39 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the Natural Environment Research Council for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 132] [Clerk of the House].

40 Social Security Administration,—Account of the National Insurance Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 130] [Clerk of the House].

[No. 18.]

Tuesday 12th January 1999.

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 (Weights and Measures) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 14th December 1998, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 11]. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 138].

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 1999 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
4 Local Government Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Government 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, while welcoming the repeal of Part I of the Local Government Act 1988 concerning compulsory competitive tendering, declines to give the Local Government Bill a Second Reading because, instead of creating a system of local government that is powerful and free, it grants comprehensive powers to the Secretary of State over local government, amounting to the nationalisation of local government, it creates a culture whereby local government is more concerned with the requirements of Whitehall than the needs of local residents, it retains and incrementally increases capping, thus blurring accountability for Council Tax and service levels, it fails to grant a power of general competence to local authorities, and it alters the way in which Council Tax Benefit subsidy is paid in such a way that poor Council Tax payers will pay for the benefits of the poorest Council Tax payers’, instead thereof.—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Donald Gorrie: 35.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Jamieson: 341.

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 Keith Hill, Mr David Jamieson: 334.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 170.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

5 Local Government Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Local Government 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 Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other enactment;

(b) any expenses of the Secretary of State under the Act—(Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

6 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—

(i) at its sitting on Monday 1st February, the Scottish Grand Committee shall take questions for oral answer; and

(ii) in respect of that sitting, paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 94 (Scottish Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)) shall have effect with the substitution of the word “nine” for the word “ten”.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

7 Committee of Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Dawn Primarolo be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mrs Barbara Roche be added to the Committee.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

8 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 four minutes to Eleven o’clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (Infant Class Sizes) (Grant) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 14), dated 7th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

2 Ashworth Special Hospital,—(1) Executive Summary of the Report, and
(2) Report (Volume I)
of the Committee of Inquiry into the Personality Disorder Unit, Ashworth Special Hospital [by Command] [Cm. 4194-I and II] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 Oil and Pipelines,—Report and Accounts of the Oil and Pipelines Agency for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Second Report from the Agriculture Committee [CAP Reform: Rural Development], 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. 61];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Sea Fishing]; to be printed [No. 141-i]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; UK Pig Industry; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]
[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation,—Second Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1999]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 135] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Home Affairs,—(1) Second Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Electoral Law and Administration]; to be printed [No. 137]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Police Training and Recruitment]; to be printed [No. 81-i]
[Mr Chris Mullin].

4 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee [Annual Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration for 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 136] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-i] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Telephone Numbering and the Work of Oftel]; to be printed [No. 139-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Treasury,—(1) Second Report from the Treasury Committee [The World Economy and 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. 91]; and
(2) First Special Report from the Committee [The Mis-selling of Personal Pensions: Responses by the Government and the Financial Services Authority to the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 140]
[Mr Giles Radice].
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 Mike Hall); 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 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

3 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

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46 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

47 Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords].—The Alliance & Leicester plc (Group Reorganisation) Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.
10 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill.—Mr Mark Oaten, supported by Mr Keith Vaz, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Dalrymple, Mr Simon Hughes and Dr Jenny Tonge, presented a Bill to make provision for giving effect to the Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption, concluded at The Hague on 29th May 1993; to make further provision in relation to adoptions with an international element; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 18].

11 Licensing (Young Persons) Bill.—Chris McCafferty, supported by Mr Paul Truswell, Jane Griffiths, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Alice Mahon, Ann Clywd, Mr Fabian Hamilton and Mr Mark Singh, presented a Bill to make provision in connection with the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor in cases involving persons under eighteen; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th April and to be printed [Bill 19].

12 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill.—Mr Patrick McLoughlin, supported by Mr John MacGregor, Mr David Curry, Mr A. J. Beith, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Harry Barnes, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Rob Wilson, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Dr Julian Lewis and Judy Mallaber, presented a Bill to exempt operators of certain community bus services from payment of excise duty on fuel used in operating those services; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 20].

13 Streetworks Bill.—Mr Christopher Fraser presented a Bill to amend the law relating to streetworks; to make provision for a streetworks registration scheme; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 21].

14 Cheques (Scotland) Bill.—Mr John Swinney, supported by Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Alasdair Morgan, presented a Bill to amend the law of Scotland in relation to the effect of presentation of cheques for payment: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th March and to be printed [Bill 22].

15 Nuclear Safeguards Bill.—Mr Tony Colman presented a Bill to enable effect to be given to the protocol signed at Vienna on 22nd September 1998 additional to the agreement for the application of safeguards in the United Kingdom in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 23].

16 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill.—Sir Robert Smith, supported by Mr Peter Bottomley, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Michael Colvin, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr John McAllion, Mr Alan Simpson and Mr James Wallace, presented a Bill to require certain health bodies to draw up reports on ways in which they may use energy efficiency schemes to assist persons living in fuel poverty to heat their homes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 24].

17 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill.—Mr Andrew Hunter, supported by Mr Tony Colman, Mr Humphrey Malins, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Bill O'Brien, Mr Richard Paice and Mr Brian Sedgemore, presented a Bill to make further provision about the testing of motor vehicles for the purposes of Part II of the Road Traffic Act 1988; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th March and to be printed [Bill 25].

18 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill.—Mr James Clappison, supported by Mr Roger Gale, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Graham Brady, Sir Richard Body, Mr David Amess, Mr Richard Allan, Mr Ian Cawsey, Angela Smith, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Andrew Miller and Caroline Flint, presented a Bill to amend and extend certain enactments relating to the commercial breeding and sale of dogs; to regulate the welfare of dogs kept in commercial 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 12th March and to be printed [Bill 26].

19 Public House Names Bill.—Mrs Ann Winterton, supported by Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Peter Bradley, Tom Cox, Dr Lynne Jones, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr David Rendel, Christine Russell, Mr Graham Stringer and 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 5th March and to be printed [Bill 27].
20 Hedges (Control) Bill.—Mr Andrew Rowe presented a Bill to subject hedges in residential areas to local authority planning control: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 28].

21 Planning Appeals Bill.—Mr Nigel Evans, supported by Mr Peter Atkinson, Mrs Angela Browning, Dr Julian Lewis, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mr Robert Syms, presented a Bill to remove the right of appeal to the Secretary of State against certain planning decisions: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 29].

22 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, etc.) Bill.—Mr Andrew Lansley, supported by Mr Michael Trend, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Richard Page, Mr Nick Harvey, Mr Robin Corbett, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr James Pate, Mr Nick St Aubyn and Mrs Louise Ellman, presented 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: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 26th February and to be printed [Bill 30].

23 Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill.—Mr John McAllion, supported by Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr David Chaytor, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Clive Efford, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr David Lepper, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Alan Simpson and Mr Matthew Taylor, presented a Bill to require energy conservation authorities to draw up reports concerning fuel poverty and to designate officers with responsibility for energy conservation; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th March and to be printed [Bill 31].

24 Opposition Day [2nd 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.

Government Information.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the extent to which politically-partisan presentation, spin-doctoring, unattributed briefing and the pursuit of personal rivalries between Ministers have become characteristics of the presentation of government information; believes that clearer and more transparent need to be established in this field, affirms that the public interest is in having far greater access to the information used by Government in making decisions which affect people’s lives; and calls upon the Government to introduce its draft Freedom of Information Bill as a matter of the highest priority to enable early consideration, to present such a Bill later this Session which can be carried over into the next Session of Parliament, and to ensure that the Bill fully reflects the proposals set out in the White Paper, Your Right to Know—(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 ‘welcomes the Government’s commitment to modernising Government; commends the professionalism of the Government Information and Communications Service (GICS) in carrying out the important task of effectively communicating and explaining policies, decisions and actions of the Government of the day; recognises that the Mountfield Report set out the future direction of the GICS and confirmed the long accepted conventions of impartiality and propriety; believes that the model contract for special advisers, which defined, for the first time in a public document, the roles and responsibilities of special advisers, should be welcomed; applauds the Government’s intention to publish a draft Freedom of Information Bill as soon as possible; and welcomes the intention of the Select Committee on Public Administration to undertake pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Bill’, instead thereof.—(Dr Jack Cunningham.)

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 Edward Davey: 42.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 331.

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 modernising Government; commends the professionalism of the Government Information and Communications Service (GICS) in carrying out the important task of effectively communicating and explaining policies, decisions and actions of the Government of the day; recognises that the Mountfield Report set out the future direction of the GICS and confirmed the long accepted conventions of impartiality and propriety; believes that the model contract for special advisers, which defined, for the first time in a public document,
the roles and responsibilities of special advisers, should be welcomed; applauds the Government’s intention to publish a draft Freedom of Information Bill as soon as possible; and welcomes the intention of the Select Committee on Public Administration to undertake pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Bill.

Role of the UK in Europe.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets the display of “absentee government” by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in failing to be present at the official launch of the euro and in not giving a clear lead to British businesses in relation to future UK membership of the euro; believes that the Government’s failure to come to terms with the euro will undermine the prospects for exercising British leadership in Europe; calls on the Government to set out a clear strategy and timetable for British membership of the euro, including measures to accelerate convergence of interest rates, an early report on plans to make Britain’s inflation target compatible with that used within the euro zone, urgent clarification of the remit of the cross-party euro preparations committee, initiation of an annual HM Treasury report to Parliament on progress on the Government’s five convergence criteria, and steps to encourage an open debate on the appropriate level at which sterling should join the euro; and further urges the Government to contribute to the development of a European Union which is open, accountable, democratic and decentralised, and in which the powers of European institutions, the constitutional relationship between the EU and member states and the rights of the citizens of EU member states are more clearly defined through the establishment of a constitution for Europe—(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 ‘recognises the importance to the British economy of continued membership of the European Community; welcomes the step change that the Government has made in its economic relations with the UK’s European partners and the real benefits that constructive engagement has brought for Britain; commends the progress made by the Government in promoting economic reform in Europe as the basis for growth and job creation; welcomes the Government’s ongoing programme of practical assistance to British business on the implications of the euro; commends the Bank of England and the financial services industries for the skill and expertise with which they managed Britain’s part in the transition of 1st January 1999; and welcomes the Government’s decision to make the national economic interest the key test for British entry to the single currency on the basis of five economic tests and that any final decision should be made by the British people as set out in the Chancellor’s statement to the House of 27th October 1997’, instead thereof.—(Mr Alan Milburn.)

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 Edward Davey: 42.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Mike Hall: 281.

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 recognises the importance to the British economy of continued membership of the European Community; welcomes the step change that the Government has made in its economic relations with the UK’s European partners and the real benefits that constructive engagement has brought for Britain; commends the progress made by the Government in promoting economic reform in Europe as the basis for growth and job creation; welcomes the Government’s ongoing programme of practical assistance to British business on the implications of the euro; commends the Bank of England and the financial services industries for the skill and expertise with which they managed Britain’s part in the transition of 1st January 1999; and welcomes the Government’s decision to make the national economic interest the key test for British entry to the single currency on the basis of five economic tests and that any final decision should be made by the British people as set out in the Chancellor’s statement to the House of 27th October 1997.

25 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 1999, which was laid before this House on 1st December, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen).—It was agreed to.

26 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 1999, which was laid before this House on 1st December, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen).—It was agreed to.
27 Rating (Valuation) Bill.—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Rating (Valuation) Bill, the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

28 Public Administration.—Ordered, That Miss Melanie Johnson be discharged from the Select Committee on Public Administration and Ms Margaret Moran be added to the Committee.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

29 Greater London Authority (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the Greater London Authority Bill—

Committee of the whole House

1. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House on Clauses 1 to 4 of, and Schedules 1 and 2 to, the Bill 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.

Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee to which the remainder of the Bill is committed shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 12.50 p.m. on 30th March 1999.

Business Committee

3. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill.

Business Sub-Committee

4. Resolutions of the Business Sub-Committee may include alterations in the order in which Clauses, Schedules, new Clauses and new Schedules are taken in the Standing Committee.

Procedure in Standing Committee

5. At a sitting of the Standing Committee at which any proceedings on the Bill are to be brought to a conclusion in accordance with this Order or 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 the proceedings have been brought to a conclusion.

Conclusion of proceedings

6. 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.

Supplementary provisions

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.

8. 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.

9. If any Motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to supplement the provisions of this Order in respect of proceedings on Consideration or Third Reading or 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 Graham Allen.)

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

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 Pensions,—Draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Darling].

2 Social Security,—(1) Draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 1999, and
(2) draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Fund
Payments) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture,—Arable Area Payments (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 8),
dated 7th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

4 Health and Safety,—Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application to
Environmentally Hazardous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999,
No. 40), dated 12th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

5 Appropriation Accounts, 1997–98,—Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by
Parliament for Classes:—
(1) IV (Trade and Industry and Export Credits Guarantee Department),
(2) IX (Education and Employment),
(3) X (Culture, Media and Sport),
(4) XI (Department of Health), and
(5) XIV (Wales)
for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1-IV, -IX, -X, -XI and -XIV] [Dawn Primarolo].

6 Social Security,—Report by the Government Actuary on the drafts of the Social Security
Benefits Up-rating Order 1999 and the Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and
National Insurance Fund Payments) Order 1999 [by Command] [Cm. 4199] [Mr
Secretary Darling].

7 Treaty Series (No. 1, 1999),—Third Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions,
Withdrawals, Etc., for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4185] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Treaty Series (No. 2, 1999),—Europe Agreement, done at Luxembourg on 12th June 1995,
establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member
States, of the one part, and the Republic of Estonia, of the other part including Protocols
with Exchange of Letters, Declarations and Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 4191] [Mr
Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Rating (Valuation) Bill:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and has appointed Mr
George Stevenson and Mrs Marion Roe Chairmen; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-two Members to serve on the
Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Mr David Borrow, Mr Simon
Burns, Mr Paul Burstow, Christine Butler, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr David Crausby, Mr
David Curry, Mr James Gray, Mr John Hayes, Ms Beverley Hughes, Ms Sally Keeble,
2 Local Government Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr Bill O’Brien Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Jackie Ballard, Sir Paul Beresford, Christine Butler, Mr David Crausby, Mr David Curry, Mr John Hayes, Ms Beverly Hughes, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Ms Oona King, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr James Plaskitt, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Gareth Thomas, Mr Brian White and Dr Alan Whitehead.

3 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 1st February.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Export Services Organisation]; to be printed [No. 147] [Mr Michael Colvin].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-ii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Third Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Future of National Air Traffic Services], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee in the last Session of Parliament; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 122] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny,—Fifth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-v] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland: Special Educational Needs]; to be printed [No. 33-ii], and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Operation of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [No. 95-iii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Procedure,—First Report from the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution: Interim Report], together with an Appendix [Memorandum from the Leader of the House reported to the House on 1st December]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 148] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 17-vi] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Social Security,—First Special Report from the Social Security Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Pensions on Divorce]; to be printed [No. 146] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Water Industry Bill.—Mr John McWilliam reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Water Industry Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 151].

2 Public Accounts.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of the 1st to 67th reports of the Committee of Public Accounts of Session 1997–98, and of the Treasury Minutes and Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memoranda on these Reports (Cm. 3880, 3893, 3894, 3936, 3955, 3973, 4004, 4015, 4021, 4041, 4055, 4060, 4069, 4075) with particular reference to the following Reports:

Twenty-seventh, Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud (HC 366);

Thirty-second, Cataract Surgery in Scotland (HC 546);

Thirty-fourth, Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Irregular Payments at the British Embassy in Amman, Jordan (HC 553);

Forty-fourth, Northern Ireland Social Security Agency: The Administration of the Disability Allowance (HC 527);

Forty-sixth, The Contract to Develop and Update the Replacement National Insurance Recording System (HC 472);

Sixty-first, Getting Value for Money in Privatisations (HC 992);

Sixty-seventh, HM Treasury: Resource Accounting and Resource-Based Supply (HC 731)—(Mr David Davis);

Question put and agreed to.

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 Act, passed under the provisions of the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949:


(The said Bill having been endorsed by Madam Speaker with the following Certificate:—

I certify, in reference to this Bill, that the provisions of section two of the Parliament Act 1911, as amended by section one of the Parliament Act 1949, have been duly complied with.

Betty Boothroyd
Speaker)

4 Public Accounts.—The Question being again proposed, That this House takes note of the 1st to 67th reports of the Committee of Public Accounts of Session 1997–98, and of the Treasury Minutes and Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memoranda on these Reports (Cm. 3880, 3893, 3894, 3936, 3955, 3973, 4004, 4015, 4021, 4041, 4055, 4060, 4069, 4075) with particular reference to the following Reports:

Twenty-seventh, Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud (HC 366);

Thirty-second, Cataract Surgery in Scotland (HC 546);

Thirty-fourth, Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Irregular Payments at the British Embassy in Amman, Jordan (HC 553);

Forty-fourth, Northern Ireland Social Security Agency: The Administration of the Disability Allowance (HC 527);

Forty-sixth, The Contract to Develop and Update the Replacement National Insurance Recording System (HC 472);

Sixty-first, Getting Value for Money in Privatisations (HC 992);

Sixty-seventh, HM Treasury: Resource Accounting and Resource-Based Supply (HC 731);
Ordered, That—

(1) the Order of the House of 2nd December relating to sittings of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall have effect with the substitution of the words ‘2.30 p.m.’ for the words ‘10.30 a.m.’;

(2) the matter of the Discussion Paper entitled “Putting it Right—the case for change in Northern Ireland’s hospital service”, being a matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration; and

(3) at the sitting on Thursday 28th January—

(i) the Committee shall consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (2) above;

(ii) the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings at 5 p.m.; and

(iii) at the conclusion 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(5) (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

Ordered, That Mr Neil Gerrard be added to the Environmental Audit Committee.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education (Scotland),—Cambuslang College (Change of Name) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 16), dated 7th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

2 Agricultural Marketing,—Report on Agricultural Marketing Schemes for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Marshall Aid Commemoration,—Account of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 152] [Clerk of the House].

4 Pensions,—Report of the Pensions Compensation Board for the period 1st August 1997 to 31st July 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Pre-Budget Report], to be printed [No. 93–ii] [Mr John Horam].

2 Health Committee,—Second Report from the Health Committee [Primary Care Groups], to be printed with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 153] [Audrey Wise]

3 Procedure,—Memorandum laid before the Procedure Committee [Ponsonby Rule] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Energy Efficiency Bill.—Mr Clive Efford, supported by John Austin, Julia Drown, Mr David Chaytor, Mr David Lepper, Mr Peter Bottomley and Mr Matthew Taylor, 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 26th February and to be printed [Bill 32].

2 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—Mr Clive Efford, supported by John Austin, Julia Drown, Mr David Chaytor, Mr David Lepper, Mr Peter Bottomley and Mr Matthew Taylor, 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 26th February and to be printed [Bill 33].

3 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.

Rationing in the NHS.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House recognises that rationing has always been a part of how the Health Service manages health care resources; expresses its dismay at the comments of the Right honourable Member for Dulwich and West Norwood denying the obvious fact that rationing exists in the Health Service; expresses grave concern at the proposed changes to be effected by Her Majesty’s Government, which through bureaucratic bodies such as a National Institute for Clinical Excellence and a Commission for Health Improvement will force clinicians to carry the burden on rationing decisions; recognises that the availability of modern drugs for conditions such as schizophrenia and MS makes clear the reality of rationing in today’s Health Service; recognises the fact that waiting lists are a hidden form of rationing; notes that excessive political concentration upon waiting lists has been largely responsible for the continuing winter crisis in the Health Service, over which Her Majesty’s Government appears wholly complacent and unconcerned; and urges Her Majesty’s Government to acknowledge the concerns of professional bodies such as the BMA over rationing and embark upon a mature debate on the future of the Health Service— (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 ‘reaffirms the historic principles of the NHS, that if people are ill or injured there will be a national health service there to help, and access to it will be based on need and need alone, not on ability to pay or who their general practitioner happens to be or on where they live; welcomes the measures the Government has taken, is taking and will take that will ensure that comparable, top quality treatment and care are available in every part of the country through the introduction of new arrangements for spreading best practice, including the ending of the Conservative competition of the internal market, the introduction of local Health Improvement Programmes and Primary Care Groups to put local doctors, nurses and other health professionals in the driving seat in shaping local health care, the introduction of a new Commission for Health Improvement and National Institute for Clinical Excellence, and the creation of new legal duties of partnership and quality to ensure that all parts of the NHS and social services work together to deliver top quality services to all; welcomes the record £21 billion investment to be made in the NHS, including £18 billion for the NHS in England, over the next three years; notes the record 150,000 fall in NHS waiting lists since April 1998 and the 17 per cent increase in the number of new nurse trainees in the period since Labour came to power; and further welcomes the measures that the Government intends to take over the coming year to continue to build a modern and dependable NHS, including the extension of NHS Direct to cover 19 million people, the creation of 26 Health Action Zones covering 13 million people to target areas with particularly high levels of ill health—including cancer and heart disease— and reduce health inequalities, and the targeted investment of £30 million to modernise accident and emergency departments’, 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 John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 169.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Clive Betts: 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,
Resolved, That this House reaffirms the historic principles of the NHS, that if people are ill or injured there will be a national health service there to help, and access to it will be based on need and need alone, not on ability to pay or who their general practitioner happens to be or on where they live; welcomes the measures the Government has taken, is taking and will take that will ensure that comparable, top quality treatment and care are available in every part of the country through the introduction of new arrangements for spreading best practice, including the ending of the Conservative competition of the internal market, the introduction of local Health Improvement Programmes and Primary Care Groups to put local doctors, nurses and other health professionals in the driving seat in shaping local health care, the introduction of a new Commission for Health Improvement and National Institute for Clinical Excellence, and the creation of new legal duties of partnership and quality to ensure that all parts of the NHS and social services work together to deliver top quality services to all; welcomes the record £21 billion investment to be made in the NHS, including £18 billion for the NHS in England, over the next three years; notes the record 150,000 fall in NHS waiting lists since April 1998 and the 17 per cent increase in the number of new nurse trainees in the period since Labour came to power; and further welcomes the measures that the Government intends to take over the coming year to continue to build a modern and dependable NHS, including the extension of NHS Direct to cover 19 million people, the creation of 26 Health Action Zones covering 13 million people to target areas with particularly high levels of ill health—including cancer and heart disease—and reduce health inequalities, and the targeted investment of £30 million to modernise accident and emergency departments.

Pensioners and Dividend Tax Credits.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that from April 1999, 300,000 non-taxpaying pensioners and 330,000 other non-taxpayers will lose an average of £75 each because of the Government’s decision to abolish the dividend tax credit; further notes that 80,000 of the pensioners affected will lose over £100 per year; considers that it is unacceptable that basic rate taxpayers and higher rate taxpayers are unaffected directly by this decision which only affects non-taxpayers, half of them poor pensioners, who by definition must be poorer than taxpayers; calls on the Government to act on the promise made to the House of 30th June when the then Paymaster General stated ‘I am aware of the growing anxiety among poorer non-taxpayers who have been hit by the measure so I know that we need to make our position utterly clear as quickly as possible’ (Official Report, 30th June, column 175); calls upon the Government to honour now this pledge by announcing that non-taxpayers will be able to continue to reclaim a 10 per cent tax credit from April 1999 in the same way as taxpayers who hold PEPs or ISAs will be able to do so; and further notes that this is still a 50 per cent cut from the current 20 per cent dividend tax credit—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory);

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 fundamental reform of company taxation carried out by the Government has removed major company taxation distortions from the system and put in place a sound base for better quality investment and growth that will lead to greater prosperity for everyone in the UK, including pensioners; that the Government has taken significant steps to help pensioners, including a guaranteed minimum income for the poorest pensioners through an increase in Income Support from this April worth over £236 extra per year for single pensioners and over £377 extra for couples, a minimum guarantee on tax so that pensioners have no income tax to pay unless their income rises above a certain level, £20 of winter fuel payments for every pensioner household, the introduction of free eye tests for pensioners from this April, new travel concessions on public transport and an extra £21 billion invested in the National Health Service; and further notes that this contrasts sharply with the record of the previous Government which introduced VAT on fuel at 8 per cent and tried to increase it to 17.5 per cent, which introduced charges on eye tests for pensioners, which presided over the mis-selling of pensions which severely damaged the financial security of many pensioners, which ran down the National Health Service on which many pensioners rely, and which was responsible for boom and bust economics which eroded the real value of pensioners’ savings through inflation exceeding 10 per cent’, instead thereof.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

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: 166.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 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);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 332.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 155.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That this House notes that the fundamental reform of company taxation carried out by the Government has removed major company taxation distortions from the system and put in place a sound base for better quality investment and growth that will lead to greater prosperity for everyone in the UK, including pensioners; that the Government has taken significant steps to help pensioners, including a guaranteed minimum income for the poorest pensioners through an increase in Income Support from this April worth over £336 extra per year for single pensioners and over £377 extra for couples, a minimum guarantee on tax so that pensioners have no income tax to pay unless their income rises above a certain level, £20 of winter fuel payments for every pensioner household, the introduction of free eye tests for pensioners from this April, new travel concessions on public transport and an extra £21 billion invested in the National Health Service; and further notes that this contrasts sharply with the record of the previous Government which introduced VAT on fuel at 8 per cent and tried to increase it to 17.5 per cent, which introduced charges on eye tests for pensioners, which presided over the mis-selling of pensions which severely damaged the financial security of many pensioners, which ran down the National Health Service on which many pensioners rely, and which was responsible for boom and bust economics which eroded the real value of pensioners' savings through inflation exceeding 10 per cent.

4 Welsh Affairs.—Ordered. That Ms Jackie Lawrence be discharged from the Welsh Affairs Committee and Mr Chris Ruane be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

5 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Residents of the Parish of Wing in Buckinghamshire relating to a proposed Wing by-pass 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 Jim Dowd.)

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 delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 15th January 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Professional Qualifications,—European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) (Second General System) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 67), dated 13th January 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 18th January:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 School Standards and Framework,—Draft Code of Practice on LEA-School Relations [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].
2 Public Accounts.—(1) Fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Treasury: Treasury Controls] [No. 157];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: Grants to Voluntary Bodies]; to be printed [No. 158-i]; and
   (3) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Delays to the new National Insurance Recording System]
   [Mr David Davis].

3 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Childcare in Wales]; to be printed [No. 156-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 22.]

Tuesday 19th January 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Rating (Valuation) Bill.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Rating (Valuation) 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. 168].

2 House of Lords Bill.—Margaret Beckett, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Dr Jack Cunningham, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mrs Ann Taylor, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Mr Secretary Michael and Mr Geo Hoon, presented a Bill to end membership of the House of Lords by virtue of a hereditary peerage; to make related provision about disqualifications for voting at elections to, and for membership of, the House of Commons; 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 34].
   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the House of Lords Bill be printed [Bill 34–EN].

3 Greater London Authority Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2) [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Greater London Authority Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2).
   (In the Committee)
   Clause No. 1 agreed to.
   Clause No. 2 (Membership of the Authority and the Assembly).
   Amendment (No. 16) proposed, in page 1, line 15, after the word ‘of’, to insert the word ‘Greater’.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)
   Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
   Another Amendment (No. 60) proposed, in page 1, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—
   ‘(aa) the Deputy Mayor’.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)
   Question put, That the Amendment be made.
   The Committee divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Oliver Heald: 120.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr David Jamieson: 371.

   Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 2 to 22 and insert the words—
   ‘(2) The Assembly shall consist of 33 members comprising—
   (a) one nominated representative from each London Borough and
   (b) one nominated representative from the Corporation of London.’—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)
   Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Tim Collins: 115.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Mike Hall: 339.

Another Amendment (No. 19) proposed, in page 2, line 2, to leave out from the word ‘members’ to the end of line 6 and insert the words ‘representing the multi-member constituencies determined by the Local Government Commission under subsection (4) below.’.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Don Foster: 44.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Kevin Hughes: 461.

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 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.

4 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 (Pipe-lines) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th November 1998, be approved.—(Mr Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

5 Mental Health,—Ordered, That the Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

6 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That Sir Alastair Goodlad be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Mr Eric Forth be added to the Committee.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

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

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 Education (Scotland),—Grants for Pre-school Education (Prescribed Children) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 79), dated 13th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 72), dated 14th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 131]; and

(2) Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4197] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Home Office,—Home Office minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of BT for preparatory work on the provision of new systems of radio communications in the police service [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1. Education and Employment, (1) First Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Active Labour Market Policies and their Delivery: Lessons from Australia]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 163];

   (2) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Role of Headteachers]; to be printed [No. 164]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The DfEE’s Expenditure Plans]; to be printed [No. 165-i]

   [Mr Derek Foster].

2. Environmental Audit, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 159-i] [Mr John Horam].

3. Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs, (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Reducing the Environmental Impact of Consumer Products]; to be printed [No. 149-i]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee [Reducing the Environmental Impact of Consumer Products; the Operation of the Landfill Tax]; to be printed [Nos. 149-II and 150-II]

   [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4. Home Affairs, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Training and Recruitment]; to be printed [No. 81-iii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5. International Development, Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Women and Development]; to be printed [No. 160-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6. Public Administration, (1) Second Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration, Session 1997–98, on The Government Information and Communication Service]; to be printed [No. 162]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Public Administration Committee [Annual Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 54-iii]

   [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

7. Statutory Instruments, Fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-v][Mr David Tredinnick].

8. Welsh Affairs, Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Welsh Office’s Organisational Preparedness for the National Assembly; The Welsh Office’s Expenditure Plans]; to be printed [Nos. 166-i and 167-i][Mr Martyn Jones].

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 Programme Order relating to the Greater London Authority Bill (except Clauses 1 to 4 and Schedules 1 and 2): Mr Nicholas Winterton (Chairman), Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Nick Raynsford, Mr John Smith and Mr John M. Taylor.
The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire);

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

2 Greater London Authority Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Greater London Authority Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 2 (Membership of the Authority and the Assembly).

Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed, in page 2, to leave out lines 25 to 27 and to insert the words—

'(a) begin on the first Monday in July following the ordinary election; and'.—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

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

Question put, That Clause No. 2 stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 308.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 167.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 3 (Time of ordinary elections).

Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 3, to leave out lines 2 to 6.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

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

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 4 (Voting at ordinary elections).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 3, line 38, to leave out from the word 'system' to the end of line 39.—(Mrs Gillian Shephard.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 131.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 335.

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 289.
Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 154.

Clause agreed to.

Schedule No. 1 agreed to.

Schedule No. 2 (Voting at elections).

Amendment (No. 83) proposed, in page 143, line 27, at the end to insert the words 'no later than 55 days prior to the date set for the ordinary election'.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 58) proposed, in page 144, to leave out lines 25 to 37.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2) to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2), and directed him to report the same, without Amendment:

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2) do lie upon the Table.

3 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.33 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 National Lottery,—Draft Apportionment of Money in the National Lottery Distribution Fund Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Housing,—Housing Renewal Grants (Common Parts) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 68), dated 14th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Pilot Transfer Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 17), dated 9th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 House of Lords,—Paper entitled Modernising Parliament: Reforming the House of Lords [by Command] [Cm. 4183] [The Prime Minister].

5 Social Security (Administration),—Account of the Social Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 170] [Clerk of the House].

6 Transport (Scotland),—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Caledonian MacBrayne Limited, and
(2) David MacBrayne Limited

for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Treaty Series (No. 3, 1999),—Internal Agreement, done at Brussels on 20th December 1995, between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, Meeting within the Council, on the Financing and Administration of Community Aid under the Second Financial Protocol to the Fourth ACP-EC Convention [by Command] [Cm. 4239] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Greater London Authority Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton and Mr George Stevenson additional Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Greater London Authority Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2).
Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice to the First 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: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr William Cash, Mr David Clelland, Mr Denzil Davies, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr John Gunnell, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr John Hutton, Dr Ashok Kumar, Sir David Madel, Kali Mountford, Mr Lembit Opik and Mr Gerry Steinberg.

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr Tony Benn, Sir Paul Beresford, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr David Curry, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Barry Gardiner, Dr Kim Howells, Mr Alan Hurst, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Greg Pope and Bridget Prentice.

Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 5) Order 1998:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third 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 Richard Allan, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr James Clappison, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Ken Maginnis, Dr John Marek, Mr John Randall, Mr Barry Sheerman, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr Stephen Twigg, Mr Nigel Waterson and Mr Malcolm Wicks.

Draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Mr John Burnett, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr David lock, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Bob Russell, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Peter Viggers and Audrey Wise.

Draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

European Standing Committees

European Community Document 6985/98, relating to the welfare of laying hens, submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

European Community Document No. 10786/98, relating to VAT fraud in intra-Community trade, submitted by HM Customs and Excise, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

European Community Document No. 14031/98, relating to the Independent Fraud Office, submitted by HM Treasury, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

Grand Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 28th January.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-iv] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Fourth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Countryside Agency], 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. 6].
(2) Fifth Report from the Committee [Regional Eurostar 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. 89];
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Integrated Transport White Paper]; to be printed [No. 32-iii];
(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [The Future of the UK Shipping Industry]; to be printed [No. 172-i]; and
(5) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Climate Change]; to be printed [No. 171-II] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Scrutiny,—Sixth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-vi] [Mr Jim Marshall].

4 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Office of Electricity Regulation: Improving Energy Efficiency Financed by a Charge on Customers]; to be printed [No. 174-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment]; to be printed [No. 84-iv] [Mr David Marshall].

6 Welsh Affairs,—First Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Investment in Industry in Wales]; to be printed [No. 173] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 24.]

Thursday 21st January 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Abolition of emergency treatment fee)—(Dr Evan Harris)—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 Robert Smith, Mr Colin Breed: 28.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 208.

Another Clause (Duty of insurers to submit annual report to Parliament)—(Dr Evan Harris)—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 3, line 43, to leave out ‘2nd July 1997’ and insert ‘1st April 1998’—(Dr Evan Harris.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Phil Willis: 24.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Jim Dowd: 225.

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 Jim Dowd: 228.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Adrian Sanders: 24.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

2 Scottish Enterprise Bill,—The Scottish Enterprise Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Scottish Enterprise Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Scottish Enterprise 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 Scottish Enterprise Bill ("the Act"), it is expedient to authorise—

(1) any payment out of the National Loans Fund, the Consolidated Fund or money provided by Parliament resulting from increasing by the Act, to an amount not exceeding £4,000 million, the aggregate amount which is permitted to be outstanding, otherwise than by way of interest, in respect of the items mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (d) of section 25(2) of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990; and

(2) any increase, resulting from such increase, in the sums payable into the National Loans Fund or the Consolidated Fund—(Mrs Anne McGuire).—It was agreed to.

4 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Evercreech and the surrounding district in the County of Somerset for measures to reduce class sizes at Evercreech Primary School was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire).

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Thomas McAvoy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till fourteen minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 25th January.

[Adjourned at 7.14 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 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Housing.—Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Review Procedures) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 71), dated 14th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Road Traffic.—Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 35), dated 12th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Sea Fisheries.—(1) Bass (Specified Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) (Variation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 75), and

(2) Sea Fish (Specified Sea Area) (Regulation of Nets and Prohibition of Fishing Methods) (Variation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 74), dated 14th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

5 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 19), dated 20th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Other Papers:

6 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. 128] [Mr Secretary Michael].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit.—First Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Multilateral Agreement on Investment], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 58] [Mr John Horam].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Future NHS Staffing Requirements]; to be printed [No. 38-iv] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

3 International Development.—First Report from the International Development Committee [The Future of the EC Development Budget]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 44] [Mr Bowen Wells].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—A Bill to make further provision with respect to the qualification of voters at ward elections in the city of London; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

2 HFC Bank Bill,—A Bill to provide for the transfer to HFC Bank plc and Household International (U.K.) Limited of the business of Beneficial Bank plc; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

3 Imperial College Bill,—A Bill to unite Wye College with the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine; to transfer all rights, properties, assets and liabilities from Wye College to the said Imperial College; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

4 Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) etc. Bill,—A Bill to enact provisions relating to the amendment of the rules of the Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association, and for other purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

5 University College London Bill,—A Bill to unite the Eastman Dental Institute with University College London; to transfer all rights, properties and liabilities from the Institute to the College; and for connected and other purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

6 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Sexual Offences (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, Ann Keen, Mr Shaun Woodward: 313.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Edward Leigh, Dr Julian Lewis: 130.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

Ordered, That—

(1) Clause 1 of the Bill 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 shall be proceeded with as if the Bill had been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

Committee to-morrow.

7 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 28th January, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Darling relating to Social Security and Pensions not later than Seven o’clock.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

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 (Weights and Measures) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 14th December 1998, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire).—It was agreed to.

9 Foreign Affairs,—Ordered, That Mrs Virginia Bottomley be discharged from the Foreign Affairs Committee and Mr Shaun Woodward be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
10 Social Security.—Ordered, That Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye) be discharged from
the Social Security Committee and Dr Doug Naysmith be added to the Committee.—
(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do
now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire);

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 fifteen minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.45 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (School Attendance Targets)
[Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Land Registration,—Land Registration Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 128), dated 17th January
1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Other Papers:

3 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Government Response to the Thirteenth Report
from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on
the Protection of Field Boundaries [by Command] [Cm. 4200] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Final Accounts of
Chessington Computer Centre, Recruitment and Assessment Services and the
Occupational Health and Safety Agency [by Act]; to be printed [No. 154] [Clerk of the
House].

5 Sessional Returns, 1997–98,—Returns to Orders [1st December] for Returns relating to—

(1) Business of the House;

(2) Closure of Debate, Proposal of Question and Allocation of Time (including
Programme Motions);

(3) Sittings of the House;

(4) Private Bills and Private Business;

(5) Public Bills;

(6) Delegated Legislation and Deregulation Orders;

(7) European Legislation, &c.;

(8) Grand Committees;

(9) Chairmen’s Panel; and

(10) Select Committees

in Session 1997–98 [by Order]; to be printed [No. 142] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts
[National Insurance Recording System]; to be printed [No. 182-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Social Security,—Second Special Report from the Social Security Committee [Government
Response to the First Report from the Committee, on Tax and Benefits: Implementation
of Tax Credits]; to be printed [No. 176] [Mr Chris Pond].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Frank Cook reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice.

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

2 Military Action Against Iraq (Parliamentary Approval),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the prior approval, by a simple majority of the House of Commons, of military action by United Kingdom forces against Iraq: And that Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Tony Benn, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr George Galloway, Mr Neil Gerrard, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr John McAllion, Alice Mahon, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Dennis Skinner and Audrey Wise do prepare and bring it in.

3 Military Action Against Iraq (Parliamentary Approval) Bill,—Mr Tam Dalyell accordingly presented a Bill to require the prior approval, by a simple majority of the House of Commons, of military action by United Kingdom forces against Iraq: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th April and to be printed [Bill 35].

4 Tax Credits Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Tax Credits 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 Tax Credits Bill because it will increase the costs of social security when the Prime Minister has pledged to cut those costs; and it will increase benefit dependency, stigma, fraud and business costs, whilst undermining family structures’, instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Pickles.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Sir David Madel: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Jane Kennedy: 365.

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 Clive Betts, Jane Kennedy: 320.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Sir David Madel: 160.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

5 Tax Credits Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Tax Credits 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 Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in consequence of that Act;

(b) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act; and

(c) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable into that Fund under any other Act—(Mrs Anne McGuire):—It was agreed to.

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Derby North constituency and others relating to driving offences 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—(Mrs Anne McGuire);

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 four minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

2 Social Security,—Draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating (No. 2) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Gaming (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R (N.I.), 1999, No. 4), dated 7th January 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


6 Road Traffic,—(1) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Manchester) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 131),

(2) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Winchester) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 132), and

(3) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Kent) (Borough of Maidstone) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 130), dated 23rd January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

7 Agriculture,—Report and Accounts of the Meat and Livestock Commission for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

8 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4184] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 National Heritage (Scotland),—Accounts of the—

(1) National Galleries of Scotland,

(2) National Library of Scotland, and

(3) National Museums of Scotland

for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 189, 190 and 191] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998, in place of Mr Jim Cunningham.

2 Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) (Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3087) and the Companies (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3088),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony Benn and Mr Kevin McNamara from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Ronnie Campbell and Mrs Joan Humble.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Third Report from the Agriculture Committee [The UK Pig 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.
   87];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Sea Fishing]; to be printed [No.
   141-ii]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine
   Tuberculosis]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and
   Employment Committee [Access for all?]; to be printed [No. 57-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the
   Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs
   Committee [Reducing the Environmental Impact of Consumer Products]; to be printed
   [No. 149-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee
   [Kosovo]; to be printed [No. 188-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International
   Development Committee [Women and Development]; to be printed [No. 160-ii] [Mr
   Bowen Wells].

6 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Procedural
   Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 185-i] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public
   Administration [Annual Report of the Health Commissioner for 1997–98]; to be printed
   [No. 54-iv] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments,
   together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-vi] [Mr
   David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee
   [Electronic Commerce]; to be printed [No. 187-i] [Mr Roger Berry].

10 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The Council of
    Economic and Finance Ministers (ECOFIN)]; to be printed [No. 186-i] [Mr Giles
    Radice].

11 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Childcare
    in Wales]; to be printed [No. 156-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 27.]

Wednesday 27th January 1999

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 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from
   the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Open-Ended Investment
   Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) (Fees) Regulations 1998
   (S.I., 1998, No. 3087) and the Companies (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I.,
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the
   Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Police and Criminal Evidence
   Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 5) Order 1998.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998.

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

5 Employment Relations Bill.—Mr Secretary Byers, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Michael and Mr Ian McCartney, presented a Bill to amend the law relating to employment, to trade unions and to employment agencies and businesses. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 36].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Employment Relations Bill be printed [Bill 36–EN].

6 Prophylactic Mastectomy Registry.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a United Kingdom registry of women who have undergone prophylactic mastectomy surgery. And that Ms Joan Ruddock, Ms Judith Church, Mr Frank Doran, Dr Ian Gibson, Dr Evan Harris, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Dr Ashok Kumar, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Alice Mahon, Laura Moffatt, Ms Julie Morgan and Ms Dari Taylor do prepare and bring it in.

7 Prophylactic Mastectomy Registry Bill.—Ms Joan Ruddock accordingly presented a Bill to establish a United Kingdom registry of women who have undergone prophylactic mastectomy surgery: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th February and to be printed [Bill 37].

8 Opposition Day [4th 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.

Terrorist mutilations in Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the alarming increase in the numbers of terrorist beatings, mutilations, shootings, cases of intimidation and instances of people being forced to leave their homes in Northern Ireland; notes that these are being carried out by organisations whose political representatives backed the Belfast Agreement; further notes that these continued attacks are clear breaches of the Belfast Agreement that required a commitment to exclusively democratic and peaceful methods and that terrorist ceasefire had to be complete and unequivocal; recalls that the Prime Minister said that for terrorist organisations to benefit from prisoner release schemes there must be an end of violence including bombngs, killings and beatings; and calls upon Her Majesty’s Government to use its powers contained in the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 to halt the early release of terrorist prisoners until violence in Northern Ireland has ended in all its forms.—(Mr Andrew MacKay).

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 ‘condemns absolutely the barbaric practice of paramilitary attacks in Northern Ireland; condemns the human and material cost of these assaults and the contempt they demonstrate for the rule of law; notes the commitment made by all parties who endorsed the Good Friday Agreement to “the protection and vindication of the human rights of all”; welcomes the Government’s determination to fulfil its responsibilities under the Good Friday Agreement in this as in every other area; and calls on all people, parties and organisations to use all their influence to bring these attacks to an immediate stop, to help the police in any way they can, and to work to build on the Good Friday Agreement to create a society in Northern Ireland where such attacks are a thing of the past’, instead thereof.—(Secretary Marjorie Mowlam.)

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 Stephen Day: 141.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Greg Pope: 343.

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 absolutely the barbaric practice of paramilitary attacks in Northern Ireland; condemns the human and material cost of these assaults and the contempt they demonstrate for the rule of law; notes the commitment made by all parties who endorsed the Good Friday Agreement to ‘the protection and vindication of
the human rights of all; welcomes the Government’s determination to fulfil its responsibilities under the Good Friday Agreement in this as in every other area; and calls on all people, parties and organisations to use all their influence to bring these attacks to an immediate stop, to help the police in any way they can, and to work to build on the Good Friday Agreement to create a society in Northern Ireland where such attacks are a thing of the past.

London Underground.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s delay in the financial restructuring of London Underground; calls on it to put forward plans, as soon as possible, for the private finance and operation of the Underground; condemns its handling of the completion of the Jubilee Line; and abhors the abolition of financial support from 2000 with no alternative sources of funding in place.—(Mr Richard Ottaway);

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 a substantial investment backlog in London Underground and that this backlog arose from the previous Government’s ideological antipathy to public expenditure and unwillingness to seek genuine and viable partnership between the public and private sectors; welcomes the Government’s rejection of the Conservatives’ policy of wholesale privatisation and applauds it for its thoroughgoing investigation of a public-private partnership as a means to secure necessary investment funds; notes that by providing additional funding of £365 million and that by bringing forward two Private Finance Initiative deals on ticketing and the power distribution system, the Government has already ensured that the Underground will benefit from around £1 billion of investment over the next two years; and is confident that the present Government’s approach to London Underground will secure value for money for passengers and the taxpayer and give Londoners an underground system which meets their needs, is fast, reliable, comfortable and worthy of such a great capital city’, instead thereof.—(Dr John Reid.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 130.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 335.

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 Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 290.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 159.

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 that the Government inherited a substantial investment backlog in London Underground and that this backlog arose from the previous Government’s ideological antipathy to public expenditure and unwillingness to seek genuine and viable partnership between the public and private sectors; welcomes the Government’s rejection of the Conservatives’ policy of wholesale privatisation and applauds it for its thoroughgoing investigation of a public-private partnership as a means to secure necessary investment funds; notes that by providing additional funding of £365 million and that by bringing forward two Private Finance Initiative deals on ticketing and the power distribution system, the Government has already ensured that the Underground will benefit from around £1 billion of investment over the next two years; and is confident that the present Government’s approach to London Underground will secure value for money for passengers and the taxpayer and give Londoners an underground system which meets their needs, is fast, reliable, comfortable and worthy of such a great capital city.  

9 Business of the House.—Ordered. That the Business of the House Order of 25th January shall apply also to the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Darling relating to the draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating (No. 2) Order 1999 which was laid before this House on 26th January.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

10 Hallmark.—Ordered. That the Hallmarking (Hallmarking Act Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2978) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Clive Betts.)
11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

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 Countryside Agency,—Draft Development Commission (Transfer of Functions and Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Town and Country Planning,—Channel Tunnel Rail Link (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 107), dated 18th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 Education (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Targeting Excellence—Modernising Scotland’s Schools: A Consultation Document [by Command] [Cm. 4247] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Food Standards Agency,—Paper, entitled the Food Standards Agency: consultation on draft legislation [by Command] [Cm. 4249] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

5 Miscellaneous (No. 18, 1999),—Agreement, done at Tallinn on 23rd February 1995 and Stockholm on 23rd April 1996, between the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden, regarding the M/S Estonia, with Additional Protocol, and an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4252] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Museums and Galleries,—Paper containing the indemnification for works of art lent to the National Portrait Gallery for its Spring Exhibition of works by Sir John Everett Millais [by Command] [Cm. 4250] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Treaty Series (No. 4, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 29th April 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the State of Bahrain concerning Air Services [by Command] [Cm. 4250] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Treaty Series (No. 5, 1999),—Administrative Agreement, done at Bonn on 18th March 1993, to Implement Article 60 of the Agreement of 3rd August 1959, as amended by the Agreements of 21st October 1971, 18th May 1981 and 18th March 1993, to Supplement the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces with respect to Foreign Forces stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany [by Command] [Cm. 4251] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Scottish Enterprise Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to the First Scottish Standing Committee, and has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-five Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Stephen Day, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Donald Gorrre, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr John Home Robertson, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Rosemary McKenna, Mr David Marshall, Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr Alasdair Morgan, Mrs Sandra Osborne, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Ernie Ross, Sir Robert Smith and Mr Desmond Swayne.

2 Tax Credits Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody and Mrs Marion Roe Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Tim Collins, Mrs Louise Ellman, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Nick Gibb, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Alan Johnson, Ms Melanie Johnson, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Ivan Lewis, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Eric Pickles, Dawn Primarolo, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr Ian Stewart, Ms Dari Taylor, Ms Claire Ward and Steve Webb.
3 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill (except Clause 1):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E, and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson and Mr Frank Cook Chairmen; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr David Borrow, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr James Clappison, Caroline Flint, Mr Mike Hall, Ann Keen, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Tom Levitt, Dr Julian Lewis, Laura Moffatt, Kali Mounford, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Bob Russell, Angela Smith, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr Nigel Waterson and Mr Shaun Woodward.

4 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999, and the draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders 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 Harold Best, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Andrew George, Mr Charles Kennedy, Jane Kennedy, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Ms Joyce Quinn, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr John Townend and Mr Robert Walter.

5 Draft Apportionment of Money in the National Lottery Distribution Fund Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth 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.: Mr John Cryer, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Ms Fiona Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Miss Anne McIntosh, Fiona Maclaggart, Mr Ted Rowlands, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Chris Smith, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Gerry Steinberg and Mr Nigel Waterson.

6 Draft Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed fifteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr James Cran, Julia Drown, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Keith Hill, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Eddie McGrady, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Alan Simpson and Mr John Wilkinson.

European Standing Committees

Official Journal No. C349, relating to the Court of Auditors Annual Report for 1997, has been referred to European Standing Committee B, together with European Community Document No. 10786/98 referred to the Committee on 20th January 1999.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) First Report from the Defence Committee [The Strategic Defence Review: Territorial Army Restructuring], 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. 70]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The Future of NATO]; to be printed [No. 39-iii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Work of OFSTED], to be printed [No. 62-v] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Future of the UK Shipping Industry], to be printed [No. 172-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny,—Seventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-viii] [Mr Jim Marshall].
The House met at half-past Eleven 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 Third Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Composition, Recruitment and Training of the RUC, and the Sixth Report from the Agriculture Committee, Session 1997–98, on Flood and Coastal Defence, to be debated on Wednesday 24th February, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Discussion Paper entitled ‘Putting it Right—The case for change in Northern Ireland’s hospital service’, 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.99].

3 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Fund Payments) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Darling.)

4 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Darling.)

5 Pensions,—Resolved, That the draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Darling.)

6 Social Security,—Resolved, That the draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating (No. 2) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Darling.)

7 Companies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) (Fees) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3087), dated 9th December 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 10th December, be approved.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)—It was agreed to.

8 Companies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Companies (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3088), dated 9th December 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 10th December, be approved.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)—It was agreed to.

9 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 5) Order 1998, dated 8th December 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 15th December, be approved.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)—It was agreed to.
10 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 Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998, which were laid before this House on 16th December, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes).—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes),

And it being Seven o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes past Seven o'clock, adjourned till Monday 1st February.

[Adjourned at 7.12 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Housing (Scotland),—Draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Local Government Finance (Wales),—Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 177] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Building and Buildings,—Building Regulations (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 77), dated 18th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Criminal Law (Scotland),—Restriction of Liberty Order (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 144), dated 21st January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


7 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 123), dated 21st January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

8 Appropriation Accounts 1997–98,—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),
(5) VIII (Lord Chancellor’s and Law Officers’ Departments),
(6) XIII (Scotland and the Forestry Commission),
(7) XV (Northern Ireland),
(8) XVI (Departments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer),
(9) XVII (Cabinet Office: Office of Public Service, etc.), and
(10) XVIII, XVIIIA and XVIIIB (Cabinet Office: other services, Privy Council Office, Parliament, etc.; House of Commons; National Audit Office) for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1-III, -V,-VI, -VII, -VIII, -XIII, -XV, -XVI, -XVII and -XVIII] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

9 Criminal Statistics (Scotland),—Statistical Bulletin: Criminal Proceedings in Scottish Courts, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

10 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the—

(1) Army Base Storage and Distribution Agency,
(2) Defence Transport and Movements Executive,
(3) Military Survey Defence Agency, and
(4) Naval Manning Agency
for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 180, 181, 178 and 175] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Housing (Scotland),—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland under sections 191(9) and
192(3) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 in respect of the draft Housing Support Grant
(Scotland) Order 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 184] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 National Health Service (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Hospital
Endowments Research Trust for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

13 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Minister for School Standards on the Petition [9th
December] from Save Our Schools Association against the closure of five schools in
Borehamwood [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Tax Credits Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Mark Oaten from
Standing Committee D (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution
Dr Vincent Cable.

2 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Bob
Russell from Standing Committee E (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in
substitution Dr Evan Harris.

3 Draft Apportionment of Money in the National Lottery Distribution Fund Order 1999,—
The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Martin Salter from the Fifth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and
nominated in substitution Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye).

4 Draft Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has
discharged Mr Mike Gapes and Mr Fraser Kemp from the Sixth Standing Committee
on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in
substitution Mr Tony Colman and Jacqui Smith.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) First Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee
[The Heritage Lottery Fund], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken
before the Committee in the last Session of Parliament; to be printed, with the Minutes
of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 195];
(2) Second Report from the Committee [The Preservation of HMS Cavalier], together
with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee
relating to the Report [No. 196];
(3) First Special Report from the Committee [Government Reponse to the Ninth
Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Future of News at Ten]; to be
printed [No. 200]; and
(4) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Seventh
Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Eye Review and the Royal Opera
House]; to be printed [No. 201]
[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-
Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Performance and Future
Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 197-i] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee
[Inland Revenue], to be printed [No. 199-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

MEMORANDUM
Wednesday sittings,—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings), the
Speaker has appointed Wednesday 24th February, instead of Wednesday 17th February
[appointed on 7th December 1998], as a day 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.
PRAYERS.

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

Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to transfer from the Secretary of State to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue certain functions relating to national insurance contributions, the National Insurance Fund, statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay or pension schemes and certain associated functions relating to benefits; to enable functions relating to any of those matters in respect of Northern Ireland to be transferred to the Secretary of State, the Commissioners of Inland Revenue or the Treasury; to make further provision, in connection with the functions transferred, as to the powers of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, the making of decisions and appeals; to provide that rebates payable in respect of members of money purchase contracted-out pension schemes are to be payable out of the National Insurance Fund; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords].—The Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 38].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 38–EN].

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

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

Margaret Beckett 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 and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

Margaret Beckett acquainted the House, That she had it in Command from the Prince of Wales to acquaint the House that His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place his interest, so far as it is affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

And the Question being proposed;

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 House of Lords Bill as it fails to address the role of the Second Chamber, its relationship to this House and its long term composition and hence, rather than improving the governance of the United Kingdom by establishing a sustainable, balanced and effective constitution, it merely adds to the incoherence of Her Majesty’s Government’s piecemeal constitutional changes’, instead thereof.—(Dr Liam Fox.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

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

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

4 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 4th February, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall—

(i) put the Question on any Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Straw relating to the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) not later than Four o’clock; and

(ii) put the Questions on any Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Prescott relating to the English Revenue Support Grant Reports not later than Seven o’clock.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That—

(i) this House, at its rising on Tuesday 16th February, do adjourn till Monday 22nd February; and
(ii) the provisions of paragraph 3 of Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings) shall not apply to the sitting on Wednesday 10th February.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

6 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered. That Rachel Squire be discharged from the Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr Gordon Prentice be added to the Committee.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

7 Defence,—Ordered. That Mr Menzies Campbell be discharged from the Defence Committee and Mr Mike Hancock be added to the Committee.—(Mr Phil Hope, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Health,—Ordered. That Ann Keen be discharged from the Health Committee and Mr Ivan Lewis be added to the Committee.—(Mr Phil Hope, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Home Affairs,—Ordered. That Miss Melanie Johnson be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee and Mrs Janet Dean be added to the Committee.—(Mr Phil Hope, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 International Development,—Ordered. That Mr Dennis Canavan be discharged from the International Development Committee and Mr Tony Worthington be added to the Committee.—(Mr Phil Hope, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Social Security,—Ordered. That Mr Vernon Coaker be discharged from the Social Security Committee and Ms Debra Shipley be added to the Committee.—(Mr Phil Hope, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 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 to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 29th January 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Education (Wales),—Paper, entitled the BEST for Teaching and Learning in Wales: Building Excellent Schools Together [Cm. 4150] [Mr Secretary Michael].

2 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on Regional Air Services [Cm. 4257] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 1st February 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

3 Local Government Finance,—(1) Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 37),


(3) Local Government Finance Report (England) 1999–2000 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 144, 145 and 143] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Local Government Finance (Scotland),—Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1999, dated 28th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 Police,—Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1999–2000 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 179] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

7 Housing (Scotland),—Housing Revenue Account General Fund Contribution Limits (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 164), dated 26th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
8 Protection of Wrecks.—Protection of Wrecks (Designation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 186), dated 29th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

10 Air Force (Constitution).—Amendment to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force (Fourth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Armed Forces Pay.—Twenty-eighth Report of the Armed Forces’ Pay Review Body [by Command] [Cm. 4242] [The Prime Minister].

12 Aviation and Maritime Security.—Report for 1998 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 19, 21, 22, 23 and 24 of the Act, and the number of enforcement notices served by authorised persons [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Aviation Security.—Report for 1998 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].

14 Channel Tunnel Security.—Report for 1998 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].

15 Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration.—Twenty-eighth Report of the Review Body on Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration [by Command] [Cm. 4243] [The Prime Minister].

16 Government Trading Funds.—Consultation Report on the establishment of Ordnance Survey as a Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

17 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland on the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 169] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

18 Members’ Interests.—Register of Members’ Interests as at 31st January 1999 [pursuant to the Resolutions of 22nd May 1974, 28th June 1993 and 6th November 1995]; to be printed [No. 198] [Clerk of the House].

19 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Sales of Residual Loans to Housing Associations [by Act]; to be printed [No. 192] [Clerk of the House].

20 Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine.—Sixteenth Reports of the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine on—

(1) Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors, and
(2) Professions Allied to Medicine

[by Command] [Cm. 4240 and 4241] [The Prime Minister].

21 Petroleum.—Petroleum (Current Model Clauses) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 160), dated 27th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

22 Senior Salaries.—Twenty-first Report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries [by Command] [Cm. 4245] [The Prime Minister].

23 School Teachers.—Eighth Report of the School Teachers’ Review Body [by Command] [Cm. 4244] [The Prime Minister].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999, and the draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Patrick Nicholls from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders), and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Trend.

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 [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-vi] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Appropriation Accounts 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 207-j] [Mr. David Davis].

3 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 17-vii] [Dr Michael Clark].

[No. 30.]

Tuesday 2nd February 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—Ordered, That the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

2 HFC Bank Bill,—The HFC Bank Bill was read a second time and referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

3 Imperial College Bill,—The Imperial College Bill was read a second time and committed.

4 Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) etc Bill,—The Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) etc Bill was read a second time and referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

5 University College London Bill,—The University College London Bill was read a second time and referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

6 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999 and the draft European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999.

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

7 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 transport policy in Wales, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales, be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.

8 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require organisations responsible for the provision of essential public services and critical infrastructure to draw up contingency plans in the event of their computer systems failing to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999; to require such plans and the names of those responsible for them to be notified to an appropriate authority; to require the plans to be made available on demand; 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, Dr Rudi Vis, Mr John Townend and Mr Dafydd Wigley do prepare and bring it in.
9 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill.—Mr David Atkinson accordingly presented a Bill to require organisations responsible for the provision of essential public services and critical infrastructure to draw up contingency plans in the event of their computer systems failing to deal with calendar dates after 31st December 1999; to require such plans and the names of those responsible for them to be notified to an appropriate authority; to require the plans to be made available on demand; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th February and to be printed [Bill 39].

10 House of Lords 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 House of Lords Bill now be 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 declines to give a Second Reading to the House of Lords Bill as it fails to address the role of the Second Chamber, its relationship to this House and its long term composition and hence, rather than improving the governance of the United Kingdom by establishing a sustainable, balanced and effective constitution, it merely adds to the incoherence of Her Majesty’s Government’s piecemeal constitutional changes’, 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 Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Waterson: 137.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr David Jamieson: 383.
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, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr David Jamieson: 381.
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.

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

Committee to-morrow.

11 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 County Hall, Aberaeron, on Monday 22nd February 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 transport policy in Wales under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)), proceedings being interrupted at Four o’clock—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.52 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 County Courts,—Civil Courts (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 216), dated 2nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

2 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Witnesses in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 188), dated 27th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
Other Papers:

3 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4258] [Mr Secretary Smith].

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

(1) the Petition [1st December] from residents of Wheatfield Lane relating to bus services in Haxby and Wigginton,

(2) the Petition [15th December] from residents of Moreton and others relating to the proposed creation of a permanent showman's site in Moreton, and

(3) the Petition [15th December] from users and supporters of the Forum of Derbyshire Community Transports relating to community transport services [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has nominated a further member to serve on the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order), viz.: Mr William Ross.

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 [The Operation of the Landfill Tax]; to be printed [No. 150-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 International Development,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Women and Development]; to be printed [No. 160-iii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Provisions of the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill]; to be printed [No. 212]

[Mr Bowen Wells]

3 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-i] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

4 Statutory Instruments,—Seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-vii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

5 Trade and Industry,—(1) Second Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Twelfth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, Session 1997–98, on Industrial and Trade Relations with Central Europe]; to be printed [No. 211]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Electronic Commerce]; to be printed [No. 187-ii]

[Mr Martin O’Neill].

6 Treasury,—(1) Third Report from the Treasury Committee [Financial Services 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. 73]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Financial Services Regulation]

[Mr Giles Radice].
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 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 9th February.

3 Scottish Enterprise Bill,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the First Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Scottish Enterprise Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.
   Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No.220].

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Apportionment of Money in the National Lottery Distribution Fund Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Insolvency Act 1986 (Amendment),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Insolvency Act 1986 so as to disqualify from appointment as receiver or liquidator of a company any person or company called in to carry out a financial appraisal of that company: And that Mr Richard Page, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Robin Corbett and Mr Richard Spring do prepare and bring it in.

6 Insolvency Act 1986 (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Richard Page accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Insolvency Act 1986 so as to disqualify from appointment as receiver or liquidator of a company any person or company called in to carry out a financial appraisal of that company: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th February and to be printed [Bill 40].

7 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.
   The Government’s Record on Pensions,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes the Government has failed pensioners and thrown away a unique opportunity for reform; deplores their attack on pensioners through the abolition of the ACT dividend tax credit, which will cost pensioners and all future pensioners £5 billion per year; believes the Government has further hurt occupational schemes by increasing the regulatory and cost burden in the pensions Green Paper; rejects the Government’s proposals, which will make pension provision more complex and offer no real security for pensioners in the future; and condemns the Government for their extensions of means-testing in the welfare and pensions system, which will undermine the incentive to save—(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 ‘commends the Government’s approach to pensions reform, set out in its Green Paper, Partnership in Pensions; congratulates the Government on its determination to end the scandal of pensions mis-selling and its plans to strengthen the financial regulatory system; commends the Government on its commitment to economic stability and low inflation, which helps pensioners; believes that its reforms to the corporate tax system, which will result in the lowest-ever rate of Corporation Tax, will be in the long-term interest of companies, shareholders and pensioners; and approves of the Government’s introduction of the Minimum Pension Guarantee, Winter Fuel Payments, the re-introduction of free eye tests and commitment to concessionary travel for the elderly as part of its strategy to provide security in retirement’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Darling.)
   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 Stephen Day: 185.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 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 commends the Government’s approach to pensions reform, set out in its Green Paper, Partnership in Pensions; congratulates the Government on its determination to end the scandal of pensions mis-selling and its plans to strengthen the financial regulatory system; commends the Government on its commitment to economic stability and low inflation, which helps pensioners; believes that its reforms to the corporate tax system, which will result in the lowest-ever rate of Corporation Tax, will be in the long-term interests of companies, shareholders and pensioners; and approves of the Government’s introduction of the Minimum Pension Guarantee, Winter Fuel Payments, the re-introduction of free eye tests and commitment to concessionary travel for the elderly as part of its strategy to provide security in retirement.

Planning and the Green Belt,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets decisions by the Government to allow large-scale development in the countryside; deplores the fact that the Government has failed to publish revised planning guidance, despite its promise to do so 12 months ago, which has led to further erosion of the green belt and greenfield sites; expresses concern at the confusion that will be caused by the role given to the regional development agencies in planning issues; and urges the Government to enhance the protection of the countryside, while encouraging urban regeneration, by ensuring an increasing share of new housing is built on brownfield sites—(Mr Simon Burns);

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 continued commitment to protecting the countryside, including green belts, and promoting sustainable regeneration in towns and cities; recognises that the Government’s decentralised and integrated policy approach, as stated in Planning for Communities of the Future, Modernising the Planning System and A New Deal for Transport, is helping to achieve more sustainable and equitable patterns of urban and rural development; welcomes the Government’s commitment strictly to control development in the open countryside and to increase the proportion of new housing on previously-developed land in urban areas, smaller towns and villages from 40 per cent in the mid-1980s to 60 per cent; recognises the need to replace the previous predict and provide approach to the issue of household growth with a more flexible decentralised system, involving realistic regional targets for the building of new homes on recycled land, tighter controls on urban sprawl, new regional and housing planning guidance to ensure the adoption of sustainable solutions to housing development and more rigorous and detailed assessment of land availability; and believes that the Government’s inter-linked policies for urban regeneration and protection of the countryside will enhance the quality of life for people in both rural and urban areas,’ instead thereof.—(Mr Nick Raynsford)

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 David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 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);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 160.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland: 318.

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 continued commitment to protecting the countryside, including green belts, and promoting sustainable regeneration in towns and cities; recognises that the Government’s decentralised and integrated policy approach, as stated in Planning for Communities of the Future, Modernising the Planning System and A New Deal for Transport, is helping to achieve more sustainable and equitable patterns of urban and rural development; welcomes the Government’s
commitment strictly to control development in the open countryside and to increase the proportion of new housing on previously-developed land in urban areas, smaller towns and villages from 40 per cent in the mid-1980s to 60 per cent; recognises the need to replace the previous predict and provide approach to the issue of household growth with a more flexible decentralised system, involving realistic regional targets for the building of new homes on recycled land, tighter controls on urban sprawl, new regional and housing planning guidance to ensure the adoption of sustainable solutions to housing development and more rigorous and detailed assessment of land availability; and believes that the Government’s inter-linked policies for urban regeneration and protection of the countryside will enhance the quality of life for people in both rural and urban areas.

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) (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 11th January, be approved—(Mr David Hanson)—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 (Immunities and Privileges of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 11th January, be approved—(Mr David Hanson)—It was agreed to.

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Hospitalfield Area Residents Committee relating to environmental problems in the Hospitalfield area was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

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 Government Trading Funds.—Draft National Health Service Estate Management and Health Building Agency Trading Fund Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

2 Local Government Finance (Wales).—(1) Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1999–2000, and
  (2) Local Government Finance (Amendment) Report (Wales) 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 203 and 204] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 National Health Service.—National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220), dated 2nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

5 Gas Levy.—Accounts prepared pursuant to section 6(3) of the Gas Levy Act 1981 for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 215] [Clerk of the House].

6 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute, dated 3rd February 1999, concerning a further financial objective desirable of achievement by the Forensic Science Service Trading Fund for the period 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2002 [by Act] [Mr Alan Milburn].

7 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 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 216] [Clerk of the House].

8 Treaty Series (No. 6, 1999).—Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, done at Madrid on 4th October 1991 [by Command] [Cm. 4256] [Mr Secretary Cook].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Hallmarking (Hallmarking Act Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1998, No. 2978):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Benn, Mr Christopher Chope, Dr David Clark, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Terry Davis, Dr Kim Howells, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice, Ms Debra Shipley, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Jon Trickett, Sir Raymond Whitney and Dr Tony Wright.

2 Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Norman Baker, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Oliver Letwin, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr John McAllion, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Sir Robert Smith, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Charles Wardle and Mr James Wray.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The Future of NATO]; to be printed [No. 39-iv] [Mr Bruce George].

2 European Scrutiny,—Eighth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-viii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Foreign Affairs,—(1) Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Sierra Leone], 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. 116]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sierra Leone] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [The Main Committee]; to be printed [No. 194-i] [Margaret Beckett].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Operation of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [No. 95-v] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [BBC World Service]; to be printed [No. 219-i] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Director General of the Research Councils]; to be printed [No. 202-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment]; to be printed [No. 84-i] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security,—(1) Second Report from the Social Security Committee [Family Credit Fraud], with an Appendix, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 217];
   (2) Third Report from the Committee [Disability Living Allowance]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 63]; and
   (3) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Disability Living Allowance] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].
47 ELIZ. II

4th February 1999

[No. 32.]

Thursday 4th February 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.

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

2 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 179), which was laid before this House on 1st February, be approved—(Mr Paul Boateng);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Jamieson: 282.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 143.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved,

That the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 179), which was laid before this House on 1st February, be approved.

3 Local Government Finance,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 143), which was laid before this House on 1st February, be approved—(Mr Secretary Prescott);

And it being Seven o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [1st February];

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mrs Anne McGuire: 272.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved,

That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 143), which was laid before this House on 1st February, be approved.

4 National Lottery,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Apportionment of Money in the National Lottery Distribution Fund Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr Graham Allen, Mrs Anne McGuire: 252.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 129.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved,

That the draft Apportionment of Money in the National Lottery Distribution Fund Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved.

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till ten minutes to Eight o'clock, adjourned till Monday 8th February.

[Adjourned at 7.50 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

   (2) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transitory and Transitional Provisions) (Finance) Order 1999
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
2 Education,—Draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
3 Local Government Finance,—(1) Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39), and
   (2) Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 41) [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 213 and 218] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Road Traffic,—M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [S.I., 1999, No. 167], dated 28th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 4th February 1999, concerning the proposed gifting of 100 Paveway 3 precision-guided bombs to the Royal Saudi Air Force [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].
7 Hong Kong,—Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong, July–December 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4190] [Mr Secretary Cook].
8 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the Merger Situation between Cendant Corporation and RAC Holdings Limited [by Command] [Cm. 4196] [Mr Secretary Byers].
9 Supply Estimates (Scotland), 1999–2000,—Scottish Main Estimates for 1999–2000 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 193] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Hallmarking (Hallmarking Act Amendment) Regulations 1998,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr David Clark from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Barry Sheerman.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Sea Fishing]; to be printed [No. 141-iii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]
   [Mr Peter Luff].
2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 197-i] [Ms Candy Atherton].
3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [National Institute for Clinical Excellence]; to be printed [No. 221-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Access to Environmental Information Bill.—Mr Matthew Taylor, supported by Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Cynog Dafis, Norman Baker, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr David Lepper and Mr Jeremy Corbyn, presented a Bill to extend the right of citizens to information concerning certain activities which may affect the environment, and for connected purposes. And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th February and to be printed [Bill 41].

2 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) 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 the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords] a Second Reading because the effect of the Bill will be to facilitate the ending of the contributory principle, leading to the wider application of the means test, which will have a detrimental effect on the public and particularly pensioners; and because the major practical difficulties in transferring functions relating to social security contributions to the Treasury have not been overcome’, instead thereof.—(Mr Iain Duncan Smith.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Tim Collins: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jim Dowd: 322.

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.

3 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) 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 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenses incurred by a Minister of the Crown or government department 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.—(Mr Mike Hall):—It was agreed to.

4 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) 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 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise a payment out of the National Insurance Fund into the Consolidated Fund in respect of payments made under section 42A(3) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

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 Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.
6 Business of the House,—**Ordered.** That, at the sitting on 11th February, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall—

(i) put the Questions on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Michael relating to Local Government Finance (Wales) not later than Four o’clock;

(ii) put the Questions on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Dewar relating to the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1999 and the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1999 not later than one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the first such Motion; and

(iii) put the Questions on any Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Dewar relating to the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transitional and Transitory Provisions) (Finance) Order 1999 and the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transitional and Transitory Provisions) (Appropriations) Order 1999 not later than Seven o’clock.—(**Mr Mike Hall**.)

7 Food Standards,—**Ordered.** That a select committee of thirteen Members be appointed to report on the draft Bill on the Food Standards Agency (Cm. 4249);

**Ordered.** That Mrs Diana Organ, Ms Sally Keeble, Audrey Wise, Dr Howard Stoate, Dr Lewis Moonie, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Kevin Barron, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr David Curry, Mr Robert Walter, Dr Peter Brand and the Reverend Martin Smyth be members of the Committee;

**Ordered.** That the Committee have power

(a) to send for persons, paper and records;

(b) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;

(c) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom;

(d) to appoint specialist advisers; and

(e) to communicate to any select committee of either House their evidence and any other documents relating to matters of common interest; and

**Ordered.** That the Committee shall report by 31st March 1999.—(**Mr Mike Hall**.)

8 Adjournment,—**Resolved.** That this House do now adjourn.—(**Mr Mike Hall**.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.30 p.m.

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**APPENDIX I**

**Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 5th February 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):**

**Papers subject to Negative Resolution:**


2 Education,—(1) Education (Aptitude for Particular Subjects) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 258), dated 2nd February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett];

(2) Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 126), dated 2nd February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett];

(3) Education (Objections to Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 125), dated 2nd February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett];

(4) Education (Registered Inspectors of Schools Appeal Tribunal and Registered Nursery Education Inspectors Appeal Tribunal) (Procedure) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 265), dated 4th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett];

(5) Education (Relevant Areas for Consultation on Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 124), dated 2nd February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett];

(6) Education (School Information) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 251), dated 30th January 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett];

(7) Education (School Information) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 127), dated 3rd February 1999 [Mr Secretary Michael];
(8) Local Education Authority (Post-Compulsory Education Awards) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 229), dated 1st February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and
(9) York Sixth Form College (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 218), dated 28th January 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Health and Safety,—(1) Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 197), dated 26th January 1999, and
[Mr Secretary Prescott].


5 National Health Service,—National Institute for Clinical Excellence Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 260), dated 4th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic Offenders (Prescribed Devices) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 162), dated 26th January 1999 [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 8th February 1999:

**Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:**

7 Education (Scotland),—Draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 European Communities,—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

**Papers subject to Negative Resolution:**

9 Criminal Law,—Police (Retention and Disposal of Items seized under section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 269), dated 5th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

10 Education,—Education Act 1996 (Special Purpose and Capital Grants) (Modification) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 274), dated 4th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Fees and Charges,—European Economic Interest Grouping (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 268), dated 2nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].


13 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Fund-holding Practices) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 261), dated 8th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

14 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rate (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 254), dated 26th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

15 School Standards and Framework,—(1) Draft Code of Practice on School Admissions [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett], and
(2) Welsh Office: Draft Code of Practice on School Admissions [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

16 Sea Fisheries,—Draft North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries District Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

17 Social Security,—Child Benefit (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 198), dated 29th January 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

**Other Papers:**

18 Channel Tunnel Rail Link,—Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon the guarantee of bonds proposed to be issued by London & Continental Railways and of track access payments [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Public Lending Right.—Report by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Public Lending Right Scheme for 1997–98, incorporating the Registrar’s Annual Review and Summary Financial Statement of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Non-Departmental Public Bodies in Northern Ireland: The Sports Council and Northern Ireland Electricity: Christmas and New Year Failure of Supplies]; to be printed [Nos. 226-i and 227-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [The Final Accounts of Chessington Computer Centre, Recruitment and Assessment Services and the Occupational Health and Safety Agency]; to be printed [No. 231-i] [Mr David Davis].

3 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Childcare in Wales]; to be printed [No. 156-iii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 34.]

Tuesday 9th February 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday 16th February.

2 Immigration and Asylum Bill.—Mr Secretary Straw, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Cook, Mr Secretary Dewar, Mr Secretary Dobson, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Geoffrey Hoon and Mr Mike O’Brien presented a Bill to make provision about immigration and asylum; to make provision about procedures in connection with marriage on superintendent registrar’s certificate; 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].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Immigration and Asylum Bill be printed [Bill 42–EN].

3 Transport of Farm Animals,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision with respect to the welfare of farm animals exported from Great Britain; to require Ministers to lay before Parliament proposals for ending the export of live farm animals and the transport of such animals over long distances; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Gwyn Prosser, Jackie Ballard, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Bill Etherington, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Nigel Jones, Laura Moffatt, Dr Nick Palmer and Angela Smith do prepare and bring it in.

4 Transport of Farm Animals Bill.—Mr Gwyn Prosser accordingly presented a Bill to make provision with respect to the welfare of farm animals exported from Great Britain; to require Ministers to lay before Parliament proposals for ending the export of live farm animals and the transport of such animals over long distances; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th March and to be printed [Bill 43].

5 Employment Relations Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Employment Relations 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 Employment Relations Bill because it will jeopardise employment, endanger the successful legacy of good industrial relations left by the last Government, impose further damaging costs on British business and risk industrial strikes and disruption, rather than
leaving employers and employees free to settle relationships for themselves without outside interference’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Redwood.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Waterson, Mr Stephen Day: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Greg Pope: 395.

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.

6 Employment Relations Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Employment Relations 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 Employment Relations Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other enactment;

(b) any expenditure of the Secretary of State under the Act—(Mrs Anne McGuire).—It was agreed to.

7 Procedure,—Ordered, That Helen Southworth be discharged from the Procedure Committee and Mr Colin Burgon be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

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 Construction (Northern Ireland).—(1) Construction Contracts Exclusion Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 33), and

(2) Scheme for Construction Contracts in Northern Ireland Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 32), dated 27th January 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

2 London Regional Transport,—Report and Accounts of the London Regional Passengers Committee for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Protecting the Financial Welfare of People with Mental Incapacity [by Act], to be printed [No. 206] [Clerk of the House].

4 Police (Northern Ireland),—Statement of Policing Principles for Northern Ireland, issued by the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 after consultation with the Police Authority for Northern Ireland and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

5 Railways,—Report and Accounts of the British Railways Board for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 129] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Lynda Clark from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order), and nominated in substitution Mr George Galloway.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Administration,—Memorandum laid before the Administration Committee [The Houses of Parliament Public Opening Summer 1999—Business Plan] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis], to be printed [No. 233-i] [Mr Peter Luff].

3 Environmental Audit,—(1) Second Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Climate Change, Government Response and Follow-up], with an Appendix, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 88] and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 159-a] [Mr John Horam].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Operation of the Landfill Tax], to be printed [No. 150-a]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 232-II] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Training and Recruitment and the Work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission]; to be printed [Nos. 81-iv and 106-ii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

6 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Women and Development]; to be printed [No. 160-iv] [Mr Bowen Wells].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Report of the Health Service Commissioner for 1997-98]; to be printed [No. 54-v] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-viii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Ethical Trading]; to be printed [No. 235-I] [Mr Martin O’Neill].
3 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—Mr Secretary Darling, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blankett, Mr Secretary Dewar, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam, Mr Secretary Michael, Mr Stephen Timms, Mr Andrew Smith, Mr Geoffrey Hoon and Mr Hugh Bayley, presented a Bill to make provision about pensions and social security; to make provision for reducing under-occupation of dwellings by housing benefit claimants; to authorise certain expenditure by the Secretary of State having responsibility for 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 44].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill be printed [Bill 44–EN].

4 Poverty and Social Exclusion (National Strategy).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the production and implementation of a comprehensive, participatory strategy for co-ordinated Government action to reduce and eliminate poverty and social exclusion in the United Kingdom—(Mr David Drew),

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, Judy Mallaber, Mr Ivan Henderson: 228.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr John Bercow: 16.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr David Drew, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Frank Field, Mr John McAllion, Mr Chris Pend, Julia Drown, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Andrew Rowe, Ms Dart Taylor, Steve Webb and Mr Andrew Welsh do prepare and bring in the Bill.

5 Poverty and Social Exclusion (National Strategy) Bill.—Mr David Drew accordingly presented a Bill to require the production and implementation of a comprehensive, participatory strategy for co-ordinated Government action to reduce and eliminate poverty and social exclusion in the United Kingdom: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th May and to be printed [Bill 45].

6 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill (Clause No. 1).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill (Clause No. 1).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Reduction in age at which certain sexual acts are lawful).

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 6, after the word ‘(buggery);’ to insert the words—

‘(aa) in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 3 (buggery) of Schedule 2 (punishments, etc);’.—(Dr Evan Harris.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 9, at the end to insert:—

‘( ) In section 12 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956 (buggery)—

(a) at the beginning of subsection (1), there shall be inserted the words “Subject to subsection (1D) below”; and

(b) after subsection (1C), there shall be inserted the following subsection—

“(1D) No proceedings shall be taken under this section against a person under the age of sixteen where the other party has at the time of the offence attained the age of sixteen.”.

( ) In section 13 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956 (indecency between men)—

(a) at the beginning, there shall be inserted the words “(1) Subject to subsection (2) below”; and

(b) at the end, there shall be inserted the following subsection—
“(2) No proceedings shall be commenced under this section against a person under the age of sixteen where the other party had at the time of the offence attained the age of sixteen.”.—(Dr Evan Harris.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed, in page 1, line 15, at the end to insert the words—

‘( ) In sub-paragraph (2)(b) (offences in England and Wales) of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Sex Offenders Act 1997 (sexual offences to which part I applies)—

(a) after the words “(a)(iv)” there shall be inserted the words “and (vii)”; and

(b) after the word “over;” there shall be inserted—

“(bb) paragraph (a)(v) and (vi) does not apply where the other party to the offence was 16 or over.”.—(Mr Richard Allan.)

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, Mrs Ann Keen, Ms Laura Moffat: 330.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Andrew Robathan: 126.

Bill (Clause No. 1) to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Jane Kennedy reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clause No. 1), and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clause No. 1) do lie upon the Table.

7 Water Industry Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Water Industry Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Provisions for Wales)—(Mr Cynog Dafis)—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 Donald Gorrie, Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones: 30.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr David Hanson, Mr Graham Allen: 313.

Amendments (Nos. 31 to 34) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment made to the Bill, in page 2, line 40, to leave out the words ‘section 61(7) above’ and insert the words ‘paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 4A to this Act’.—(Mr Michael Meacher.)

It being Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Bill 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 Water Industry Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, till any hour.—(Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

9 Water Industry Bill,—The House again proceeded to consider the Water Industry Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 26) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, to leave out from end of line 19 to the end of line 10 on page 4 and insert the words—

‘143A.—(1) In making a charges scheme under section 143 above, a relevant undertaker shall have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State in relation to the matters listed in subsection (2) below.
(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) above, the Secretary of State may issue guidance relating to the following—

(a) the factors to be taken into account in relation to the fixing, calculating and imposing of charges;

(b) the making available to consumers of alternative bases of charging; and

(c) the taking into account of the problems faced by the aged, ill and disabled.

(3) The Secretary of State shall arrange for any guidance given by him under subsection (2) above to be published in such a manner as he considers appropriate.’.—(Mrs Caroline Spelman.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 120.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 317.

Another Amendment (No. 30) proposed to the Bill, on page 5, line 48, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(12) When under subsection (4) the Director upholds a water undertaker’s refusal to give effect to a measured charges notice the consumer shall have the right to opt to pay as an alternative to the current charge either:

(a) a charge assessed by the water undertaker by reference to the estimated volume of water supplied to the premises, or

(b) the water undertaker’s average household charge

and any dispute between a water undertaker and a consumer as to the application of (a) above may be referred to the Director for determination under section 30A above by either party to the dispute.’.—(Mr Simon Burns.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 28) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 33, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(5) Where a change in occupation of any premises occurs as a result of a change in ownership of those premises, a relevant undertaker may not begin to fix charges in respect of those premises by reference to volume in accordance with subsection 2(b) above unless the purchaser of the premises shall have been notified before the completion of the purchase of the undertaker’s intention to begin charging by volume.’.—(Mr Simon Burns.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 35) made to the Bill.

A Schedule (Schedule to be inserted in the Water Industry Act 1991)—(Mr Clive Betts)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Michael Meacher, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Mr Michael Meacher, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his Consent, as far as the Prince of Wales’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

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

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

10 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 three minutes to Twelve o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.57 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 40) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 205] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

2. Constitutional Law,—Draft National Assembly for Wales (Disqualification) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

4. Treaty Series (No. 7, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 8th December 1994, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 4259] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5. Treaty Series (No. 8, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 19th March 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Moldova for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 4260] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mr John McWilliam and Mr Humfrey Malins Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Quentin Davies, Maria Eagle, Mr Christopher Fraser, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Alan Johnson, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Andrew Miller, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr David Rendel, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Mr Gareth R. Thomas and Mr Stephen Timms.

2. Employment Relations Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E, and has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody and Mr Peter Aikinson Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Bercow, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Gerard Davies, Mr Frank Doran, Lorna Fitzsimons, Barbara Follett, Mr John Healey, Mr Phil Hope, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ian McCartney, Ms Sandra Osborne, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Ian Stewart, Mr Michael Wills and Mr Phil Woolas.

3. Draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1999, and draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill O'Neill Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Bercow, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Gerard Davies, Mr Frank Doran, Lorna Fitzsimons, Barbara Follett, Mr John Healey, Mr Phil Hope, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ian McCartney, Ms Sandra Osborne, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Ian Stewart, Mr Michael Wills and Mr Phil Woolas.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed fifteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Jackie Ballard, Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Simon Burns, Mr John Cummings, Chris McCaffery, Mr Michael Meacher, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr David Tredinnick and Mr Shaun Woodward.
5 Draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Alan Campbell, Ms Judith Church, Dr David Clark, Tom Cox, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr David Heath, Jane Kennedy, Mr Tony Lloyd, Mr Denis MacShane, Sir David Meld, Mr Richard Page, Bob Russell, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Gerry Steinberg and Mr Michael Trend.

European Standing Committees

6 European Standing Committee C,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had nominated thirteen Members to serve on European Standing Committee C, viz.: Mr David Borrow, Mr David Crausby, Mr Ken, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr Michael Jack, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Tim Loughton, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Mark Oaten, Miss Geraldine Smith, Mr John Swinney and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

7 The unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by MAFF on 20th November 1998, relating to Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

8 European Community Document No. 5123/99, relating to electronic commerce in the single market, has been referred to European Standing Committee C, together with European Community Document No. 5562/98 referred to the Committee on 3rd December 1998.

Grand Committees

9 Welsh Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Aberaeron on Monday 22nd February.

10 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 25th February.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The MoD Performance Report 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 241] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-vii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Sixth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Maritime and Coastguard Agency], with the 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. 31]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Committee [The Future of the UK Shipping Industry]; to be printed [No. 172-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny,—Ninth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee, together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 10th February; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-ix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [The Main Committee]; to be printed [No. 194-iii] [Margaret Beckett].

6 Procedure,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 185-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of Trade and Industry: The Sale of British Energy] [No. 242]; and
10th—11th February 1999

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [National Savings: Developments in Financial Reporting]; to be printed [No. 243-i]

[Mr David Davis].

8 Science and Technology,—First Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Science and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed [No. 234] [Dr Michael Clark].

9 Trade and Industry,—(1) Fourth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Draft Limited Liability Partnership Bill], together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 59];

(2) Fifth Report from the Committee [Telephone Numbering], 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. 139]; and

(3) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, on Vehicle Pricing]; to be printed [No. 236]

[Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 36.]

Thursday 11th February 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills (Standing Orders not previously inquired into complied with).—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, referred after the Second Reading thereof, the Standing Orders not previously inquired into, which are applicable thereto, have been complied with, viz.:

HFC Bank Bill.

Bill committed.

2 Tax Credits Bill,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Tax Credits Bill, and made Amendments thereto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 15th February; and to be printed [Bill 46].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 244].

3 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill (except Clause No.1),—Mr Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill (except Clause No. 1), and made Amendments thereto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 15th February; and to be printed [Bill 47].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 246].

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1999.

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

5 Local Government Finance (Wales).—Resolved, That the Local Government Finance Report (Wales) 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 203), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Michael.)

6 Local Government Finance (Wales).—Resolved, That the Local Government Finance (Amendment) Report (Wales) 1998–1999 (House of Commons Paper No. 204), which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Michael.)

7 Local Government Finance (Wales).—Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999 (House of Commons Paper No. 177), which was laid before this House on 28th January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Michael.)
8 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put,
That the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1999, dated 28th January 1999,
a copy of which was laid before this House on 1st February, be approved.—(Mr Calum
Macdonald);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 291.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mr Phil Willis: 19.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1999, dated 28th
January 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 1st February, be approved.

9 Housing (Scotland),—Resolved, That the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order
1999, which was laid before this House on 28th January, be approved.—(Mr Henry
McLeish.)

10 Constitutional Law,—Resolved, That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transitory and
Transitional Provisions) (Finance) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 4th
February, be approved.—(Mr Henry McLeish.)

11 Constitutional Law,—Resolved, That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transitory and
Transitional Provisions) (Appropriations) Order 1999, which was laid before this House
on 4th February, be approved.—(Mr Henry McLeish.)

12 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That
during the proceedings on the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.)
Bill [Lords], the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first
day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

13 Food Standards,—Ordered, That the quorum of the Committee appointed by Order [8th
February] to report on the draft bill on the Food Standards Agency (Cm. 4249) shall be
five.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Eight o’clock,
adjourned till Monday 15th February.

[Adjourned at 8.02 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Health and Safety,—Carriage of Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I.,
1999, No. 303), dated 11th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government,—Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemptions)
(Brotxtowe Borough Council, South Somerset District Council and Thurrock Borough
Council) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 219), dated 1st February 1999 [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Prescott].

3 Pensions,—Personal Injuries (Civilians) Amendment Scheme 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 262),
dated 4th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

4 Rating and Valuation,—Non-Domestic Rates (Levying) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I.,
1999, No. 276), dated 4th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretay Dewar].

5 Sheriff Court (Scotland),—Confirmation to Small Estates (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999,
No. 290), dated 4th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Water Industry,—Water (Compulsory Works Powers) (Notice) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999,
No. 221), dated 2nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

7 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 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor
General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 247] [Clerk of the House].
8 Law Commission (Scotland).—Report by the Scottish Law Commission on the Abolition of the Feudal System [by Act]; to be printed [No. 183] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Local Government (Scotland).—Accounts of the Accounts Commission for Scotland for the year ended 31st October 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 249] [Clerk of the House].

10 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 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


(3) Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (United Nations Sanctions) (Dependent Territories) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 281), and


dated 10th February 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999, in place of Mr Humfrey Malins.

2 Draft Development Commission (Transfer of Functions and Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has nominated a further Member to serve on the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order), viz.: Lynne Jones.

3 Draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Judith Church from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Lawrence Cunliffe.

European Standing Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by MAFF on 20th November 1998, relating to Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—(1) Third Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 245]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Back to the Dome]; to be printed [No. 21-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 197-iii] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environmental Audit.—Third Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Comprehensive Spending Review and Public Service Agreements], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 92] [Mr John Horam].

4 Health.—Third Report from the Health Committee [Future NHS Staffing Requirements], 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. 38] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Education (Student Support) Regulations 1999 and the draft Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Development Commission (Transfer of Functions and Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee A,—Mr John Butterfill reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum, dated 20th November 1998, from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 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 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.

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

4 House of Lords Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the House of Lords Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Exclusion of hereditary peers).

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 5, to leave out the words ‘a member’ and to insert the words ‘entitled to vote in a division’.—(Sir Patrick Cormack.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 131.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Jim Dowd: 332.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 6, at the end, to add the words ‘except that—

(a) 75 hereditary peers shall be elected as members of the House of Lords in accordance with subsection (2).

(b) 14 hereditary peers shall be elected as members of the House of Lords in accordance with subsection (3).

(c) the Lord Great Chamberlain and the Earl Marshal shall be members of the House of Lords.

(2) The electors for the purposes of subsection (1)(a) shall be the holders of a hereditary peerage.

(3) The electors for the purposes of subsection (1)(b) shall be the members of the House of Lords.

(4) The Secretary of State may by order make such provision about the conduct of the elections under this section as he considers appropriate.
No order under this section shall be made unless a draft of the statutory instrument containing it has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.'—(Mrs Eleanor Laing.)

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 Kevin Hughes 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 Accommodation and Works,—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Dismore be discharged from the Accommodation and Works Committee and that Mr Colin Burgon be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Bradley, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 12th February 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Miscellaneous (No. 1, 1999),—Notes exchanged at Washington on 18th September and 7th October 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and INTELSAT amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4198] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Miscellaneous (No. 2, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 11th and 18th July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and CAB International (previously known as the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux) amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4222] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Miscellaneous (No. 3, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 10th July and 5th August 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Commonwealth Foundation amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4223] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Miscellaneous (No. 4, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 7th and 12th November 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4224] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Miscellaneous (No. 5, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 11th and 28th July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4225] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Miscellaneous (No. 6, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 10th and 21st July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Cocoa Organization amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4226] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Miscellaneous (No. 7, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 10th and 28th July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Coffee Organization amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4227] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Miscellaneous (No. 8, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 22nd October and 10th November 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Grains Council (previously known as the International Wheat Council) amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4228] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Miscellaneous (No. 9, 1999),—Notes exchanged at London on 10th and 28th July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
10 Miscellaneous (No. 10, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 19th August and 23rd October 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Maritime Organization (previously known as the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization) amending the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the Organization, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4230] [Mr Secretary Cook].

11 Miscellaneous (No. 11, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 27th June and 7th July 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Mobile Satellite Organization (Inmarsat) (previously known as the International Maritime Satellite Organization) amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4231] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 Miscellaneous (No. 12, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 24th July and 13th August 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Rubber Study Group amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4232] [Mr Secretary Cook].

13 Miscellaneous (No. 13, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 10th July and 15th August 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Sugar Organization amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4233] [Mr Secretary Cook].

14 Miscellaneous (No. 14, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 10th July and 19th August 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Whaling Commission amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4234] [Mr Secretary Cook].

15 Miscellaneous (No. 15, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 10th July and 28th October 1997 amending the Agreement relating to the Commissions established by the Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft 1972 and the Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-based Sources 1974, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4235] [Mr Secretary Cook].

16 Miscellaneous (No. 16, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 1st and 8th December 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4236] [Mr Secretary Cook].

17 Miscellaneous (No. 17, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 1st and 8th December 1997 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992 amending the Headquarters Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4237] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 15th February 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

18 Constitutional Law.—Draft National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

19 Northern Ireland.—Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

20 Education (Scotland).—Self-Governing Schools (Publication of Proposals for Discontinuance) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 337), dated 8th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

21 Legal Aid and Advice.-(1) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 345), and

(2) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 346), dated 10th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

22 Local Government.—Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 296), dated 12th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].
23 National Health Service,—National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 326), dated 10th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

24 Savings Banks,—Draft National Savings Bank (Investment Deposits) (Limits) (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

25 Social Security,—Employer’s Contributions Re-imbursement Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 286), dated 9th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

26 Government Trading Funds,—Report by the Secretary of State for Health on consultation undertaken concerning the proposal to establish the NHS Estate Management and Health Building Agency as a Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

27 Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks),—Accounts of the Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks) Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 254] [Clerk of the House].

28 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on How the Utility Regulators are addressing the Year 2000 Problem in the Utilities [by Act]; to be printed [No. 222] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Alan Campbell, Tom Cox and Mr Denis McShane from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Bill Etherington and Mr Brian Jenkins.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—(1) Sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Excess Votes]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 255]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: The Flotation of Railtrack]; to be printed [No. 256-i]

   [Mr David Davis].

2 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment and Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [Nos. 84-vi and 85-ii] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 38.]

Tuesday 16th February 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Wednesday 24th February at Seven o’clock.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
3 Age Limits on Health Care.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the National Health Service (Primary Care) Act 1997 to prohibit the refusal or delay of treatment on the basis of age; and to establish an inquiry into the prevalence of age discrimination in the National Health Service: And that Dr Vincent Cable, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Paul Burstow, Dr Peter Brand, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Edward O’Hara, Ms Linda Perham, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr David Winnick and Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones do prepare and bring it in.

4 Age Limits on Health Care Bill.—Dr Vincent Cable accordingly presented a Bill to amend the National Health Service (Primary Care) Act 1997 to prohibit the refusal or delay of treatment on the basis of age; and to establish an inquiry into the prevalence of age discrimination in the National Health Service: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 48].

5 House of Lords Bill.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the House of Lords Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Exclusion of hereditary peers).

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 1, line 6, at the end, to add the words 'except that—

(a) 75 hereditary peers shall be elected as members of the House of Lords in accordance with subsection (2).

(b) 14 hereditary peers shall be elected as members of the House of Lords in accordance with subsection (3).

(c) the Lord Great Chamberlain and the Earl Marshal shall be members of the House of Lords.

(2) The electors for the purposes of subsection (1)(a) shall be the holders of a hereditary peerage.

(3) The electors for the purposes of subsection (1)(b) shall be the members of the House of Lords.

(4) The Secretary of State may by order make such provision about the conduct of the elections under this section as he considers appropriate.

(5) No order under this section shall be made unless a draft of the statutory instrument containing it has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.’.

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Question put.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Desmond Swayne: 125.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 326.

Another Amendment (No. 13) proposed, in page 1, line 6, at the end, to add the words 'or shall in future be appointed a member of the House of Lords by the exercise of patronage'—(Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Bowen Wells: 51.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Keith Hill: 269.

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.

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 on Monday 22nd February.

6 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—

(1) the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 25th February, the Committee shall consider the draft instrument referred to it under paragraph (1) above, and

(3) in respect of the sitting on Thursday 25th February, 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’.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

7 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 railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 21st January, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.

8 Countryside Agency.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Development Commission (Transfer of Functions and Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 27th January, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.

9 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 1999, which were laid before this House on 4th February, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.

10 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 1999, which were laid before this House on 8th February, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.

11 Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.—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 unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum, dated 20th November 1998, from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 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 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—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.


13 Landlord and Tenant.—Ordered, That the Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

14 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Infant Class Sizes) (Grant) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 14) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

15 National Health Service.—Ordered, That the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220) and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 260) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law,—(1) Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael]; and
   (2) draft Scottish Parliament (Disqualification) Order 1999,
   (3) draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc) Order 1999, and
   (4) draft Scottish Parliament (First Ordinary General Election and First Meeting) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Libraries,—Draft Public Lending Right (Increase of Limit) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

   (2) draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

5 Ashworth Special Hospital,—Report (Volume II: Expert Evidence on Personality Disorder) of the Committee of Inquiry into the Personality Disorder Unit, Ashworth Special Hospital [by Command] [Cm. 4195] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on:—
   (1) the Arable Area Payments Scheme, and
   (2) the NHS in Scotland: Making the Most of the Estate [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 223 and 224] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Minimum Wage,—Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 5(4) of the National Minimum Wage Act 1998 on the regulations implementing the national minimum wage [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft National Assembly for Wales (Disqualification) Order 1999 and the draft National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the First 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 Nick Ainger, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Denzil Davies, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr David Hanson, Mr Richard Livsey, Dr John Marek, Mr Alun Michael, Mr Richard Page, Sir Raymond Powell, Mr Allan Rogers, Sir Raymond Whitney and Mr Alan W. Williams.

2 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 40) (House of Commons Paper No. 205):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr David Clelland, Mr Michael Colvin, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr John Hutton, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Tony McWalter, Sir David Madel, Alice Mahon, Mr Austin Mitchell, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Dennis Turner and Dr George Turner.

3 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39) (House of Commons Paper No. 213):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Third 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 Graham Allen, Mr David Atkinson, Jackie Ballard, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Ben Chapman, Tom Cox, Mr Neil Gerrard, Ms Fiona Jones, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Nick Raysford, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr David Watts.

4 Draft National Health Service Estate Management and Health Building Agency Trading Fund Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Clelland, Mr Hilton Dudson, Mr John Denham, Caroline Flint, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Andy King, Mr Peter Luff, Mr David Maclean, Sir David Madel, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Dan Norris, Mr Lembit Opik, Joan Walley and Mr Robert N. Wareing.

5 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Other Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr Harry Cohen, Yvette Cooper, Mr David Heath, Mr Brian Jenkins, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Kidney, Mr Martin Linton, Sir David Madel, Mr Michael Mates, Ms Joyce Quin, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr Michael Trend and Derek Wyatt.

6 Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth 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 Nick Ainger, Mr David Amess, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Paul Flynn, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr David Hanson, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Richard Livsey, Mr Elywn Lloyd, Mr Alun Michael, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Mr Ted Rowlands and Mr Llew Smith.

European Standing Committees

Grand Committees

8 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 8th March.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]; to be printed [No. 233-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The Future of NATO]; to be printed [No. 39-v] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee [Access for all?]; to be printed [No. 57-iv] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

4 Environmental Audit,—(1) Fourth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Pre-Budget Report 1998], 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. 93]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 159-iii]

[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 [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 232-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

6 European Scrutiny,—Tenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee, together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 16th February; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-x] [Mr Jim Marshall].

7 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 185-iii] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

8 Standards and Privileges,—First Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Advocacy and Declaration], 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. 257] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-ix] [Mr William Ross].

10 Welsh Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Closure of the Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum], 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. 258];

(2) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 19th January [The Welsh Office’s Preparedness for the National Assembly]; to be printed [No. 166-i] and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Closure of the Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum]

[Mr Martyn Jones].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords].—Mr John McWilliam reported from Standing Committee D, that it had gone through the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) 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. 264].

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

London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill intituled, An Act to confer further powers upon the local authorities in London; and for related purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

4 Protection of Children Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Protection of Children Bill be printed [Bill 12–EN].

5 Immigration and Asylum Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Immigration and Asylum 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, whilst underlining Britain’s commitment to genuine refugees but recognising the need to prevent fraudulent claims for political asylum and the widespread public concern on this issue, declines to give the Immigration and Asylum Bill a second reading because, before introducing it, the Government failed to establish an independent inquiry to consider what measures should be taken to combat such illegal immigration and because the Bill fails to create a situation whereby only genuine asylum applicants will be given permission to settle in this country’, instead thereof.—(Sir Norman Fowler.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Keith Hill: 346.

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, Mr Keith Hill: 304.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Sir Robert Smith: 38.

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 Special Standing Committee—(Mr Mike O’Brien).—It was agreed to.

6 Immigration and Asylum Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Immigration and Asylum 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 Immigration and Asylum 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 in
   consequence of the Act; and
   (b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable by virtue of any other
   Act; and
(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was
agreed to.

7 Immigration and Asylum Bill,—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 91 (Special standing
committees) shall have effect in relation to the Immigration and Asylum Bill, with the
following modifications:
   (1) in line 6, leave out the words 'four morning' and insert the word 'five'.
   (2) in line 7, leave out the second word 'three' and insert the word 'four'.—(Mr Kevin
Hughes.)

8 Northern Ireland,—Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act
1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 1st February,
be approved.—(Secretary Marjorie Mowlam.)

9 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 Diplomatic Privileges (British Nationals) Order 1999, which
was laid before this House on 28th January, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was
agreed to.

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

   Tuesday 23rd February 1999

   And the Question being put;
   Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-one minutes past
Twelve o'clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

   [Adjourned at 12.21 a.m.

APPENDIX I

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

1 Health (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Towards a Healthier Scotland: A White Paper on Health
   [Cm. 4269] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 Housing (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for
   1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland
   thereon [Cm. 4268] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

3 Treaty Series (No. 9, 1999),—Headquarters Agreement, done at London on 18th February
   1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
   Ireland and the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission [Cm. 4265] [Mr Secretary
Cook].

4 Treaty Series (No. 10, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 6th July 1998, between the
   Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
   Government of the French Republic concerning the European Air Group [Cm. 4270]
   [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:

   17th February 1999

5 Council Tax,—(1) Council Tax (Demand Notices) (Wales) (Transitional Provisions)
   Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 348), and
   (2) Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 347),
   dated 15th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Michael].
Education,—Education (Transition to New Framework) (New Schools, Groups and Miscellaneous) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 362), dated 16th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Insolvency,—Insolvency (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 359), dated 16th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

Local Government,—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (Stoke on Trent City Council) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 315), dated 10th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott]; and

(2) Local Authorities (Requisite Calculations) (Wales) (Prescribed Amounts) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 297), dated 16th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Michael].

National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 365), dated 15th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Agriculture,—Hill Livestock (Compensatory Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 375), dated 18th February 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].


Food,—Processed Cereal-based Foods and Baby Foods for Infants and Young Children (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 275), dated 8th February 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

Highways,—Highways (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 369), dated 17th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Housing,—Housing (Right to Buy) (Limits on Discount) (Wales) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 292), dated 5th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Michael].


Town and Country Planning,—Town and Country Planning (Costs of Inquiries etc.) (Standard Daily Amount) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 327), dated 10th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Fish Farming,—Environmental Impact Assessment (Fish Farming in Marine Waters) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 367), dated 15th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Cargoes) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 336), dated 9th February 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 22nd February 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

Constitutional Law,—(1) Draft National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael]; and

(2) draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—(1) Draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, and

(2) draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,

(2) draft Northern Ireland (Modifications of Enactments—No. 1) Order 1999,

(3) draft Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.
(4) draft Trade Union Subscription Deductions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, and  
(5) draft Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999  
[by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

23 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Amendment Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

24 Animals,—Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 400), dated 18th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].


26 Education,—(1) Education (School Attendance Targets) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 397), dated 16th February 1999, and  
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

27 Food,—Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 399), dated 15th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


29 Prisons,—Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 374), dated 13th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

30 Representation of the People,—Scottish Local Elections Amendment Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 406), dated 18th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

31 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 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 229] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

32 Education (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Qualifications Authority for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

33 Environmental Protection,—Local Enforcing Authorities Air Pollution Fees and Charges Scheme (England and Wales) 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

34 Housing (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Investing in Modernisation—An Agenda for Scotland’s Housing: A Green Paper [by Command] [Cm. 4272] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

35 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the Welsh 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. 240] [Mr Secretary Michael].

36 Pensions,—Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 294), dated 10th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

37 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [16th December] from Patricia Revell and Kate Coull, mothers of autistic children, for research into the safety of the MMR vaccine, for research into autism and for a register of autistic children [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

38 Sex Discrimination,—Accounts of the Equal Opportunities Commission for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 262] [Clerk of the House].

Papers withdrawn:

39 Constitutional Law,—(1) Draft National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 1999 [laid 15th February]; and  
(2) draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc) Order 1999 [laid 16th February].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 40) (House of Commons Paper No. 205):
   The Speaker has appointed Mr Frank Cook Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report, in place of Mr Jimmy Hood; and
   The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Jenny Jones, Alice Mahon and Mr Dennis Turner from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Laura Moffatt and Mr Desmond Turner.

2 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39) (House of Commons Paper No. 213),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Tom Cox, Ms Fiona Jones and Mr Richard Ottaway from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Chris Pond, Angela Smith and Mr Nigel Waterson.

3 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Yvette Cooper from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Ms Dari Taylor.

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 17th February [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-viii] [Clerk of the House].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [Nos. 232-i and -ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [MoD: Major Equipment Storage]; to be printed [No. 266-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 40.]

Tuesday 23rd February 1999.

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 Transport Policy in Wales, referred to it on 2nd February, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 115].

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Assembly for Wales (Disqualification) Order 1999 and the draft National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 40) (House of Commons Paper No. 205).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fuel Safety,—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in certain premises; to raise public and professional awareness of the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning; to make new provision with
respect to the maintenance of fuel appliances; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Alan W. Williams, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Paul Keetch, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr David Ruffley, Mr John Swinney, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Roy Beggs and Mr John Cummings do prepare and bring it in.

5 Fuel Safety Bill.—Mr Fraser Kemp accordingly presented a Bill to require the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in certain premises; to raise public and professional awareness of the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning; to make new provision with respect to the maintenance of fuel appliances; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th April and to be printed [Bill 49].

6 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill;

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

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give the Bill a Second Reading because the complex and unrelated nature of some of the issues covered, which themselves should be subject to separate legislation, will have the effect of complicating pension provision, increasing the disincentive to save, fostering dependency particularly for the self-employed, widows and disabled people, and although, through the work-focused gateway, the Government seeks to make benefit conditional, the necessary conditions for success are missing since the Bill does nothing to increase job creation; and regrets the missed opportunity for lasting reform of social security and pensions’, instead thereof.—(Mr Iain Duncan Smith)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 172.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 336.

So the Question was negatived.

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 Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 318.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 180.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

7 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Welfare Reform and Pensions 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 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown or government department under the Act;

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable out of money so provided;

(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 Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

8 Welfare Reform and Pensions 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 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) payments out of the National Insurance Fund into the Consolidated Fund in respect of expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State under the Act;

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.
9 Financial Services and Markets. — Resolved, That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to report on the consultative document on the draft financial services and markets bill presented by Her Majesty’s Command on 21st December 1998 and any further draft of the bill which may be laid upon the Table of both Houses by a Minister of the Crown and to report by 30th April 1999. — (Mr Graham Allen.)

To be communicated to the Lords, and their concurrence desired thereto.

10 Local Government. — Ordered, That the Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 228) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. — (Mr Graham Allen.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Income Tax, — Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 419), dated 22nd February 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

2 Libraries, — The Public Lending Right Scheme 1982 (Commencement of Variations) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 420), dated 22nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Social Security, — (1) Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating) Consequential Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 361), and

(2) Statutory Maternity Pay (Compensation of Employers) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 363),

dated 16th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 Civil List, — List of new and supplementary pensions granted under the Civil List Act 1972 for 1998-99 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].


6 National Audit, — Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Handgun Surrender and Compensation [by Act]; to be printed [No. 225] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Lottery, — Accounts of the National Lottery Distribution Fund for 1997-98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 269] [Clerk of the House].

8 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions), — Draft Code of Practice governing the audio recording of police interviews of persons detained under section 14(1)(a) or (b) of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 and such other police interviews as may be specified by order [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 40) (House of Commons Paper No. 205), — The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Jenny Jones, Alice Mahon and Mr Dennis Turner from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Laura Moffatt and Mr Desmond Turner.

2 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39) (House of Commons Paper No. 213), — The Committee of Selection has discharged Tom Cox, Ms Fiona Jones and Mr Richard Ottaway from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Chris Pond, Angela Smith and Mr Nigel Waterson.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]; to be printed [No. 233-iii]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 17th February [The Future of NATO]; to be printed [No. 39-vi] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O.No.137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))] [Clerk of the House].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 232-iv and -v] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 159-iv] [Mr John Horam].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [FCO Resources]; to be printed [No. 271-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 185-vi] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-ii] [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. 50-x] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Second Report from the Committee, on Strategic Export Controls]; to be printed [No. 270]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Electronic Commerce]; to be printed [No. 187-iii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

10 Treasury,—(1) Second Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Office for National Statistics: Responses by the Government and the Bank of England to the First Report from the Committee]; to be printed [No. 267]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 16th and 23rd February [The Bank of England February Inflation Report]; to be printed [Nos. 268-i and -ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

11 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Child Care in Wales]; to be printed [No. 156-iv] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 41.]

Wednesday 24th February 1999.

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 Election Expenses.—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 expenses of each candidate at the General Election of May 1997 in the
United Kingdom as transmitted to the returning officers pursuant to the Representation of the People Act 1983, and of the number of votes polled by each candidate, the description of each candidate, the number of polling districts and stations, the number of electors, the number of postal voters and the number of rejected ballot papers.—(Mr George Howarth.)

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39) (House of Commons Paper No. 213).

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

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Health Service Estate Management and Health Building Agency Trading Fund Order 1999.

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

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999.

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

6 European Standing Committee B.—Mr George Stevenson reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents OJ No. C349, European Court of Auditors Annual Report on the financial year 1997, Nos. 14031/98, draft Council Regulation establishing a European Fraud Investigation Office, and 10786/98, Special Report No. 9/98 of the European Court of Auditors concerning the protection of the financial interests of the European Union in the field of VAT on intra-Community trade; and supports the Government’s continuing efforts to promote and support measures to improve financial management and fight fraud against the EU Budget.

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

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

Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend section 7(4) of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 in respect of several fisheries; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

8 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 12th March and to be printed [Bill 51].

9 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill be printed [Bill 13–EN].

10 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to allow the production, supply, possession and use of cannabis resin for medicinal purposes: And that Paul Flynn, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Dafydd Wigley, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Dr Jenny Tonge, Dr James Wallace, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Andrew George, Mr Donald Gorrie and Dr Peter Brand do prepare and bring it in.

11 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill.—Paul Flynn accordingly presented a Bill to allow the production, supply, possession and use of cannabis resin for medicinal purposes. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 50].

12 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out line 16.—(Mr Quentin Davies.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, to leave out lines 30 to 39 and to insert the words ‘for an officer of the Board to resubmit a case to the Commissioners if, in his view, a material change of circumstances has occurred since an earlier decision was made by the Commissioners; and in any such case it shall be for the Commissioners to determine whether any such change of circumstances which would warrant their setting aside their earlier decision has indeed occurred.’, instead thereof.—(Mr Quentin Davies.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 15, line 4, to leave out from the word ‘shall’ to the end of line 5 and insert the words ‘not be made unless a draft of it has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament’, instead thereof.—(Mr Quentin Davies.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 6) proposed to the Bill, in page 22, line 8, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4AA) All such deductions, withholdings and payments by the Inland Revenue from sums due to the National Insurance Fund in each financial year shall be subject to a specific audit and report by the Audit Commission.’.—(Mr Quentin Davies.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 40, line 46, at the end, to insert the words ‘provided that, where such proceedings are brought without either distinguishing the amounts the employer is liable to pay or specifying the employees in question, the employer, if he be found guilty of any material default in his obligation to pay National Insurance, shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Inland Revenue for any costs and expenses incurred in defending himself in any such proceedings’.—(Mr Quentin Davies.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 46, line 3, at the end, to insert the words ‘except that, in the case of the authorities listed in sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above, such information shall exclude the names or addresses of individuals’.—(Mr Quentin Davies.)

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 Greg Pope, Mr Kevin Hughes: 344.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 89.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

13 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill;

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

Mrs Jacqui Lait 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 Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr David Amess: 198.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr John Cryer: 91.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time and committed.

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 Rating (Valuation) Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—It was agreed to.

15 Rating (Valuation) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Rating (Valuation) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 9, to leave out from the word ‘substituted’ to the end of line 20 and insert the words—
‘“if the landlord undertook to execute prior to the start of the tenancy such repairs, if any, as the tenant might reasonably expect to be carried out to put the hereditament in a state to command that rent and the tenant undertook thereafter to bear the costs of repairs and insurance and to pay all usual rates and taxes.”’, instead thereof.—(Mr Simon Burns.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 16, at the end to insert the words—

‘provided that there shall be excepted from any deemed reinstatement occurring in the course of the exercise of this assumption any want of actual repair to a hereditament arising from any peril customarily insured against, Acts of God, civil commotion, war or terrorism, or arising from the rebuilding or substantial refurbishment thereof’.—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Richard Allan, Mr David Heath: 27.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Keith Hill: 206.

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 been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives Her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, that the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Keith Hill: 165.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

16 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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 40) (House of Commons Paper No. 205), which was laid before this House on 10th February, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes):—It was agreed to.

17 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 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Bill [Lords].

18 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Government Trading Funds.—Draft Ordnance Survey Trading Fund Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government Finance.—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers [by Act], to be printed [No. 230] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

3 Local Government Finance (Scotland).—Special Grant Report for Scotland (No. 1/1999): Special Grant for Asylum Seeker Assistance [by Act], to be printed [No. 228] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
4 Local Government Finance (Wales)—Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999 (No. 2): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers [by Act]; to be printed [No. 250] [Mr Secretary Michael].

5 Rating and Valuation—Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

6 Sea Fisheries—(1) Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota Measures) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 424), and

7 Social Security—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 371), dated 16th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

8 European Communities (No. 3, 1999)—Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, done at Brussels on 25th May 1998, establishing a Partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Turkmenistan, of the other part, with Declarations, Protocol, Exchange of Letters and Final Act, and with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4189] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Housing—Report and Accounts of North Hull Housing Action Trust for 1st April–31st December 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Monopolies and Mergers—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the supply in the UK of underwriting services for share offers [by Command] [Cm. 4168] [Mr Secretary Byers].

11 Stephen Lawrence (Macpherson Inquiry)—Report of an Inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny: the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, and Appendices to the Report [by Command] [Cm. 4262-I and -II] [Mr Secretary Straw].

12 Treaty Series (No. 12, 1999)—Agreement, done at Kuala Lumpur on 10th December 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Malaysia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, with Exchange of Notes [by Command] [Cm. 4274] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Immigration and Asylum Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton and Mrs Marion Roe Chairmen of the Special Standing Committee; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Richard Allan, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Peter Bottomley, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr James Clappison, Mr David Faber, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Ms Oona King, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr David Lock, Mr David Maclean, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Marsha Singh, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Robert Syms.

2 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mr John McWillaim and Mr Humphrey Malins Chairmen; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mrs Joan Humble, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Tom Levitt, Rosemary McKenna, Kahi Mountford, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Chris Pond, Mr David Rentell, Christine Russell, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Mr Andrew Smith, Miss Geraldine Smith, Helen Southworth and Mr Stephen Timms.
3 Draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, the draft Scottish Parliament (Disqualification) Order 1999, and the draft Scottish Parliament (First Ordinary General Election and First Meeting) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the First 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.: Mr John Bercow, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Eric Clarke, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr David Faber, Maria Fyfe, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Dr Lewis Mooney, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Frank Roy and Mr David Stewart.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the First 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 Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Mr John Austin, Mr David Borrow, Mr Simon Burns, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Christopher Fraser, Ms Beverley Hughes, Chris McCafferty, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Peter Snape, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir Michael Spicer and Mr Andrew Stunell.

5 Draft Trade Union Subscription Deductions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Other Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Roy Beggs, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Tony Colman, Tom Cox, Mr James Cran, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Roger Goddust, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Adam Ingram, Shona McIsaac, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr David Winnick and Mr Anthony D. Wright.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Second 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 Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Jackie Ballard, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Robin Corbett, Mrs Louise Ellman, Ms Beverley Hughes, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr David Ruffley, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Mr Mark Todd and Mr Nigel Waterson.

7 Draft Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third 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 Gerald Bermingham, Mr James Cran, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr David Hanson, Helen Jackson, Ms Jenny Jones, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr John McFall, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Chris Ruane, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Charles Wardle and Audrey Wise.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order and Regulations to the Third 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 David Amess, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr John Denham, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Richard Livsey, Sir David Madel, Ms Joan Ruddock, Mr Nicholas Soames, Mr Mike Wood and Dr Tony Wright.

9 Draft Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Maria Eagle, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr John McFall, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr John D Taylor, Mr Gareth R. Thomas and Mr Derek Twigg.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth 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.: Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Charles Clarke, Yvette Cooper, Mr Don Foster, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr David Jameson, Mrs Tess KIngham, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Andrew Robathan, Rachel Squire, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Phil Willis and Ms Rosie Winterton.

11 Draft Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth 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 Roy Beggs, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Adam Ingram, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Lembit Opik, Debra Shipley, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr David Taylor, Mr Peter Temple-Morris and Mr Malcolm Wicks.

12 Draft Public Lending Right (Increase of Limit) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Joe Ashton Chairman, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Tony Clarke, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Nigel Jones, Fiona Maclaggart, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Phil Sawford, Mr Richard Sprang and Mr John Townend.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Roger Berry, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Jim Cousin, Mr John Cummings, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr David Lepper, Mr Ian McCartney, Mr David Maclean, Mr Greg Pope and Jacqui Smith.

14 Education (Infant Class Sizes) (Grant) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 14):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Angela Browning, Valerie Davey, Mr David Drew, Mr Don Foster, Mr John Grogan, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr David Jameson, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Andy Love, Alice Mahon, Mr Jim Marshall, Mrs Theresa May, Estelle Morris, Rachel Squire, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Phil Willis.

15 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 41) (House of Commons Paper No. 218):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Edward Davey, Julia Drown, Mr Barry Gardiner, Dr Brian Iddon, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Judy Mallaber, Mr Tom Pendry, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr John Smith, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr David Tredinnick, Mr Jon Trickett and Mr Shaun Woodward.
Draft Northern Ireland (Modification of Enactments No. 1) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nigel Beard, Mr Harold Best, Mr James Cran, Mr John Cryer, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr William Ross and Mr Alan Simpson.

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 10778/98 relating to Transport Infrastructure Charging.

European Community Document No. 11034/97, relating to End of Life Vehicles, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) First Special Report from the Defence Committee [Annual Report of the Committee For Session 1997–98], together with Annexes and Memoranda; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 273]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Security of Supply: The Award of a Propellant Contract]; to be printed [No. 274-i]

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 62-ix] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Seventh Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Meeting with European Commission Officials to discuss Air Transport]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 272];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [No. 171-i]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [The Future of the UK Shipping Industry]; to be printed [No. 172-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny,—Eleventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Food Standards,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 276-i and -ii] [Mr Kevin Barron].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Public Trust Office: Protecting the Financial Welfare of the Mentally Incapacitated]; to be printed [No. 278-q] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Engineering and Physical Sciences Based Innovation]; to be printed [No. 17-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 85-ii] [Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [Child Benefit]; to be printed [No. 114-ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].
The House met at half-past Eleven 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.: London Local Authorities [Lords].
   Bill to be read a second time.

2 Private Bills (Standing Orders not previously enquired into complied with).—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, referred after the Second Reading thereof, the Standing Orders not previously enquired into, which are applicable thereto, have been complied with, viz.: University College London.
   Bill committed.

3 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 Report from the Environmental Audit Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Greening Government Initiative, and the Sixth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on the Maritime and Coastguard Agency to be debated on Wednesday 17th March, pursuant to Standing Order No.10 (Wednesday sittings).

4 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, 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. 99].

5 Local Government Bill.—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Local Government Bill, and made Amendments thereto. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 52].
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 285].

6 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committees to lie upon the Table.

7 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Financial Services and Markets.—The Lords concur with the Commons in their Message [23rd February] relating to the appointment of a Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets.

8 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill be printed [Bill 25–EN].

9 Adjournment (Welsh Affairs).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Greg Pope);

10 Royal Assent.—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, that Her Majesty has signified Her Royal Assent to the following Act, agreed upon by both Houses:
   Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Act 1999.

11 Adjournment (Welsh Affairs).—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;
   The Motion was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn.
12 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on 1st March, the Speaker shall put the Question on the Motion in the name of Mr William Hague relating to the Corporation Tax (Instalment Payments) Regulations 1998 not later than half-past Eleven o’clock or one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings thereon, whichever is earlier, and the said Motion may be entered upon and proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

13 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That Mr Colin Burgon, Rosemary McKenna and Mrs Diana Organ be discharged from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments and Mr Brian White, Mr Ivan Henderson and Mr Harold Best be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

14 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Jamieson);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

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

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

[Adjourned at 7.11 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law,—(1) Draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, and
(2) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 1) Order 1999
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

2 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft International Mobile Satellite Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Electricity,—Electricity (Non-Fossil Fuel Sources) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 439), dated 24th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Representation of the People.—(1) Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 395); and
(2) Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 394), dated 17th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Road Traffic,—Motor Cars (Driving Instruction) (Admission of Community Licence Holders) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 357), dated 15th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 25th February 1999, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

7 Defence (Votes A), 1999–2000,—Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1999–2000 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 208] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Election Expenses,—Return to an Address to Her Majesty [24th February] for a Return relating to election expenses; to be printed [No. 260] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent on the modification of planning permission within the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Special Protection Area [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Food,—Accounts of the Home Grown Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 282] [Clerk of the House].

11 Law Commission (Scotland).—Report of the Scottish Law Commission on Unjustified Enrichment, Error of Law and Public Authority Receipts and Disbursements [by Act]; to be printed [No. 210] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
12 Monopolies and Mergers.—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the merger situation between IMS Health Inc and Pharmaceutical Marketing Services Inc [by Command] [Cm. 4261] [Mr Secretary Byers].

13 Museums and Galleries.—Account of the Wallace Collection for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 284] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Health Service.—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 23rd February 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Central Nottinghamshire Healthcare,
   (2) Community Health Care Services (North Derbyshire),
   (3) Glenfield Hospital,
   (4) Leicester General Hospital,
   (5) Pilgrim Health,
   (6) Rotherham General Hospitals, and
   (7) Southampton Community Health Services
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

15 Northern Ireland.—Account of the Public Income and Expenditure of Northern Ireland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4255] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

16 Supply Estimates, 1997–98.—Statement of the sums required to be voted in order to make good excesses on certain grants for 1997–98 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 239] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

17 Supply Estimates, 1998–99.—Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 237] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

18 Supply Estimates, 1998–99.—Spring Supplementary Estimate (Class XVII, A, House of Commons) for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 238] [The Speaker].

Papers withdrawn:

19 Constitutional Law.—Draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999 [laid 22nd February].

20 Stephen Lawrence (Macpherson Inquiry).—Appendices to the Report of an Inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny: the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry [Cm. 4262-II] [laid 24th February].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, the draft Scottish Parliament (Disqualification) Order 1999, and the draft Scottish Parliament (First Ordinary General Election and First Meeting) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Russell Brown and Dr Lewis Moonie from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Miss Anne Begg and Mr Malcolm Savidge.

2 Rents Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999. No. 6).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Syd Rapson from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Stephen Twigg.

3 Draft Trade Union Subscription Deductions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Paul Clark from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Clive Efdord.

4 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 41) (House of Commons Paper No. 218).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Brian Iddon from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Syd Rapson.
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 [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 197-iv] [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 [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 232-vi] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Regulation of Private and Other Independent Healthcare]; to be printed [No. 281-i] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 199-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 43.]

Friday 26th February 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Protection of Children Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Protection of Children Bill;

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

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;

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

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

2 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill,—The Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Efficiency 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 5th March.

4 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th March.

5 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th March.

6 Access to Environmental Information Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd April.

7 Financial Services and Markets,—Ordered, That a Select Committee of eight Members be appointed to join with a committee to be appointed by the Lords, to be the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets, to report on the consultative document on the draft Financial Services and Markets Bill presented by Her Majesty’s Command on 21st December 1998 and any further draft of the Bill which may be laid upon the Table of both Houses by a Minister of the Crown;

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee;
Ordered, That the Committee shall have power—
(i) to send for persons, papers and records;
(ii) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
(iii) to report from time to time;
(iv) to appoint specialist advisers;
(v) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom;
(vi) to communicate to any Select Committee appointed by either House its evidence and any documents of common interest;

Ordered, That the Committee shall report by 30th April 1999;

Ordered, That Mr Nigel Beard, Mrs Liz Blackman, Dr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr David Kidney, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr James Plaskitt and Mr Barry Sheerman be members of the Committee.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 1st March.

[Adjourned at 3.01 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Education (Scotland),—(1) St. Andrew’s College of Education (Closure) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 442), dated 23rd February 1999, and (2) Teachers’ Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 446), dated 15th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Environmental Protection,—Environmental Protection Act 1990 (Extension of Section 140) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 396), dated 15th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) National Health Service (Scotland) (Injury Benefits) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 444), and (2) National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 443), dated 15th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


Other Papers:

6 Development of Tourism,—Statement by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport of re-appointment and salary of the Chairman of the Board of the British Tourist Authority [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Registration Service,—Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics: Review of the Registrar General on marriages, divorces and adoptions in England and Wales for 1996 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

8 Treaty Series (No. 13, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 18th December 1997, relating to the Commission established by the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the North-East Atlantic 1992 [by Command] [Cm. 4277] [Mr Secretary Cook].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Review of the Revisions to the Average Earnings Index,—Ordered. That there be laid before this House a Return of a Report on the revision of the average earnings index, conducted by Sir Andrew Turnbull and Mr Mervyn King.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, the draft Scottish Parliament (Disqualification) Order 1999, and the draft Scottish Parliament (First Ordinary General Election and First Meeting) Order 1999.

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

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Trade Union Subscription Deductions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.

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

4 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill, not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Defences available to persons who are under age)—(Mr Paul Boateng)—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 Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 274.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Desmond Swayne, Dr Julian Lewis: 64.

Clause added to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 1) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 22, after the word ‘full-time’, to insert the words ‘or part time’.—(Mr James Clappison.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 6 to 9) 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, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Jim Dowd: 281.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Desmond Swayne: 82.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

5 Scottish Enterprise Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Scottish Enterprise Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Income Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Corporation Tax (Instalment Payments) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 3175), dated 17th December 1998, a copy of which was laid before this House on 17th December, be revoked—(Mr Nick Gibb).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 130.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Mike Hall: 289.

So the Question was negatived.
7 Government Trading Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft National Health Service Estate Management and Health Building Agency Trading Fund Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 3rd February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39) (House of Commons Paper No. 213), which was laid before this House on 4th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Mike Hall: 274.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Bercow, Mr David Ruffley: 29.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 39) (House of Commons Paper No. 213), which was laid before this House on 4th February, be approved.

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) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 8th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—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 Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 15th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

11 Court of Auditors Report.—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 Union Documents OJ No. C349, European Court of Auditors Annual Report on the financial year 1997, Nos. 14031/98, Draft Council Regulation establishing a European Fraud Investigation Office, and 10786/98, Special Report No. 9/98 of the European Court of Auditors concerning the protection of the financial interests of the European Union in the field of VAT on intra-Community trade; and supports the Government’s continuing efforts to promote and support measures to improve financial management and fight fraud against the EU Budget—(Mr David Jamieson);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Mike Hall: 291.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Bercow, Mr David Ruffley: 15.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Union Documents OJ No. C349, European Court of Auditors Annual Report on the financial year 1997, Nos. 14031/98, Draft Council Regulation establishing a European Fraud Investigation Office, and 10786/98, Special Report No. 9/98 of the European Court of Auditors concerning the protection of the financial interests of the European Union in the field of VAT on intra-Community trade; and supports the Government’s continuing efforts to promote and support measures to improve financial management and fight fraud against the EU Budget.

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

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

[Adjourned at 11.32 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Succession (Scotland),—Prior Rights of Surviving Spouse (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 445), dated 17th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:


3 Long Term Care (Royal Commission),—Report of the Royal Commission on Long Term Care: With Respect to Old Age, Long Term Care—Rights and Responsibilities (Report and Research Volumes 1, 2 and 3) [by Command] [Cm. 4192-I, -II/1, -II/2 and -II/3] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Inheritance Tax: A Progress Report [by Act]; to be printed [No. 251] [Clerk of the House].

5 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 25th February 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Isle of Wight Healthcare National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Railways,—Report of the Rail Users' Consultative Committee for Wales for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Stephen Lawrence (Macpherson Inquiry),—Revised Appendices to the Report of an Inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny: the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry [by Command] [Cm. 4262-II (Revised)] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Protection of Children Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

3 Draft Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Terry Lewis from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas.

4 Draft Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jamie Cann from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Robin Corbett.

5 Draft Northern Ireland (Modification of Enactments—No. 1) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Paul Clark.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [NHS Executive: Cost Over-Runs, Funding Problems and Delays on Guy’s Hospital Phase III Development], to be printed [No. 289-i] [Mr David Davis].
PRAYERS.

1. Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.
   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:
   Financial Services and Markets,—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Select Committee of eight Lords to join with a Committee appointed by the Commons as the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; 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 adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom, 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 Committee shall report by 30th April 1999; and they propose that the Committee do meet with the Committee appointed by the Commons this day at half-past Four o’clock in Committee Room 3A.

3. Financial Services and Markets,—Ordered, That the Lords Message this day relating to the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets be now considered.
   Lords Message considered accordingly.
   Ordered, That the Committee appointed by this House meet the Lords Committee as proposed by their Lordships.
   Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

4. Hare Coursing Bill,—Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, supported by Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Maria Eagle, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Gwyn Prosser and Helen Jones, 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 26th March and to be printed [Bill 53].

5. Use of Antibiotics in Farm Animals,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require Ministers to lay before Parliament proposals for ending the use in farm animals of antibiotics as growth promoters and for restricting the routine use of antibiotics in such animals for prophylactic purposes—(Mr Bill Etherington).
   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 Bill Etherington, John Austin, Jackie Ballard, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Harry Cohen, Lynne Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Chris Mullin, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Gwyn Prosser and Angela Smith do prepare and bring in the Bill.

6. Use of Antibiotics in Farm Animals Bill,—Mr Bill Etherington accordingly presented a Bill to require Ministers to lay before Parliament proposals for ending the use in farm animals of antibiotics as growth promoters and for restricting the routine use of antibiotics in such animals for prophylactic purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th April and to be printed [Bill 54].

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.
   Conduct of Ministers and Sierra Leone,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House endorses the criticisms made of Ministers in the Second Report of Session 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 116) of the Foreign Affairs Committee on Sierra Leone and the Report of the Legg Inquiry; deplores the conduct of Ministers which led to such criticism; and calls on the Ministers concerned to accept responsibility for their conduct—(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 ‘welcomes the decision of the Foreign Affairs Committee in its Second Report of Session 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No. 116) on Sierra Leone to commend the resolute support which the British Government is giving to the restoration of democracy in Sierra Leone and endorses the conclusion of the Legg Inquiry that no Minister had given encouragement or approval to
any breach of the arms embargo on Sierra Leone; notes that the inquiry on Sierra Leone of the Foreign Affairs Committee has found no evidence of Ministerial encouragement or approval; and congratulates Her Majesty’s Government on accepting all the recommendations of the Report of the Legg Inquiry and on the steps it has since taken to modernise management in the FCO; 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 Stephen Day, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 171.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Clelland: 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.

Resolved. That this House welcomes the decision of the Foreign Affairs Committee in its Second Report of Session 1998–99 (House of Commons Paper No.116) on Sierra Leone to commend the resolute support which the British Government is giving to the restoration of democracy in Sierra Leone and endorses the conclusion of the Legg Inquiry that no Minister had given encouragement or approval to any breach of the arms embargo on Sierra Leone; notes that the inquiry on Sierra Leone of the Foreign Affairs Committee has found no evidence of Ministerial encouragement or approval; and congratulates Her Majesty’s Government on accepting all the recommendations of the Report of the Legg Inquiry and on the steps it has since taken to modernise management in the FCO.

Burdens on Schools,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the bureaucratic burdens placed on schools by the Government which are seriously undermining schools’ ability to run their own affairs; condemns the pursuit of uniformity at the expense of diversity; considers the Government’s proposals for performance-related pay for teachers to be cumbersome and unworkable; believes the complicated process of bidding for centralised initiatives is fragmenting budgetary responsibility and has caused unacceptable delays in setting indicative budgets; and further believes that the Government’s ceaseless flow of directives to schools and LEAs has become a significant obstacle to raising educational standards—(Mr David Willetts);

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 the introduction of vital measures to improve standards, particularly in literacy and numeracy; applauds the extra flexibility it has introduced in the national curriculum for primary pupils and support for work-related learning for 14–16 year olds; welcomes the Government’s support for greater diversity through specialist schools and education action zones; believes that the extra £19 billion for schools will underpin the drive for higher standards and welcomes plans to reward good teachers well; congratulates Ministers for introducing much greater clarity to mailings for schools with a view to keeping paperwork to a minimum; recognises the huge benefits which the National Grid for Learning and voluntary schemes of work bring in reducing unnecessary paperwork; and notes that the Opposition has no proposals to raise standards in schools’, instead thereof.—(Estelle Morris.)

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

Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being proposed, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Stephen Day: 172.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 334.

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 commends the Government for the introduction of vital measures to improve standards, particularly in literacy and numeracy; applauds the extra flexibility it has introduced in the national curriculum for primary pupils and support for work-related learning for 14–16 year olds; welcomes the Government’s support for greater diversity through specialist schools and education action zones; believes that the extra £19 billion for schools will underpin the drive for higher standards and welcomes
plans to reward good teachers well; congratulates Ministers for introducing much
greater clarity to mailings for schools with a view to keeping paperwork to a minimum;
recognises the huge benefits which the National Grid for Learning and voluntary schemes
of work bring in reducing unnecessary paperwork; and notes that the Opposition has no
proposals to raise standards in schools.

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
Trade Union Subscription Deductions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid
before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

9 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Aptitude for Particular Subjects) Regulations
1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 258) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

10 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements)
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 126) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

11 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Objections to Admission Arrangements)
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 125) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

12 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Relevant Areas for Consultation on Admission
Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 124) be referred to a Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

13 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (School Information) (England) (Amendment)
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 251) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

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 Education,—(1) Education (Amount to Follow Permanently Excluded Pupil) Regulations
1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 495), dated 25th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett],
(2) Education (Budget Statements and Supplementary Provisions) Regulations 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 486), dated 1st March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett],
(3) Education (Budget Statements) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 451),
dated 26th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael], and
(4) Education (Grant-maintained Schools) (Capital Grants) (Wales) Regulations 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 440), dated 24th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

2 Family Proceedings.—Family Proceedings (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland)
Geo Hoon].

3 Income Tax,—Insurance Companies (Capital Redemption Business) (Modification of the
Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

4 Representation of the People,—Scottish Local Elections Amendment (No. 2) Rules 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 492), dated 1st March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Other Papers:

5 Average Earnings Index,—Report, entitled Review of the Revisions to the Average Earnings
Index, submitted by Sir Andrew Turnbull and Mervyn King [pursuant to Order [1st
March]]; to be printed [No. 263] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

6 National Health Service,—Treasury Minute, dated 2nd March 1999, concerning the
remission of outstanding debt consequent on dissolution and reconfiguration of certain
National Health Service Trusts [by Command] [Mr Alan Milburn].

7 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Pensions
Increase) Order 1999, dated 10th February 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

8 Science and Technology,—(1) Accounts of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the
Research Councils for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General
thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 155] [Clerk of the House]; and
(2) Report and Financial Summary of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

9 Social Security (Ionising and Non-Ionising Radiation).—Report by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council in accordance with Section 171 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 reviewing the prescription of diseases induced by ionising and non-ionising radiation [by Command] [Cm. 4280] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B (transferred from Standing Committee C).

2 National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220), and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 260).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Dennis Canavan and Mr Mike Wood from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order and Regulations); and nominated in substitution John Austin and Mr Roger Berry.

3 Draft Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Maria Eagle from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Campbell.

4 Draft Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony Colman from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Ms Jackie Lawrence.

5 Draft National Minimum Wage Act 1998 (Amendment) Regulations 1999 and the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Roger Berry from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Mike Wood.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—Memoranda laid before the Education and Employment Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 232-vii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs.—First Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Premature Disclosure of the Committee’s Report on Sierra Leone], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 293] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Accountability of the Security Service]; to be printed [No. 291-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 Procedure.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution; Financial Procedure]; to be printed [Nos. 185-v and 295-i] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

6 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 84-vii] [Mr David Marshall].

7 Standards and Privileges.—Second Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints against Mr Geoffrey Robinson], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 292] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Eleventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Electronic Commerce]; to be printed [No. 187-iv] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

10 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Outline National Changeover Plan]; to be printed [No. 290-i] [Mr Giles Radice].
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 Keith Hill).
And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 and the draft National Minimum Wage Act 1998 (Amendment) Regulations 1999.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No.41) (House of Commons Paper No. 218).
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Crown Prerogatives (Parliamentary Control) Bill.—Mr Tony Benn, supported by Norman Baker, Mr David Davis, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Derek Foster, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Dafydd Wigley and Audrey Wise presented a Bill to make the exercise of certain Crown prerogatives subject to the assent of the House of Commons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 55].

7 Xenotransplantation Bill.—Norman Baker presented a Bill to prohibit the transplant of living cells, tissues or organs from animals into humans: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th April and to be printed [Bill 56].

8 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, Paul Flynn, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews and Dr Michael Clark do prepare and bring it in.

9 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 19th March and to be printed [Bill 57].

10 House of Lords Bill.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the House of Lords Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 2 and 3 agreed to.
Clause No. 4 (Commencement and transitional provision).
Amendment (No. 5) proposed, in page 1, line 14, to leave out the words ‘Session of’.—(Mr Oliver Letwin.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 125.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mrs Anne McGuire: 322.
Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed, in page 1, line 17, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 3 on page 2 and insert the words—
‘(2) Holders of hereditary peerages shall be entered on to the electoral register at the end of the Session of Parliament in which this Act is passed and at any time after the end of the Session of Parliament in which this Act is passed the holders of hereditary peerages shall be entitled to vote in elections to the House of Commons.’—(Mr Oliver Letwin.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 125.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 315.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 5 (Interpretation and short title).

Amendment (No. 47) proposed, in page 2, line 4, after the word ‘peerage’, to insert the words—

‘means members of the peerages of Scotland, England, Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom other than those created under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act 1876 or the Life Peerages Act 1958, and’.—(Sir Patrick Cormack.)

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

Clause agreed to.

A Clause (Senior Salaries Review Board)—(Mr Nigel Evans)—brought up and read the first time.

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

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 Keith Hill 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.
1999, which was laid before this House on 16th February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

16 Constitutional Law.—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 Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill),

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Hanson: 282.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Eric Forth: 40.
So the Question was agreed to

Resolved That the draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved.

17 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 Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

18 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Cystic Fibrosis Trust and its supporters for legislation to exempt adults with cystic fibrosis from prescription charges was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes past Eleven 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 rural public passenger transport for 1999–2000 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 283] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


3 Prisons,—Draft Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


7 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 491), dated 28th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 1) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 421), dated 22nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


10 Pensions,—Superannuation (Application of the Superannuation Act 1972, Section 1) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 519), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

11 Road Traffic,—Removal and Disposal of Vehicles (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 490), dated 22nd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 Weights and Measures,—Weights and Measures (Prescribed Stamp) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 504), dated 2nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].
Other Papers:

13 British Library.—Report of the British Library for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

14 Government Executive Agencies,—Paper, entitled Next Steps Report 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4273] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

15 Treaty Series (No. 59, 1998).—Index to Treaty Series 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4238] [Mr Secretary Cook].

16 Treaty Series (No. 11, 1999).—Protocol, done at London on 18th September 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan to amend the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains, signed at London on 21st March 1994 [by Command] [Cm. 4271] [Mr Secretary Cook].

17 Treaty Series (No. 14, 1999).—Convention, done at Paris on 22nd September 1992, for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic [by Command] [Cm. 4278] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Brady, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Geraint Davis, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Andrew Lansley, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr Robert Symms, Dr Rudi Vis and Mr Michael Wills.

2 Protection of Children Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C, and has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Amess, Jackie Ballard, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr John Cryer, Mr Jeff Ennis, Barbara Follett, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr John Hutton, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Andrew Lansley, Ms Margaret Moran, Debra Shipley, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Robert Symms and Dr Desmond Turner.

3 Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First 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 David Amess, Jackie Ballard, Mr Andrew F. Bennett, Mr John Cryer, Mr Jeff Ennis, Barbara Follett, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr John Hutton, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Andrew Lansley, Ms Margaret Moran, Debra Shipley, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Robert Symms and Dr Desmond Turner.

4 Draft Ordnance Survey Trading Fund Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O'Hara Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Norman Baker, Mr David Chaytor, Ann Clwyd, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr Christopher Gill, Ms Beverley Hughes, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Richard Livsey, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Gerry Steinberg and Mr Roger Stott.

5 Draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Amendment Regulations 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Christine Butler, Ann Coffey, Mr Tim Collins, Angela Eagle, Caroline Flint, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr P figura S. Khabara, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr James Plaskitt, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Gareth Thomas, Dr Rudi Vis and Mr Phil Willis.

6 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 1) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order 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 Russell Brown, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John McAllion, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr David Marshall, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Frank Roy, Sir Robert Smith and Mr Tony Worthington.

7 Draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, and the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Ian Davidson, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Donald Gorrie, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Dr Lewis Mooney, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr Frank Roy, Sir Robert Smith, Dr Gavin Strang and Mr David Wilshire.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth 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 Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr David Crausby, Maria Eagle, Mr Don Foster, Mr James Gray, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Jameson, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mrs Theresa May, Ms Margaret Moran, Estelle Morris, Rachel Squire, Mr Brian White and Mr Phil Willis.

9 Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1999: Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 250), the Special Grant Report for Scotland Asylum Seeker Assistance (No. 1/1999) (House of Commons Paper No. 228), and the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Reports to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed seventeen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Frank Field, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Alan Hurst, Mr John Hutton, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire, Sir David Madel, Mr Frank Roy and Mr Nick St. Aubyn.

10 Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Austin from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Paul Marsden.

11 National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220), and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 260),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in place of Mr Andrew Welsh.


13 Draft Northern Ireland (Modification of Enactments No. 1) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jim Dobbin from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Gordon Marsden.
European Standing Committees

14 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 11034/97, relating to End of Life Vehicles.

Grand Committees

15 The Speaker has appointed Mr John Maxton, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Andrew Welsh and Mrs Irene Adams Chairmen of the Scottish Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee in Edinburgh on Monday 22nd March.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [No. 171-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Food Standards,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [No. 276-iii] [Mr Kevin Barron].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Prospects for the Berlin Special European Council, 24th–25th March 1999]; to be printed [No. 296-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland: Special Educational Needs], 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. 33]; and (2) First Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98 (Prison Service in Northern Ireland)]; to be printed [No. 299] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [MoD: Modifying Defence Equipment]; to be printed [No. 300-i] [Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

7 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 84-viii] [Mr David Marshall].

8 Social Security,—Fourth Report from the Social Security Committee [Child Benefit], 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. 114] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].


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

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

2 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland (Modification of Enactments—No. 1) Order 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill.—The Order for reading the Motor Accident Injury Compensation Bill a second time on Friday 19th March was read and discharged. Bill to be read a second time on Friday 26th March.
4 House of Lords Bill.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the House of Lords Bill.

(In the Committee)
A Clause (Senior Salaries Review Board).
Question again proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.
Question put and negatived.
Another Clause (Writ of acceleration)—(Sir Patrick Cormack)—brought up, and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Clause (Criteria for conferment of life peerage (No. 1))—(Dr Liam Fox)—brought up and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Clause (Criteria for conferment of life peerage (No. 3))—(Dr Liam Fox)—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: 104.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 288.
Schedule agreed to.
Bill to be reported.
The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Keith Hill 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 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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 41) (House of Commons Paper No. 218), which was laid before this House on 4th February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill),
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 281.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Sir David Madel: 94.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 41) (House of Commons Paper No. 218), which was laid before this House on 4th February, be approved.

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 National Minimum Wage Act 1998 (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 16th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson),
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Mike Hall: 277.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 73.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft National Minimum Wage Act 1998 (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 16th February, be approved.

7 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 National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 16th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Mike Hall: 267.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 55.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 16th February, 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 Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

9 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 Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Friends of the Earth (South East Office) and others for a conservation body for the South Downs 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—(Mr David Jamieson);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December], it being then six minutes past Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.06 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Continuance) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Social Security,—Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 436), dated 23rd February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Education,—Education (School Organisation Plans) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 499), dated 1st March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

5 Health and Safety,—Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 437), dated 20th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 National Health Service,—The National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 544), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Social Security,—Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 530), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

9 Census,—Paper, entitled The 2001 Census of Population [by Command] [Cm. 4253] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].
10 Foreign Compensation,—Report of the Foreign Compensation Commission for 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4275] [Mr Secretary Cook].

11 Foreign Office,—Foreign Office Minute, dated 4th March 1999, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification for 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 1999–2000 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 Housing Associations,—(1) Accounts, and
   (2) Report and Summary Financial Statement
   of Tai Cymru Housing for Wales for 1st April–31st October 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

13 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Royal Brompton Hospital—Sale of North Block Site [by Act]; to be printed [No. 252] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 1st March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Bassetlaw Hospital and Community Health Services,
   (2) Doncaster Healthcare,
   (3) Loddon Community,
   (4) Nottingham City Hospital,
   (5) Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals,
   (6) South Devon Healthcare,
   (7) Southampton University Hospitals, and
   (8) Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Andrew Welsh Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill, in place of Mr Bowen Wells.

2 Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Graham Allen and Chris McCafferty from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Clive Betts and Mr Lindsay Hoyle.

3 Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 228),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Phyllis Starkey from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Helen Jones.

4 Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1999: Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 250), the Special Grant Report for Scotland Asylum Seeker Assistance (No. 1/1999) (House of Commons Paper No. 228), and the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Oliver Letwin from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Reports); and nominated in substitution Mr Henry McLeish.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Parts of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 24th and 25th February [Back to the Dome]; to be printed [Nos. 21-v and -vi]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-ii]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Nuclear Safeguards Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Nuclear Safeguards Bill be printed [Bill 23–EN].

2 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mrs C. Summersby for the proper use of monies given to charity was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

3 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill:

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

Ms Candy Atherton 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 House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Smith, Bridget Prentice: 127.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Peter Atkinson: 4.

So the Question was agreed to.

Question, That the Bill be now read a second time, put accordingly and agreed to.

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

4 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill,—The Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

5 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 12th March.

6 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 26th February, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 12th March.

7 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th March.

8 Business of the House (Statutory Instrument).—Ordered, That, if a Statutory Instrument relating to Implementation Bodies (Northern Ireland) shall be laid before the House on Monday 8th March, a Minister of the Crown may, notwithstanding the practice of the House, make without notice a Motion for the approval of the said Instrument.—(Mr Keith Hill.)
9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nine minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 8th March.

[Adjourned at 2.51 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Administration of Justice,—Common Investment (Amendment) Scheme 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 551), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

2 Environmental Protection,—Waste Management Licence (Consultation and Compensation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 481), dated 25th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Food,—Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 540), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 95), dated 4th March 1999 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 National Assistance Services,—National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements) Regulations 1999 (S.I, 1999, No. 549), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Other Papers:

6 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 2nd March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(1) Dewsbury Health Care,
(2) Dorset Healthcare,
(3) East Yorkshire Community Healthcare,
(4) East Yorkshire Hospitals,
(5) Gateshead Health,
(6) Harrogate Health Care,
(7) Leeds Community & Mental Health Services Teaching,
(8) North Durham Health Care,
(9) Northallerton Health Services,
(10) Poole Hospital,
(11) Priority Healthcare Wearside,
(12) South Durham Health Care, and
(13) Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Northern Ireland,—Report of the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights for 1st April 1998–31st January 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 265] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6).—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Peter Snape (nominated in respect of the Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Keen.

2 Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1999: Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230), the Special Grant Report for Scotland Asylum Seeker Assistance (No. 1/1999) (House of Commons Paper No. 228), and the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230).—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Dr Ian Gibson (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Reports); and nominated in substitution Dr Nick Palmer.
8th March 1999

[No. 49.]

Monday 8th March 1999.

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 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill, with an Amendment; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill,—Ordered, That the Lords Amendment to the Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill be considered forthwith.—(Mr Jim Dowd.)

The House proceeded to consider the said Amendment.

The Lords Amendment (in page 3, line 31, after the word ‘out’ to insert the word ‘in’) was agreed to.

3 Adjournment (The Government’s Priorities for Women: Progress on their Delivery),—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.

4 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, pursuant to Order [5th March], That the draft North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House today, be approved—(Mr Paul Murphy);

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

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 (Modification of Enactments—No. 1) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

6 Protection of Children Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Protection of Children Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Protection of Children Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State under or by virtue of the Act; and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

7 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of the United Kingdom for an inquiry into the establishment of a non-military security fund were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment,—A Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

Tuesday 9th March 1999

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till thirteen minutes past Twelve o’clock, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.13 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting,—Draft Limit in Relation to Licences to Provide Radio Multiplex Services Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Constitutional Law,—Draft Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
3 Criminal Law (Scotland).—Draft Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Application to Summary Proceedings) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Family Law.—(1) Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999, and (2) draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

6 Criminal Law.—Crime and Disorder Strategies (Prescribed Descriptions) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 483), dated 26th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Food.—Specified Risk Material (Inspection Charges) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 539), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

8 Insurance.—Insurance (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 589), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

9 Local Government.—Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 501), dated 2nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Medicines.—Medicines for Human Use and Medical Devices (Fees and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 566), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

11 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 612), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


14 Taxes.—Finance Act 1993, Section 86(2), (Fish Quota) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 564), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

15 Imperial College Bill.—Report by the Attorney General on the Imperial College Bill [by Standing Order] [Mr Attorney General].

16 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 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 261] [Clerk of the House].

17 National Health Service.—(1) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 3rd March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (i) East Gloucestershire,
   (ii) Huddersfield Health Care Services, and
   (iii) The Whittington Hospital; and
(2) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 4th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (i) Community Health Services, South Derbyshire,
   (ii) Shropshire’s Community & Mental Health Services, and
   (iii) Pinderfields & Pontefract Hospitals [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
18 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Report and Accounts of the Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

19 University College London Bill,—Report by the Attorney General on the University College London Bill [by Standing Order] [Mr Attorney General].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Protection of Children Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of Standing Committee C, in place of Mr George Stevenson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Food Standards,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [No. 276-iv] [Mr Kevin Barron].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [MAFF: Arable Area Payments Scheme]; to be printed [No. 306-i]; and
   (2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Cardiff Bay Development Corporation] [Mr David Davis].

3 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].

4 Social Security,—Fifth Report from the Social Security Committee [Pensions on Divorce: Parts III and IV of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 304] [Mr Edward Leigh].

[No. 50.]

Tuesday 9th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Education (Infant Class Sizes) (Grant) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 14).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1999 Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 250), the Special Grant Report for Scotland Asylum Seeker Assistance (No. 1/1999) (House of Commons Paper No. 228), and the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee C,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:
   That the Committee endorses the Government’s view that the draft Directive on end of life vehicles, European Union Document No. 11034/97, rightly seeks to achieve important environmental improvements, and supports the Government’s intention to agree a Common Position on this draft Directive at the next Environment Council on 11th March.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the law relating to the delegation of trustee functions by power of attorney and the exercise of such functions by the donee of a power of attorney; and to make provision about the authority of the donee of a power of attorney to act in relation to land; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—The Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time and to be printed [Bill 58].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 58–EN].

The Bill stood referred to a second reading committee, pursuant to Standing Order No. 59 (Law Commission bills).

7 Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1999.—Ordered, That there be laid before this House a copy of the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1999, 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 cider (rate of duty) (motion No. 2);
(b) Hydrocarbon oil duties (rates and rebates) (motion No. 3);
(c) Tobacco products duty (rates) (motion No. 5);
(d) Vehicle excise duty (increase in general rate) (motion No. 7);
(e) Vehicle excise duty (rates for goods vehicles etc.) (motion No. 9) —(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.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Northavon constituency and others relating to DNA profiles, and
(2) Shrewsbury-based and other rural road hauliers relating to the impact of Government environmental policies upon rural road hauliers

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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 Affirmative Resolution:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4. Housing (Scotland),—(1) Housing (Right to Buy) (Cost Floor) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 611), dated 1st March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


6. National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 609), and (2) The Health Authorities (England) Establishment Order 1996 Amendment and the Cambridgeshire and Norfolk Health Authorities (Establishment etc.) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 616), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Sheriff Court (Scotland).—Act of Sederunt (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 613), dated 2nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Social Security.—Social Security (Contributions) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 561), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

10 Sugar.—Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 415), dated 18th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

11 Value Added Tax.—(1) Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 599), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche]; and

(2) Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 595), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

12 Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1999.—Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 1999 [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 298] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

13 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Audit of the Unemployment Assumption for the March 1999 Budget Projections, and

(2) Financial Management and Governance at Gwent Tertiary College

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 294 and 253] [Clerk of the House].

14 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 Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 561) [by Command] [Cm. 4281] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 6).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Simon Burns from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order), and nominated in substitution Mr Nigel Waterson.

2 Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 228),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Andrew Miller and Mr Paul Stinchcombe from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas and Mr Lawrie Quinn.


4 Education (Relevant Areas for Consultation of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 124), the Education (Objections to Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 125), the Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 126), the Education (School Information) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 251), and the Education (Aptitude for Particular Subjects) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 256),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ben Bradshaw from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Peter Bradley.
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 [Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 232-viii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 159-v] [Mr John Horam].

3 Food Standards,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [No. 276-v] [Mr Kevin Barron].

4 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/outward Investment in Scotland]; to be printed [84-ix] [Mr David Marshall].

5 Standards and Privileges,—Third Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints against Mr Francis Maude], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 308] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

6 Trade and Industry,—(1) Sixth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Ethical Trading], 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. 235];

   (2) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1998–99, on Multilateral Agreement on Investment]; to be printed [No. 309]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Electronic Commerce]; to be printed [No. 187-v]

   [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Childcare in Wales]; to be printed [No. 156-v] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 51]

Wednesday 10th March 1999.

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 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill.—Mr Andrew Welsh reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment:

   Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 7th May.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 316].

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220).

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

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220) and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 260).

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

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

6 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the Fifth Standing on Delegated Legislation the Public Lending Right (Increase of Limit) Order 1999.

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

7 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Roger Gale reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 10778/98, the Commission White Paper: Fair Payment for Infrastructure Use: A phased approach to a common transport infrastructure charging framework in the EU; and endorses the Government’s approach to discussions on the document.

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

8 Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill be printed [Bill 14–EN].

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

Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision about the Commonwealth Development Corporation; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

10 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords].—The Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 60].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 60–EN].

11 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:


12 Lifelong Learning (Participation and Entitlement),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish an entitlement to paid educational leave for people in employment; to secure comparable treatment for full- and part-time students in institutions of further and higher education; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Chaytor, Mr Dennis Turner, Mr Allan Rogers, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Gareth R Thomas, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr Phil Willis do prepare and bring it in.

13 Lifelong Learning (Participation and Entitlement) Bill,—Mr David Chaytor accordingly presented a Bill to establish an entitlement to paid educational leave for people in employment, secure comparable treatment for full- and part-time students in institutions of further and higher education, and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 59].

14 Treatment of End of Life Vehicles,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House endorses the Government’s view that the draft Directive on end of life vehicles, European Union Document No. 11034/97, rightly seeks to achieve important environmental improvements; and supports the Government’s intention to agree a Common Position on this draft Directive at the next Environment Council on 11th March—(Mr Clive Betts);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Greg Pope: 266.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 107.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House endorses the Government’s view that the draft Directive on end of life vehicles, European Union Document No. 11034/97, rightly seeks to achieve important environmental improvements; and supports the Government’s intention to
agree a Common Position on this draft Directive at the next Environment Council on 11th March.

15 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 David Hanson.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

16 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.26 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance.—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 45) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant 1999/2000) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 305] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Road Traffic.—Traffic Areas (Reorganisation) (Wales) Order 1999, dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Social Security.—Draft Social Security (Incapacity, Earnings and Work Trials) Pilot Schemes Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

4 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Draft National Minimum Wage (Offshore Employment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Building Societies.—Building Societies (General Charge and Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 738), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

6 Council Tax.—(1) Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 534), and
(2) Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 536), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 Education.—(1) Education (Education Standards Grants) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 521), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael];
(2) Education (Grant-maintained and Grant-maintained Special Schools) (Grants) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 608), dated 6th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and
(3) Education (Transfer of Functions Concerning School Lunches) (Wales) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 610), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

8 European Communities.—(1) Highlands and Islands Agricultural Programme Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 647), and
(2) Rural Diversification Programme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 651), dated 4th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

10 Food,—Meat Products (Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 683), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

11 Friendly Societies,—Friendly Societies (General Charge and Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 736), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

12 Income Tax,—Capital Allowances (Corresponding Northern Ireland Grants) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 719), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

13 Industrial and Provident Societies,—(1) Industrial and Provident Societies (Credit Unions) (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 739), and

(2) Industrial and Provident Societies (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 740), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].


(2) Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 545), dated 4th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


16 Medicines,—Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 644), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

17 National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Functions of Health Authorities and Administration Arrangements) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 628), dated 8th March 1999;

(2) National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 693), dated 9th March 1999;

(3) National Health Service Information Authority (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 695), dated 9th March 1999;


(6) Northumbria Health Care National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 627), dated 8th March 1999, and

(7) Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 721), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

18 National Health Service (Scotland),—Scottish Ambulance Service Board Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 686), dated 4th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

19 Offshore Installations,—Offshore Installations (Safety Zones) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 547), dated 1st March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


22 Rates,—Rates (Regional Rates) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 86), dated 25th February 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


(2) Road Vehicles (Statutory Off-Road Notification) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 713), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
24 Sea Fisheries,—Calshot Oyster Fishery (Variation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 697), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

25 Social Security,—Social Security (Industrial Injuries) (Dependency) (Permitted Earnings Limits) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 529), dated 2nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

27 Air Force (Constitution),—Regulations of the Defence Council amending Air Publication 3376, Trade Structure of the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

28 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 10th March 1999, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Votes specified in the revised Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

29 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Audit of the General Budget of the European Union for 1997 and Related Developments [by Act]; to be printed [No. 279] [Clerk of the House].

30 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 8th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Cornwall Healthcare,
   (2) Havering Hospitals,
   (3) Lincolnshire Ambulance and Health Transport Service,
   (4) North Tees and Hartlepool,
   (5) Royal Shrewsbury Hospitals,
   (6) Swindon and Marlborough, and
   (7) Tees and North East Yorkshire
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

31 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the First to Third Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4285] [Dawn Primarolo].


33 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Scotland on the Petition [3rd February] from the Hospitalfield Area Residents Committee relating to environmental problems in the Hospitalfield area [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

34 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 287] [Mr Secretary Michael].

35 Supply Estimates, 1998–99,—Revised Spring Supplementary Estimates for 1998–99 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 310] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

36 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Land Purchase Account of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Northern Ireland, for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 315] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 228),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Robin Corbett from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations), and nominated in substitution Mr Jamie Cann.

2 National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 220), and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 260),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jeremy Corbyn from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the
Order and Regulations), and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye).

3 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Second Reading Committee, viz.: Ms Hazel Blears, Mr John Burnett, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Keith Darvill, Mr Edward Garnier, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr David Kidney, Mr David Lock, Fiona Mactaggart, Mr Andrew Rowe, Bob Russell, Mr John M. Taylor, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr David Wilshire.

European Standing Committees

4 The unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Reform of the Structural Funds, together with the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Agenda 2000: Cohesion Fund Amendment, together with European Union Document No. 5480/99 relating to the European Regional Development Fund, have been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) First Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee, on MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1998 and the Comprehensive Spending Review]; to be printed [No. 312];

(2) Second Special Report from the Committee [The Committee’s Work, Session 1997–98], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 313];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]; to be printed [No. 233-iv]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Security of Supply: The Award of a Propellant Contract]; to be printed [No. 274-ii] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Aviation Safety]; to be printed [No. 275-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Scrutiny.—Twelfth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Food Standards.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [No. 276-vi] [Mr Kevin Barron].

6 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Training and Recruitment]; to be printed [No. 81-v] [Mr Chris Mullin].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Northern Ireland Electricity: Christmas and New Year Failure of Supplies]; to be printed [No. 227-ii];

(2) Further Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 25th November and 13th January [Public Expenditure: Special Needs Education]; to be printed [No. 317]; and

(3) Papers laid before the Committee [Public Expenditure: Special Needs Education] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-iii] [Dr Michael Clark].

9 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 84-x] [Mr David Marshall].
11th March 1999

[No. 52.]

Thursday 11th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of Westminster 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 City of Westminster Bill [Lords] and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

2 Cheques (Scotland) Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Cheques (Scotland) Bill be printed [Bill 22–EN].

3 Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill,—Mr Jim Cunningham, supported by Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Alan Hurst, Mr Ian Pearson and Christine Butler, presented a Bill to amend the Environmental Protection Act 1990 by extending powers to environmental health officers to intervene in neighbourly disputes involving residential hedgerows; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th March and to be printed [Bill 61].

4 Ways and Means,—Amendment of the Law,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [9th 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 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 Seven o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned. Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Monday 15th March.

5 Scottish Grand Committee,—Ordered, That, in respect of the sitting of the Scottish Grand Committee on Monday 22nd March, Standing Order No. 99 (Scottish Grand Committee (substantive motions for the adjournment)) shall have effect with the substitution in paragraph (2) (b) of the word ‘seven’ for the word ‘ten’.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow. [Adjourned at 7.26 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 National Lottery.—Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiatives) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith]

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Organic Farming Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 590), dated 11th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown]

3 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 618), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Council Tax (Scotland),—(1) Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 757), and
(2) Council Tax (Reductions for Disabilities) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 756), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
5 Court of Session (Scotland).—Court of Session etc. Fees Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 755), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 Dangerous Drugs.—Misuse of Drugs (Licence Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 741), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Education.—(1) Brackenhurst College, Southwell (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 699), dated 10th March 1999,
(2) East Durham and Houghall Community College (Government) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 701), dated 10th March 1999,
(3) East Durham and Houghall Community College (Incorporation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 706), dated 10th March 1999,
(4) Education (Governors’ Allowances) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 703), dated 11th March 1999,
(5) Education (Payment for Special Educational Needs Supplies) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 710), dated 10th March 1999,
(6) Education (References to Adjudicator) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 702), dated 6th March 1999,
(7) Education (References to Delegated Budgets and Revocation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 711), dated 10th March 1999,
(12) High Pavement Sixth Form College, Nottingham (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 602), dated 10th March 1999,
(13) Leicester College Government Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 709), dated 10th March 1999,
(14) Leicester College Incorporation Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 708), dated 10th March 1999,
(16) Staffing of Grant-maintained and Grant-maintained Special Schools (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 705), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Environmental Protection.—Environmental Protection (Waste Recycling Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 546), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Health and Safety.—(1) Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 743), dated 11th March 1999, and
(2) Health and Safety (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 645), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 High Court of Justiciary (Scotland).—High Court of Justiciary Fees Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 753), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

11 Housing (Scotland).—Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Amendment) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 723), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

12 Insolvency.—Bankruptcy Fees (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 752), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

(2) Public Airport Companies (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 554), dated 4th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
14 Merchant Shipping.—State Immunity (Merchant Shipping) (Revocation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 668), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

15 National Health Service.—National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances and Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 767), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

16 National Health Service (Scotland).—(1) Clinical Standards Board for Scotland Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 726), dated 5th March 1999,

(2) National Health Service (Dental Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 724), dated 8th March 1999.

(3) National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 749), dated 9th March 1999.

(4) National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 725), dated 8th March 1999, and

(5) National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 748), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

17 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for England (Constitution and Administration) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 766), dated 11th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

18 Pensions.—Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes (Levy) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 682), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

19 Police.—(1) Police (Conduct) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 730),

(2) Police (Conduct) (Senior Officers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 731), and

(3) Police (Efficiency) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 732), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

20 Prisons.—Prison Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 728), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

21 Road Traffic.—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Portsmouth) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 768), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

22 Sea Fisheries.—Inshore Fishing (Prohibition of Fishing and Fishing Methods) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 751), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

23 Sheriff Court (Scotland).—Sheriff Court Fees Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 754), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

24 Social Security.—(1) Housing Benefit (Permitted Totals) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 642), dated 8th March 1999,

(2) Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 550), dated 3rd March 1999, and

(3) Social Security Contributions, Statutory Maternity Pay and Statutory Sick Pay (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 567), dated 5th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

25 Telegraphs.—Wireless Telegraphy (Television Licence Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 765), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

26 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Agricultural Wages (Scotland) Act 1949 (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 750), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


28 Young Offender Institutions.—Young Offender Institution (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 729), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

29 County Courts.—County Court Fees Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 689), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].
30 Dartford-Thurrock Crossing.—Report and Accounts of Dartford River Crossing Limited for the period 1st October 1997 to 30th September 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


32 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute, dated 11th March 1999, concerning a further financial objective desirable of achievement by the NHS Estates Trading Fund for the period 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2002 [by Act] [Mr Alan Milburn].

33 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—Account of the National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]. to be printed [No. 288] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

34 Police.—Police (Secretary of State's Objectives) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 543), dated 3rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

35 Supreme Court of England and Wales.—(1) Non-Contentious Probate Fees Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 688) and

(2) Supreme Court Fees Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 687)
dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

3 Protection of Children Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien an additional Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

4 Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Barry Sheerman from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Derek Wyatt.

5 Draft Ordnance Survey Trading Fund Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Kidney and Dr George Turner from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Joan Walley and Angela Smith.

6 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 1) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Henry McLeish from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Calum MacDonald.

7 Draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, and the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ian Davidson and Dr Norman A. Godman from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Miss Anne Begg and Mr Malcolm Savidge.


Second Reading Committee

9 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of the Second Reading Committee in respect of the Bill.

European Standing Committees

10 European Standing Committee A.—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 6985/98, relating to Welfare of Laying Hens.
APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 197-vi] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Food Standards,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [No. 276-vii] [Mr Kevin Barron].

4 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Long Term Care of the Elderly]; to be printed [No. 318-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

[No. 53.]
Friday 12th March 1999.
The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill;
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
   And it being Eleven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted 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 a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

2 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) 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 19th March.

3 Streetworks Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Streetworks Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 19th March.

4 Nuclear Safeguards Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Nuclear Safeguards Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 19th March.

5 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill,—The Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 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 26th March.

7 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 19th March.

8 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 19th March.
9 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 26th February, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 19th March.

10 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 19th March.

11 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 31st March, do adjourn till Tuesday 13th April 1999—(Mr David Hanson).—It was agreed to.

12 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 31st March, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr David Hanson.)

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 15th March.

Adjourned at 3.02 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Pensions.—Overseas Service (Pensions Supplement) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 735), dated 15th February 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

3 Social Security.—(1) New Deal (25 plus) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 779), dated 12th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and

(2) Workmen’s Compensation (Supplementation) (Amendment) Scheme 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 720), dated 4th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 National Health Service.—(1) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 9th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(i) North Hampshire Hospitals,
(ii) Oxfordshire Mental Healthcare,
(iii) Portsmouth HealthCare,
(iv) Portsmouth Hospitals, and
(v) The Leicestershire and Rutland Healthcare; and

(2) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 10th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(i) Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospital,
(ii) Leicester Royal Infirmary,
(iii) Plymouth Community Services, and
(iv) Rockingham Forest

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

MEMORANDUM

Public Bills (Scotland).—In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 97 (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Speaker certified that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.
15th March 1999

Vol. 255

No. 54.


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

PRAYERS.

1 European Common Fisheries Policy (Referendum).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for the holding of a referendum on the United Kingdom’s participation in the European Common Fisheries Policy, and for connected purposes—(Mr John Wilkinson).

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 John Wilkinson, Sir Richard Body, Mr Christopher Gill, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr John Townend, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Owen Paterson and Mr Graham Brady do prepare and bring in the Bill.

2 European Common Fisheries Policy (Referendum) Bill.—Mr John Wilkinson accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for the holding of a referendum on the United Kingdom’s participation in the European Common Fisheries Policy, and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 63].

3 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the Law,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed [9th 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. Sparkling cider (rate of duty)

The Question being put, That,—

(1) In section 62(1A)(a) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979, for “£45.05” there shall be substituted “£161.20”.

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 9th March 1999.

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 Jamieson, Mr David Hanson: 331.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr James Cran: 195.

So the Question was agreed to.
3. Hydrocarbon oil duties (rates and rebates)

The Question being put, That,—

(1) In section 6(1A) of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979—
   (a) in paragraph (a), for “£0.4926” there shall be substituted “£0.5288”; 
   (b) in paragraph (b), for “£0.4299” there shall be substituted “£0.4721”; and
   (c) in paragraph (c), for “£0.4499” there shall be substituted “£0.5021”.

(2) In section 8(3) of that Act, for “£0.2113” there shall be substituted “£0.1500”.

(3) In section 11(1) of that Act—
   (a) in paragraph (a), for “£0.0218” there shall be substituted “£0.0265”; and
   (b) in each of paragraphs (b) and (ba), for “£0.0282” there shall be substituted “£0.0303”.

(4) In section 13A(1A) of that Act—
   (a) in paragraph (a), for “£0.0050” there shall be substituted “£0.0055”; and
   (b) in paragraph (b), for “£0.0527” there shall be substituted “£0.0567”.

(5) In section 14(1) of that Act, for “£0.0218” there shall be substituted “£0.0265”.

(6) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 9th March 1999.

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 Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 329.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Stephen Day: 196.

So the Question was agreed to.

4. Hydrocarbon oil duties (drawback)

Resolved, That provision may be made about the drawback of excise duty on hydrocarbon oil.

5. Tobacco products duty (rates)

The Question being put, That,—

(1) For the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1 to the Tobacco Products Duty Act 1979 there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Cigarettes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Cigars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Hand-rolling tobacco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Other smoking tobacco and chewing tobacco</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 9th March 1999.

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 Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 380.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Stephen Day: 143.

So the Question was agreed to.

6. Pool betting duty (rate)

Resolved, That,—

(1) In section 7(1) of the Betting and Gaming Duties Act 1981, for “26.50 per cent.” there shall be substituted “17.50 per cent.”
(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to bets the stake money on which is paid on or after 28th March 1999.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

7. Vehicle excise duty (increase in general rate)

Resolved, That,—

(1) In sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, for “£150” there shall be substituted “£155”.

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to licences issued after 9th March 1999.

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.

8. Vehicle excise duty (splitting of general rate)

Resolved, That,—

(1) In sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, for the word “The” at the beginning there shall be substituted “Except in the case of a vehicle having an engine with a cylinder capacity not exceeding 1,100 cubic centimetres, the”.

(2) After that sub-paragraph there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraph—

“(2A) In the case of a vehicle having an engine with a cylinder capacity not exceeding 1,100 cubic centimetres, the general rate is £100.”

(3) In sections 13(3)(b), 35A(5)(b) and 36(3)(b) of that Act, and in section 13(4)(b) of that Act as substituted under paragraph 8 of Schedule 4 to that Act, for the words “paragraph 1 of Schedule 1”, in each place where they occur, there shall be substituted “paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 1”.

(4) This Resolution has effect in relation to any licence taken out for a period beginning on or after 1st June 1999.

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.

9. Vehicle excise duty (rates for goods vehicles etc.)

Resolved, That Schedule 1 to the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 be amended as follows—

(1) In sub-paragraph (2A)(b) of paragraph 6, for “£4,670” there shall be substituted “£4,170”.

(2) In sub-paragraph (3) of that paragraph, for “38,000 kilograms” there shall be substituted “41,000 kilograms”.

(3) For the Table in paragraph 9(1) there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue weight of vehicle</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kgs</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Exceeding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two axle vehicle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three axle vehicle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four or more axle vehicle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>17,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>19,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>21,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27,000</td>
<td>29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29,000</td>
<td>31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>44,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(4) In paragraph 9A(3), for “£4,670” there shall be substituted “£4,170”.

15th March 1999
(5) For the Table in paragraph 9B there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue weight of vehicle</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue weight</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Exceeding</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two axle vehicle</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three axle vehicle</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four or more axle vehicle</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kgs</td>
<td>kgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(6) For the Table in paragraph 11(1) there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue weight of tractive unit</th>
<th>Rate for tractive unit with two axles</th>
<th>Rate for tractive unit with three or more axles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue weight</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Exceeding</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any no. of 2 or more semi-trailer axles</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(7) In paragraph 11A(3), for “£4,670” there shall be substituted “£4,170”.

(8) For the Table in paragraph 11B there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue weight of tractive unit</th>
<th>Rate for tractive unit with two axles</th>
<th>Rate for tractive unit with three or more axles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue weight</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
<td><strong>£</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Exceeding</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any no. of 2 or more semi-trailer axles</td>
<td>(£)</td>
<td>(£)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(9) Subject to the following paragraphs of this Resolution, the preceding paragraphs apply in relation to licences taken out after 9th March 1999.

(10) Paragraph (11) below applies where—

(a) a pre-commencement licence was taken out for a goods vehicle at a rate applicable to a vehicle with a revenue weight falling within a specified range of weights; and

(b) the revenue weight of the vehicle at any time on or after 17th April 1999 (though still within the specified range of weights mentioned in paragraph (a) above) is one which, for the purposes of taking out a licence for that vehicle after
9th March 1999, would fall in a range of weights attracting a rate of duty higher than that attracted by the vehicle’s licensed weight.

(11) For the purposes of section 15 of the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 any use of the vehicle on a public road at a time on or after 17th April 1999 when its revenue weight falls within paragraph (10)(b) above shall be treated as a use of the vehicle so as to subject it to a rate of duty higher than that at which the pre-commencement licence was taken out.

(12) Paragraph (13) below applies where—

(a) a pre-commencement licence was taken out for a goods vehicle at a rate applicable to a vehicle with a revenue weight falling within a specified range of weights;
(b) the revenue weight of the vehicle is increased at a time after 9th March 1999; and
(c) the revenue weight of the vehicle immediately after the increase (though still within the specified range of weights mentioned in paragraph (a) above) is one which, for the purposes of taking out a licence for that vehicle after 9th March 1999, would fall in a range of weights attracting a rate of duty higher than that attracted by the vehicle’s licensed weight.

(13) For the purposes of section 15 of the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 any use of the vehicle on a public road after the increase in its revenue weight shall be treated (if it would not otherwise be so treated by virtue of paragraph (11) above) as a use of the vehicle so as to subject it to a rate of duty higher than that at which the pre-commencement licence was taken out.

(14) In this Resolution—

“licensed weight”, in relation to a vehicle, means the revenue weight of the vehicle at the time when the pre-commencement licence for that vehicle was taken out; and

“pre-commencement licence” means a licence taken out on or before 9th March 1999 and in force 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.

10. Drawback of excise duty on goods shipped as stores etc.

Resolved, That provision may be made about the drawback of excise duty on goods shipped as stores or warehoused in an excise warehouse for use as stores.

11. Value added tax (gold)

Resolved, That provision may be made about value added tax in respect of supplies or importations which relate to gold.

12. Value added tax (bad debt relief: assignment)

Resolved, That,—

(1) In section 36 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994, for subsection (3) there shall be substituted—

“(3) In subsection (2) above ‘the outstanding amount’ means—

(a) if at the time of the claim no part of the consideration written off in the claimant’s accounts as a bad debt has been received, an amount equal to the amount of the consideration so written off;
(b) if at that time any part of the consideration so written off has been received, an amount by which that part is exceeded by the amount of the consideration written off;

and in this subsection ‘received’ means received either by the claimant or, except in such circumstances as may be prescribed, by a person to whom has been assigned a right to receive the whole or any part of the consideration written off.”;

(2) Until such day as the Commissioners may specify in regulations made under section 36 of that Act, Part XIX of the Value Added Tax Regulations 1995, except regulation 171, shall be read as if a reference to a payment being received by the claimant were a reference to a payment being received either by the claimant or by a person to whom a right to receive it has been assigned.

(3) This Resolution has effect for the purposes of the making of any refund or repayment after 9th March 1999, but does not have effect in relation to anything received on or before that day.
And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

13. Value added tax (bad debt relief: regulations)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 36(5) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

14. Value added tax (groups of companies)

Resolved, That provision may be made about groups of companies in relation to value added tax.

15. Value added tax (repayment supplement)

Resolved, That,—

(1) Section 79 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 shall be amended as follows.

(2) In subsection (2)(b), for the words “the period of 30 days beginning on the date of the receipt by the Commissioners of that return or claim” there shall be substituted “the relevant period”.

(3) After subsection (2) there shall be inserted—

“(2A) The relevant period in relation to a return or claim is the period of 30 days beginning with the later of—

(a) the day after the last day of the prescribed accounting period to which the return or claim relates, and

(b) the date of the receipt by the Commissioners of the return or claim.”.

(4) In subsections (3) and (7), for “subsection (2)(b)” there shall be substituted “subsection (2A)”; and regulations under subsection (3) shall be construed accordingly.

(5) This Resolution has effect in relation to returns and claims received by the Commissioners on or after 9th March 1999.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

16. Value added tax (meaning of “business”)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the repeal of section 94(3) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

17. Income tax (starting rate)

The Question being put, That,—

(1) The following shall be substituted for section 1(2)(aa) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988—

“(aa) in respect of so much of an individual’s total income as does not exceed £1,500, at such rate as Parliament may determine to be the starting rate for that year;”.

(2) The following shall be substituted for section 1(2A) of that Act—

“(2A) The amount up to which an individual’s income is by virtue of subsection (2) above chargeable for any year at the starting rate shall be known as the starting rate limit.”.

(3) In section 1(3) of that Act, for “lower rate” there shall be substituted “starting rate”.

(4) Section 1(4) of that Act, so far as it relates to section 1(2)(aa), shall not apply for the year 1999–00.

(5) In section 1(6A) of that Act, for “lower rate” there shall be substituted “starting rate”.

(6) The following shall be inserted before section 1A(2) of that Act—

“(1B) In relation to any year of assessment for which income tax is charged the lower rate is 20 per cent. or such other rate as Parliament may determine.”.

(7) The following shall be inserted after section 1A(6) of that Act—

“(6A) Where income tax at the basic rate has been borne on income chargeable at the lower rate any necessary repayment of tax shall be made on the making of a claim.”.

(8) In sections 547(5)(c) and 550(3) of that Act, for “lower rate” there shall be substituted “starting rate”.
In sections 549(2), 699(2) and 819(2) of that Act, for “at the lower rate by virtue of section 1(2)(aa)” there shall be substituted “at the starting rate”.

In section 832(1) of that Act—

(a) the following shall be substituted for the definition of “lower rate”—

“‘lower rate’, in relation to the charging of income tax for any year of assessment, means the rate of income tax specified in or determined in pursuance of section 1A(1B)”, and

(b) the following shall be inserted after the definition of “Schedule A business”—

“‘starting rate’, in relation to the charging of income tax for any year of assessment, means the rate of income tax determined in pursuance of section 1(2)(aa), and any reference to the starting rate limit shall be construed in accordance with section 1(2A).”

In section 7(6) of the Taxes Management Act 1970, for “or the lower rate” there shall be substituted “, the lower rate or the starting rate”.

In section 91(3)(c) of that Act, for “or the lower rate” there shall be substituted “, the lower rate or the starting rate”.

The preceding paragraphs apply for the year 1999–00 and subsequent years of assessment.

Nothing in this Resolution shall require any change to be made in the amounts deductible or repayable under section 203 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 before 18th May 1999.

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 Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 334.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Adrian Sanders: 40.

So the Question was agreed to.

18. Income tax (charge and rates for 1999–00)

Resolved, That,—

(1) Income tax shall be charged for the year 1999–00, and for that year—

(a) the starting rate shall be 10 per cent.;

(b) the basic rate shall be 23 per cent.; and

(c) the higher rate shall be 40 per cent.

(2) Nothing in this Resolution shall require any change to be made in the amounts deductible or repayable under section 203 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 before 18th May 1999.

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. Income tax (personal allowances for those aged 65 or more)

Resolved, That,—

(1) For the year 1999–00 the amounts specified in subsections (2) and (3) of section 257 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be taken to be £5,720 and £5,980, respectively.

(2) Accordingly, section 257C(1) of that Act, so far as it relates to the amounts so specified, shall not apply for the year 1999–00.

(3) Nothing in paragraph (1) of this Resolution above shall require any change to be made in the amounts deductible or repayable under section 203 of that Act before 18th May 1999.

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. Income tax (operative date of indexation for PAYE)

Resolved, That,—

(1) In section 1 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, after subsection (4) there shall be inserted—
“(5A) Subsection (4) above shall not require any change to be made in the amounts
deductible or repayable under section 203 during the period beginning with 6th
April and ending with 17th May in the year of assessment.”.

(2) In section 257C of that Act, after subsection (1) there shall be inserted—
“(2A) Subsection (1) above shall not require any change to be made in the amounts
deductible or repayable under section 203 during the period beginning with 6th
April and ending with 17th May in the year 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.

21. Rates of capital gains tax

Resolved, That provision may be made about the rates of capital gains tax.

22. Corporation tax (charge and rate for financial year 2000)

Resolved, That, for the financial year 2000, corporation tax shall be charged at the rate
of 30 per cent.

23. Relief for interest payments (limit for 1999/00)

Resolved, That, for the year 1999-00, the qualifying maximum defined in section 367(5)
of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be £30,000.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution
should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes
Act 1968.

24. Interest on loans for life annuities (withdrawal of relief)

The Question being put, That,—

(1) In section 365 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, in subsection (1),
before paragraph (a) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—
“(aa) that the loan was made before 9th March 1999;”.

(2) After subsection (1) of that section there shall be inserted the following
subsection—
“(1AA) Where—
(a) a loan made on or after 9th March 1999 was made in pursuance of an offer
made by the lender before that date; and
(b) the offer was either in writing or evidenced by a note or memorandum made
by the lender before that date,
the loan shall be deemed for the purposes of subsection (1)(aa) above to have been
made before that date.”.

(3) The preceding paragraphs 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.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 324.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 191.

So the Question was agreed to.

25. Cars available for private use

The Question being put, That,—

(1) Schedule 6 to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be amended as
follows.

(2) In paragraph 2(1)—
(a) for “in the year concerned” substitute “in a year”, and
(b) for “the amount ascertained under paragraph 1 above, reduced by two thirds”
substitute “15 per cent. of the price of the car as regards the year.”.
(3) In paragraph 2(2)—
(a) for “in the year concerned” substitute “in a year”, and
(b) for “the amount ascertained under paragraph 1 above, reduced by one third” substitute “25 per cent. of the price of the car as regards the year”.

(4) For paragraph 4(a) substitute—
“(a) paragraph 2(1) above shall have effect as if for ‘15 per cent.’ there were substituted ‘25 per cent.’.”.

(5) In paragraph 5, for “one third” substitute “one quarter”.

(6) The preceding paragraphs have effect for the year 1999–00 and subsequent years of assessment.

(7) This Resolution shall not require any change to be made in the amounts deductible or repayable under section 203 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 before 18th May 1999.

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 Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 372.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 137.

So the Question was agreed to.

26. Tax treatment of reverse premiums etc.

Resolved, That provision may be made with respect to the tax treatment of payments or other benefits received in consideration of, or in connection with, a transaction being entered into under which the person receiving the payment or other benefit, or a person connected with that person, becomes entitled to an estate or interest in, or a right in or over, land.

27. Vocational training relief

Resolved, That,—

(1) For subsection (2) of section 32 of the Finance Act 1991 there shall be substituted—
“(2) The individual shall be entitled to relief under this subsection in respect of the payment for the year of assessment in which it is made; but relief under this subsection shall be given only on a claim made for the purpose, except where subsections (3) to (5) below apply.

(2A) Where an individual is entitled to relief under subsection (2) above in respect of any payment made in a year of assessment, the amount of his liability for that year to income tax on his total income shall be the amount to which he would be liable apart from this section less whichever is the smaller of—

(a) the amount which is equal to such percentage of the amount of the payment as is the basic rate for the year; and

(b) the amount which reduces his liability to nil.

(2B) In determining for the purposes of subsection (2A) above the amount of income tax to which a person would be liable apart from this section, no account shall be taken of—

(a) any income tax reduction under Chapter I of Part VII of the Taxes Act 1988 or under section 347B of that Act;

(b) any income tax reduction under section 353(1A) of the Taxes Act 1988;

(c) any relief by way of a reduction of liability to tax which is given in accordance with any arrangements having effect by virtue of section 788 of the Taxes Act 1988 or by way of a credit under section 790(1) of that Act;

(d) any tax at the basic rate on so much of that person’s income as is income the income tax on which he is entitled to charge against any other person or to deduct, retain or satisfy out of any payment.”.

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to payments made on or after 6th April 1999.

(3) This Resolution shall not require any change to be made in the amounts deductible or repayable under section 203 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 before 18th May 1999.
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.

28. Settlements

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 660B of the Income and

29. Enterprise investment scheme

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Chapter III of Part VII of the Income
and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and Schedule 5B to the Taxation of Chargeable Gains

30. Venture capital trusts

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Schedule 15B to the Income and

31. Court common investment funds

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of income tax and corporation
tax about court common investment funds established under section 42 of the Administra-

32. Discounted securities etc.

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be
made—

(a) amending paragraph 3 of Schedule 13 to the Finance Act 1996, paragraphs 19 and
20 of Schedule 15 to that Act and sections 64 and 65 of the Finance Act 1993; and

(b) modifying section 116 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

33. Chargeable gains (value shifting)

Resolved, That provision may be made about value shifting in relation to the taxation
of chargeable gains.

34. Chargeable gains (concessions that defer a charge)

Resolved, That provision may be made about cases where, after a relief in respect of a
chargeable gain has been obtained in reliance on a concession, a charge to tax would arise
if the concession were an enactment to the corresponding effect.

35. Pension sharing

Resolved, That provision may be made, for purposes connected with the sharing of
pensions between ex-spouses, with respect to pensions and annuities.

36. Purchased life annuities

Resolved, That section 657(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall have
effect, and shall be deemed always to have had effect, with the substitution of the following
paragraph for the “or” at the end of paragraph (d)—

“(da) to any annuity purchased under or for the purposes of a scheme approved by
virtue of section 591 or in pursuance of any obligation imposed, or offer or
invitation made, under or in connection with any such scheme.”.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution
should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes
Act 1968.

37. Extra-statutory arrangements for insurance groups

Resolved, That provision may be made, in relation to accounting periods beginning on
or after 1st January 1999, about disposals of assets the acquisition cost of which has been
disregarded on a previous occasion under extra-statutory arrangements relating to
groups of insurance companies.

38. Lloyd’s

Resolved, That provision may be made about rights under syndicates held by a member
of Lloyd’s under a members’ agent pooling arrangement.

39. Advance pricing agreements

Resolved, That provision may be made for the effect in any person’s case of paragraphs
6 and 7 of Schedule 28AA to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 to be modified
by an agreement to which he is not a party.
40. Controlled foreign companies

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Part I of Schedule 25 to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

41. Group relief (consequential provision)

Resolved, That provision may be made with respect to the consequences of a reduction in the amount available for surrender by way of group relief.

42. Inheritance tax (gifts)

Resolved, That provision may be made as to the circumstances in which gifts of land are gifts of property subject to a reservation for the purposes of inheritance tax.

43. Stamp duty (conveyances and transfers on sale)

The Question being put, That the following provisions shall have effect for the period beginning with 16th March 1999 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 paragraphs (2) and (3) below.

(2) In subsection (1)(d), for “£2” there shall be substituted “£2.50p”.

(3) In subsection (1)(e), for “£3” there shall be substituted “£3.50p”.

(4) This Resolution applies to instruments executed on or after 16th March 1999, except where the instrument in question is executed in pursuance of a contract made on or before 9th March 1999.

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 Kevin Hughes, Mr Keith Hill: 365.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel:137.

So the Question was agreed to.

44. Stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax.

45. Ring fence profits

Resolved, That provision may be made about persons carrying on activities which fall within any of paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 492 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

46. Petroleum revenue tax (allowable expenditure)

Resolved, That provision may be made restricting the expenditure that is allowable for the purposes of petroleum revenue tax.

47. Petroleum revenue tax (assessments)

Resolved, That provision may be made about the times when an assessment may be made to petroleum revenue tax.

48. Landfill tax

The Question being put, That,—

(1) In section 42 of the Finance Act 1996 (amount of landfill tax), in subsections (1)(a) and (2), for “£7”, in each place where it occurs, there shall be substituted “£10”.

(2) This Resolution has effect in relation to taxable disposals made, or treated as made, on or after 1st April 1999.

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 Kevin Hughes, Mr Keith Hill: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman:142.

So the Question was agreed to.
49. Insurance premium tax (standard rate)

The Question being put, That,—

(1) In section 51(2)(b) of the Finance Act 1994, for “4 per cent.” there shall be substituted “5 per cent.”

(2) Paragraph (1) above has effect in relation to a premium which falls to be regarded for the purposes of Part III of the Finance Act 1994 as received under a taxable insurance contract by an insurer on or after 1st July 1999.

(3) Paragraph (1) above does not have effect in relation to a premium which—
(a) is in respect of a contract made before 1st July 1999, and
(b) falls to be regarded for the purposes of Part III of that Act as received under the contract by the insurer on or after 1st January 2000, by virtue of regulations under section 68 of that Act.

(4) Paragraph (3) above does not apply in relation to a premium which—
(a) is an additional premium under a contract,
(b) falls to be regarded for the purposes of Part III of that Act as received under the contract by the insurer on or after 1st July 1999, by virtue of regulations under section 68 of that Act, and
(c) is in respect of a risk which was not covered by the contract before 1st July 1999.

(5) In the application of sections 67A to 67C of that Act in relation to the increase under paragraph (1) above and the exception under paragraph (3) above—
(a) the announcement for the purpose of sections 67A(1) and 67B(1) shall be taken to have been made on 9th March 1999,
(b) the date of the change is 1st July 1999, and
(c) the concessionary date is 1st January 2000.

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 Kevin Hughes, Mr Keith Hill: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

50. 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 (VAT Liabilities of Government Departments).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters which may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may contain provision (including provision having retrospective effect) for allowing deductions to be made in respect of value added tax liabilities before the receipts of a Government department are paid into the Consolidated Fund.

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 about indexation of the limits for rates of income tax;
(b) provision for corporation tax to be charged for the financial year 2000;
(c) provision as to the rates at which corporation tax is charged;
(d) provision for the introduction of a tax credit in respect of children;
(e) provision about married couple’s allowance;
(f) provision for and in connection with the abolition of widow’s bereavement allowance and additional relief in respect of children;
(g) provision about maintenance payments and other annual payments;
(h) provision relating to income tax relief for interest payments;
(i) provision amending section 548 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
(j) provision abolishing vocational training relief under sections 32 and 33 of the
Finance Act 1991;
(k) provision amending section 48(2)(a) of the Finance (No. 2) Act 1997.

Finance [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the
proposed Motion relating to Finance [Money];

The Question being put, 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 required by the
Commissioners of Inland Revenue and the Commissioners of Customs and
Excise in order to secure that, if the United Kingdom were to move to the third
stage of economic and monetary union, they would be able to exercise their
functions relating to taxes and duties (including agricultural levies of the
European Community);

(b) any increase attributable to any provision of that Act relating to the Debt
Management Account in the sums payable out of or into the National Loans
Fund or the Consolidated Fund; and

(c) any payments out of or into that Account.

The House proceeded to a division.

Tuesday 16th March 1999

Tellers for the Ayes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 351.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Tim Collins: 132.

So the Question was agreed to.

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 Dobson, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Byers, Mr Alan Milburn, Dawn Primarolo, Mrs Barbara Roche and Ms
Patricia Hewitt do prepare and bring it in.

4 Finance Bill.—Mrs Barbara Roche accordingly presented a Bill to grant cer-
tain 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 this day and to be printed
[Bill 62].

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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

[Adjourned at 12.33 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law.—National Assembly for Wales (Day of First Ordinary Election)
(Postponement of Community Councils Elections etc.) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 722),
dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

2 Education.—Nursery Education (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 802),
dated 12th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Local Government.—Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) (Burnley
Borough Council and Epping Forest District Council) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 777),
dated 11th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Medicines.—Medicines (Monitoring of Advertising) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 784),
dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Cargo Ship Construction) (Amendment)
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 643), dated 8th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Prescott].

6 National Health Service.—(1) Road Tra


(2) Social Security (Contributions and Credits) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 568), dated 5th March 1999
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:
8 Erskine Bridge Tolls.—Accounts of the Scottish Office Development Department: Erskine Bridge for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 320] [Clerk of the House].
9 Miscellaneous (No. 19, 1999).—Notes exchanged at London on 9th December 1998 and 9th March 1999 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning Privileges and Immunities for the Liaison Officers at Europol, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4290] [Mr Secretary Cook].
10 National Audit.—Financial Auditing and Reporting: General Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for 1997–98 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1-XIX] [Mrs Barbara Roche].
11 Salvage and Intervention.—Report of Lord Donaldson’s Review of Salvage and Intervention and their Command and Control [by Command] [Cm. 4193] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees
1 Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to the Second Scottish Standing Committee.
2 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.
3 Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Beverley Hughes from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Ben Chapman.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees
1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
2 Food Standards.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Standards Committee [Draft Food Standards Bill]; to be printed [No. 276-viii] [Mr Kevin Barron].
3 Public Accounts.—(1) Seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The Forensic Science Service]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 321];
(2) Eighth Report from the Committee [Ministry of Defence: Sales of the Royal Dockyards]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 96]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils Accounts 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 322-e] [Mr David Davis].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Imperial College Bill.—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the Imperial College Bill and 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 University College London Bill.—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the University College London Bill and had amended the same so as to make it consistent with the facts as proved by the evidence adduced, and found the same, as amended, to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 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 110 days; and for connected purposes: And that Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Martin Bell, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr James Gray, Mr David Prior, Mr Keith Simpson and Mr Robert Walter do prepare and bring it in.

5 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 110 days; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 64].

6 House of Lords Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Third Reading of the House of Lords Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time; Mr Keith Bradley rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put. The House divided. Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 326. Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 152. So the Question was agreed to. And the Question being accordingly put; The House divided. Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 340. Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 132. So the Question was agreed to. The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

7 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Resolved, That the draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Continuance) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 4th March, be approved. —(Mr Secretary Straw.)

8 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the draft Report of the Department of Economic Development’s Economic Strategy Review, being a matter relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee; and
(2) at its sitting on Thursday 25th March—
(i) the Committee shall consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above;
(ii) the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings thereon at Five o’clock; and
(iii) at the conclusion 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(5).—(Mr David Jamieson.)

9 Libraries,—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 Lending Right (Increase of Limit) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 16th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

10 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) 1999 (No. 2): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson);
The House proceeded to a Division.
Wednesday 17th March 1999
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 281.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Dominic Grieve: 24.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999 (No. 2): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved.

11 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 Scotland (No. 1/1999): Special Grant for Asylum Seeker Assistance (House of Commons Paper No. 228), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 275.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Dominic Grieve: 24.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the Special Grant Report (Scotland) (No. 1/1999): Special Grant for Asylum Seeker Assistance (House of Commons Paper No. 228), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved.

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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 278.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Dominic Grieve: 9.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 38): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers (House of Commons Paper No. 230), which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved.

13 Transport Infrastructure Charging,—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 Union Document No. 10778/98, the Commission White Paper: Fair Payment for Infrastructure Use: A phased approach to a common transport infrastructure charging framework in the EU; and endorses the Government’s approach to discussions on the document—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 274.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Dominic Grieve: 12.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 10778/98, the Commission White Paper: Fair Payment for Infrastructure Use: A phased approach to a common transport infrastructure charging framework in the EU; and endorses the Government’s approach to discussions on the document.

14 Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland),—Ordered, That the Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 401) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr David Clelland.)

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to One o’clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.57 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Civil Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 813),
   (2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 814),
   (3) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 815), and
   (4) Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 816),

dated 12th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

2 Income Tax,—(1) Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 824), dated 16th March 1999,
   (2) Income Tax (Paying and Collecting Agents) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 823), dated 15th March 1999,
   (3) Income Tax (Sub-contractors in the Construction Industry) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 825), dated 16th March 1999, and

[by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

3 Social Security,—Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No.2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 827), dated 15th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 Social Services (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Aiming for Excellence: Modernising social work services in Scotland [by Command] [Cm. 4288] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Report of the Certification Officer for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B (transferred from Standing Committee C).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]; to be printed [No. 233-v]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Deregulation Committee [Proposed Amendments to the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994]; to be printed [No. 324-i]; [Mr Peter L. Plake].
3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 111-ii] [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 [The Operation of the Landfill Tax]; to be printed [No. 150-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Budget 1999]; to be printed [No. 326-ii] [Mr John Horam].

6 Financial Services and Markets,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

7 Public Administration,—(1) First Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Annual Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration for 1997–98]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 136]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-iii] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Twelfth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The 1999 Budget]; to be printed [No. 325-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

10 Welsh Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [European Structural Funds]; to be printed [No. 327-ii]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Winter Supplementary Estimates] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 56.]

Wednesday 17th March 1999.

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 City of Westminster Bill [Lords].—The House proceeded to consider the City of Westminster Bill [Lords], as amended in the Committee.

Bill to be read the third time.

3 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the Second Reading Committee on the Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords], That it had come to the following Resolution, which it had directed him to report to the House. That the Committee recommends that the Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords] ought to be read a second time.

Report to lie upon the Table.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 335].

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Ordnance Survey Trading Fund Order 1999.

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

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Amendment Regulations 1999.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
6 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 1) Order 1999.

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

7 European Standing Committee A.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of the European Union Document No. 6985/98 on the protection of laying hens kept in various systems of rearing; and of the progress of negotiations; and supports the Government’s intention to continue to work for the adoption of a Directive which sets a clear phase-out date for the battery cage, improved standards in the interim and robust and practical standards for the welfare of birds in non-cage systems.

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

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

Access to Justice Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to establish the Legal Services Commission, the Community Legal Service and the Criminal Defence Service; to amend the law of legal aid in Scotland; to make further provision about legal services; to make provision about appeals (including cases stated) and applications for habeas corpus, to enable the Lord Chancellor to appoint a vice-president of the Queen’s Bench Division and to make provision about court proceedings; to amend the law about magistrates and magistrates’ courts; and to make provision about immunity from action and costs and indemnities for certain officials exercising judicial functions; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

9 Access to Justice Bill [Lords].—The Access to Justice Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 67].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes to the Access to Justice Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 67–EN].

10 Leasehold Reform.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law with regard to leaseholds in relation to housing for older people; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West), Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Adrian Sanders, Ms Jacqui Smith, Mrs Ann Winterton, Mr Austin Mitchell and Dr Doug Naysmith do prepare and bring it in.

11 Leasehold Reform Bill.—Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West) accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law with regard to leaseholds in relation to housing for older people; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 65].

12 Tax Credits Bill [Money] [No. 2].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Tax Credits Bill [Money] [No. 2];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Tax Credits Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act.—(Mr David Clelland.)

13 Tax Credits Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Tax Credits Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (New category of child care providers for tax credit purposes)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Housing costs)—(Steve Webb)—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 Donald Gorrie, Mr Phil Willis: 39.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Greg Pope: 303.

Another Clause (Payment of tax credits to agricultural employees)—(Mr Eric Pickles)—brought up and read the first time.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 167.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Greg Pope: 300.

Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 35, at the end, to insert the words ‘except that an employee shall be entitled to make an election to receive payment of the tax credit to which he is entitled directly from the Board.’.—(Mr Nick Gibb.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 164.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Dowd, Jane Kennedy: 296.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 35, at the end, to insert the words ‘provided that the employer has more than 9 employees’.—(Mr Nick Gibb.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 150.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Jim Dowd: 291.

Amendments (Nos. 14 and 11 to 13) made to the Bill.

A Motion was 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, whilst welcoming additional money for lower paid workers and for disabled people, declines to give a Third Reading to the Tax Credits Bill because it considers the proposed Working Families’ Tax Credit to represent a highly inefficient way of spending public money; believes that the Government has provided no evidence that paying the credit through the paypacket will bring benefits commensurate with the £100 million annual cost which will be imposed on businesses; believes that payment through the paypacket will adversely affect recipients at times of family or job change and will increase the scope for fraud; believes that the Bill represents a missed opportunity to tackle the particular incentive problems faced by low-paid homebuyers; and believes that the proposed childcare tax credit is poorly targeted’, instead thereof.—(Steve Webb.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr Phil Willis: 164.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Clive Betts: 295.

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 Clive Betts: 297.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 161.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

14 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 Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

15 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 six minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.54 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Legal Aid and Advice.—(1) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 131),

(2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 130), and

2 Plant Health,—Plant Health (Fees) (Forestry) (Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 783), dated 12th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Social Security,—Statutory Sick Pay and Statutory Maternity Pay (Decisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 776), dated 9th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:


5 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 12th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Northern General Hospital,
   (2) Queens Medical Centre Nottingham University Hospital,
   (3) Wakefield and Pontefract Community Health, and
   (4) West Dorset General Hospitals
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

6 Overseas Territories,—Paper, entitled Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories [by Command] [Cm. 4264] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Sixty-eighth and Sixty-ninth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1997–98 [by Command] [Cm. 4279] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Amess, Ms Candy Atherton, Norman Baker, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Alan Clark, Mr Robin Corbett, Maria Eagle, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Tim Loughton, Alice Mahon, Mr Elliot Morley, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Owen Paterson, Angela Smith and Mr Stephen Twigg.

2 Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999, the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999, and the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr Ian Cawsey, Ann Coffey, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Quentin Davies, Mr Jim Dobbin, Angela Eagle, Mr John Hayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr David Rendel, Mr Marsha Singh, Dr George Turner and Steve Webb.

3 Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiatives) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second 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 Roger Berry, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Jim Dowd, Mr Ronnie Fearn, Dr Ian Gibson, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr James Gray, Lynne Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Fiona Maclaggart, Ms Joan Ruddock, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Chris Smith, Mr Richard Spring and Mr Phil Willis.

4 Draft Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Miss Anne Begg, Mr A. J. Beith, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Michael Jack, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John McAllion, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Frank Roy and Sir Robert Smith.
5 Draft International Mobile Satellite Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth 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 Michael Colvin, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Nigel Jones, Jane Kennedy, Mr Andy King, Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr David Lepper, Mr Tony Lloyd, Mr Denis MacShane, Sir David Madel, Mr Syd Rapson, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr William Thompson, Mr Michael Trend, Audrey Wise and Mr Mike Wood.

6 Draft Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Application to Summary Proceedings) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth 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.: Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr George Galloway, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Henry McLeish, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Frank Roy, Bob Russell, Mr David Stewart, Dr Gavin Strang and Mr Peter Viggers.

7 Draft Limit in Relation to Licences to Provide Radio Multiplex Services Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Janet Anderson, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Stephen Day, Jim Dowd, Mr John Grogan, Mr John Horam, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Andy Love, Fiona Macdiarmid, Alice Mahon, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Alan Simpson and Mr Richard Spring.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order and the Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Norman Baker, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr James Cran, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Mr Adam Ingram, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Chris Ruane, Mr Jon Trickett, Mr Robert N. Wareing and Dr Tony Wright.

9 Traffic Areas (Reorganisation) (Wales) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Eighth 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.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Win Griffiths, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Richard Livsey, Sir Peter Lloyd, Dr John Marek, Sir Raymond Powell, Mr Allan Rogers, Mr John Smith, Mr Llew Smith, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr John Townend.

10 Draft National Minimum Wage (Offshore Employment) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth 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 David Atkinson, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Kevin Hughes, Chris McCafferty, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr David Rendel, Mr Peter Snape, Mr Paul Sinchcombe, Mr David Tredinnick and Mr Paul Truswell.

11 Draft Social Security (Incapacity, Earnings and Work Trials) Pilot Schemes Regulations 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Tenth 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.: Mr David Atkinson, Mr Hugh Bayley, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Kevin Hughes, Chris McCafferty, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr David Rendel, Mr Peter Snape, Mr Paul Sinchcombe, Mr David Tredinnick and Mr Paul Truswell.
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Jim Dowd, Mr Adam Ingram, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Peter Temple-Morris and Mr David Winnick.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Orders to the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Harold Best, Mr David Borrow, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr John Burnett, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Paul Clark, Valerie Davey, Julia Drown, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Martyn Jones, Mr Michael Mates, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Gareth R. Thomas and Mr John Whittingdale.

14 The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the meeting of the Committee on Thursday 25th March.

European Standing Committees

15 European Union Document No. 5263/99, relating to Assistance to NIS and Mongolia, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

16 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 6378/98, relating to the deliberate release into the environment of Genetically Modified Organisms.

17 The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of the unnumbered explanatory memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to the reform of the Structural Funds; the unnumbered explanatory memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Agenda 2000: Cohesion Fund Amendment; and European Union Document No. 5480/99, relating to the European Regional Development Fund.

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 [The Future of the UK Shipping Industry]; to be printed [No. 172-xxi] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

2 European Scrutiny,—Thirteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xiii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Road Fuel Price Differentials]; to be printed [No. 334-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

4 Public Accounts,—(1) Ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Inland Revenue Special Compliance Office: Prevention of Corruption]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 77];
   (2) Tenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Identifying and Selling Surplus Property]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 104];
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [The NHS in Scotland: Making the Most of the Estate]; to be printed [No. 323-i]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [The NHS in Scotland: Progress Report] [No. 333-i]
   [Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-it] [Dr Michael Clark].
6 Scottish Affairs.—(1) First Special Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Government Reply to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on the Operation of Multi-layer Democracy]; to be printed [No. 331]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 85-vi]
   [Mr David Marshall].
7 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Electronic Commerce; Small and Medium Sized Enterprises]; to be printed [Nos. 187-vi and 330-iv][Mr Martin O’Neill].

MEMORANDUM

Public Bills (Scotland).—In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 97 (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)), the Speaker certified that, in her opinion, the provisions of the Cheques (Scotland) Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.

[No. 57.]

Thursday 18th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 and the draft Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999.

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


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

3 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill.—The Order for reading the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill a second time on Friday 26th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 26th May.

4 Energy Saving Materials (VAT Relief) Bill.—Mr Alan Simpson, supported by Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr John McAllion, Mrs Margaret Ewing, Mr Clive Efford, Mr Teddy Taylor, Ms Roseanna Cunningham, Mr David Chaytor and Mr John Hayes, presented a Bill to extend VAT relief on energy saving materials; to require the preparation of reports on energy saving materials; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 68].

5 Opposition Day [7th 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.

Reduction in the Strength of the Police.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House pays tribute to the high standards of policing in this country; endorses the priority of the last Conservative Government in increasing the strength of the police by over 15,000; but deplores the policies of the present Government, which are leading to reductions in police strength, cuts in services and the introduction of non-police patrols at a time when it is essential to build the best possible relations between police and public—(Sir Norman Fowler);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘country’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘notes that the previous administration’s promises in 1992 and 1995 of an additional 6,000 police officers were never carried through and that police numbers instead fell; welcomes the additional £1.24 billion for the police service and the extra £400 million for the crime reduction programme
which are to be provided over the next three years; supports the police in their crucial role in tackling crime and creating safer communities; and recognises the need for the police, as with other public services, to continue to improve efficiency and effectiveness and deliver best value in the interests of the whole country;—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Oliver Heald: 121.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Clelland: 315.

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.

Main Question, as amended, put and agreed to.

Resolved, That this House pays tribute to the high standards of policing in this country; notes that the previous administration’s promises in 1992 and 1995 of an additional 6,000 police officers were never carried through and that police numbers instead fell; welcomes the additional £1.24 billion for the police service and the extra £400 million for the crime reduction programme which are to be provided over the next three years; supports the police in their crucial role in tackling crime and creating safer communities; and recognises the need for the police, as with other public services, to continue to improve efficiency and effectiveness and deliver best value in the interests of the whole country.

The Government’s Roads Policies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that the Government, having promised an integrated transport policy, are creating a standstill Britain and failing to deliver the immediate benefits promised before the general election; notes that 94 per cent. of passenger travel and 91 per cent. of goods moved within the UK is by road, so that a modern and efficient roads network is vital for UK prosperity and competitiveness; notes that the condition of UK roads is deteriorating; condemns the Government for cutting the programme of motorway and trunk road improvements to 37 schemes, which will increase the congestion and pollution which the Government say they oppose, despite raising the tax burden on the road user to £33 billion per year, of which less than one sixth is spent on transport; and calls upon the Government to stop hitting the road user with ever-higher taxes as a substitute for real policies to reduce congestion and pollution and to get Britain moving again—(Mrs Gillian Shephard);

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 taking a far-sighted and more integrated approach to roads policy than the previous administration; notes that the previous Government’s “predict and provide” approach to road building has been discredited and that the present Government has instead taken a realistic and practical approach based on the five criteria of integration, the economy, the environment, safety and accessibility; notes further that the previous Conservative Government’s grandiose but impractical wish-list of schemes for which funding was not available has been replaced by a targeted programme of improvements, all of which can be started within seven years; welcomes its increased and more rationally-based spending on roads maintenance; and applauds the Government for tackling the problems of congestion and pollution, thereby ensuring that the road transport system operates for the benefit of individual people and the UK economy as a whole’; instead thereof.—(Dr John Reid.)

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 Tim Collins: 121.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 302.

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, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 272.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 123.
So the Question 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 taking a far-sighted and more integrated approach to roads policy than the previous administration; notes that the previous Government’s ‘predict and provide’ approach to road building has been discredited and that the present Government has instead taken a realistic and practical approach based on the five criteria of integration, the economy, the environment, safety and accessibility; notes further that the previous Conservative Government’s grandiose but impractical wish-list of schemes for which funding was not available has been replaced by a targeted programme of improvements, all of which can be started within seven years; welcomes its increased and more rationally-based spending on roads maintenance; and applauds the Government for tackling the problems of congestion and pollution, thereby ensuring that the road transport system operates for the benefit of individual people and the UK economy as a whole.

6 Estimates.—It being after Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker proceeded to put forthwith the Questions relating to Estimates which he was directed to put at that hour, pursuant to Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.) and Order [16th December].

Estimates, 1999–2000 (Navy)

Vote A

Resolved. That during the year ending on 31st March 2000 a number not exceeding 48,340 all ranks be maintained for Naval Service, a number not exceeding 18,330 for Service in the Reserve Naval and Marine Forces, and a number not exceeding 200 for Service as Special Members of the Reserve Naval Forces under Part V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996.

Estimates, 1999–2000 (Army)

Vote A

Resolved. That during the year ending on 31st March 2000 a number not exceeding 135,420 all ranks be maintained for Army Service, a number not exceeding 76,700 for Service in the Reserve Land Forces, and a number not exceeding 6,000 for Service as Special Members of the Reserve Land Forces under Part V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996.

Estimates, 1999–2000 (Air)

Vote A

Resolved. That during the year ending on 31st March 2000 a number not exceeding 58,070 all ranks be maintained for the Air Force Service, a number not exceeding 26,000 for Service in the Reserve Air Forces, and a number not exceeding 430 for Service as Special Members of the Reserve Air Forces under Part V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996.

Estimates, Excesses, 1997–98

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding £2,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to make good excesses of certain grants for Defence and Civil Services for the year ended on 31st March 1998, as set out in House of Commons Paper No. 239.

Supplementary Estimates, 1998–99

Resolved, That a further supplementary sum not exceeding £2,946,254,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges for Defence and Civil Services for the year ending on 31st March 1999, as set out in House of Commons Papers Nos. 237, 238 and 310.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions relating to Estimates, Excesses, 1997–98, and Supplementary Estimates, 1998–99: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Alan Milburn, Dawn Primarolo, Mrs Barbara Roche and Ms Patricia Hewitt do prepare and bring it in.

7 Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill.—Mrs Barbara Roche 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 to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 66].

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.55 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—(1) Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fifth Amendment) Order 1999, and
   (2) draft Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of Protocol No. 4 of Montreal, 1975) Order 1999
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 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. 329] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Fees and Charges,—Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 861), dated 16th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

4 Food,—Food Labelling (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 747), dated 17th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].


6 National Health Service,—(1) Health Promotion Authority for Wales (Abolition) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 807), dated 11th March 1999,
   (2) Health Promotion Authority for Wales (Revocation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 805), dated 11th March 1999,
   (3) Velindre National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 808), dated 15th March 1999,
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael]; and
   (6) National Health Service (Liabilities to Third Parties Scheme) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 873), and
   (7) National Health Service (Property Expenses Scheme) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 874),
   dated 17th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


Other Papers:

8 Criminal Statistics (Scotland),—Statistical Bulletin: Motor Vehicle Offences in Scotland, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Immigration and Nationality Directorate’s Casework Programme [by Act], to be printed [No. 277] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 16th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (1) Hinchingbrooke Healthcare,
   (2) Leeds Teaching Hospitals,
   (3) Norfolk and Norwich Health Care, and
   (4) Northampton General Hospital
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
11 Police (Northern Ireland).—Report and Accounts of the Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland for 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 311] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Provisional Orders (Scotland).—Report by the Chairman of Committees in 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 Provisional Order for which a Petition, in accordance with the provisions of the said Act and the General Orders thereunder, was presented to one of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State on or before 27th November 1998, namely the Railtrack (Waverley Station) Order and are of the opinion that the Order should be allowed to proceed, subject to such recommendations as they may hereafter make with respect to the said Order [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999, the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999 and the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Rendel from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Mark Oaten.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-v] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Financial Services and Markets,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Treasury,—(1) Third Special Report from the Treasury Committee [The World Economy and the Pre-Budget Report: The Government’s Response to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1998–99]; to be printed [No. 339]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The 1999 Budget]; to be printed [No. 325-ii]

[Mr Giles Radice].

Friday 19th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Referendums Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Referendums Bill;

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

And it being Eleven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 (Friday sittings);

And the Question being again proposed;

Mr Andrew Robathan 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 Edward Leigh, Mr Dominic Grieve: 129.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West): 5.

So the Question 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 Dominic Grieve, Mr Edward Leigh: 128.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr David Maclean: 0.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

2 Cheques (Scotland) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Cheques (Scotland) 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 14th May.

3 Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

4 Transport of Farm Animals Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Transport of Farm Animals Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th July.

5 Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

6 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 16th April.

7 Streetworks Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Streetworks Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd April.

8 Nuclear Safeguards Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Nuclear Safeguards Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 26th March.

9 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 26th March.

10 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 26th March.

11 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 26th March.

12 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 26th March.

13 Deregulation,—Ordered, That Mr Stephen McCabe be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Mr John McDonnell be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)
14 Office Costs Etc. Allowances (No. 2).—Resolved. That, in the opinion of this House, the following provisions should have effect:

The limit on the office costs allowance in relation to Mrs Betty Williams should be up to 1.25 times that determined in accordance with paragraph (a) of the Resolution of the House of 10th July 1996 for any quarter beginning with 1st April 1998.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

15 Adjournment.—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 22nd March.

[Adjourned at 3.02 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Education (Individual Pupil Information) (Prescribed Persons) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 903), dated 18th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

2 Czech Republic (No. 1, 1999),—Agreement, done at Copenhagen on 27th May 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Czech Republic on International Road Transport, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4287] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Ireland (No. 1, 1999),—Agreement, done at Belfast on 10th April 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4292] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Ireland (No. 2, 1999),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 8th March 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4293] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Ireland (No. 3, 1999),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 8th March 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4294] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Ireland (No. 4, 1999),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 8th March 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4295] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 Ireland (No. 5, 1999),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 8th March 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a British-Irish Council, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4296] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Treaty Series (No. 15, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 24th June 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the State of Qatar concerning Air Services [by Command] [Cm. 4289] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) 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 Harry Barnes, Mr John Bercow, Mr David Crausby, Mr Denzil Davies, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr John Heppell, Mr Andrew Hunter, Dr Brian Iddon, Glenda Jackson, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Bob Russell, Mr Marsha Singh, Angela Smith and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Vacation of Seat (Corrupt Practice).—The Speaker informed the House that she had received the following letter from the Judge in the case at Nottingham Crown Court against Ms Fiona Jones, Member for Newark.
   From the Hon. Mr. Justice Jowitt
   Presiding Judge of the Midland & Oxford Circuit
   Royal Courts of Justice
   Strand, London, WC2A 2LL.
   19th March 1999

Dear Madam Speaker,

Today at Nottingham Crown Court before me, Mrs Fiona Jones, the Member of Parliament for the constituency of Newark, was convicted by the jury of a corrupt practice, namely making a false declaration as to election expenses contrary to Section 82(6) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the particulars being that on the 6th day of June 1997 she knowingly made a declaration that was false namely that a return of election expenses to be transmitted to the Returning Officer for the Newark Constituency was a complete and correct return. She was ordered to perform 100 hours community service.

Yours sincerely,

Edwin Jowitt

And the said letter was ordered to be entered in the Journals of the House.

The Speaker further informed the House that, under the terms of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the seat for the constituency of Newark was vacated*.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill Olner reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999, the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999 and the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999.

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

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiatives) Order 1999.

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

4 Nuclear Safeguards Bill.—The Order for reading the Nuclear Safeguards Bill a second time on Friday 26th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

5 Opposition Day [8th 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.

   Council Tax Increases.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the prime determinant of council tax levels is the amount of funding allocated by central government to local authorities, further notes that as a consequence of inadequate financial settlements for local government in recent years there has been a substantial real-terms year-on-year increase in council tax; and calls on the Government to improve the funding of local services and abolish budget capping within the lifetime of this Parliament.—(Mr Paul Burstow);

   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 1999–2000 local government settlement was the most generous since the introduction of the council tax; further notes the Government’s commitment of an extra £40 billion for schools and hospitals; and welcomes the introduction of Best Value, the abolition of crude and universal capping, the reform of political management structures and the new ethical framework, set out in the local government White Paper’, instead thereof.—(Hilary Armstrong)

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

* For further entries on this matter see pages 269 and 294 below.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 40.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 309.
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 1999–2000 local government settlement was the most generous since the introduction of the council tax; further notes the Government’s commitment of an extra £40 billion for schools and hospitals; and welcomes the introduction of Best Value, the abolition of crude and universal capping, the reform of political management structures and the new ethical framework, set out in the local government White Paper.

Europe, America and the World Trade Organisation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the failure of the USA and the EU to resolve the trade dispute arising from the so-called banana war; recognises the serious impact which the US retaliatory measures are having on British industries, in particular the devastating impact on the cashmere industry in the Scottish Borders; is concerned that these actions are a precursor of further major trade disputes over the importation into the UK of genetically and hormonally-modified food products from the USA; and urges the Government to step up its diplomatic and other efforts to ensure that all parties work together to first reform the WTO regime to ensure compatibility with international biodiversity agreements, environmental and animal welfare objectives, and then to ensure compliance with the WTO objectives of free and fair trade—(Mr Michael Moore).

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 the significance of the EU/US relationship and notes that the majority of that trade relationship runs smoothly; commends the efforts of the Government to secure the Transatlantic Economic Partnership Agreement last year; acknowledges the efforts of the Government to find a way through the bananas dispute so as to minimise the impact on British industry and in particular the cashmere industry; notes the current position on the hormones dispute; welcomes the Government’s commitment to sustainable development; and endorses the Government’s support for comprehensive multilateral trade negotiations to be launched in Seattle at the end of this year’, instead thereof.—(Mr Henry McLeish).

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Paul Tyler 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 Andrew Stunell, Mr David Chidgey: 39.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Jim Dowd: 314.
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 recognises the significance of the EU/US relationship and notes that the majority of that trade relationship runs smoothly; commends the efforts of the Government to secure the Transatlantic Economic Partnership Agreement last year; acknowledges the efforts of the Government to find a way through the bananas dispute so as to minimise the impact on British industry and in particular the cashmere industry; notes the current position on the hormones dispute; welcomes the Government’s commitment to sustainable development; and endorses the Government’s support for comprehensive multilateral trade negotiations to be launched in Seattle at the end of this year.
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.

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 Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—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 (Financial Conditions) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

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 Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Amendment Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 22nd February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

10 Government Trading Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Ordnance Survey Trading Fund Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

11 Constitutional Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 1) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

12 Welfare of Laying Hens.—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 European Union Document No. 6985/98 on the protection of laying hens kept in various systems of rearing; and of the progress of negotiations; and supports the Government’s intention to continue to work for the adoption of a Directive which sets a clear phase-out date for the battery cage, improved standards in the interim and robust and practical standards for the welfare of birds in non-cage systems—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

13 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill [Money], Resolved, That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown in consequence of any compensation scheme made under the Act.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

14 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill [Money], Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(i) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the provisions of the Act, and

(ii) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which by virtue of any other Act are payable out of money so provided;

(b) the payment into the Consolidated Fund of—

(i) any sums received by the Secretary of State by virtue of the provisions of the Act, and

(ii) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable into that Fund under the Road Traffic Act 1988.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

15 Foreign Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Ernie Ross be discharged from the Foreign Affairs Committee and Dr Phyllis Starkey be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the association known as the Palace Theatre (Westcliff) for support for producing theatres was presented and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
17 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)
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 Education,—(1) Draft General Teaching Council for England (Constitution) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and
(2) draft General Teaching Council for Wales (Constitution) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
2 Animals,—Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Feeding Stuffs and Surveillance) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 882), dated 17th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Copyright,—Parliamentary Copyright (Scottish Parliament) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 676), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].


6 Criminal Law (Scotland),—(1) Confiscation of the Proceeds of Crime (Designated Countries and Territories) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 673), and

7 Education,—(1) Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 657), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael]; and
(2) Education (School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 917), dated 19th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 654), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Hong Kong,—Hong Kong (Overseas Public Servants) (Pension Supplements) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 666), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10 Ministers of the Crown,—(1) Transfer of Functions (Lord Advocate and Advocate General for Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 679), and
(2) Transfer of Functions (Lord Advocate and Secretary of State) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 678),
dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

11 Northern Ireland,—Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 671), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

12 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 778), dated 10th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Social Security,—(1) Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 920), dated 22nd March 1999,
(2) Social Security Benefits Up-rating and Miscellaneous Increases Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 862), dated 17th March 1999,
(3) Social Security Benefits Up-rating Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 858), dated 17th March 1999, and
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

15 Local Government (Scotland),—Scottish Local Government Financial Statistics for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

16 Miscellaneous (No. 22, 1999),—Draft Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Mobile Satellite Organisation, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4311] [Mr Secretary Cook].

17 National Health Service,—(1) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 17th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
(i) Avalon, Somerset,
(ii) Exeter & District Community Health Service, and
(iii) Wiltshire Health Care;
(2) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 18th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
(i) BHB Community Health Care,
(ii) Luton and Dunstable Hospitals,
(iii) North West Anglia Healthcare,
(iv) Plymouth Hospitals,
(v) Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital,
(vi) South Tees Acute Hospitals, and
(vii) York Health Services; and
(3) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 19th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
(i) Gloucestershire Royal, and
(ii) Severn
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

18 Police,—(1) National Crime Squad (Secretary of State’s Objectives) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 821), dated 11th March 1999,
(2) NCIS (Secretary of State’s Objectives) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 822), dated 11th March 1999, and
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

19 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [4th March] from Friends of the Earth (South East Office) and others for a conservation body for the South Downs [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

20 Transport,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 22nd March 1999 in respect of temporary borrowing by the British Waterways Board from the National Westminster Bank plc [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Owen Paterson from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill), and nominated in substitution Mr Andrew Hunter.
2 Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999, the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999, and the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Marsha Singh from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Kali Mountford.

3 Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiatives) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Roger Berry from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Phil Woolas.

4 Draft Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Application to Summary Proceedings) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Lynda Clark and Mr Brian H. Donohoe from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Malcolm Savidge and Mr Desmond Browne.

5 Value Added Tax (Finance) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 594), and the Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 593).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dawn Primarolo from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Orders); and nominated in substitution Mrs Barbara Roche.

European Standing Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of European Standing Committee C (in place of Mr George Stevenson) in respect of the unnumbered explanatory memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to the reform of the Structural Funds; the unnumbered explanatory memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Agenda 2000: Cohesion Fund Amendment; and European Union Document No. 5480/99, relating to the European Regional Development Fund.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Overseas Operations, Governance and Management at Southampton Institute]; to be printed [No. 345-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Denbighshire County Council’s Funding Legacy]; to be printed [No. 340-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].
5 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft International Mobile Satellite Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1999.

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

6 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Application to Summary Proceedings) Order 1999.

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

7 European Standing Committee C.—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Reform of the Structural Funds, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Agenda 2000, reform of the Cohesion Fund, and European Union Document No. 5480/99, an amended draft Council Regulation on the European Regional Fund; and supports the Government’s view that reform of the European Structural and Cohesion Funds is essential in preparation for enlargement and should be concluded by a fair, affordable and durable outcome for all Member States; agrees that the Cohesion Fund is no longer justified where Member States have been admitted to Stage 3 of EMU, and should be phased out as soon as possible, and that the European Development Fund Regulation provides for a suitable basis for the use of that Fund.

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

8 Age (Prevention of Discrimination).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prevent discrimination in employment and in other matters on grounds of age—(Mr Robert Maclellan);

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 Robert Maclellan, Mr David Atkinson, Dr Roger Berry, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Don Foster, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Dr Evan Harris, Ms Linda Perham, Mr Andrew Rowe and Angela Smith do prepare and bring in the Bill.

9 Age (Prevention of Discrimination) Bill.—Mr Robert Maclellan accordingly presented a Bill to prevent discrimination in employment and in other matters on grounds of age:—(Mr Robert Maclellan);

And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 69].

10 Local Government Bill [Money] (No. 2).—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Local Government Bill [Money] (No. 2);

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Local Government Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in making grants to the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales—(Jane Kennedy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Jamieson: 345.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Wilshire: 39.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Local Government Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in making grants to the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales.

11 Local Government Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Local Government Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Coordination of inspections, &c.)—(Mr Jon Owen Jones)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Requirement for overriding order)—(Mr Bernard Jenkin)—brought up and read the first time.
A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Clause be read a
second time;
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 Local
Government Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Mike
Hall)—It was agreed to.

13 Local Government Bill,—The House again proceeded to consider the Local Government Bill,
as amended in the Standing Committee.

Question again proposed, That the Clause (Requirement for overriding order) be read
a second time:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Question put.
The House divided:
Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 156.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mrs Anne McGuire: 330.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That further consideration of
the Bill be now adjourned—(Mr Keith Bradley);
Mr Keith Bradley 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 proceeded to a Division.

Wednesday 24th March 1999
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Clive Betts: 314.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 140.

And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Clive Betts: 314.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 132.

Bill to be further considered this day.

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes past One o’clock
on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day:
[Adjourned at 1.07 a.m.

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Local Government Finance,—(1) Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant
Report (No. 42) on the Promoting Independence: Partnership Grant for 1999–2000,
(2) Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 43) on the
Promoting Independence: Prevention Grant for 1999–2000, and
(3) Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 44) on the
Promoting Independence: Carers Grant for 1999–2000
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 301, 302 and 303] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
2 National Health Service,—(1) Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 946), and
(2) National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) Amendment
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 945),
dated 23rd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
Telegraphs.—Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 930), dated 22nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

4 Animal Health.—Return of Expenditure Incurred and Prosecutions taken under the Animal Health Act 1981, and Incidences of Disease in Imported Animals for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

5 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Buying Agency for 1997, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 314] [Clerk of the House].

6 Civil Aviation.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 23rd March 1999 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Civil Aviation Authority from the National Westminster Bank plc [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].


8 Foreign Affairs.—Government Response to the First Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Foreign Policy and Human Rights [by Command] [Cm. 4299] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Health Service Commissioner.—Second Report of the Health Service Ombudsman, Session 1998–99: Investigation of Complaint About Treatment by Deputising Doctors [by Act]; to be printed [No. 341] [Clerk of the House].

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

   (1) Progress on measures to combat Housing Benefit fraud, and
   (2) The Sale of Railfreight Distribution

   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 319 and 280] [Clerk of the House].

11 Social Security,—Paper, entitled A new contract for welfare: safeguarding social security [by Command] [Cm. 4276] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Limit in Relation to Licences to Provide Radio Multiplex Services Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Fiona Mactaggart from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr David Lock.


3 Traffic Areas (Reorganisation) (Wales) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Martin Caton and Dr John Marek from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order); and nominated in substitution Ms Julie Morgan and Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West).

4 Draft Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Code of Practice) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony Colman from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Helen Jackson.

5 Value Added Tax (Finance) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 594) and the Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 593).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Martyn Jones and Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West) from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Orders); and nominated in substitution Mr Gordon Prentice and Mr Gwyn Prosser.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Second Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Part-time Working], 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. 346] [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 [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 159-vi] [Mr John Horam].

4 Financial Services and Markets,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-iii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Transcaucasus and Central Asia]; to be printed [No. 349-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Home Affairs,—First Report from the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission], 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. 106] [Mr Chris Mullin].

7 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Women and Development; The Provisions of the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords]]; to be printed [Nos. 160-v and 212-i] [Mr Bowen Wells]

8 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-vi] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

9 Standards and Privileges,—Fourth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Sir Edward Heath], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 348] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

10 Statutory Instruments,—Thirteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xiii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

11 Treasury,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Financial Services Regulation: The Government’s Response to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 1998–99]; to be printed [No. 347]; and (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The 1999 Budget]; to be printed [No. 325-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].

12 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Health Issues in Wales]; to be printed [No. 343-v] [Mr Martyn Jones].

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.
Wednesday 24th March 1999.

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 Protection of Children Bill.—Mr Bill O'Brien reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Protection of Children Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 30th April; and to be printed [Bill 75].
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 353].

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill O'Brien reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Limit in Relation to Licences to Provide Radio Multiplex Services Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

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

5 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Traffic Areas (Reorganisation) (Wales) Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Minimum Wage (Offshore Employment) Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Incapacity, Earnings and Work Trials) Pilot Scheme Regulations 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

8 European Standing Committee A.—Mrs Ray Michie reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution: That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 6378/98, relating to a draft Directive amending Directive 90/220/EEC on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms; and endorses the Government's approach in the negotiations.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

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

   Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to provide for the referral of offenders under 18 to youth offender panels; to make provision in connection with the giving of evidence or information for the purposes of criminal proceedings; to make pre-consolidation amendments relating to youth justice; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
   Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to establish a Disability Rights Commission and make provision as to its functions; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
   The Lords have agreed to the Amendments made by this House to the City of Westminster Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

10 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 74].
Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 74-EN].

11 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords].—The Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 73].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 73-EN].

12 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Order for reading the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill a second time on Friday 26th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 30th April.

13 Hare Coursing Bill,—The Order for reading the Hare Coursing Bill a second time on Friday 26th March was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

14 Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill,—Mr James Wallace, supported by Mr Ray Beggs, Norman Baker, Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr Lindsay Hoyle and Mr Alasdair Morgan, presented a Bill to amend the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 with respect to acts of recklessness, time limits for bringing proceedings and penalties: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 71].

15 Pensions (Amendment),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Secretary of State to report annually on service pensions, war pensions and war widows’ pensions. And that Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Martin Bell, Mr Roy Beggs, Paul Flynn, Mr Jim Dobbin, Dr David Clark, Mr Rhodri Morgan, Bob Russell and Mr David Crausby do prepare and bring it in.

16 Pensions (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Andrew Mackinlay accordingly presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to report annually on service pensions, war pensions and war widows’ pensions: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 72].

17 Reform of the 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 the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to reform of the Structural Funds, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 17th April 1998 relating to Agenda 2000, reform of the Cohesion Fund, and European Union Document No. 5480/99, an amended draft Council Regulation on the European Regional Fund; and supports the Government’s view that reform of the European Structural and Cohesion Funds is essential in preparation for enlargement and should be concluded by a fair, affordable and durable outcome for all Member States; agrees that the Cohesion Fund is no longer justified where Member States have been admitted to Stage 3 of EMU, and should be phased out as soon as possible, and that the European Development Fund Regulation provides a suitable basis for the use of that Fund—(Mr Jim Dowd).—It was agreed to.

18 Local Government Bill (Allocation of Time),—A Motion was made and the Question being put, That the following provisions shall apply to remaining proceedings on the Local Government Bill:

Timetable

1. Proceedings on Consideration and on Third Reading shall be completed at the sitting this day and shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, five hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

Questions to be put

2. For the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 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.

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. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at the sitting this day; and the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing order relating to the sittings of the House.

5. 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 commencement, and Standing Order No. 15(1) shall apply to those proceedings.

6. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply in relation 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 or to recommit the Bill; and if a Minister makes a Motion to alter the order of proceedings or to recommit the Bill, the Question shall be put forthwith.

8. No dilatory Motion shall be made in relation to the Bill except by a Minister of the Crown.

9. If at the sitting this day a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 stands over to Seven o'clock and proceedings on this Motion have begun before that time, the Motion for the Adjournment shall stand over until the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill.

10. If the House is adjourned at the sitting this day, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill, 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—(Hilary Armstrong).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 332.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 162.

So the Question was agreed to.

19 Local Government Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Local Government Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (Endorsement of council tax by referendum)—(Sir Paul Beresford)—brought up and read the first time.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 170.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill: 335.

Amendment (No. 54) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 8, at the beginning, to insert the words 'subject to subsection (4A) below'.—(Mr John Hayes.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 50), proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 5, to leave out the words 'way in which its functions are exercised' and insert the words 'value for money of its provision of services' instead thereof.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 60), proposed to the Bill, in page 3, to leave out lines 28 to 30.—(Mr Nigel Waterson.)

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

Amendment (No. 6) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 35) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 5, after the word 'section' to insert the words 'unless it can satisfy the Secretary of State that there is a reason why this should not be done.'—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 68) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 29, to leave out from the word 'other' to the end of line 30 and to insert the word 'parties' instead thereof.—(Mr Bernard Jenkin.)
Question proposed. That the Amendment be made.

And it being five hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Local Government Bill (Allocation of Time), the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question put and negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions he was directed to put to bring proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading to a conclusion.

Other Amendments (Nos. 16 to 18, 7 to 9, 19 to 24, 10, 11, 25 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 Greg Pope, Jane Kennedy: 319.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 170.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

20 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 and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 4th March, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

21 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 draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 8th March, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

22 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 draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 8th March, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

23 National Lottery,—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 Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiatives) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 11th March, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

24 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 International Mobile Satellite Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

25 Criminal Law (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 Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Application to Summary Proceedings) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 8th March, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

26 Constitutional Law,—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 Adjacent Waters Boundaries Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 8th March, be approved—(Mr David Hanson):—It was agreed to.

27 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of Gosport, Fareham and surrounding areas and others for the retention of the Royal Hospital, Haslar, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

28 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Hanson).

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

29 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

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 Representation of the People,—Draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Health and Safety,—Police (Health and Safety) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 860), dated 17th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Water Resources,—(1) The Water Protection Zone (River Dee Catchment) Designation Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 915), and
   (2) Water Protection Zone (River Dee Catchment) (Procedural and Other Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 916), dated 19th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Other Papers:

   (1) Department for Education and Employment and Office for Standards in Education [by Command] [Cm. 4202] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and
   (2) Law Officers’ Departments [by Command] [Cm. 4207] [Mr Attorney General].

5 Local Government,—Paper, entitled Local Leadership, Local Choice [by Command] [Cm. 4298] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


7 Police (Northern Ireland),—Objectives for the policing of Northern Ireland [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr David Amess, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr James Clappison, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Cynog Dafis, Caroline Flint, Mr Roger Gale, Mr George Howarth, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Angela Smith, Helen Southworth, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Mr Alan Williams (Swansea West).

2 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman of Standing Committee B.

3 Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in Aid of Expenditure on Rural Public Passenger Transport for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 283), the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 45) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant 1999–2000) (House of Commons Paper No. 305), and the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in Aid of Expenditure on Rail Services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (House of Commons Paper No. 329):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Reports to the First 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.: Norman Baker, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Sir Peter Lloyd, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Ian Murphy, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Adrian Sanders, Sir Raymond Whitney and Mr Tony Worthington.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders 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, John Austin, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Brian Cotter, Marla Eagle, Jane Griffiths, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr Peter Snape, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Anthony Steen and Mr David Tredinnick.

5 Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 491):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Third 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 Desmond Browne, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr David Curry, Mr Ian Davidson, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Sir Robert Smith, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr James Wallace and Mr James Wray.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Second Report from the Defence Committee [The Appointment of the New Head of Defence Export Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 147]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Kosovo]; to be printed [No. 39-vii]

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Green Paper: teachers: meeting the challenge of change]; to be printed [No. 350-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Eighth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Local Government Finance], with the 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. 78-I];

(2) First Special Report from the Committee [Health & Safety Commission and Executive Response to the First Report from the Committee: Railway Safety]; to be printed [No. 352];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [No. 171-iii]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Aviation Safety]; to be printed [No. 275-ii]

[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody]

4 European Scrutiny,—Fourteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xiv] [Mr Jimmy Hood]

5 Food Standards,—Report from the Food Standards Committee [Food Standards Draft Bill], 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. 276] [Mr Kevin Barron].

6 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Second Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall], 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. 194] [Margaret Beckett].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Road Fuel Price Differentials]; to be printed [No. 334-ii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Home Office: Handgun Surrender and Compensation]; to be printed [No. 354-i] [Mr David Davis].

9 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 85-c] [Mr David Marshall].

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

PRAYERS.

1 HFC Bank 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 HFC Bank Bill and had amended the same so as to make it consistent with the facts as proved by the evidence adduced, and found the same, as amended, to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, that it had considered the matter of the draft Report of the Department of Economic Development’s Economic Strategy Review, referred to it on 16th March, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 99].

3 Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Code of Practice) Order 1999.

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

4 Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Finance) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 594), and the Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 593).

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

5 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order for resuming to-morrow the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, that the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time, was read and discharged.

   Debate to be resumed on Friday 30th April.

6 Royal Assent.—The Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, that Her Majesty has signified Her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

   Consolidated Fund Act 1999

7 Recycled Content of Newsprint Bill.—Mr David Chaytor, supported by Mr David Lepper, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr John Horam, Mr Tom Brake, Mrs Helen Brinton, John Austin and Julia Drown, presented a Bill to increase the content of recycled paper collected and used in newsprint in England and Wales; and for connected purposes. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 76].

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

   Mr Tony Benn 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 negatived.

   And the Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—The House resumed the adjourned Debate;

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

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Friends of Plymouth Derriford Hospital Kidney Unit in support of the service provided by the renal transplant unit at Plymouth Derriford Hospital was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Saffron Walden against hunting with dogs 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—(Mr Kevin Hughes); And the Motion having been made after Seven 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 and the Sessional Order [16 December], it being then twenty-eight minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow. [Adjourned at 7.32 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Injuries Compensation.—Draft of Alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education.—Education (Secondary Education in Further Education Institutions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 954), dated 22nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Local Government (Scotland).—(1) Local Government Act 1988 (Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 947), and (2) Local Government (Exemption from Competition) (Scotland) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 937) dated 22nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

4 Police.—Police Grant (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 953) dated 22nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

5 Social Security.—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 907), dated 18th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

6 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—Statute, dated 19th November 1998, made by the Governing Body of the University of Oxford amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

7 Commonwealth Development Corporation.—Report and Accounts of the Commonwealth Development Corporation for 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

8 Criminal Statistics.—Statistical Bulletin: Recorded Crime in Scotland 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

9 Financial Reporting to Parliament.—Departmental Reports for 1999: the Government’s expenditure plans 1999–2000 to 2001–02:— (1) Cabinet Office, Central Office of Information, Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and Health Service Commissioners, Privy Council Office, House of Lords, House of Commons and National Audit Office [by Command] [Cm. 4221] [Dr Jack Cunningham]; and (2) 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 [by Command] [Cm. 4204] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Security Industry.—Paper, entitled The Government’s Proposals for Regulation of the Private Security Industry in England and Wales [by Command] [Cm. 4254] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Referendums Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Special Grant Report (Scotland) on Grant in Aid of Expenditure on Rural Public Passenger Transport for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 283), the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 45): Metropolitan Railway Passenger
Services Grant 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 305) 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. 329).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Brian H. Donohoe from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Reports); and nominated in substitution Mr Nigel Griffiths.

3 Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of Protocol No. 4 of Montreal, 1975) Order 1999 and the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fifth Amendment) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged John Austin from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Dr Alan Whitehead.

4 Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Gavin Strang from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Jim Murphy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Third Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Back to the Dome], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 21];
   
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-vi]; and

   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Back to the Dome]

   [Mr Gerald Kaufman]

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Budget 1999]; to be printed [No. 326-ii] [Mr John Horam].

3 Financial Services and Markets,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-iv] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare]; to be printed [No. 281-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 199-iv] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 63.]

Friday 26th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr David Watson for the proper use of monies given to charity was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Right to Roam Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Right to Roam Bill;
   
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

   And it being Eleven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings).
And the Question being again proposed, Mr David Maclean 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.

3 Hedges (Control) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hedges (Control) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

4 Age Limits on Health Care Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th April.

5 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 16th April.

6 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 16th April.

7 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd April.

8 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 16th April.

9 Pensions (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of Pensions (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th April.

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 29th March.

[Adjourned at 3.01 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) Regulations 1999 (S.I. 1999, No. 984), dated 25th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].


   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Merchant Shipping.—Protection of Wrecks (M/S Estonia) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 856), dated 17th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Young Offender Institutions.—Young Offender Institution (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 962), dated 24th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

6 Crown Copyright.—Paper, entitled The Future Management of Crown Copyright [by Command] [Cm. 4306] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

   (1) Home Office and the Charity Commission, Volumes 1 and 2 [by Command] [Cm. 4205] [Mr Secretary Straw].
   (2) Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Intervention Board [by Command] [Cm. 4212] [Mr Nicholas Brown]; and
   (3) Ministry of Defence [by Command] [Cm. 4208] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

8 Ireland (No. 6, 1999).—Agreement, done at Dublin on 26th November 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland concerning Mutual Assistance in Relation to Criminal Matters, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4306] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Miscellaneous (No. 20, 1999).—Protocol No. 6 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, done at Strasbourg on 28th April 1983, concerning the Abolition of the Death Penalty, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4284] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10 National Health Service.—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 23rd March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (i) East Wiltshire Health Care,
   (ii) Royal Devon & Exeter Healthcare, and
   (iii) United Bristol Healthcare
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

11 Regulatory Impact Assessments.—List of Regulatory Impact Assessments for 1st July to 31st December 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4301] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

12 Treaty Series [No. 18, 1999].—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 [by Command] [Cm. 4308] [Mr Secretary Cook].

13 Welsh Church.—Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund) Scheme 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of Protocol No. 4 of Montreal, 1975) Order 1999 and the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fifth Amendment) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Geoffrey Robinson from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Mr Tony McWalter.

2 Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Calum Macdonald from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Henry McLeish.
Monday 29th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Newark Writ,—A Motion was made, 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 Newark in the room of Fiona Elizabeth Ann Jones—(Mr James Arbuthnot);

And the Motion being opposed, further proceeding stood postponed.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rural public passenger transport for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 283), the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 45) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant 1999/2000) (House of Commons Paper No. 305) and the Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area (House of Commons Paper No. 329).

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

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of Protocol No. 4 of Montreal, 1975) Order 1999 and the draft Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fifth Amendment) Order 1999.

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:

Health Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the law about the national health service; make provision in relation to arrangements and payments between health service bodies and local authorities with respect to health and health-related functions; make provision in relation to monitoring and improving the quality of health care in independent hospitals; confer power to regulate any professions concerned (wholly or partly) with the physical or mental health of individuals; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Health Bill [Lords].—The Health Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 77].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Health Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 77–EN].

6 Newark Writ,—The House resumed the postponed proceeding on the Motion, 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 Newark in the room of Fiona Elizabeth Ann Jones.

Question proposed.

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House do pass to the Orders of the day’, instead thereof.—(Margaret Beckett.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Clive Betts: 260.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mr Stephen Day: 97.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House do pass to the Orders of the day.

7 Adjournment (Stephen Lawrence Inquiry).,—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, pursuant to the Standing Order.
8 Education and Employment.—Ordered, That Mr Don Foster be discharged from the Education and Employment Committee and Mr Phil Willis be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—
   (1) Aylesbury,
   (2) Daventry, and
   (3) Ludlow
against hunting with dogs were 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 Mike Hall);

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 twenty-nine minutes to Eleven o'clock, till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law.—National Assembly for Wales (First Meeting) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 944), dated 17th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

2 Environmental Protection.—United Kingdom Ecolabelling Board (Abolition) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 931), dated 22nd March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Housing.—Social Landlords (Additional Purposes or Objects) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 985), dated 25th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 992), dated 26th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 National Debt.—Draft Government Stock (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

6 Social Security.—(1) Distraint by Authorised Officers (Fees, Costs and Charges) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 980), and
   (2) Social Security Contributions, etc. (Decisions and Appeals—Transitional Modifications) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 978), dated 25th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7 Broadcasting.—Report and Accounts of the Independent Television Commission for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

   (1) Chancellor of the Exchequer’s Departments: HM Treasury, National Savings, Registry of Friendly Societies, National Investment and Loans Office, Office for National Statistics, Government Actuary’s Department and Financial Transactions with European Community Institutions [by Command] [Cm. 4218] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer]; and
   (2) Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Office of the National Lottery (OFLOT) [by Command] [Cm. 4213] [Mr Secretary Smith].

9 Government Annuities.—Account of Government Annuities and Insurances for 1998 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

10 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute, dated 29th March 1999, concerning a further financial objective desirable of achievement by the Ordnance Survey Trading Fund for the period 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Alan Milburn].


[Adjourned at 10.31 p.m.]
12 London Regional Transport,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 29th March 1999 in respect of temporary borrowing by London Regional Transport from Midland Bank plc [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

13 National Health Service,—(1) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 24th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre National Health Service Trust; and

(2) Statements of Guarantees given by the Secretary of State for Health on 25th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(i) The Epsom and St Helier, and

(ii) Weston Area Health

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


15 Training and Enterprise Councils,—Accounts of the Training and Enterprise Councils in Wales for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 360] [Mr Secretary Michael].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 491):

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations, in place of Mr Frank Cook; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Malcolm Chisholm and Mr Jim Murphy from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Rosemary McKenna and Rachel Squire.

[No. 65.]

Tuesday 30th March 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 University College London Bill,—The University College London Bill was read the third time, and passed.

2 Greater London Authority Bill,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Greater London Authority Bill (except Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 and Schedules Nos. 1 and 2), and made Amendments thereto. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 79].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 364]

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 491).

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

4 Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill be printed [Bill 17–EN].

5 Sexual Offences (Anonymity of Defendants),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the anonymity of teachers, etc. accused of sexual offences against children in relation to whom they are in a position of trust; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Nick St. Aubyn, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr John Bercow, Dr Phyllis Starkey and Mr Tim Loughton do prepare and bring it in.
6 Sexual Offences (Anonymity of Defendants) Bill.—Mr Crispin Blunt accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the anonymity of teachers, etc. accused of sexual offences against children in relation to whom they are in a position of trust; and for connected purposes. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th April and to be printed [Bill 78].

7 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 National Minimum Wage (Offshore Employment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

8 Deliberate Release into the Environment of Genetically Modified Organisms.—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 Union Document No. 6378/98, relating to a draft Directive amending Directive 90/220/EEC on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms, and endorses the Government’s approach in the negotiations—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

9 Employment Relations Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Employment Relations Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

  A Clause (Compensatory award etc: removal of limit in certain cases)—(Mr Secretary Byers)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

  A Clause (Small employers’ exemption)—(Mr John Redwood)—brought up and read the first time.

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

  The House divided.

  Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 131.

  Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 348.

  Another Clause (Codes of good employment practice)—(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 (Discrimination in the work-place on grounds of age)—(Mr David Chidgey)—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 Brian Cotter, Sir Robert Smith: 29.

  Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mrs Anne McGuire: 318.

  And 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 Employment Relations Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

11 Employment Relations Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Employment Relations Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

  Another Clause (Discrimination in the work-place on grounds of sexual orientation)—(Mr David Chidgey)—brought up and read the first time.

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

  The House divided.

  Tellers for the Ayes, Dr Evan Harris, Sir Robert Smith: 28.

  Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 313.

  Another Clause (Strikes to achieve collective bargaining rights not protected from legal action)—(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 (Assessment of working days lost as a result of Act)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—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 Tim Collins, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 123.

Tellers for the Noes: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Hanson: 320.

Another Clause (Duty to avoid conflicts of interest in employment)—(Mr Graham Brady)—brought up and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 11) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 19, to leave out the word ‘compilation’ and insert the word ‘use’, instead thereof.—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

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

Wednesday 31st March 1999

Amendment (No. 51) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 40) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 38, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(1A) This section shall not apply to an employer who shows that to comply with it would conflict with his religious beliefs’.—(Mr Graham Brady.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 44) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 6, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(d) is to be permitted to speak only on matters which are directly relevant to the subject of the hearing’.—(Mr Graham Brady.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 166, 53 to 55, 57 and 58) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

Bill to be further considered this day.

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 rural public passenger transport for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 283), which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

13 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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 45) (Metropolitan Railway Passenger Services Grant 1999–2000) (House of Commons Paper No. 305), which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

14 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. 329), which was laid before this House on 18th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

15 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 Limit in Relation to Licences to Provide Radio Multiplex Services Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 8th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

16 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 Traffic Areas (Reorganisation) (Wales) Order 1999, dated 9th March 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

17 Prisons.—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 (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.
18 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 Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 523), dated 3rd March 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

19 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 (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Code of Practice) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 8th March, be approved—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

20 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—

(1) Bracknell,
(2) Eddisbury, and
(3) Teignbridge

against hunting with dogs were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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

[Adjourned at 12.54 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Companies,—Draft Local Authority (Stocks and Bonds) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].


3 Road Traffic,—Draft Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 County Courts,—(1) Contracting Out of Functions (Court Staff) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1013), dated 30th March 1999,


(3) High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1014), dated 30th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

5 Education,—Education (Inspection of Vocational Training) (Prescribed Persons and Bodies Awarding or Authenticating Vocational Qualifications) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 963), dated 24th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

6 Environmental Protection,—Highway Litter Clearance and Cleaning (Transfer of Responsibility) (North West Leicestershire and South Derbyshire) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1007), dated 26th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


10 Highways,—(1) Highways (Road Humps) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1025), and
(2) Highways (Traffic Calming) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1026),
dated 30th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 Income Tax,—Personal Portfolio Bonds (Tax) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1029), dated
30th March 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

12 National Health Service,—Health Authorities (England) Establishment Order 1996
Amendment and the Cambridgeshire and Norfolk Health Authorities (Establishment etc.) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1024), dated 30th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

13 Roads and Bridges (Scotland),—Road Humps and Traffic Calming (Scotland) Amendment
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1000), dated 16th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

14 Social Security,—(1) Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 975), dated 25th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling]; and
(2) Social Security Contributions (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999,
No. 1027), dated 30th March 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

15 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—(1) Civil Procedure (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I.,
1999, No. 1008), dated 25th March 1999,
(2) Court Funds (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1021), dated 29th March
1999, and
(3) Non-Contentious Probate (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1015), dated
25th March 1999
[by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

16 Water Resources,—Anti-Pollution Works Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1006), dated
30th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

17 Criminal Procedure (Scotland),—Paper, entitled Costs, Sentencing Profiles and the Scottish
Criminal Justice System, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

18 Financial Reporting to Parliament,—Departmental Reports for 1999: the Government’s
expenditure plans 1999–2000 to 2001–02.—
(1) Department for International Development [by Command] [Cm. 4210] [Secretary
Clare Short];
(2) Departments of the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Forestry Commission
[by Command] [Cm. 4213] [Mr Secretary Dewar];
(3) Department of Social Security [by Command] [Cm. 4214] [Mr Secretary Darling];
(4) Department of Trade and Industry, Export Credits Guarantee Department, Office
of Fair Trading, Office of Telecommunications, Office of Gas Supply and Office of
Electricity Regulation [by Command] [Cm. 4211] [Mr Secretary Byers];
(5) HM Customs and Excise [by Command] [Cm. 4219] [Dawn Primarolo];
(6) Inland Revenue [by Command] [Cm. 4220] [Dawn Primarolo];
(7) Lord Chancellor’s Departments: Lord Chancellor’s Department, Northern
Ireland Court Service, Public Record Office and HM Land Registry [by Command] [Cm. 4206] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon];
(8) Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 4217] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam]; and
(9) Welsh Office and the Office of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales
[by Command] [Cm. 4216] [Mr Secretary Michael].

19 Library and Information Commission,—Report and Financial Statements of the Library and
Information Commission for 1997–98: Year 3 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

20 Modernising Government,—Paper, entitled Modernising Government [by Command] [Cm.
4310] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

21 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Fourth Report from the Committee of Public
Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4312] [Mrs Barbara Roche].
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix II: Reports from Select Committees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Agriculture.—(1) Fourth Report from the Agriculture Committee [The UK Pig Industry: The Government’s Response], together with an Appendix [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, on The UK Pig Industry]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 367]; and (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis] [Mr Peter Luff].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Deregulation.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Deregulation Committee [Reform of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994]; to be printed [No. 324-ii] [Mr Peter L. Pike].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee on 29th and 30th March [Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [Nos. 159-vi and -vii] [Mr John Horam].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 European Scrutiny.—Fifteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xx] [Mr Jimmy Hood].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Financial Services and Markets.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-v] [Mr Barry Sheerman].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Second Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Premature Disclosure of First and Third Reports of Session 1998–99], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 365]; and (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Gibraltar]; to be printed [No. 366-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the UK Anti-Drugs Coordinator/Drugs and Prisons]; to be printed [No. 363-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Women and Development]; to be printed [No. 160-vi] [Mr Bowen Wells].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Parliamentary Privilege.—Report from the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee in Session 1997–98 and Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee [Nos. 214-I, II and III] [Mrs Ann Taylor].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Procedure.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 185-vi] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Standards and Privileges.—Fifth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Geoffrey Robinson (No. 2)], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 362] [Mr Robert Sheldon].</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13 Statutory Instruments.—Fourteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

14 Treasury.—(1) Fourth Report from the Treasury Committee [The 1999 Budget], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 325]; and (2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [The 1999 Budget] [Mr Giles Radice].

15 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Health Issues in Wales]; to be printed [No. 343-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 66.]

Wednesday 31st March 1999.

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 Mike Hall);

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

2 Licensing (Young Persons) Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Licensing (Young Persons) Bill be printed [Bill 19–EN].

3 Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for women requiring hormone replacement therapy to pay a single prescription charge for both single and cyclical hormones, regardless of the preparation they are taking. And that Dr Howard Stoate, Christine Russell, Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West), Mr Stephen Pound, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Dr Evan Harris and John Austin do prepare and bring it in.

4 Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy) Bill.—Dr Howard Stoate accordingly presented a Bill to provide for women requiring hormone replacement therapy to pay a single prescription charge for both single and cyclical hormones, regardless of the preparation they are taking. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 80].

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 (Buildings and Land) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 593), dated 9th March 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 9th March, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

6 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 (Finance) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 594), dated 9th March 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 9th March, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

7 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 (Incacity, Earnings and Work Trials) Pilot Schemes Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 10th March, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

8 Employment Relations Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Employment Relations Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.
Another Amendment (No. 59) proposed to the Bill, in page 14, to leave out from the beginning of line 10 to the end of line 40 on page 15, and to insert the words—

‘. Schedule (Employment Agencies) shall have effect.’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Byers.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Hall: 319.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Tim Collins: 127.

A Schedule (Ballots and notices)—(Mr Secretary Byers)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Schedule (Employment Agencies)—(Mr Secretary Byers)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 46) proposed to the Bill, in page 19, line 25, to leave out from the second word ‘to’ to the end of line 26, and to insert the words ‘the matters listed in section 178(2)(a).’, instead thereof.—(Mr Graham Brady.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 66) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 20, line 35, to leave out the word ‘10’ and to insert the word ‘15’, instead thereof.—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 23, line 48, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(c) the proposed recognition of the union or unions would contribute to good industrial relations.’.—(Mr Tim Boswell.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 71 and 72) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 37) proposed to the Bill, in page 27, line 17, to leave out from the word ‘voting’ to the end of line 18.—(Mr Andrew Welsh.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Dennis Canavan, Mr Andrew Welsh: 1.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mrs Anne McGuire: 301.

Other Amendments (Nos. 152, 167, 168, 73 to 75, 67, 76 to 82, 133 to 149, 69, 70, 83, 68, 84 to 111, 165, 112 to 121, 150, 151, 122 to 132, 153, 169 to 176, 154 to 157, 164, 158 to 160, 60, 62, 61, 63, 161 to 163, 52, 64, 56 and 65) 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 Hanson, Mrs Anne McGuire: 328.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 124.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

9 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 (Implementation of Protocol No. 4 of Montreal, 1975) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th March, be approved.—(Mr Mike Hall.)—It was agreed to.

10 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 (Applications of Provisions) (Fifth Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th March, be approved.—(Mr Mike Hall.)—It was agreed to.
11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of or living near to Trecwn in the constituency of Preseli Pembrokeshire against the storage of nuclear waste at the former RNAD Trecwn site was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—

(1) North East Fife, and
(2) Westbury
against hunting with dogs were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-four minutes past Eleven o’clock, adjourned till Tuesday 13th April, pursuant to Resolution [12th March].

Adjourned at 11.24 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table.

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Energy Conservation,—Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1018), dated 25th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Environmental Protection,—(1) Non-Road Mobile Machinery (Emission of Gaseous and Particulate Pollutants) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1053), dated 28th March 1999, and
(2) Non-Road Mobile Machinery (Type Approval) (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1054), dated 29th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

4 Highways,—(1) Street Works Register (Registration Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1048), and

5 Insolvency,—(1) Insolvency (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1022), and
(2) Insolvent Companies (Disqualification of Unfit Directors) Proceedings (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1023), dated 29th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

6 Medicines,—Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1044), dated 30th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

7 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Right to Time Off for Study or Training Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 986), dated 24th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Town and Country Planning,—Planning (Control of Major-Accident Hazards) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 981), dated 24th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

9 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minutes, dated 31st March 1999, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of—

(1) sums appropriated from the Scottish Consolidated Fund for the year ending on 31st March 2000 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Alan Milburn], and
(2) the votes specified in the Estimates for 1999–2000 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

10 Comprehensive Spending Review,—Paper, entitled Public Services for the Future—Modernisation, Reform, Accountability: Comprehensive Spending Review Public Service Agreements 1999–2002, March 1999 Supplement [by Command] [Cm. 4315] [Mr Alan Milburn].
11  Environment, Transport and the Regions.—Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Regional Eurostar Services [by Command] [Cm. 4314] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

12  Financial Reporting to Parliament.—Departmental Report for 1999: the Government’s expenditure plans 1999–2000 to 2001–02 for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office [by Command] [Cm. 4209] [Mr Secretary Cook].

13  Low Pay Commission.—Paper, entitled The National Minimum Wage Accommodation Offset: A Review by the Low Pay Commission [by Command] [Cm. 4321] [Mr Secretary Byers].

14  Miscellaneous (No. 21, 1999).—Protocol, done at Vienna on 22nd September 1998, additional to the Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the European Atomic Energy Community and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4282] [Mr Secretary Cook].

15  National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Private Finance Initiative: The Contract to Complete and Operate the A74(M)/M74 Motorway in Scotland [by Act]; to be printed [No. 356] [Clerk of the House].

16  Public Expenditure.—Paper, entitled Public Expenditure: Statistical Analyses 1999–2000 [by Command] [Cm. 4201] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

17  Rating.—Report of the Committee chaired by Mr Derek Wood CBE QC on the rating of plant and machinery in industries currently subject to prescribed assessment [by Command] [Cm. 4283] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

18  Reserve Forces.—Report, dated 31st March 1999, 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  Senior Salaries.—Reports of the Review Body on Senior Salaries:—

   (1) Forty-second: Initial pay, allowances, pensions and severance arrangements for Members of the Scottish Parliament, National Assembly for Wales and the Northern Ireland Assembly; and

   (2) Forty-third: Devolution: Salaries for Ministers and Office-holders and office support for Members [by Command] [Cmns. 4188 and 4246] [The Prime Minister].

20  Social Services (Wales),—Paper, entitled Social Services—Building for the Future: A White Paper for Wales [by Command] [Cm. 4051] [Mr Secretary Michael].

21  Supply Estimates, 1999–2000.—(1) Estimates (Classes I–XVIII) for 1999–2000 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 336] [Ms Barbara Roche];

   (2) Estimates (Class XVIII, A, House of Commons) for 1999–2000 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 337] [The Speaker];

   (3) Estimates (Class XVIII, B, Vote 1; National Audit Office) for 1999–2000 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 338] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees:

1  Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton an additional Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

2  Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.


   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Reports to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: John Austin, Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr David Clelland, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Phil Hope, Mr John Hutton, Mr Ivan Lewis, Sir David Madel, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Desmond Swayne and Ms Claire Ward.

Draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second 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 A. J. Beith, Mr James Clappison, Mr Keith Darvill, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Andrew Dismore, Jim Fitzpatrick, Barbara Follett, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Mike Hall, Mr John Healey, Mr George Howarth, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr Adrian Sanders and Ms Gisela Stuart.

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Shona McIsaac, Mr Michael Mates, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Owen Paterson, Rachel Squire, Ms Dari Taylor, Dr Desmond Turner, Mr Alan W. Williams and Mr Phil Willis.

Draft of Alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Draft of Alterations to the Fourth 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.: Mr Paul Boateng, Mrs Helen Brinton, Ms Karen Buck, Mr John Burnett, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Stephen Day, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr John Greenway, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Ken Livingstone, Sir Peter Lloyd, Bob Russell, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Ian Stewart and Ms Gisela Stuart.

European Standing Committees:
7 European Standing Committee C.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Swinney from European Standing Committee C, and nominated in substitution Dr Evan Harris.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees:
1 Defence.—Third Report from the Defence Committee [The Future of NATO: The Washington Summit], 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. 39] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Ninth Report from the Committee [Integrated Transport White Paper], 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 [Nos. 32-I and -II];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [Nos. 171-iv and -II]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee on 30th March [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-II] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and
(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Aviation Safety]; to be printed [No. 275-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Cortecs plc]; to be printed [No. 332-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

4 Scottish Affairs.—Second Special Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Committee Membership]; to be printed [No. 368] [Mr David Marshall].
Tuesday 13th April 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a
   Bill to make further provision about the registration of births and deaths where
   particulars are given in Welsh as well as English and to make new provision about
   certificates of particulars of entries in registers of births and deaths; to which they desire
   the concurrence of this House.

2 Pensions (Amendment) Bill.—The Order for reading the Pensions (Amendment) Bill a second
   time on Friday 16th April was read and discharged.
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April.

3 Community Protection (Landfill),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reduce
   landfill disposal of municipal and special wastes and to control the location of landfill
   sites; to require the assessment of the impact of proposed landfill sites on public health,
   the local economy and the environment; and for connected purposes: And that David
   Taylor, Mr Tony Benn, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Jim Cunningham,
   Mr Phil Hope, Judy Mallaber, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Alan Simpson,
   Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Mark Todd do prepare and bring it in.

4 Community Protection (Landfill) Bill,—David Taylor accordingly presented a Bill to reduce
   landfill disposal of municipal and special wastes and to control the location of landfill
   sites; to require the assessment of the impact of proposed landfill sites on public health,
   the local economy and the environment; and for connected purposes: And the same was
   read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be
   printed [Bill 81].

5 Health Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Health
   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 Health Bill [Lords] because it removes choice from both patients and healthcare
   professionals over appropriate treatment; it removes the highly successful and popular
   option of fund-holding for family doctors; it imposes unnecessary and expensive
   bureaucracy and creates further upheaval in the Health Service, which is already under
   considerable strain; it undermines the competitiveness of the British pharmaceutical
   industry; and it centralises power in the hands of the Secretary of State, giving him
   arbitrary authority over the running of the Health Service without sufficient reference to
   Parliament’, instead thereof.—(Miss Ann Widdecombe.)
   And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 127.
   Tellers for the Noes, Jim Dowd, Mr Clive Betts: 368.
   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, Jim Dowd, Mr Clive Betts: 333.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 134.
   So the Question was agreed to.
   The Bill was accordingly read a second time and stood committed to a Standing
   Committee.

6 Health Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the
   proposed Motion relating to Health 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 Health Bill [Lords], it is
   expedient to authorise—
(a) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (i) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown under the Act,
   (ii) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so
       provided under any other enactment,
(b) the conversion into public dividend capital of any amount outstanding by way of
initial loan forming part of an NHS trust’s originating capital debt—(Mr Keith Hill):
It was agreed to.

7 Health 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
Health Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the imposition of charges in respect of
expenditure incurred by the Commission for Health Improvement—(Mr Keith Hill):
It was agreed to.

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Ilford North
against hunting with dogs was presented; 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—(Mr Keith Hill);
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 four minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-
morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.56 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 Monopolies and Mergers.—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the
proposed merger of British Sky Broadcasting Group plc and Manchester United PLC
[Cm. 4305] [Mr Secretary Byers].

2 Treaty Series (No. 17, 1999).—Fourth supplementary list of ratifications, accessions,
withdrawals, etc., for 1998 [Cm. 4297] [Mr Secretary Cook].

3 Treaty Series (No. 19, 1999).—Agreement, done at Colombo on 22nd April 1998, between
the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka concerning Air Services
[Cm. 4319] [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:

1st April 1999

4 Education.—School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Admissions and Standard
Numbers) (Modification) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1064), dated 30th March
1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Education (Scotland).—(1) Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations
1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1059), and
   (2) St. Mary’s Music School (Aided Places) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999,
No. 1060),
dated 23rd March 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

6 National Health Service (Scotland).—National Health Service (General Medical Services)
(Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1057), dated 29th
March 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7 Road Traffic.—A720 (Edinburgh City Bypass) Special Road (Prohibition of Traffic On Hard
Shoulders) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1061), dated 26th March 1999 [Mr
Secretary Dewar].

8 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Right to Time Off for Study or Training (Scotland)
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1058), dated 29th March 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].
6th April 1999

[Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Housing (Scotland).—Registered Housing Associations (Accounting Requirements) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1072), dated 26th March 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

11 Police.—(1) Police (Conduct) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1073), and
(2) Police (Conduct) (Senior Officers) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1074),
dated 24th March 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

7th April 1999


13 Education (Scotland).—Education (Lower Primary Class Sizes) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1080), dated 31st March 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].


8th April 1999

15 Constitutional Law.—National Assembly for Wales (Assembly Members) (Salaries) (Limitation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1083), dated 6th April 1999 [Mr Secretary Michael].

16 Plant Breeders' Rights.—Plant Breeders' Rights (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1089), dated 8th April 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

17 Seeds.—Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1090), dated 8th April 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

9th April 1999

18 Agriculture.—Bovines and Bovine Products (Trade) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1103), dated 8th April 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

19 Local Government.—(1) Local Authorities (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1084), dated 1st April 1999 [Mr Secretary Michael]; and
(2) Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1087), dated 1st April 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

20 Patents.—(1) Patents (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1092), dated 30th March 1999, and
(2) Patents (Fees) (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1093), dated 31st March 1999
[Mr Secretary Byers].

21 Sex Discrimination.—Sex Discrimination (Gender Reassignment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1102), dated 25th March 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

12th April 1999

22 Agriculture.—Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1109), dated 8th April 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].


[Mr Secretary Dewar].

24 Legal Aid and Advice,—Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.1113), dated 31st March 1999 [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

25 River (Scotland),—District Salmon Fishery Boards Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1111), dated 9th April 1999 [Mr Secretary Dewar].

26 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of East Sussex) (Borough of Hastings) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1112), dated 10th April 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6th April 1999


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Tuesday 13th April 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

28 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Draft Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

29 Representation of the People,—Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

30 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffre Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

31 Constitutional Law,—(1) Transfer of Property etc. (Lord Advocate) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1103),

(2) Transfer of Property etc. (Scottish Ministers) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1104), and

(3) Transfer of Property etc. (Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1106), dated 10th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

32 Education,—Education (Nursery Education and Early Years Development) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1099), dated 8th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

33 Education (Scotland),—Students' Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1131), dated 12th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

34 Financial Services,—Public Offers of Securities (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1146), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].


36 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) Health Boards (Membership and Procedure) (No. 2) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1132), and

(2) National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1133), dated 9th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

37 Prisons,—Parole Board (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1116), dated 8th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].
38 School Standards and Framework,—Welsh Office: Draft Code of Practice on LEA-School Relations [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

39 Sea Fisheries,—Fish Producers’ Organisations (Formation Grants) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1110), dated 12th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

**Other Papers:**

40 Comprehensive Spending Review,—Paper, entitled Public Services for the Future—Modernisation, Reform, Accountability. Departmental Investment Strategies: A Summary [by Command] [Cm. 4324] [Mr Alan Milburn].

41 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Deregulation (New Year Licensing) Order 1999, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

42 Education,—Financial Statements of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority for the period 1st October 1997 to 31st March 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 375] [Clerk of the House].

43 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Sierra Leone [by Command] [Cm. 4325] [Mr Secretary Cook].

44 Housing,—Report and Accounts of North Hull Housing Action Trust for the period 1st January 1999 to 28th February 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

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

   (1) HM Customs and Excise: The Red Channel, and

   (2) Investigation of alleged irregularities at Halton College [by Act], to be printed [Nos. 358 and 357] [Clerk of the House].

46 National Health Service,—(1) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 29th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Hastings & Rother National Health Service Trust;

   (2) Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 30th March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

   (i) Essex Ambulance Services,

   (ii) Essex Ambulance Services,

   (iii) Local Health Partnerships, and

   (iv) Scunthorpe Community Health,

   (3) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 31st March 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Norfolk Mental Health Care National Health Service Trust; and

   (4) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 8th April 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Avon & Western Wiltshire Mental Health Care National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

47 Prisons,—Report of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales for the period December 1997 to November 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 369][Mr Secretary Straw].

**APPENDIX II**

**Standing Committees**

Draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Keith Darvill and Mr Andrew Dismore from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and

**APPENDIX III**

**Reports from Select Committees**

1 Financial Services and Markets,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-vi] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Transcaucasia and Central Asia]; to be printed [No. 349-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].
3 International Development,—Second Report from the International Development Committee [The Provisions of the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords]]; 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. 212] [Mr Bowen Wells].

4 Procedure,—(1) Second Report from the Procedure Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution: Second Interim Report]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 376]; and (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 185-vii] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

5 Standards and Privileges,—Sixth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mr Edward Leigh], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 374] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

[No. 68.]

Wednesday 14th April 1999.

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—(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 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill,—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 14th May; and to be printed [Bill 83].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 381].

3 Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 21st May.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 379].

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 1999.

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

5 Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill [Lords],—The Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill [Lords] was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th May and to be printed [Bill 84].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 84–EN].

6 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill be printed [Bill 18–EN].

7 Cancer Care,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about cancer services in the United Kingdom; to make provision for monitoring and improving the quality of cancer treatment and care provided by the National Health Service; to require the Secretary of State to undertake a new review and report on cancer services in the United Kingdom; and to provide for making such information available to the general public: And that Mr Paul Marsden, Dr Evan Harris, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Kevin Barron and Dr Doug Naysmith do prepare and bring it in.

8 Cancer Care Bill,—Mr Paul Marsden accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about cancer services in the United Kingdom; to make provision for monitoring and improving the quality of cancer treatment and care provided by the National Health Service; to require the Secretary of State to undertake a new review and report on cancer services in
Access to Justice Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Justice 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 the Access to Justice Bill [Lords] a Second Reading because it is likely to reduce access to justice as a result of removing legal aid in civil cases and is likely to increase the costs of litigation as a result of a per cent. uplift in fees under conditional fee arrangements, because the Bill contains no detailed costings or description of the proposed functions of the Legal Services Commission and imposes no statutory restrictions on the ambit of the Criminal Defence Service or the extent to which the Crown Prosecution Service can appear in the Crown Courts, because a system of wholly state-employed prosecutors and defenders creates the danger of miscarriages of justice, and because the Bill grants to the Lord Chancellor constitutionally unprecedented powers unilaterally to alter the rules of the independent legal profession’, instead thereof.—(Mr Edward Garnier.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 159.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 338.

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, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Jamieson: 335.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Oliver Heald: 156.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Access to Justice Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Access to Justice 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 Access to Justice Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown under the Act, and
   (b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of such money under any other Act; and
(2) the charging on, and payment out of, the Consolidated Fund of the salaries of District Judges (Magistrates’ Courts)—(Mr Keith Hill).—It was agreed to.

Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill [Money] (No. 2).—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill [Money] (No. 2);

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise the remission of amounts recoverable under or by virtue of Part III of the Social Security Administration Act 1992—(Mr Keith Hill);

And it being three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills).—It was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise the remission of amounts recoverable under or by virtue of Part III of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.

Medicines.—Ordered, That the Medicines (Advertising and Monitoring of Advertising) Amendment Regulations 1999 be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)
13 Education,—Ordered, That the draft Code of Practice on School Admissions be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Tiverton and Honiton against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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 Twelve o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.42 p.m.

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—Draft Aeroplane Noise Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Devolution (Wales),—National Assembly for Wales (Oath of Allegiance in Welsh) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1101), dated 6th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

3 Industrial Development,—Northern Ireland Science Park Foundation Limited (Funding) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 155), dated 26th March 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 Merchant Shipping,—Consular Relations (Merchant Shipping) (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (Revocation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1124), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Water Industry,—Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1148), dated 1st April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 European Communities (No. 1, 1999),—Convention, done at Brussels on 28th May 1998, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, on Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgements in Matrimonial Matters, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4187] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 European Communities (No. 2, 1999),—Protocol, done at Brussels on 28th May 1998, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, on the interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgements in Matrimonial Matters, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4186] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Health,—Government Response to the First Report from the Health Committee, Session 1998–99, on the Relationship between Health and Social Services [by Command] [Cm. 4320] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the Apple and Pear Research Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

10 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 12th April 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the South Buckinghamshire National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Health Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr Joe Benton Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-four Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Amess, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Martin Caton, Mr David Clelland, Mr Stephen Day, Mr John Denham, Mr Michael Fabricant, Maria Fyfe, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr John Hutton, Helen Jones, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Paul Marsden, Laura
Moffatt, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr John Randall, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Paul Truswell and Miss Ann Widdecombe.

2 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 42) on the Promoting Independence: Partnership Grant for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 301), the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 43) on the Promoting Independence: Prevention Grant for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 302), and the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 44) on the Promoting Independence: Carers Grant for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 303).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Evan Harris from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Reports); and nominated in substitution Mr Paul Keetch.

3 Draft General Teaching Council for Wales (Constitution) Regulations 1999 and the draft General Teaching Council for England (Constitution) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Nick Ainger from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Martin Caton.

4 Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Bercow, Mr John Burnett, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Keith Darvill, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Elyn Llwyd, Mr David Lock, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr John McDonnell, Miss Anne McIntosh, Ms Linda Perham, Mr John M. Taylor and Audrey Wise.

5 Draft Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Amendment) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth 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 Graham Allen, Norman Baker, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr Stephen Hepburn, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr John Smith, Helen Southworth, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Andrew Tyrie, Mr Peter Viggers and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

6 Draft Local Authority (Stocks and Bonds) (Amendment) Regulations 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr John Cummings, Mr Edward Davey, Mr David Drew, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Oliver Heald, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr David Kidney, Mr Tom Levitt, Miss Geraldine Smith, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr William Thompson, Mr David Tredinnick and Mr Stephen Twigg.

European Standing Committees

7 The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 8582/97, relating to Air Transport Competition Rules.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, Millennium Compliance in the Transport Industry], to be printed [No. 383];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Climate Change Programme], to be printed [No. 171-v] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Aviation Safety], to be printed [No. 275-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

2 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Kosovo], to be printed [No. 188-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Road Fuel Price Differentials], to be printed [No. 334-iii] [Mr Peter Brooke].
4 Public Accounts.—(1) Eleventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Northern Ireland Health and Personal Social Services: Controls to Prevent and Detect Fraud in Family Practitioner Service Payments]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 123].

(2) Twelfth Report from the Committee [OFFER: Improving Energy Efficiency Financed by a Charge on Customers]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 174].

(3) Thirteenth Report from the Committee [The Final Accounts of Chessington Computer Centre, Recruitment and Assessment Services and the Occupational Health and Safety Agency]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 231]; and

(4) Fourteenth Report from the Committee [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: Grants to Voluntary Bodies]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 158]

[Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-v] [Dr Michael Clark].

6 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [War Pensions Agency]; to be printed [No. 377-q] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

7 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Trading, Trade Marks and Competition]; to be printed [No. 380-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

8 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Public Service Agreements]; to be printed [No. 378-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 69.]

Thursday 15th April 1999.

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

PRAYERS.


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

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft General Teaching Council for Wales (Constitution) Regulations 1999, and the draft General Teaching Council for England (Constitution) Regulations 1999.

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

3 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence 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 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown under the Act, and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.
5 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 European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 24th March, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Normanton against hunting with dogs was presented; 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 Greg Pope);
And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Jamieson.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eleven Minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.11 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Defence,—(1) Draft International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designation and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, and
(2) draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1999
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Environmental Protection,—Environment Act 1995 (Consequential Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1108), dated 9th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Road Traffic,—Motorways Traffic (M621 Motorway) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1077), dated 1st April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Welsh Language,—Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1100), dated 8th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Other Papers:

5 Commonwealth Scholarship,—Report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom for the year ending 30th September 1998 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Sale of CINMan by British Coal [by Act], to be printed [No. 359] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.


3 Draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Charlotte Atkins from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Draft Order); and nominated in substitution Dr Desmond Turner.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Responses by the Government and The Heritage Lottery Fund to the First Report from the Committee on the Heritage Lottery Fund]; to be printed [No. 386];
   (2) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on the Preservation of HMS Cavalier]; to be printed [No. 387]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-vii]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2. Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Genetically Modified Organisms and the Environment]; to be printed [No. 384-i] [Mr John Horam].

3. Financial Services and Markets,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 328-vii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4. Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Regulation of Private and Other Independent Healthcare]; to be printed [No. 281-iv] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5. Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 199-v] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 70.]

Friday 16th April 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1. Energy Saving Materials (VAT Relief) Bill,—Ordered, That the Energy Saving Materials (VAT Relief) Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

2. Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Hull North against hunting with dogs was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

3. Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill,—The Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4. Licensing (Young Persons) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Licensing (Young Persons) 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 7th May.

5. Military Action Against Iraq (Parliamentary Approval) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Military Action Against Iraq (Parliamentary Approval) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

6. Fuel Safety Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Fuel Safety Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th April.

7. Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd April.

8. Age Limits on Health Care Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

9. 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 14th May.
10 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 23rd July.

11 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 23rd April.

12 Sexual Offences (Anonymity of Defendants) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Sexual Offences (Anonymity of Defendants) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

13 Deregulation.—Ordered, That Mr Gordon Marsden and Mr Ivan Lewis be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Mr Brian White and Dr Ashok Kumar be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

14 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Ordered, That Dr Phyllis Starkey be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Lorna Fitzsimons be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

15 Procedure.—Ordered, That Mr Paul Stinchcombe be discharged from the Procedure Committee and Mr Nigel Griffiths be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

16 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 19th April.

[Adjourned at 3.02 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture.—Beef Special Premium (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1179), dated 15th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

2 Education.—Education (School Performance Information) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1178), dated 15th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Social Security.—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1153), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 European Communities (No. 4, 1999).—Convention, done at Brussels on 26th May 1997, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3(2)(c) of the Treaty on European Union, on the Fight Against Corruption Involving Officials of the European Communities or Officials of Member States of the European Union, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4266] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 European Communities (No. 5, 1999).—Convention, done at Brussels on 26th July 1995, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, on the Protection of the European Communities’ Financial Interests [by Command] [Cm. 4302] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 European Communities (No. 6, 1999).—Protocol, done at Dublin on 27th September 1996, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, to the Convention on the Protection of the European Communities’ Financial Interests [by Command] [Cm. 4303] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 European Communities (No. 7, 1999).—Second Protocol, done at Brussels on 19th June 1997, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, to the Convention on the Protection of the European Communities’ Financial Interests, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4267] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 European Communities (No. 8, 1999).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 29th November 1996, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, on the interpretation, by way of preliminary rulings, by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on the Protection of the European Communities’ Financial Interests, with Declaration [by Command] [Cm. 4304] [Mr Secretary Cook].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 HFC Bank Bill,—The House proceeded to consider the HFC Bank Bill, as amended in the Committee.

   Bill to be read the third time.

2 Vacation of Seat (Newark),—The Speaker made a statement, as follows:

   The House will recall that on 22nd March, following the conviction of the honourable Member for Newark in the Crown Court on a charge of making a false declaration as to election expenses, I stated that the seat had been vacated in accordance with law.

   The House will also be aware that the Court of Appeal has since quashed that conviction. The Court of Appeal, however, considered that it had no jurisdiction to go on to rule on whether or not the honourable Lady recovers her seat following the success of her appeal.

   This is an unprecedented situation. On the one hand, there are considerations of natural justice. The conviction has been quashed: should not the vacancy also be overturned? On the other hand, whatever the outcome of the appeal, it is the interpretation of the Representation of the People Act 1983 which is crucial.

   It is for the courts, not for the House, to interpret the law. I have therefore asked the Attorney General, on behalf of the House, to seek an authoritative declaration from the High Court on the true construction of the 1983 Act. The Court will be invited to make a declaration that, following the decision of the Court of Appeal to quash her conviction, Fiona Jones is entitled to resume her seat.

   I understand that the application is being made today. I hope very much that it may be disposed of as speedily as is consistent with fairness and with certainty.

   May I add in the interests of Members in all parts of the House that, once this matter has been resolved, I think it would be desirable for this part of our statute law to be reviewed, to see whether it cannot be expressed more clearly, so as to avoid this kind of situation in future.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments) Order 1999.

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

4 Adjournment (Kosovo) (No. 2),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

   Mr Tam Dalyell 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 Bill Michie, Mr John McDonnell: 11.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Jamieson: 0.

   And it appearing on the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Speaker declared that the Question was not decided in the Affirmative.

5 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Harrow East against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 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 Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-two minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.38 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Housing,—Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1135), dated 12th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1063), dated 30th March 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 Deregulation,—Proposal under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 by the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Housing,—Account of Grants and Loans to the Housing Action Trusts for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 388] [Clerk of the House].

5 Law Commission,—Report of the Law Commission on Damages for Personal Injury: Non-Pecuniary Loss [by Act]; to be printed [No. 344] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Local Authority (Stocks and Bonds) (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Sir Michael Spicer from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr John Townend.

[No. 72.]

Tuesday 20th April 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Imperial College Bill,—A Motion being made, That the Imperial College Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Secretary Cook, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

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

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

2 Freedom of Tax Information,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Government to issue taxpayers with an annual schedule detailing the taxes they have paid compared with previous years and to require information concerning the taxable component of prices on products sold to be made available. And that Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Francis Maude, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Archie Norman, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Robert Syms, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mrs Ann Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

3 Freedom of Tax Information Bill,—Mr Tim Loughton accordingly presented a Bill to require the Government to issue taxpayers with an annual schedule detailing the taxes they have paid compared with previous years and to require information concerning the taxable component of prices on products sold to be made available. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 85].

4 Finance Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Finance Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Finance Bill because it imposes further hidden taxes on families, on homeowners, on motorists, on consumers and on business, adding extra costs to business at a time of economic uncertainty and rising unemployment and fails to reverse the damaging measures introduced by the last two Finance Acts which introduced similar damaging and hidden tax increases together with increases in the tax burden on companies and tax rises on savings and on pension funds’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 132.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Jim Dowd: 341.

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, Jim Dowd: 304.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 164.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, pursuant to Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills), That—

(1) Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99 be committed to a Committee of the whole House;
(2) the remainder of the Bill be committed to a Standing Committee;
(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 Barbara Roche);

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. 63 (Committal of bills).—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 42) on the Promoting Independence: Partnership Grant for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 301), which was laid before this House on 23rd March, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope).—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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 43) on the Promoting Independence: Prevention Grant for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 302), which was laid before this House on 23rd March, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope).—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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 44) on the Promoting Independence: Carers Grant for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 303), which was laid before this House on 23rd March, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.

8 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 General Teaching Council for Wales (Constitution) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 22nd March, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.

9 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 General Teaching Council for England (Constitution) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 22nd March, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope).—It was agreed to.
10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Greg Pope.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture.—(1) Countryside Access (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1174), dated 15th April 1999,
   (2) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Wales) Designation Orders (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1175), dated 16th April 1999, and
   (3) Land in Care Scheme (Tir Gofal) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1176), dated 15th April 1999
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Other Papers:

2 Ancient Monuments.—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No.373] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Economic Development (Northern Ireland).—Northern Ireland Office Minute, dated 20th April 1999, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification for statutory redundancy payments to Action for Community Employment (ACE) core workers [by Command] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on The PRIME project: The transfer of the Department of Social Security estate to the private sector [by Act]; to be printed [No.370] [Clerk of the House].

5 National Health Service.—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 19th April 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—
   (i) Phoenix, and
   (ii) Royal Berkshire and Battle Hospitals
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Amendment) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Peter L. Pike from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Yvette Cooper.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Administration.—First Report from the Administration Committee [Proposal to re-open the Line of Route during the Summer Adjournment]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 394] [Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Agriculture.—(1) Fifth Report from the Agriculture Committee [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis], 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. 233]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]
   [Mr Peter Luff].

3 Deregulation.—First Special Report from the Deregulation Committee [The Future of the Deregulation Procedure]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 324] [Mr Peter L. Pike].
4 Education and Employment.—(1) Third Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Highly able 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. 22]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Highly able children]

[Mr Malcolm Wicks].

5 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Genetically Modified Organisms and the Environment]; to be printed [No. 384-ii] [Mr John Horam].

6 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Gibraltar]; to be printed [No. 366-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

7 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Training and Recruitment; Delays at the Immigration and Nationality Department, and Accountability of the Security Service]; to be printed [Nos. 81-vi; 392-ii; and 291-ii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

8 International Development.—(1) First Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, on the Future of the EC Development Budget]; to be printed [No. 391]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Women and Development]; to be printed [No. 160-vii]

[Mr Bowen Wells].

9 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-v] [Ms Margaret Moran].

10 Statutory Instruments.—Fifteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xv] [Mr David Tredinnick]

11 Trade and Industry.—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government and Oftel Observations on the Fifth Report from the Committee, on Telephone Numbering]; to be printed [No. 395]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Work of the Department of Trade and Industry]; to be printed [No. 396]

[Mr Martin O'Neill].

12 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Public Service Agreements]; to be printed [No. 378-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].

13 Welsh Affairs.—Memorandum laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Spring Supplementary Estimates] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 73.]

Wednesday 21st April 1999.

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 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill.—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 87].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 398].
3 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Bowen Wells reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 8582/97, including two draft Council Regulations, one amending Regulation (EEC) No. 3975/87 laying down the procedure for the application of the rules on competition to undertakings in the air transport sector, and the other on the application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to certain categories of agreement and concerted practices in the sector of air transport between the Community and third countries; and endorses the Government’s approach not to support the Commission proposal.

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

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Draft of Alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.

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

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Amendment) Order 1999.

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

6 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Authority (Stocks and Bonds) (Amendment) Regulations 1999.

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

7 Digital Television Broadcasting.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for a universal service obligation for the delivery of certain digital television services and with respect to the delivery of regional television services; and for related purposes—(Dr George Turner);

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 Dr George Turner, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Ben Chaplin, Julia Drown, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Mr Gareth Thomas (Cwmgwyno) and Mr Phil Willis do prepare and bring in the Bill.

8 Digital Television Broadcasting Bill.—Dr George Turner accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for a universal service obligation for the delivery of certain digital television services and with respect to the delivery of regional television services; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 86].

9 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.

Taxation of the Road Haulage Industry.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s utter failure to acknowledge the crisis in the UK road haulage industry; notes that, despite promising not to raise taxes, Labour have done so in their first three Budgets, so that the Government is raising over £9 billion more from British road users than under the Conservative Government’s plans and that the UK now has the highest fuel duties and vehicle excise duties in Europe, which now far exceed any environmental justification; further notes that they have created a crippling costs disadvantage for UK hauliers against their EU competitors, are forcing the closure or bankruptcy of many UK hauliers and inflating the costs of industries that are dependent upon road haulage; deplores the way in which the Government has sought to misuse figures produced by KPMG that are of no relevance to the situation that faces UK road hauliers and notes that independent analysis forecasts that 53,000 jobs will be lost from the UK road haulage industry over the next three years if government policies remain unchanged; commends the Conservatives’ BRIT disc proposal as a first step towards reducing the competitive disadvantage faced by UK road hauliers, and urges the Government to end its complacency and refusal to listen to the road haulage industry and to acknowledge that fuel duties and vehicle excise duties are too high as a result of its policies—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory);
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 everyone, including hauliers, must play their part in reducing emissions of carbon dioxide from transport, and that the road fuel duty escalator first introduced by the last Government acts as an incentive to greater fuel efficiency; deplores the hypocrisy of the Conservative Party for doing one thing in Government and another in Opposition; calls on it to explain which areas of public spending it would cut in order to pay for the abandonment of the fuel escalator; welcomes this Government’s commitment to promoting a more dynamic business sector, in particular the measures taken to help the road haulage industry, including cuts in the corporation tax rates, freezing the rates of vehicle excise duty for most lorries for two years running, doubling the maximum reduction in vehicle excise duty for cleaner lorries, and reducing duty rates on ultra-low sulphur diesel relative to ordinary diesel; notes that the UK haulage industry benefits from the total tax burden on business in the UK being lower than that of other major EU member states, and lower than the average for the EU and the OECD; believes that the environmental measures this Government has introduced will play an important part in encouraging use of more fuel-efficient vehicles, cleaner fuels and greener modes of transport; and welcomes the dialogue that is now taking place between the industry and the Government in the Road Haulage Forum', instead thereof.—(Mr Alan Milburn.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 139.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Jamieson: 341.
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 Jamieson: 304.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 160.
So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House believes that everyone, including hauliers, must play their part in reducing emissions of carbon dioxide from transport, and that the road fuel duty escalator first introduced by the last Government acts as an incentive to greater fuel efficiency; deplores the hypocrisy of the Conservative Party for doing one thing in Government and another in Opposition; calls on it to explain which areas of public spending it would cut in order to pay for the abandonment of the fuel escalator; welcomes this Government’s commitment to promoting a more dynamic business sector, in particular the measures taken to help the road haulage industry, including cuts in the corporation tax rates, freezing the rates of vehicle excise duty for most lorries for two years running, doubling the maximum reduction in vehicle excise duty for cleaner lorries, and reducing duty rates on ultra-low sulphur diesel relative to ordinary diesel; notes that the UK haulage industry benefits from the total tax burden on business in the UK being lower than that of other major EU member states, and lower than the average for the EU and the OECD; believes that the environmental measures this Government has introduced will play an important part in encouraging use of more fuel-efficient vehicles, cleaner fuels and greener modes of transport; and welcomes the dialogue that is now taking place between the industry and the Government in the Road Haulage Forum.

The State of British Livestock Farming,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with concern the collapse in farm incomes, especially in the livestock sector; expresses astonishment at Labour’s claims to be the party of the countryside; condemns the Government’s dismissive response to the deepening crisis in pig farming; deplores the lack of progress in restoring beef exports and ending the ban on beef on the bone; calls for the postponement of the imposition of further charges on slaughter houses; urges that Milk Marque be allowed to invest in processing capacity; recognises that British farmers work at a competitive disadvantage compared with those abroad because of excessive and unnecessary regulations; expresses dismay at the outcome of the European Agenda 2000 negotiations when a poor deal for British farmers, consumers and taxpayers was made worse by the Prime Minister; and calls for the reversal of all those government policies which are damaging the rural economy, the agricultural industry and the British countryside.—(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 the difficulties faced by many in the livestock sector; welcomes the Government’s strong commitment to the
livestock sector in the United Kingdom; endorses the efforts the Government has made to secure the lifting of the ban on the worldwide export of British beef; approves of the steps which the Government has taken since May 1997 to support the beef and sheep industry via EU agri-monetary compensation; welcomes the initiatives the Government has taken to promote the pig industry; recognises the extra support to the livestock sector, particularly hill and upland producers, via substantially increased hill livestock compensatory allowances, announced in November 1998; and welcomes the recently-agreed reshaping of the Common Agricultural Policy as part of the Agenda 2000 negotiations, which seeks to provide the livestock sector with stability and a secure future', 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, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Stephen Day: 161.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 319.

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 Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 316.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Tim Collins: 160.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House recognises the difficulties faced by many in the livestock sector; welcomes the Government’s strong commitment to the livestock sector in the United Kingdom; endorses the efforts the Government has made to secure the lifting of the ban on the worldwide export of British beef; approves of the steps which the Government has taken since May 1997 to support the beef and sheep industry via EU agri-monetary compensation; welcomes the initiatives the Government has taken to promote the pig industry; recognises the extra support to the livestock sector, particularly hill and upland producers, via substantially increased hill livestock compensatory allowances, announced in November 1998; and welcomes the recently-agreed reshaping of the Common Agricultural Policy as part of the Agenda 2000 negotiations, which seeks to provide the livestock sector with stability and a secure future.

10 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 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th April, be approved—(Mr Keith Bradley).—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment (May).—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 Friday 30th April, do adjourn till Tuesday 4th May—(Mr Keith Bradley).—It was agreed to.

12 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—

(1) Altrincham and Sale West,
(2) Southend West, and
(3) Wycombe

against hunting with dogs, were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Bradley.)

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

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 European Communities.—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Agreement for Trade and Cooperation between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Korea) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Social Security.—Draft Social Security Commissioners (Procedure) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Offshore Installations.—Offshore Installations (Safety Zones) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1150), dated 10th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Chelsea Hospital.—Account of the Royal Hospital Chelsea: Army Prize Money and Legacy Funds, &c. for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 401] [Clerk of the House].

5 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 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 400] [Clerk of the House].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Access to Justice Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Baldry, Mr John Burnett, Mr Solicitor General, Mr Keith Darvill, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Michael Foster (Hastings and Rye), Mr Edward Garnier, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoorn, Mr David Kidney, Mr Martin Linton, Mr David Lock, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West), Mr Mark Todd, Mr Keith Vaz and Dr Alan Whitehead.

2 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr James Cran, Jim Dowd, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Peter Mandelson, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr William Ross, Mr Jonathan Sayeed and Mr Nicholas Soames.

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr David Clelland, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mrs Joan Humble, Tessa Jowell, Ms Tess Kingham, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Sir David Madel, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Mohammad Sarwar and Mr Marsha Singh.

4 Draft Code of Practice on School Admissions:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Code to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Don Foster, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr David Jameson, Ms Oona King, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tony McNulty, Mrs Theresa May, Estelle Morris, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Ms Claire Ward, Mr Phil Willis and Ms Rosie Winterton.

5 Draft Aeroplane Noise Regulations 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Eleventh 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 Nigel Beard, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr David Crausby, Mr Barry Gardiner, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Piaa S. Khabra, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Jacqui Smith, Mr John Smith, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr Brian White.

6 Draft Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Charlotte Atkins, John Austin, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Richard Burden, Mr Terry Davis, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Andrew George, Mr Phil Hope, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr James Paise, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr Jeff Rooker, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Charles Wardle.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Fourth Report from the Defence Committee [The Draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1999 and the Draft International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designations and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999] together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 399]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [MoD Expenditure Plans and Investment Strategy 1999–2000 to 2001–2002]; to be printed [No. 241-ii]
[Mr Bruce George].
2 European Scrutiny,—Sixteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 19th April [Operation of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [No. 95-vi]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 20th April [Operation of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [Nos. 95-vii and -viii] [Mr Peter Brooke].

4 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-vi] [Dr Michael Clark].

5 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 84-xi] [Mr David Marshall].

6 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [Information Technology Services Agency]; to be printed [No. 397-d] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 74.]

Thursday 22nd April 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Scottish Enterprise Bill, without Amendment.

Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision enabling verdicts of guilty but insane to be referred to and reviewed by the Court of Appeal; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to provide for electors in Gibraltar to vote in elections to the European Parliament; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords].—The Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords] was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th April and to be printed [Bill 88].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 88–EN].

3 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill,—The Order for considering this day the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, was read and discharged.

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 7th May.

4 Pensions (Amendment) Bill,—The Order for reading the Pensions (Amendment) Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

5 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords].—The Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Disability Rights 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 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure of the Secretary of State attributable to the Act—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.
7 Air Transport Competition Rules.—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 Union Documents No. 8582/97, including two draft Council Regulations, one amending Regulation (EEC) No. 3975/87 laying down the procedure for the application of the rules on competition to undertakings in the air transport sector, and the other on the application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to certain categories of agreement and concerted practices in the sector of air transport between the Community and third countries; and endorses the Government’s approach not to support the Commission proposal—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

8 Criminal Injuries Compensation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Draft of Alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme, which was laid before this House on 25th March, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson).—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 Regulation Act 1984 (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th March, be approved—(Mr. David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

10 Companies.—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 Authority (Stocks and Bonds) (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 30th March, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson).—It was agreed to.

11 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 Financial Statement and Budget Report 1999–2000 and the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1999–2000 shall be treated as if they were instruments subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 6.42 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Financial Services.—Financial Markets and Insolvency (CGO Service) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1209), dated 21st April 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].


3 Securities.—(1) Stock Transfer (Gilt-edge Securities) (CGO Service) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1208), and

(2) Stock Transfer (Gilt-edge Securities) (Exempt Transfer) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1210), dated 21st April 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

Other Papers:

4 Football Spectators.—Report and Accounts of the Football Licensing Authority for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on The 1992 and 1998 Information Management & Technology Strategies of the NHS Executive [by Act]; to be printed [No. 371] [Clerk of the House].

6 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 1998 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown];
(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 1998 [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 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

**APPENDIX II**

*Standing Committees*

1 Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99),—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mr John Butterfill and Mr Frank Cook Chairmen.

2 Access to Justice Bill ([Lords]),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson and Mr Bill O’Brien Chairmen of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

4 Medicines (Advertising and Monitoring of Advertising) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 267),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

5 Draft Code of Practice on School Admissions,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Code of Practice.

6 Draft Aeroplane Noise Regulations 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman of the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

**APPENDIX III**

*Reports from Select Committees*

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Staging International Sporting Events]; to be printed [No. 124-vii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health,—(1) Fourth Report from the Health Committee [The Long Term Care of the Elderly]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 318], and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare]; to be printed [No. 281-v] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

[No. 75.]

Friday 23rd April 1999.

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

**PRAYERS.**

1 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill,—The Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

2 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Health Care and Energy Efficiency 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 7th May.

3 Planning Appeals Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning Appeals Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 30th April.

4 Access to Environmental Information Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.
5 Prevention of Delays in Trials Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prevention of Delays in Trials Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

6 Streetworks Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Streetworks Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

7 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 23rd July.

8 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill.
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

9 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th April.

10 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 30th April.

11 Access to Justice Bill [Lords] (Standing Committee) (Sittings).—Ordered, That, notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Sessional Order of 16th December, relating to Meetings of Standing Committees, the Standing Committee on the Access to Justice Bill [Lords] may meet at any hour.—(Mr Keith Hill)

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 26th April.

[Adjourned at 2.48 p.m.]

APPENDIX
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation.—Air Navigation (Fourth Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1123), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Constitutional Law.—Scottish Administration (Offices) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1127), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

3 Education.—(1) Education (Chief Inspector of Schools in England) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1121), and
(2) Education (Inspectors of Schools in England) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1122), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and
(3) Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1129), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].


Other Papers:

5 Treaty Series (No. 25, 1999).—Convention, 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 for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains [by Command] [Cm. 4326] [Mr Secretary Cook].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Scottish Parliamentary Constituencies Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to
   make new provision in respect of representation in the Scottish Parliament and in relation
   to the Boundary Commission for Scotland, and for connected purposes, to which the
   Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Adjournment (Defence Equipment).—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.

3 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)
   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 European Communities,—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Economic
   Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European
   Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States) Order 1999 [by Act]
   [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education,—Education (Baseline Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.
   1188), dated 18th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Other Papers:

3 National Heritage,—Report of the Royal Armouries for 1996–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
   Smith].

4 Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of British Waterways Board [by Act] [Mr
   Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99).—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to
   Standing Committee B (transferred from Standing Committee D).

2 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to
   Standing Committee B.

3 Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing
   Committee C.

4 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing
   Committee C.

5 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing
   Committee F.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts
   [Investigation of Alleged Irregularities at Halton College]; to be printed [No. 413-i] [Mr
   David Davis].

2 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology
   Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed
   [No. 286-vii] [Dr Michael Clark].
PRAYERS.

1 HFC Bank Bill.—The HFC Bank Bill was read the third time, and passed.

2 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 91].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 416].

3 Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill.—The Order for reading the Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill a second time on Friday 7th May was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

4 Recycling of Household Waste Bill.—Mr Jim Cunningham, supported by Christine Butler, Mr Alan Hurst, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Dr Ashok Kumar and David Taylor presented a Bill to amend the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to require waste collection authorities to provide receptacles for recyclable and non-recyclable household waste on demand: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 7th May and to be printed [Bill 90].

5 Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reduce the quantity of regulations on businesses below a certain size: And that Mr John Bercow, Mr Graham Brady, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Nick Hawkins, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Richard Page, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr David Prior, Mr David Ruffley and Mr Richard Spring do prepare and bring it in.

6 Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction) Bill.—Mr John Bercow accordingly presented a Bill to reduce the quantity of regulations on businesses below a certain size: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 89].

7 Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99).— The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 2 (Rates of duty and rebate on hydrocarbon oil).

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Keith Hill: 305.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 177.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

The Depute 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.

8 Financial Services and Markets.—Ordered, That it be an Instruction to the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets that it report by 27th May 1999 on Parts V (employment in regulated activities), VI (civil lines for market abuse) and XII (disciplinary measures) of the draft bill in relation to the European Convention on Human Rights.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

To be communicated to the Lords, and their concurrence desired thereto.
9 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mrs Jane Ellison, members of the Twins and Multiple Births Association and others for extending the rate of child benefit paid for the eldest child to all children of a multiple birth was presented and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—
   (1) New Forest West, and
   (2) Dorset South
against hunting with dogs were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seventeen minutes to Eleven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 47) on rural bus subsidy grants for 1999–2000 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 407] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
2 Countryside,—Countryside Stewardship (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1177), dated 13th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].
3 County Courts,—Lay Representatives (Rights of Audience) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1225), dated 27th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].
4 Disability Discrimination,—Draft Codes of Practice on—
   (1) Duties of Trade Organisations to their disabled members and applicants, and
   (2) Rights of Access: Goods, Facilities, Services and Premises
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
5 Disabled Persons,—Disability Discrimination (Services and Premises) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1191), dated 27th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:
6 Museums and Galleries,—Report and Financial Summary of the Wallace Collection for 1995–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].
7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Managing Sickness Absence in the Prison Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 372] [Clerk of the House].
8 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Fourth Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1998–99: The Ostrich Farming Corporation Ltd [by Act]; to be printed [No. 409] [Clerk of the House].
9 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Wales on the Petition [31st March] from residents of or living near to Trecwn in the constituency of Pembrokeshire against the storage of nuclear waste at the former RNAD Trecwn site [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Louise Elliman from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Huw Edwards.

2 Medicines (Advertising and Monitoring of Advertising) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 267),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Tess Kingham and Dr Stephen Ladyman from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution John Austin and Joan Ruddock.
Draft Code of Practice on School Admissions.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ivan Henderson from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Code); and nominated in substitution Mr Jon Trickett.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Genetically Modified Organisms]; to be printed [No. 384-iii] [Mr John Horam].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Financial Services and Markets,—First Report from the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee [Nos. 328-4 and -4i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Public Administration,—(1) Second Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Annual Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1997–98]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 54]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-vi] [Mr Rhodri Morgan].

5 Statutory Instruments,—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xvi]; and
   (2) First Special Report from the Committee, together with Appendices; to be printed [No. 415] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Trading, Trade Marks and Competition]; to be printed [No. 380-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Second Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Broadcasting in Wales and the National Assembly], 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. 48] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 78.]

Wednesday 28th April 1999.

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 Mike Hall),
   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,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Medicines (Advertising and Monitoring of Advertising) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 267).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
4 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Code of Practice on School Admissions.

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 concur with the Commons in the Order set out in their Message [27th April], that it be an Instruction to the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets that it report by 27th May 1999 on Parts V (employment in regulated activities), VI (civil fines for market abuse) and XII (disciplinary measures) of the draft bill in relation to the European Convention on Human Rights.

6 Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) 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 connected with Northern Ireland about locating the remains of persons killed before 10th April 1998 as a result of unlawful acts of violence committed on behalf of, or in connection with, proscribed organisations; 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 92].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Bill be printed [Bill 92–EN].

7 Restraining and Protection Orders,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to empower the courts to make orders which restrain the conduct or movements of a person convicted of certain criminal offences, for the purpose of protecting the victim of the offence; to make similar provision with respect to orders which require statutory agencies to provide services to certain persons; and for connected purposes: And Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker, Ann Colley, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr John Heppell, Mr Phil Hope, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Kali Mountford, Mr Ian Pearson and Joan Ruddock do prepare and bring it in.

8 Restraining and Protection Orders Bill,—Bridget Prentice accordingly presented a Bill to empower the courts to make orders which restrain the conduct or movements of a person convicted of certain criminal offences, for the purpose of protecting the victim of the offence; to make similar provision with respect to orders which require statutory agencies to provide services to certain persons; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 7th May and to be printed [Bill 93].

9 Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99),—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99).

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 28 (Restriction of MCA to those reaching 65 before 2000–01).

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 14, to leave out lines 21 and 22. —(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 127.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Jane Kennedy: 306.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 15, line 20, to leave out ‘2000–01’ and to insert ‘2001–02’. —(Mr Edward Leigh.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Mardle, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 131.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Jamieson: 296.

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr David Jamieson: 300.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Mardle: 132.

Clause No. 99 (Stamp duty on conveyance or transfer on sale).
Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 71, line 5, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4A) This section shall not apply to properties which are subject to uniform business rate’.—(Mr John Whittingdale.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Kevin Hughes: 308.

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Kevin Hughes: 305.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir David Madel: 127.

Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99) to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr Robert Ainsworth reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99), and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99) do lie upon the Table.

10 Finance Bill,—Ordered, That, during the proceedings on the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99), the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

11 Education,—Ordered, That the Education (Budget Statements and Supplementary Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 486) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

12 Education,—Ordered, That the Education (Education Standards Etc. Grants) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 606) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

13 Education,—Ordered, That the Education (School Organisation Committees) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 706) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

14 Education,—Ordered, That the Education (School Organisation Plans) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 703) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

15 Education,—Ordered, That the Education (Transition to New Framework) (School Organisation Proposals) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 704) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

16 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Solihull and others against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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 Affirmative Resolution:

1 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Draft Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 [S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 200], dated 26th April 1999 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].
Other Papers:

3 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Intervention Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 385] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

4 Health Service Commissioner,—Third Report of the Health Service Ombudsman, Session 1998–99: Investigations about aspects of the NHS complaints procedure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 410] [Clerk of the House].

5 Public Processions (Northern Ireland),—Report of the Parades Commission for Northern Ireland for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 406] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

6 Treaty Series (No. 26, 1999),—International Code, done at London on 5th December 1996, for Application of Fire Test Procedures (Resolution MSC.61(67)) [by Command] [Cm. 4329] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 2, 28 and 99):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B, and has appointed Mr John Butterfill and Mr Frank Cook Chairmen; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed thirty-eight Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr David Borrow, Mr Colin Breed, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr John Burnett, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr John Healey, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Alan Johnson, Miss Melanie Johnson, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Alan Milburn, Kali Mountford, Dawn Primarolo, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr David Rutley, Mr Nick St Aubyn, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Ian Stewart, Ms Dari Taylor, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Derek Twigg, Mr John Whittingdale and Mr Shaun Woodward.

2 Referendums 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 Martin Bell, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Ann Clwyd, Frank Cook, Mr Denzil Davies, Paul Flynn, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr George Howarth, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Andrew Miller, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Alan Simpson and Mr Robert N. Wareng.

3 Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee C); and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Simon Burns, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr David Drew, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Mr John Greenway, Kate Hoey, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Alan Keen, Gillian Merron, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Derek Twigg, Joan Walley and Mr Shaun Woodward.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Reports 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 Robert Ainsworth, Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr John Beresford, Sir Paul Beresford, Mrs Liz Blackman, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Clive Efford, Mrs Louise Ellman, Caroline Flint, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr David Heath, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Barry Sheerman and Mr John Whittingdale.

5 Draft Social Security Commissioners (Procedure) Regulations 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Geoffrey Hoon, Mr Eric Illsley, Ms Tess Kingham, Mr David Lock, Mr Tim...
Loughton, Mr Dan Norris, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr James Plaskitt, Christine Russell, Angela Smith, Mr John M. Taylor and Steve Webb.

6 Draft International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designation and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, and the draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1999:

(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.: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Alan Campbell, Mr Doug Henderson, Mr Alan Hurst, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Robert Key, Mrs Anne McGuire, Dr John Marek, Gillian Merron, Mr Denis Murphy, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Chris Pend, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Sir Robert Smith, Mr John M. Taylor and Mr Charles Wardle.

European Standing Committees

7 European Union Document No. 6528/99, relating to Global Navigation Satellite System, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Second Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee, on Strategic Defence Review: Territorial Army Restructuring]; to be printed [No. 417]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Gulf Veterans’ Illnesses]; to be printed [No. 418-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 [Aviation Safety]; to be printed [No. 275-v] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Scrutiny,—Seventeenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xvii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Resources; Kosovo]; to be printed [Nos. 271-i and 188-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Benefits Agency: Performance Measurement; Appropriation Accounts 1997–98: Central Government Administered Social Security Benefits and Other Payments]; to be printed [No. 419-i] [Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]; to be printed [No. 286-viii] [Dr Michael Clark].

Thursday 29th April 1999.

The House met at half-past Eleven 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 Fifth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Regional Eurostar Services, and the Third Report from the Health Committee, Session 1997–98, on The Welfare of Former British Child Migrants, to be debated on Wednesday 19th May 1999, pursuant to Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings).

2 Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Aeroplane Noise Regulations 1999.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
3 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.

Government Policies on Housing and the Green Belt.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets the Government’s record on allowing building in the Green Belt and development of greenfield sites and their failure to meet even their own targets for new building on brownfield sites; condemns their refusal to increase their 60 per cent. brownfield site building target in line with their recently revised household projection figures; and deprecates the Government’s failure to protect the countryside—(Mr Simon Burns).

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 continued commitment to protecting the countryside and promoting an urban renaissance, and maintaining tight planning controls over the Green Belt and other designated green spaces; recognises that the Government’s decentralised and integrated policy approach is helping to achieve more sustainable and equitable patterns of urban and rural development; welcomes the Government’s commitment to increase the proportion of new housing on previously-developed land in urban areas, smaller towns and villages from 40 per cent. in the mid-1980s to 60 per cent; recognises the benefits of replacing the previous “predict and provide” approach to the issue of household growth with a more flexible “plan, monitor and manage” system; and believes that the Government’s inter-linked policies for urban regeneration and protection of the countryside will enhance the quality of life for people in both rural and urban areas’, instead thereof.—(Mr Richard Caborn.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 113.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Clive Betts: 288.

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 continued commitment to protecting the countryside and promoting an urban renaissance, and maintaining tight planning controls over the Green Belt and other designated green spaces; recognises that the Government’s decentralised and integrated policy approach is helping to achieve more sustainable and equitable patterns of urban and rural development; welcomes the Government’s commitment to increase the proportion of new housing on previously-developed land in urban areas, smaller towns and villages from 40 per cent. in the mid-1980s to 60 per cent; recognises the benefits of replacing the previous “predict and provide” approach to the issue of household growth with a more flexible “plan, monitor and manage” system; and believes that the Government’s inter-linked policies for urban regeneration and protection of the countryside will enhance the quality of life for people in both rural and urban areas.

Job Losses, the State of Industry and the New Deal.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets the way the Government is making it too dear to make things in Britain; condemns the tax increases, increases in regulation and the poor climate for industry brought about by present policies; highlights the factory closures and 250,000 forecast job losses feared by the trade unions; condemns the New Deal for young people, which has failed to reduce youth unemployment, has disappointed employers and requires radical change if it is to stop wasting billions of pounds of taxpayers’ money; and recommends a change of policy to avoid a prolonged and damaging industrial collapse and consequent rising industrial unemployment—(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 actions of the Government to reverse the industrial decline and the destruction of jobs, not least for young people, that characterised the situation while the Opposition formed the Government; welcomes the creation of over 400,000 jobs since the last election; notes the contrast between this situation and that of the Tory slow-down of 1989 to 1993 when over a million manufacturing jobs were lost; welcomes the achievements of the New Deal and its contribution to the 35 per cent. fall since January 1998 in the number of young people unemployed for six months or more; believes that the sound economic policies of this Government are a better way to support industrial success and job creation than the interest rates at 15 per cent., budget deficits soaring, high long-term interest rates and
boom and bust economics that were the previous Government’s policy; and welcomes the strategy set out in the Competitiveness White Paper for encouraging enterprise, investment and innovation as the right way forward for Britain’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Byers.)

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

Mr Patrick McLoughlin 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 Tim Collins: 115.

Tellers for the Noes, Jim Dowd, Mr David Jamieson: 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);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Jim Dowd: 257.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 123.

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 actions of the Government to reverse the industrial decline and the destruction of jobs, not least for young people, that characterised the situation while the Opposition formed the Government; welcomes the creation of over 400,000 jobs since the last election; notes the contrast between this situation and that of the Tory slow-down of 1989 to 1993 when over a million manufacturing jobs were lost; welcomes the achievements of the New Deal and its contribution to the 35 per cent. fall since January 1998 in the number of young people unemployed for six months or more; believes that the sound economic policies of this Government are a better way to support industrial success and job creation than the interest rates at 15 per cent., budget deficits soaring, high long-term interest rates and boom and bust economics that were the previous Government’s policy; and welcomes the strategy set out in the Competitiveness White Paper for encouraging enterprise, investment and innovation as the right way forward for Britain.

4 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 European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 13th April, be approved—(Mr Robert Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

5 Value Added Tax,—Ordered, That the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 438) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

6 Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Football (Offences and Disorder) 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 Robert Ainsworth.)

7 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 Seven 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 and the Sessional Order [16 December], it being then three minutes past Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.03 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2. Housing,—Housing (Preservation of Right to Buy) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1213), dated 22nd April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3. Pensions,—Local Government Pension Scheme (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1212), dated 22nd April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


5. Road Traffic,—M606/M62 Motorways (Bradford Link) (Speed Limit) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1187), dated 19th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6. Foreign Affairs,—Further Government Response to the Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1997–98, on Hong Kong [by Command] [Cm. 4331] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7. House of Commons Members’ Fund,—Accounts of the House of Commons Members’ Fund for 1st October 1997 to 30th September 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 421] [Clerk of the House].

8. National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Vehicle Emissions Testing [by Act]; to be printed [No. 402] [Clerk of the House].

9. Port of London,—Report and Accounts of the Port of London Authority for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10. Telecommunications,—Report of the Director General of Telecommunications for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 393] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Referendums Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2. Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3. Draft Aeroplane Noise Regulations 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations, in place of Mr Bowen Wells.

4. Draft Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Genetically Modified Organisms]; to be printed [No. 384-iv] [Mr John Horam].

2. Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare]; to be printed [No. 281-vi] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

3. International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Kosovo]; to be printed [No. 422-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

4. Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Valuation Office Agency]; to be printed [No. 420-i] [Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Vacation of Seat (Newark).—The Speaker made a statement, as follows:

On 19th April, I announced to the House that I had asked the Attorney General to seek an authoritative ruling from the courts on whether the honourable Member for Newark was entitled to resume her seat, following the quashing of her conviction by the Court of Appeal. The court's determination was sought by way of an answer to the following question:

"Is the defendant now entitled, according to the proper construction of the Representation of the People Act 1983, to resume her seat in Parliament as Member of Parliament for Newark?"

The decision yesterday of Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Mitchell was that the answer to the question was yes. The court accordingly granted a declaration that the defendant was so entitled. The honourable Lady has therefore resumed her seat.

2 Protection of Children Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Protection of Children Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Report to Parliament)—(Mr Philip Hammond)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Amendments (Nos. 19 to 26) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 30) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 36, to leave out the word 'subsection' and to insert the word 'subsections', instead thereof.—(Mr Andrew Lansley.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 15, to leave out the words 'in prescribed circumstances' and to insert the words 'at the discretion of the Tribunal', instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 27) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Energy Conservation (Housing) 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 14th May.

4 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 14th May.

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

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

6 Fuel Safety Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Fuel Safety Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

7 Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.
8 Planning Appeals Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning Appeals Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 7th May.

9 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 7th May.

10 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 7th May.

11 Greater London Authority Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—Ordered, That the Order [13th January] relating to the Greater London Authority Bill (Programme) be supplemented as follows:

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 at Ten o’clock on the second day.

(2) 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.

Proceedings on consideration

2.—(1) The proceedings to be taken on consideration on each of the two allotted days shall be as shown in the second column of the Table in sub-paragraph (2) below and shall be taken in the order so shown.

(2) Each part of the proceedings on those days shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day</td>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 1 and 2, Amendments to Schedule 1, Amendments to Clauses 3 and 4, Amendments to Schedule 2, Amendments to Clauses 5 to 17, Amendments to Schedule 3, Amendments to Clauses 18 to 24, New Clauses relating to Part I and New Schedules relating to Part I. 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 25 to 30, Amendments to Schedule 4, Amendments to Clauses 31 to 66, New Clauses relating to Part II and New Schedules relating to Part II. 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 67 to 72, Amendments to Schedule 5, Amendments to Clauses 73 to 83, Amendments to Schedule 6, Amendments to Clauses 84 to 118, Amendments to Schedule 7, Amendments to Clauses 119 to 122, New Clauses relating to Part III and New Schedules relating to Part III. 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Amendments to Clauses 123 to 133, Amendments to Schedule 8, Amendments to Clauses 134 to 142, Amendments to Clauses 148 to 170, Amendments to Clause 188, Amendments to Schedule 12, Amendments to Clauses 189 to 193, Amendments to Schedule 14, Amendments to Clauses 194 to 196, Amendments to Schedule 15, Amendments to Clause 197, Amendments to Schedule 16, Amendments to Clause 198, Amendments to Schedule 17, Amendments to Clauses 199 to 221, New Clauses relating to Chapters I, II, IV, V and VII to XII of Part IV and New Schedules relating to Chapters I, II, IV, V and VII to XII of Part IV. 9:30 p.m.</td>
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Amendments to Clauses 224 to 228, New Clauses relating to Part V, New Schedules relating to Part V, Amendments to Clause 229, Amendments to Schedule 21, Amendments to Clauses 230 to 241, Amendments to Schedule 22, New Clauses relating to Part VI, New Schedules relating to Part VI, Amendments to Clause 242, Amendments to Schedules 23 and 24, Amendments to Clauses 243 to 247, New Clauses relating to Part VII, New Schedules relating to Part VII, Amendments to Clauses 248 to 264, New Clauses relating to Part VIII, New Schedules relating to Part VIII, Amendments to Clauses 265 to 283, New Clauses relating to Part IX, New Schedules relating to Part IX, Amendments to Clause 284, Amendments to Schedule 25, Amendments to Clauses 285 to 290, New Clauses relating to Part X, New Schedules relating to Part X, Amendments to Clauses 291 to 300, New Clauses relating to Parts XI and XII, New Schedules relating to Parts XI and XII.

Second day Amendments to Clauses 143 to 147, Amendments to Clauses 171 to 180, Amendments to Schedules 10 and 11, Amendments to Clauses 181 to 186, New Schedules relating to Chapters III and VI of Part IV, New Schedules relating to Chapters III and VI of Part IV, Amendments to Clause 187, Amendments to Schedule 9 and Amendments to Schedule 13.

Midnight Amendments to Clause 222, Amendments to Schedule 18, Amendments to Clause 223, Amendments to Schedule 19, remaining New Clauses, remaining New Schedules, Amendments to Clauses 301 to 304, Amendments to Schedule 26 and Amendments to Clauses 305 and 306. 6:30 p.m.

9:00 p.m.

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 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) above 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.

Supplementary provisions

4. 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.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)
12 Adjournment (Whitsun).—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 27th May do adjourn till Tuesday 8th June—(Mr Robert Ainsworth).—It was agreed to.

13 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 27th May, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to any Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Three o’clock, adjourned till Tuesday 4th May, pursuant to Order [21st April].

[Adjourned at 3.01 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Food,—Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1136), dated 8th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Housing,—Social Landlords (Additional Purposes or Objects) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1206), dated 21st April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sex Education in Schools.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to introduce an entitlement for all children to receive sex and relationships education in schools from key stage one onwards, and for connected purposes—(Dr Evan Harris);

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, Dr Howard Stoate, Dr Jenny Tonge: 89.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Peter Luff: 47.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Dr Evan Harris, Dr Jenny Tonge, Dr Lynne Jones, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Jackie Ballard, Diana Organ, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Peter Brand, Dr Howard Stoate, Mrs Audrey Wise and Dr Ian Gibson do prepare and bring in the Bill.

2 Sex Education in Schools Bill,—Dr Evan Harris accordingly presented a Bill to introduce an entitlement for all children to receive sex and relationships education in schools from key stage one onwards; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 94].

3 Greater London Authority Bill (Consideration) [1st allotted day],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Greater London Authority Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendments (Nos. 93 to 98, 136, 137, 102 and 108A) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 105A) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, to leave out lines 39 to 41 and to insert the words ‘a citizen of the United Kingdom’, instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 99) made to the Bill.

A Clause (Nomination of candidate for Mayor)—(Mr Richard Ottaway)—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 Tim Collins: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jameson, Jane Kennedy: 285.

Another Amendment (No. 109A) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 36) proposed to the Bill, in page 14, line 35, after the word ‘of’, to insert the words ‘health and’.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 110A, 111A, 112A and 113A) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 64) proposed to the Bill, in page 19, line 22, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(i) the strategy for the River Thames prepared and published under section (The River Thames) below.’.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 114A and 115 to 118) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 119) proposed to the Bill, in page 20, to leave out lines 5 to 9.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being half-past Seven o’clock the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [30th April], put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and agreed to.
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. 120 to 122) made to the Bill.

A Clause (The general power of the Authority)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Limits of the general power)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Consultation)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed to the Bill, in page 48, line 33, at the end, to insert the words ‘but the amount of the grant shall increase by at least the annual rate of the Retail Price Index in each year beginning from the Authority’s second financial year’.—(Mr Tom Brake.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Paul Tyler, Dr Jenny Tonge: 19.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Jane Kennedy: 285.

Another Clause (Limitation of precepts)—(Mr Simon Hughes)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 123, 124 and 139) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 34) proposed to the Bill, in page 85, line 36, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(6A) The Franchising Director shall consult the Mayor before proposing any changes to rail services which will affect the level of provision of rail services in Greater London.’—(Mr Tom Brake.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 67) proposed to the Bill, in page 104, line 29, to leave out Clause 199.—(Mr Edward Davey.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 29) proposed to the Bill, in page 256, line 32, to leave out the word ‘appointed’ and insert the word ‘elected’, instead thereof.—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Edward Davey, Dr Jenny Tonge: 21.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Kevin Hughes: 293.

Other Amendments (Nos. 129 to 134) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (Other members of the Metropolitan Police Force)—(Kate Hoey)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (Other members of the Metropolitan Police Force)—(Kate Hoey)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (The Superannuation Act 1972)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (Transitional and consequential provision)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Transfers of property, rights or liabilities)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Transfer schemes)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Contracts of employment etc)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Pensions)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Transfer and pension instruments: common provisions)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Continuity)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Accommodation for Authority and functional bodies)—(Mr Nick Raynsford)—brought up and read the first time.

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

Wednesday 5th May 1999

And it being Midnight, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

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

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Clause added to the Bill.

A Schedule (Transfer schemes)—(Mr Nick Raynsford)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

It being after Midnight, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Bill to be further considered this day.

4 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 Aeroplane Noise Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 14th April, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

5 Referendums Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Referendums Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Referendums Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any sums so payable under the Act.—(Jane Kennedy.)

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Hinckley and Bosworth for support for the hosiery and knitwear industry was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of West Bromwich East against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

And, accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Twelve o’clock on Wednesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.23 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Parking Adjudicators) (London) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1205), dated 22nd April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Other Papers:

3 Audit (Northern Ireland).—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 390] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

4 National Health Service.—Summarised Accounts of Health Authorities, and NHS Trusts in England, of 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 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 382] [Clerk of the House].

5 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [9th March] from Shrewsbury-based and other rural road hauliers relating to the impact of Government environmental policies upon rural road hauliers [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Greening Government Initiative]; to be printed [No. 426-i] [Mr John Horam].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Drugs and Prisons]; to be printed [No. 363-ii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

4 International Development.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Kosovo]; to be printed [No. 422-ii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Kosovo] [Ann Clwyd]

5 Statutory Instruments.—Seventeenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xvii] [Mr William Ross].

6 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Tax Competition and Co-ordination]; to be printed [No. 425-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 82.]

Wednesday 5th May 1999.

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 Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill.—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 11th June; and
   to be printed [Bill 96].
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 428].

3 European Scrutiny.—So much of the Order of 30th March [Fifteenth Report of the European Scrutiny Committee] as relates to the printing of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee was read and discharged.

4 Football Regulator.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a regulator for professional football: And that Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Ivor Caplin,
Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Ivan Henderson, Ann Keen, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Colin Burgon and Joan Walley do prepare and bring it in.

5 Football Regulator Bill,—Mr Gerry Sutcliffe accordingly presented a Bill to establish a regulator for professional football. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 95].

6 Greater London Authority Bill (Consideration) [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Greater London Authority Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Other Amendments (Nos. 84 to 87) made to the Bill. Another Amendment (No. 79) proposed to the Bill, in page 88, line 1, to leave out from the beginning of the line to the end of line 16 on page 98.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.) Question proposed, That the Amendment be made; And it being half-past Six o' clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [30th April], put the Question already proposed from the Chair. Question put, That the Amendment be made; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 112.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Jamieson: 283.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Another Clause (The PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Terms of appointment etc of the PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Staff of the PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Directions of the PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Guidance by the PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Duty of PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Provision of information to the PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Immunity of PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Expenses of the PPP arbiter)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 88 to 92) made to the Bill. Another Amendment (No. 80) proposed to the Bill, in page 121, line 36, to leave out Clause 222.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.) Question put, That the Amendment be made. The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Sir David Madel: 97.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Keith Hill: 265.

And it being after Nine o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business required to be concluded at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 140 to 144, 126, 138, 145, 100, 101, 109 to 113, 150, 127, 128 and 114) made to the Bill. Another Clause (Transfers of LRT's property etc to Transport for London)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Functions during the transition from LRT to TfL)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (Fares etc during the transitional period)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Continuity: repealed or revoked functions of LRT)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Transfer of former functions of London Transport Executive)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Dissolution of London Regional Transport)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Interpretation of Chapter XIV)—(Jim Dowd)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Margaret Beckett, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative and interest are concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being proposed;

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 accepting the principle of a representative body to speak for London, declines to give a Third Reading to the Greater London Authority Bill because it provides for an Authority elected by proportional representation, which will lead to weak government and disproportionate influence of minority parties; because it introduces road user charging which will not solve the problems of congestion or pollution in London; and because it provides wholly unsatisfactory arrangements for the future of London Underground which will not receive the necessary funding or management under the Government’s proposed Public Private Partnership, thus burdening Londoners with substantial levels of debt from the outset’, instead thereof.—(Mr Richard Ottaway.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made; And it being Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Stephen Day, Sir David Madel: 105.

Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Keith Hill: 265.

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.

7 Public Administration,—Ordered, That Mr Mike Hancock be discharged from the Select Committee on Public Administration and Mr Mark Oaten be added to the Committee.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

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

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 Negative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Recreation Grounds (Revocation of Parish Council Byelaws) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1227), dated 26th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Clinical Negligence Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1274), and (2) National Health Service (Existing Liabilities Scheme) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1275), dated 4th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].
Social Security,—Social Security Revaluation of Earnings Factors Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1235), dated 27th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Animal Centre for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 259] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Gift of Public Property,—Department for Education and Employment Minute, dated 5th May 1999, concerning the gifting of assets to UFI Ltd to support the development of the Company to deliver the Department’s objectives for lifelong learning [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blanket].

6 Ireland (No. 7, 1999),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 27th April 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Commission for the Location of Victims’ Remains [by Command] [Cm. 4344] [Mr Secretary Cook].

7 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 28th April 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Dumfries & Galloway Acute & Maternity Hospitals National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dewar].

8 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4335] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

9 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Report of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations 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 Ben Bradshaw, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Don Foster, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Eleanor Lang, Mrs Theresa May, Rachel Squire, Sir Teddy Taylor, Dr Rudi Vis, Ms Jane Kennedy, Sir David Madel, Mr Kerry Pollard, Ms Joyce Quin, Mr Andrew Rowe, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Roger Stott and Mr Michael Treind.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Christine Butler, Mr Charles Clarke, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Jim Dobbin, Mr Don Foster, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mrs Eleanor Lang, Mrs Theresa May, Rachel Squire, Sir Teddy Taylor, Dr Rudi Vis, Mr Brian White, Sir Raymond Whitney and Mr Phil Willis.

3 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Agreement for Trade and Co-operation between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Korea) Order 1999, and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Economic Partnership, Political Co-ordination and Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Joe Ashton, Mr Menzies Campbell, Dr David Clark, Ann Ciwyd, Mr David Heath, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Alan Keen, Jane Kennedy, Sir David Madel, Mr Kerry Pollard, Ms Joyce Quin, Mr Andrew Rowe, Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Roger Stott and Mr Michael Treind.

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Jamie Cann, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Robin Corbett, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Paul Keetch, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Bill Michie, Joan Ryan, Mr David Taylor, Mr Phil Willis and Ms Rosie Winterton.

5 Draft Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr David Chidgey, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Frank Dornan, Julia Drown, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr David Lepper, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Ian McCartney, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Chris Ruane, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr John Townend and Dr Tony Wright.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Ninth 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 Peter Bradley, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Andrew George, Jane Griffiths, Glenda Jackson, Mr Bernard Jenkin, Mr Andy King, Chris McCafferty, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Richard Page, Mr Gordon Prentice, Ms Debra Shipley, Mr John Smith, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Ian Taylor.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Graham Brady, Dr Vincent Cable, Dr Lynda Clark, Tom Cox, Mr John Cryer, Mr Edward Davey, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Stephen Pound, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Brian Sedgemore and Mr John Whittingdale.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities, Session 1998–99, EC Regulation of Genetic Modification in Agriculture, HL Paper 11]; to be printed [No. 427-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Government Response to the Second Report from the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities, Session 1998–99, EC Regulation of Genetic Modification in Agriculture, HL Paper 11] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [No. 171-vi] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Committee [Tendered Bus Services]; to be printed [No. 429-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Scrutiny.—(1) Eighteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xviii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 30th March [Schengen Agreement]; to be printed [No. 430] [Mr Jim Marshall].

4 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [DETR: Sale of Residual Loans to Housing Associations]; to be printed [No. 431-i] [Mr David Davis].
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords]—The Order for reading the Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords] a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

2 Adjournment (Modernising London's Health Service).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Greg Pope);

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

3 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 at Seven 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 Seven o'clock, till to-morrow.

   [Adjourned at 7.30 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 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.—(1) Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1259),

   (2) Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1260), and

   (3) Gaming Clubs (Hours and Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1288), dated 27th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Education,—Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1284), dated 29th April 1999,

   (2) East Durham Community College (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1285), dated 29th April 1999,

   (3) Education (Adjudicators Inquiry Procedure etc.) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1286), dated 4th May 1999,

   (4) Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1283), dated 1st May 1999, and

   (5) Education (Head Teachers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1287), dated 1st May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Local Government,—Local Government (General Grant) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 190), dated 21st April 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Other Papers:

5 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Giving Customers a Choice: The Introduction of Competition into the Domestic Gas Market [by Act]; to be printed [No. 403] [Clerk of the House].

6 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Accounts of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service and of the Certification Officer and the Central Arbitration Committee for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 432] [Clerk of the House].
[No. 84.]

Friday 7th May 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 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, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 21, to leave out the words ‘at least one relevant representative body’ and to insert the words ‘all bodies and persons who appear to him to have an interest’, instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 23, to leave out the word ‘may’ and to insert the word ‘shall’, instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

2 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Annual Report)—(Mr David Maclean)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Breeding of dogs: offences)—(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) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 13) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 4, at the end to insert the words ‘and not more than ten years old, unless with specific written veterinary recommendation’.—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 14) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 1, to leave out ‘4’ and insert ‘5’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 9) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd 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 21st May.

5 Hedges (Control) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hedges (Control) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

6 Licensing (Young Persons) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 16th April, That the Licensing (Young Persons) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 21st May.
7 Age Limits on Health Care Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;  
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

8 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd April, That the Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;  
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 14th May.

9 Access to Environmental Information Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;  
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

10 Recycling of Household Waste Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Recycling of Household Waste Bill;  
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

11 Restraining and Protection Orders Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Restraining and Protection Orders Bill;  
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

12 Planning Appeals Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning Appeals Bill;  
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

13 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;  
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 14th May.

14 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 14th May.

15 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Dowd.)  
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 10th May.  
[Adjourned at 3.01 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance.—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 46): Private Finance Initiative [by Act]; to be printed [No. 408] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Disabled Persons.—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Midland Metro T69 Vehicles) (Exemption No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1256), dated 26th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers

5 Competition Commission.—Report by the Competition Commission on the proposed merger of Rockwool Limited and Owens-Corning Building Products (UK) Limited [by Command] [Cm. 4330] [Mr Secretary Byers].

6 Reserve Forces.—Change 3 to the Regulations for the Naval and Marine Reserve (BR 64) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].
7 Treaty Series (No. 27, 1999).—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 [by Command] [Cm 4336] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Treaty Series (No. 28, 1999).—Montreal Protocol No. 4, 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. 4337] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Welsh Church,—County Council of Flintshire (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund) Scheme 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Referendums Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bowen Wells an additional Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Financial Statement and Budget Report 1999–2000 and the Economic Fiscal Strategy Report 1999–2000 (for the purposes of their approval under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Humphrey Malins Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Reports.

3 Draft Social Security Commissioners (Procedure) Regulations 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.


5 Education (Budget Statements and Supplementary Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 456).—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

6 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Agreement for Trade and Co-operation between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Korea) Order 1999, and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Economic Partnership, Political Co-ordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States) Order 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.


8 Draft Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

9 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 47) on Rural Bus Subsidy Grants for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 407).—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report.

10 Draft Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, in place of Mr Bill ôner.
Monday 10th May 1999.

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 the Right honourable Derek John Fatchett, Member for Leeds Central. I am sure that honourable Members of all parties will join me in mourning the loss of a colleague and in extending our sympathy to the family and friends of the Right honourable Gentleman.

2 Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) 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 Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Jamieson: 289.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr William Ross, Mr Desmond Swayne: 10.

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 John McFall):—It was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.

3 Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) 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 (Location of Victims’ Remains) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State under the Act—(Mr David Clelland):—It was agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned at 8.48 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Income Tax,—Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Children and Young Persons,—Secure Remands and Committals (Prescribed Description of Children and Young Persons) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1265), dated 28th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, Etc.,—Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1303), dated 5th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

4 Social Security,—Social Security (Adjudication) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1302), dated 6th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].
Papers subject to Special Parliamentary Procedure:

5 Local Government,—City of Stoke-on-Trent Tunstall Northern By-pass Local Government Act Compulsory Purchase Order 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].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Education (School Organisation Committees) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 700), the Education (School Organisation Plans) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 701), and the Education (Transition to New Framework) (School Organisation Proposals) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 704).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Janet Dean from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Phil Woolas.

2 Education (Budget Statements and Supplementary Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 486).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Rudi Vis from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Kevin Barron.

3 Draft Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Terry Davis from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Ian Pearson.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs and Excise: The Prevention of Drug Smuggling], to be printed [No. 35]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [HM Customs & Excise: The Red Channel]; to be printed [No. 439-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Social Security and Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee and the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee, meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) [Single Work-focused Gateway Pilots]; to be printed [No. 412-ii] [Mr Derek Foster].

[No. 86.]

Tuesday 11th May 1999.

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

PRAYERS.


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

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Education (Budget Statements and Supplementary Provisions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 486).

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

3 Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill.—The Order for reading the Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation Bill a second time on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

Control of Fireworks.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to ban the sale of fireworks to the general public; to provide for a licensing system for firework displays; and for connected purposes—(Sir Teddy Taylor);

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 nominations of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Stephen Pound, Christine Butler, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr John Cryer, Angela Smith, Mr Ken Livingstone, Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Paul Burstow and Mr John Randall do prepare and bring in the Bill.

Control of Fireworks Bill.—Sir Teddy Taylor accordingly presented a Bill to ban the sale of fireworks to the general public; to provide for a licensing system for firework displays; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 97].

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.

The Government’s Pensions Policy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that the Government’s proposed pensions reforms are in chaos and will do great damage to long-term savings and pension provision, especially occupational pension schemes and Group Personal Pensions; that, unless changes are made which have been called for by Her Majesty’s Opposition, the stakeholder pension will be an expensive failure; further believes the Minimum Income Guarantee combined with the proposed State Second Pension will constitute a massive extension of means-testing; and condemns the Government’s complacency and incompetence which will ensure millions of future pensioners will be forced into dependence on state handouts in retirement—(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 ‘commends the Government’s approach to pensions reform, set out in its Green Paper “Partnership in Pensions”; congratulates the Government on its determination to tackle 18 years of abject failure on the part of the Conservative government to put pensions provision on a proper footing and rejects the Conservative plans to privatise pension provision; commends the Government’s commitment to end the scandal of pensions mis-selling and its plans to strengthen the financial regulatory system; commends the Government on its commitment to economic stability and low inflation which helps pensioners; believes that its reforms to the corporate tax system, which will result in the lowest ever rate of Corporation Tax, will be in the long-term interests of companies, shareholders and pensioners; and approves of the Government’s introduction of the Minimum Income Guarantee, Winter Fuel Payments, the re-introduction of free eye tests and commitment to concessionary travel for the elderly as part of its strategy to provide security in retirement’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Darling).

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Jim Dowd: 362.

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 commends the Government’s approach to pensions reform, set out in its Green Paper “Partnership in Pensions”; congratulates the Government on its determination to tackle 18 years of abject failure on the part of the Conservative government to put pensions provision on a proper footing and rejects the Conservative plans to privatise pension provision; commends the Government’s commitment to end the scandal of pensions mis-selling and its plans to strengthen the financial regulatory system; commends the Government on its commitment to economic stability and low inflation which helps pensioners; believes that its reforms to the corporate tax system,
which will result in the lowest ever rate of Corporation Tax, will be in the long-term interests of companies, shareholders and pensioners; and approves of the Government’s introduction of the Minimum Income Guarantee, Winter Fuel Payments, the re-introduction of free eye tests and commitment to concessionary travel for the elderly as part of its strategy to provide security in retirement.

Implications of Scottish and Welsh Devolution for the Westminster Parliament.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales need to work not only in the interests of the people of Scotland and Wales but for all the people of the United Kingdom and calls upon the Government to address the imbalances and tensions introduced by the establishment of the devolved bodies; urges the Government to abandon plans for electoral reform at Westminster in the light of experience in Scotland and Wales; and calls upon all unionist parties to resist resurgent nationalism in every part of the UK—(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 ‘welcomes the establishment of the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales, following the elections on 6th May, and the prospect of working co-operatively with these bodies and in particular the opportunity this presents to make government more democratic, accountable and inclusive within the context of a stronger Union’, instead thereof.—(Mrs Helen Liddell)

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, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 121.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Clive Betts: 358.
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 Robert Ainsworth: 349.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 118.
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 establishment of the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales, following the elections on 6th May, and the prospect of working co-operatively with these bodies and in particular the opportunity this presents to make government more democratic, accountable and inclusive within the context of a stronger Union.

8 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Swindon South and others against hunting with dogs was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—

(1) Hitchin and Harpenden, and
(2) St Ives
against hunting with dogs were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson).

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

[Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—(1) Education (Nursery Education and Early Years Development) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1329),
   (2) Harrow College (Government) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1328), and
   (3) Harrow College (Incorporation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1327),
   dated 10th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


3 Police,—(1) NCIS (Complaints) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1273), and
   (2) National Crime Squad (Complaints) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1266),
   dated 29th April 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Public Passenger Transport,—Public Service Vehicles (Community Licences) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1322), dated 10th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County Borough of Neath Port Talbot) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1288), dated 5th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

Other Papers:

6 Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies (Northern Ireland),—Northern Ireland Executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies Report for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4334] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

7 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Arts Council of England: Monitoring major capital projects funded by the National Lottery [by Act]; to be printed [No. 404] [Clerk of the House].

8 National Health Service,—Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 5th May 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the Isle of Wight Healthcare National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees


APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Third Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Reply to the Second Report from the Committee, on CAP Reform: Rural Development]; to be printed [No. 441];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Outcome of the CAP Reform Negotiations]; to be printed [No. 442-i]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Outcome of the CAP Reform Negotiations],
   [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environmental Audit,—(1) Fifth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Genetically Modified Organisms and the Environment: Co-ordination of Government 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. 384]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Greening Government Initiative], to be printed [No. 426-ii]
   [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 [The Departmental Annual Report 1999]; to be printed [No. 440-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 International Development,—Third Report from the International Development Committee [Kosovo], 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. 422] [Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Procedure,—Memoranda laid before the Procedure Committee [Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

6 Statutory Instruments,—Eighteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-viii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

7 Trade and Industry,—(1) Seventh Report from the Trade and Industry Committee ["Building Confidence in Electronic Commerce": the Government’s 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. 187]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Trading, Trade Marks and Competition]; to be printed [No. 380-iii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

8 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Effect of Kosovo on Public Finances; Public Service Agreements]; to be printed [No. 378-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 87.]

Wednesday 12th May 1999.

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 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Financial Statement and Budget Report 1999–2000 and the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1999–2000 (for the purposes of their approval under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security Commissioners (Procedure) Regulations 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Agreement for Trade and Cooperation between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Korea) Order 1999 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Economic Partnership, Political Co-ordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States) Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Education (Education Standards etc. Grants) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 606).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Liaison,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee on 28th January, 25th February and 29th April be printed [No. 448].
7 European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords].—The European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords] was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th May and to be printed [Bill 100].

8 Referendum (English Parliament) Bill.—Mrs Teresa Gorman, supported by Mr David Davis, Mr Eric Forth, Mr James Gray, Mrs Ann Winterton, Mr Christopher Gill, Mr Peter Luff, Mr David Amess and Mr Howard Flight, 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 11th June and to be printed [Bill 98].

9 Country Lanes and Villages,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable traffic authorities to make provision in rural areas for the designation of highways where pedestrians, pedal cyclists and horse riders have priority on the carriageway over mechanically propelled vehicles for the purpose of improving safety and protecting the character of the countryside; to make provision for reduction of the national speed limit for certain rural roads; and for related purposes: And that Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr Peter Bradley, Jane Griffiths, Mr Tim Loughton, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr David Kidney, Mr David Drew, Mr John McWilliam, Dr Ian Gibson and Joan Walley do prepare and bring it in.

10 Country Lanes and Villages Bill.—Mrs Helen Brinton accordingly presented a Bill to enable traffic authorities to make provision in rural areas for the designation of highways where pedestrians, pedal cyclists and horse riders have priority on the carriageway over mechanically propelled vehicles for the purpose of improving safety and protecting the character of the countryside; to make provision for reduction of the national speed limit for certain rural roads; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 99].

11 Northern Ireland (Location of Victims' Remains) Bill,—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Northern Ireland (Location of Victims' Remains) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 agreed to.
Clause No. 2 (The Commission).
Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 2, line 30, to leave out from the word 'effect' to the end of line 34, and to insert the words 'on 30th September 1999'.—(Mr William Ross.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 3 agreed to.
Clause No. 4 (Restrictions on forensic testing).
Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 3, line 16, to leave out from the word 'person' to the end of the line.—(Mr William Ross.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause agreed to.
Clause No. 5 agreed to.
Clause No. 6 (Powers of entry).
Amendment (No. 1) made.
Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Clause No. 7 agreed to.
A Clause (Funeral expenses)—(Mr Lembit Opik)—brought up, and read the first time. Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Bill, as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr David Jamieson reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and made an Amendment thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now considered:—The House accordingly proceeded to consider 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, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Hanson: 324.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr William Thompson, The Reverend Martin Smyth: 5.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

12 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 Potato Industry Development Council (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th April, 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 eight minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 British Library,—Statement of appointments of Dr Jessica Rawson and Henry Boyd-Carpenter to the Board of the British Library [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4 National Loans,—Accounts relating to issues from the National Loans Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 445] [Clerk of the House].

5 Treaty Series (No. 29, 1999),—Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12th August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), done at Geneva on 8th June 1977 [by Command] [Cm. 4338] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Treaty Series (No. 30, 1999),—Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12th August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), done at Geneva on 8th June 1977 [by Command] [Cm. 4339] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Brady, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Tom Clarke, Ann Coffey, Valerie Davey, Mr Hilton Dawson, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr John Hutton, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Andrew Rowe and Dr Alan Whitehead.

2 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has appointed nineteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Harry Barnes, Miss Anne Begg, Mrs Angela Brown, Mr Harry Barnes, Miss Anne Begg, Mrs Angela Brown, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Tim Collins, Mr John Hayes, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr Tim Loughton, Mrs Theresa May, Mr Mark Oaten, Ms Linda Perham, Christine Russell, Joan Ryan, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Helen Southworth and Mr Stephen Twigg.
3 Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to the Second Scottish Standing Committee; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mrs Irene Adams, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Eric Clarke, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Eric Forth, Maria Fyfe, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Jimmy Hood, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Calum Macdonald, Rosemary McKenna, Mr David Maclean, Mrs Ray Michie, Ms Sandra Osborne, Mr David Stewart, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr John Swinney and Mr Jimmy Wray.

4 Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Jackie Ballard, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Tim Collins, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Quentin Davies, Angela Eagle, Maria Eagle, Mr John Grogan, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr David Rendel, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr Peter Temple-Morris.

5 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 47) on Rural Bus Subsidy Grants for 1999-2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 407),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony McWalter from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Jim Dobbin.

6 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 46), Private Finance Initiative (House of Commons Paper No. 408):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Hilary Armstrong, Jackie Ballard, Mr Colin Burgon, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mrs Janet Dean, Ms Beverley Hughes, Ms Fiona Jones, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr John McDonnell, Mr Richard Ottaway, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The Strategic Defence Review: Defence Medical Services], to be printed [No. 447-i] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Tenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Regional Development Agencies], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Sub-Committee, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 232-4 and III]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [The Departmental Annual Report 1999], to be printed [No. 440-ii].
   [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Scrutiny,—Nineteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Office of Electricity Regulation; Office of Gas Supply; Office of Telecommunications and Office of Water Services: How the Utility Regulators are addressing the Year 2000 Problem in Utilities], to be printed [No. 449-i] [Mr David Davis].

5 Science and Technology,—(1) First Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods], 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. 266]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Scientific Advisory System: Genetically Modified Foods]
   [Dr Michael Clark].

6 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Work of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency], to be printed [No. 446] [Mr David Marshall].
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Referendums Bill,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Referendums Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered upon Friday 21st May; and to be printed [Bill 101].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 450].

2 Access to Justice Bill [Lords],—Mr Bill O'Brien reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Access to Justice Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto and had amended the Title as follows:

   A Bill to establish the Legal Services Commission, the Community Legal Service and the Criminal Defence Service; to amend the law of legal aid in Scotland; to make further provision about legal services; to make provision about appeals (including cases stated) and applications for habeas corpus, to enable the Lord Chancellor to appoint a vice-president of the Queen's Bench Division and to make provision about proceedings in cases sent to the Crown Court and other court proceedings; to amend the law about magistrates and magistrates' courts; and to make provision about immunity from action and costs and indemnities for certain officials exercising judicial functions.

   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. 452].

3 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999.

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

4 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 47) on Rural Bus Subsidy Grants for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 407).

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

5 Opposition Day [12th 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.

   American Food Exports and European Trade Policy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the EU ban on hormonally-modified meat must end on Thursday 13th May 1999 under World Trade Organisation rules and that the USA is threatening massive retaliatory trade sanctions against member states unless this is adhered to; is concerned that the latest scientific evidence raises serious doubts over the safety of these and genetically-modified products, further undermining consumer confidence, deplores the failure of the EU and the USA to pursue agreed research criteria into the efficacy of introducing such products into the food chain, threatening established World Trade Organisation agreements and ignoring the impact of global biodiversity in the long term; and urges the Government to recognise its responsibilities at the forthcoming Millennium Round and ensure that food safety, the protection of biodiversity and assistance to the economies of developing countries are integral to negotiations on the liberalisation of trade—(Mr David Chidgey);

   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 the importance of open markets between the EU and the US, notes that in general the trade relationship is a good one, acknowledges the work being undertaken by the Government in seeking a solution to the banana disputes in a way that is World Trade Organisation compatible and is helpful to British industry and to those countries economically dependent on exports of bananas, welcomes the Government's commitment to find a solution to issues concerning US food exports that is good for the consumer, respects scientific research and avoids protectionism; welcomes the Government's commitment to consider sustainable development issues in its approach to trade issues as well as the interest of developing countries; and endorses the Government's support for comprehensive trade negotiations to be launched at the World Trade Organisation Ministerial meeting in Seattle in late 1999', instead thereof.—(Mr John Battle.)
And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Paul Keetch: 38.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Jim Dowd: 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)—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved. That this House recognises the importance of open markets between the EU and the US, notes that in general the trade relationship is a good one; acknowledges the work being undertaken by the Government in seeking a solution to the banana disputes in a way that is World Trade Organisation compatible and is helpful to British industry and to those countries economically dependent on exports of bananas; welcomes the Government’s commitment to find a solution to issues concerning US food exports that is good for the consumer, respects scientific research and avoids protectionism; welcomes the Government’s commitment to consider sustainable development issues in its approach to trade issues as well as the interest of developing countries; and endorses the Government’s support for comprehensive trade negotiations to be launched at the World Trade Organisation Ministerial meeting in Seattle in late 1999.

Parliamentary Democracy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House affirms that effective parliamentary democracy in the United Kingdom and effective scrutiny in Europe depend on competent, coherent and constructive opposition; regrets the failure of the disunited Conservative Parliamentary Party at Westminster and the antipathetic and complacent Conservative group in the European Parliament to provide that necessary check on the executive, especially given their confusion over the future funding of education, policing, the NHS and other public services, Britain’s positive role in Europe, and the achievement of necessary reforms of the institutions and policies of the European Union, and considers that the British taxpayer gets inadequate value for money from the Official Opposition—(Mr David Heath).

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 4, to leave out from the word ‘opposition’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘notes with contempt that the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party considers it to be a constructive use of specially allocated opposition time to indulge in a petty and vindictive attack on Her Majesty’s Opposition rather than to challenge the executive and hold it to account; and points out that, in so doing, a Party whose record of attendance and willingness to sacrifice principle for party advantage shows that it has no constitutional claim to the position and privileges which are rightly accorded to opposition parties in the parliamentary system’, instead thereof.—(Mr Michael Ancram.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir David Madel, Mr Tim Collins: 137.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 36.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved. That this House affirms that effective parliamentary democracy in the United Kingdom and effective scrutiny in Europe depend on competent, coherent and constructive opposition; notes with contempt that the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party considers it to be a constructive use of specially allocated opposition time to indulge in a petty and vindictive attack on Her Majesty’s Opposition rather than to challenge the executive and hold it to account; and points out that, in so doing, a Party whose record of attendance and willingness to sacrifice principle for party advantage shows that it has no constitutional claim to the position and privileges which are rightly accorded to opposition parties in the parliamentary system.

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Mr Bernard Calvert for a referendum on the United Kingdom’s membership of the European Union was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
7 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of the constituencies of—
(1) Devon North,
(2) Islwyn, and
(3) Stevenage
against hunting with dogs were 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 thirteen minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
[Adjourned at 7.47 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
2 Animals,—Cattle Identification (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.1339), dated 12th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].
3 Constitutional Law,—(1) Scotland Act 1998 (Transitory and Transitional Provisions) (Complaints of Maladministration) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1351), and
4 Housing,—Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1307), dated 6th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:
6 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on European Union Enlargement [by Command] [Cm. 4348] [Mr Secretary Cook].
7 Intelligence Services,—Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee on Sierra Leone [by Command] [Cm. 4309] [The Prime Minister].
8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on The PFI Contract for the new Dartford and Gravesham Hospital [by Act]; to be printed [No. 423] [Clerk of the House].
9 National Lottery,—Strategic Plan of the Heritage Lottery Fund for 1999-2002 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees
1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Fourth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Staging International Sporting Events], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 124] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Greening Government Initiative]; to be printed [No. 426-ii] [Mr John Horam].
3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare]; to be printed [281-vii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Valuation Office Agency]; to be printed [No. 420-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

   A Clause (Appropriate authority responsibility for forfeited animals)—(Mr David Maclean)—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 Eric Forth, Mr David Maclean: 2.

   Tellers for the Noes, Angela Smith, Mrs Linda Gilroy: 66.

   Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 10, to leave out subsection (2).—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

   Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 17, to leave out ‘£20,000’ and insert the words ‘level 5 on the standard scale or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or both.’.—(Mr David Maclean.)

   Question put, That the Amendment be made.

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Maclean, Mr Eric Forth: 1.

   Tellers for the Noes, Angela Smith, Mrs Linda Gilroy: 66.

   Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 17, at the end to insert the words

   ‘(5) In this Act, except where the context otherwise requires, any reference to “animals” shall be a reference to any of the species of animal specified in the Schedule to this Act.’.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

   Another Amendment (No. 36) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 20, at the end, to insert the words—

   ‘(c) in Northern Ireland, to the Crown Court’.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

   And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 21st May.

2 Poverty and Social Exclusion (National Strategy) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Poverty and Social Exclusion (National Strategy) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

3 Cheques (Scotland) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 19th March, That the Cheques (Scotland) Bill be now read a second time;

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

4 Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill[Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill [Lords];

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

5 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 23rd July.
6 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th April, That the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 11th June.

7 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 11th June.

8 Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords].—The Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) 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 Stephen Pound):—It was agreed to.

Resolved. That this House will immediately resolve itself into the said Committee:—The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

Clauses Nos. 1 to 4 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and 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 the third time on Friday 23rd July.

9 Age Limits on Health Care Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

10 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd April, That the Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 21st May.

11 Access to Environmental Information Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

12 Planning Appeals Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning Appeals Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

13 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 21st May.

14 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 21st May.

15 European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

16 Adjournment,—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes past Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 17th May.

[Adjourned at 3.05 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3. Food,—Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1360), dated 11th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

4. Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1375), dated 13th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Geoffrey Hoon].

5. Medical Profession,—European Specialist Medical Qualifications Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1373), dated 13th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].


(2) Social Security (Overlapping Benefits) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1362), dated 13th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7. National Lottery,—Strategic Plan of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1999–2002 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8. Treaty Series (No. 32, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Santiago on 15th June and 30th June 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Chile concerning liability for damage during the launch phase of the Fasat-Bravo Satellite [by Command] [Cm. 4543] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of Standing Committee D.

2. Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of Standing Committee F.

3. Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of the Second Scottish Standing Committee.

4. Draft International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designation and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, and the draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

5. Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

6. Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 438),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

7. Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 46): Private Finance Initiative (House of Commons Paper No. 408),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report.

European Standing Committees

8. The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 5263/99, relating to the Newly Independent States and Mongolia.
Monday 17th May 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended, be considered in the following order, namely: New Clauses; Amendments relating to Clauses Nos. 1 to 6, Schedule No. 1, Clauses Nos. 7 to 16, Schedule No. 2, Clause No. 17, Schedule No. 3, Clauses Nos. 18 and 19, Schedule No. 4, Clauses Nos. 20 to 29, Schedule No. 5, Clauses Nos. 30 to 44, Schedule No. 6, Clauses Nos. 45 to 50, Schedule No. 7, Clauses Nos. 51 to 61, Schedule No. 8, Clauses Nos. 62 to 64, Schedule No. 9, Clause No. 65, Schedule No. 10, Clauses Nos. 66 to 70, Schedule No. 11 and Clause No. 71; New Schedules; Amendments relating to Clauses Nos. 72 and 73, Schedule No. 12, Clauses Nos. 74 to 76, Schedule No. 13 and Clauses Nos. 77 to 79.—(Jim Dowd.)

A Clause (Extension of entitlement to state maternity allowance)—(Mr Hugh Bayley)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Jim Dowd: 365.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Sir David Madel: 130.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Optional work-focused interviews)—(Mr Andrew Smith)—brought up, and read the first and second time.

Amendment (a) proposed to the proposed Clause, to leave out lines 22 and 23.—(Mr Iain Duncan Smith.)

Question put, That the Amendment to the proposed Clause be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 133.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mrs Anne McGuire: 409.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Excessive pension contributions made by persons who have become insolvent)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—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 David Jamieson, Jane Kennedy: 415.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr John M. Taylor: 138.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Excessive pension contributions made by persons who have become insolvent: Scotland)—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Earnings of workers supplied by service companies etc.)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—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.

2 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 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr David Clelland).—It was agreed to.
3 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Question again proposed. That the Clause (Earnings of workers supplied by service companies etc.) be read a second time:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Question put.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 375.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Tim Collins: 182.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Earnings of workers supplied by service companies etc.: Northern Ireland)—(Mr Kevin Hughes)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Additional bereavement allowance)—(Mr Eric Pickles)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—

Tuesday 18th May 1999

Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Age additions)—(Steve Webb)—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 David Heath, Mr Andrew Stunell: 41.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Graham Allen, Mrs Anne McGuire: 361.

Another Clause (Income support premiums payable upon termination of bereavement allowance)—(Mr David Rendel)—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: 41.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 34.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned—(Mr Keith Bradley);

Mr Keith Bradley 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 Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill: 318.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 34.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill: 314.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Roger Gale: 21.

So the Question was agreed to.

Bill to be further considered this day.

4 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 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-seven minutes past Five o'clock on Tuesday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 5.27 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Social Security,—Social Security (Hospital In-Patients, Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1326), dated 10th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

3 Coroners,—Cambridgeshire (Coroners' Districts) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1325), dated 10th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Paper, entitled A better quality of life: a strategy for sustainable development for the United Kingdom [by Command] [Cm. 4345] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Industrial Development (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4333] [Secretary Majorie Mowlam].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Grogan from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Dr Desmond Turner.

2 Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 438),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Whittingdale from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Nick Gibb.

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 [Single Work-focused Gateway Pilots], to be printed [No. 412-iv] [Mr Paul Keetch].

2 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Prison Service: Managing Sickness Absence in the Prison Service]; to be printed [No. 453-i] [Mr David Davis].

3 Social Security and Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee and the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee, meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments), [Single Work-focused Gateway Pilots]; to be printed [No. 412-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Immigration and Asylum Bill.—Mr John Maxton reported from the Special Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Immigration and Asylum Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Special Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 104].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 457].

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designation and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, and the draft Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1999.

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

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1999.

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

4 Rural Transport,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for rural transport partnership schemes, administered and operated by voluntary groups, parish and town councils, to supplement bus services in rural areas: And that Mr David Prior, Mr John Bercow, Mr Christopher Fraser, Mr John Hayes, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Archie Norman, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Desmond Swayne do prepare and bring it in.

5 Rural Transport Bill.—Mr David Prior accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for rural transport partnership schemes, administered and operated by voluntary groups, parish and town councils, to supplement bus services in rural areas. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 103].

6 Adjournment (Kosovo) (No. 3),—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.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

   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 Professions Supplementary to Medicine,—(1) Draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board) Order of Council 1999,

   (2) draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board) Order of Council 1999, and

   (3) draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board) Order of Council 1999

   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Judicial Committee,—Judicial Committee (Powers in Devolution Cases) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1320), dated 11th May 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].


5 Value Added Tax,—Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1374), dated 18th May 1999 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

Other Papers:

6 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Amendment No. 3 to the Concession Agreement relating to Development, Financing, Construction and Operation of a Fixed Link across the English Channel [by Command] [Cm. 4350] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 European Union,—Paper, entitled Developments in the European Union, July to December 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4352] [Mr Secretary Cook].

8 Law Commission (Scotland),—Report by the Scottish Law Commission on Penalty Clauses [by Act]; to be printed [No. 411] [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Company Director Disqualification: A Follow Up Report [by Act]; to be printed [No. 424] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 438),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Lynda Clark from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr John Grogan.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Employment Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 111-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Greening Government Initiative]; to be printed [No. 426-iv] [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 [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-v] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The Future of Sanctions]; to be printed [No. 454-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

5 Statutory Instruments,—(1) Nineteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xix]; and

(2) First Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 456-i] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Trading, Trade Marks and Competition]; to be printed [No. 380-iv] [Mr Martin O’Neill].
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. Leeds Central 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 Leeds Central in the room of the Right honourable Derek John Fatchett, deceased.—(Mrs Ann Taylor.)

3. Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill.—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 11th June; and to be printed [Bill 106].
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 461].

4. Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Second Scottish Standing Committee, That it had gone through the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.
   Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 23rd July.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 463].

5. Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 438).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6. Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 46) on the Private Finance Initiative (House of Commons Paper No. 408).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7. European Standing Committee B,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 5263/99, a draft Council Regulation on the provision of assistance to economic reform and recovery in the Newly Independent States and Mongolia; and supports the Government’s position that the proposed Regulation is broadly acceptable, that the Government will work with Member States to secure a Regulation which will ensure greater emphasis on social and environmental issues, maintain TACIS as a technical assistance instrument, improve procedures and incorporate a dialogue-driven approach to programming.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

8. Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend section 63 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

9. Pensions (Amendment) Bill,—The Order for reading the Pensions (Amendment) Bill a second time on Friday 21st May was read and discharged.
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

10. Bells on Pedal Cycles,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Secretary of State to make regulations on the fitting, maintenance and use of bells on pedal cycles—(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 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 Andrew F. Bennett, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Ms Margaret Moran and Mr Alan Simpson do prepare and bring in the Bill.

11 Bells on Pedal Cycles Bill,—Dr Nick Palmer accordingly presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to make regulations on the fitting, maintenance and use of bells on pedal cycles. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 105].

12 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.

Fraud in the European Union Budget,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that for four successive years the European Court of Auditors has declined to provide assurance that the transactions underlying payments from the European budget are legal and regular; regrets the failure of the UK Presidency to achieve any concrete measures to tackle fraud and mismanagement in the EU budget; congratulates Mr Paul Van Butsen on his courageous action in exposing the incompetence and unwillingness of the European Commission to tackle fraud; condemns the action of Labour MEPs, urged on by the British Government, in seeking to protect the Commission from censure; notes that, despite the vote in the European Parliament to censure the Commission, no Commissioner has yet left office; believes that confidence will only be restored if all existing Commissioners are replaced forthwith; and calls on the Government to ensure that genuine and effective measures to tackle fraud in all of the institutions of the European Union are taken as a matter of urgency.—(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 ‘welcomes the efforts of the Government to work with fellow Member States and European institutions to crack down on fraud against the EU budget; notes the real practical progress made in this regard by the Government during the United Kingdom Presidency of the EU; welcomes the Chancellor’s initiative for a strong head of fraud investigations heading an independent fraud prevention office; welcomes the role played by Labour MEPs in securing the establishment of the Committee of Independent Experts; joins the Government in calling for recent events to be used as an opportunity for root and branch reform of the Commission; calls on Romano Prodi, following his recent nomination as President-elect of the European Commission, to place the fight against fraud at the top of the new Commission’s agenda; and believes that the only way of reforming Europe is the Government’s strong leadership and constructive engagement rather than the Opposition’s weak leadership, division and isolationism’; instead thereof.—(Mr Alan Milburn.)

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: 178.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Jane Kennedy: 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.

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

Resolved. That this House welcomes the efforts of the Government to work with fellow Member States and the European institutions to crack down on fraud against the EU budget; notes the real practical progress made in this regard by the Government during the United Kingdom Presidency of the EU; welcomes the Chancellor’s initiative for a strong head of fraud investigations heading an independent fraud prevention office; welcomes the role played by Labour MEPs in securing the establishment of the Committee of Independent Experts; joins the Government in calling for recent events to be used as an opportunity for root and branch reform of the Commission; calls on Romano Prodi, following his recent nomination as President-elect of the European Commission, to place the fight against fraud at the top of the new Commission’s agenda; and believes that the only way of reforming Europe is the Government’s strong leadership and constructive engagement rather than the Opposition’s weak leadership, division and isolationism.

Conditions of Service of NHS Personnel,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the proposal of Her Majesty’s Government to
raise the agreed working hours of junior doctors to 65 per week; notes also its failure to
deliver to nurses the pay increases which were promised to be implemented in full from
April 1999; notes further the anxiety and disappointment caused to consultants by its
failure to implement the recommendations of the Pay Review Body; notes the concerns
of Professions Allied to Medicine; and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to recognis
that increased expectations followed by disappointment have profoundly damaged
morale among loyal and hardworking NHS staff.-(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 ‘recognises and applauds the
massive contribution the staff make to providing the fairest and most efficient healthcare
system in the world; regrets the shambles in the NHS that the Government inherited
which was demoralising to staff and damaging to patients; welcomes the action the new
Government has taken to make things better for staff and patients alike, including £21
billion extra for the NHS over the next three years, record capital investment in new
buildings, equipment and facilities to enable the staff to provide top-quality care, the
biggest real-terms pay rise for nurses for 10 years paid nationally in full, proposals for
radical pay reform to give fairer rewards to staff who extend their roles, widen their skills
and work in teams to care for patients, negotiations on a new consultants’ contract to
ensure rewards go to those who contribute most to the NHS, ambitious targets to improve
the quality of the working lives of NHS staff, including tough action to crack down on
violence and racism at work, the promotion of family-friendly employment policies and
investment in training and continuing professional development; welcomes the
Government’s commitment to reducing junior doctors’ hours in line with the draft
European Working Time Directive vehemently opposed by the Conservative Party and
carefully planned so as not to damage improvements in patient care; and accepts no
lectures about conditions of service for NHS personnel from a Party that did more in
Government to demoralise the staff than any other in living memory and which spends
most of its time in Opposition running down the achievements of the NHS staff and saying
the Health Service can no longer cope’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Dobson.)

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

Sir Peter Emery 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 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.

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

Resolved, That this House recognises and applauds the massive contribution the staff
make to providing the fairest and most efficient healthcare system in the world; regrets
the shambles in the NHS that the Government inherited which was demoralising to staff
and damaging to patients; welcomes the action the new Government has taken to make
things better for staff and patients alike, including £21 billion extra for the NHS over the
next three years, record capital investment in new buildings, equipment and facilities to
enable the staff to provide top-quality care, the biggest real-terms pay rise for nurses for
10 years paid nationally in full, proposals for radical pay reform to give fairer rewards
to staff who extend their roles, widen their skills and work in teams to care for patients,
negotiations on a new consultants’ contract to ensure rewards go to those who contribute
most to the NHS, ambitious targets to improve the quality of the working lives of NHS
staff, including tough action to crack down on violence and racism at work, the
promotion of family-friendly employment policies and investment in training and
continuing professional development; welcomes the Government’s commitment to
reducing junior doctors’ hours in line with the draft European Working Time Directive
vehemently opposed by the Conservative Party and carefully planned so as not to damage
improvements in patient care; and accepts no lectures about conditions of service for NHS personnel from a Party that did more in Government to demoralise the staff than any other in living memory and which spends most of its time in Opposition running down the achievements of the NHS staff and saying the Health Service can no longer cope.

13 Section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [22nd April] and Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That this House takes note with approval of the Government’s assessment as set out in the Financial Statement and Budget Report 1999–2000 and the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1999–2000 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993—(Mr Clive Betts);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 340.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 121.

So the Question was agreed to.


14 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 Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 28th April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Jamieson: 330.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir David Madel, Mrs Caroline Spelman: 112.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved: That the draft Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 28th April, 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) (Framework Agreement for Trade and Cooperation between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Korea) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 21st April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was agreed to.

16 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) (Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and the United Mexican States) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was agreed to.

17 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 and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 4th May, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was agreed to.

18 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 Commissioners (Procedure) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 21st April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was agreed to.

19 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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 47) on rural bus subsidy grants for 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 407), which was laid before this House on 27th April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was agreed to.

20 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 International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designation and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 15th April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts)—It was agreed to.
21 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) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 15th April, be approved—(Mr Clive Betts).—It was agreed to.

22 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Broxtowe and others calling for legislation to require bells to be fitted to bicycles was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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

[Adjourned at 11.28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—European Parliamentary Election Petition (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1398), dated 18th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

Other Papers:

2 Broadcasting,—Report and Financial Statements of the Radio Authority for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 European Communities (No. 9, 1999),—Convention, done at Brussels on 17th June 1998, drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union on Driving Disqualifications, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4327] [Mr Secretary Cook].


5 Treaty Series (No. 31, 1999),—Convention, done at London on 23rd April 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Mongolia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital [by Command] [Cm. 4341] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Health Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Helen Liddell from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Calum Macdonald.

2 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Paul Boateng, Mr James Clappison, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Stephen Day, Julia Drown, Caroline Flint, Mr John Greenway, Mr Mike Hall, Mr George Howarth, Ms Beverley Hughes, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Ms Margaret Moran, Bob Russell, Angela Smith, Gisela Stuart and Mr Robert Syms.

3 Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Terry Davis, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Doug Henderson, Mr Robert Key, Mrs Anne McGuire, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Gareth Thomas, Mr Mark Todd and Joan Walley.

4 Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee; viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Graham Brady, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Ronnie Campbell, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Martin Linton, Alice Mahon, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Phil Sawford, Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Paul Stinchcombe.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Third Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Observations on the Third Report from the Committee, on The Future of NATO: The Washington Summit]; to be printed [No. 459] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Eleventh Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Reducing the Environmental Impact of Consumer Products], 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. 149-I and -III]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [No. 171-vi] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Tendered Bus Services]; to be printed [No. 429-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Scrutiny.—(1) Twentieth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xx]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Pre-Council Scrutiny: Justice and Home Affairs Council 27–28 May 1999]; to be printed [No. 464] [Mr Bill Rammell].

4 Financial Services and Markets.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets; to be printed [No. 465] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

5 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Cologne European Council; Kosovo]; to be printed [Nos. 462-i and 188-vi] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Home Affairs.—(1) Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Freemasonry in Public Life], 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. 467]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Freemasonry in Public Life] [Mr Chris Mullin].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Operation of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [No. 95-ix] [Mr Peter Brooke].

8 Procedure.—(1) Third Report from the Procedure Committee [Names Added to Early Day Motions], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 466]; and

(2) Fourth Report from the Committee [The Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; 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. 185] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

9 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Work of The Scottish Office]; to be printed [No. 460] [Mr David Marshall].

10 Standards and Privileges.—(1) Seventh Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaint against Mrs Teresa Gorman], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 458]; and

(2) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 18th May [Complaint against Mrs Teresa Gorman]; to be printed [No. 458-i] [Mr Robert Sheldon].
Thursday 20th May 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords].—Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto:

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 108].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 471].

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

   Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for implementing Council Directive 96/61/EC and for otherwise preventing and controlling pollution; and for connected purposes, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords].—The Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 107].

   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 107–EN].

4 Welfare Reform and Pensions 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 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill—

   Order of consideration

   1. The Bill, as amended, shall be further considered in the following order, namely amendments relating to Clauses 53 to 56; remaining New Clauses; amendments relating to Clauses 1 to 6, Schedule 1, Clauses 7 to 16, Schedule 2, Clause 17, Schedule 3, Clauses 18 and 19, Schedule 4, Clauses 20 to 29, Schedule 5, Clauses 30 to 44, Schedule 6, Clauses 45 to 50, Schedule 7, Clauses 51 and 52, Clauses 57 to 61, Schedule 8, Clauses 62 to 64, Schedule 9, Clause 63, Schedule 10, Clauses 66 to 70, Schedule 11 and Clause 71, New Schedules; amendments relating to Clauses 72 and 73, Schedule 12, Clauses 74 to 76, Schedule 13 and Clauses 77 to 79.

   Timetable

   2.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration in respect of amendments relating to Clauses 53 to 56 shall be completed at today’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion four and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

   (2) The remaining proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be completed at today’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion six hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

   Questions to put

   3.—(1) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 2(1) 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 that any remaining amendments to Clauses 53 to 56 standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown be made to the Bill;

      (d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

   (2) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 2(2) 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 that all remaining amendments standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown be made to the Bill;

      (d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.
4. Standing Order 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at today’s sitting, and the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House.

5. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill.

6. No Motion shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown, to alter the order in which any proceedings on the Bill are taken or to recommence the Bill, and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.

7. No dilatory Motion shall be made in relation to the Bill except by a Minister of the Crown, and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.

8. 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) shall apply to those proceedings.

9. If at today’s sitting a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (as that Standing Order has effect in accordance with the Order of the House [16th December 1998]) stands over to Four o’clock and proceedings on this Motion have begun before that time, the Motion for the Adjournment shall stand over until the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill.

10. If the House is adjourned at today’s sitting, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill, 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 Secretary Darling.)

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Jane Kennedy: 377.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Sir David Madel: 145.

So the Question was agreed to.

5 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill (allotted day).—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 12) proposed to the Bill, in page 52, line 18, to leave out Clauses 53 and 54.—(Mr Roger Berry.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Jim Cousins: 270.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 310.

And it being four and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill (Allocation of Time), the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question he was directed to put at that time.

Amendment (No. 31) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (Duty as an employer to offer payroll deduction facility)—(Mr Quentin Davies)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

And it being six hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill (Allocation of Time), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Oliver Heald: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 420.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions he was directed to put to bring proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading to a conclusion.

Question put, That all the remaining Amendments standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown be made to the Bill.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Clive Betts: 381.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Oliver Heald: 153.

Amendments (Nos. 42 to 44, 28, 29, 53 to 62, 66, 67, 46, 32 to 39, 13, 15, 14, 63 to 65, 16, 17, 78, 92 to 105, 40, 91, 30, 47, 106, 9, 41, 48, 68, 69, 108, 49, 109, 111, 112, 18, 70, 71, 10, 11, 19, 51, 50, 72 to 77, 107, 52 and 110) accordingly made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Secretary Darling, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 360.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Stephen Day: 142.

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 the constituency of Ashford against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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

[Adjourned at 8.23 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—(1) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Avon Valley) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1368),
(2) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Breckland) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1364),
(3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Clun) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1369),
(4) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Exmoor) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1371),
(5) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Lake District) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1363),
(7) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (North Peak) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1367),
(8) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (South Wessex Downs) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1370),
(9) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Suffolk River Valleys) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1372),
(10) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Test Valley) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1365),
dated 13th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].


Other Papers:


4 Intelligence Services,—Government Response to the Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee on Sierra Leone [by Command] [Cm. 4347] [The Prime Minster].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Harry Cohen from Standing Committee E (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Hilton Dawson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Sea Fishing]; to be printed [No. 141-iv]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Performing Right Society and the Abolition of the Classical Music Subsidy]; to be printed [No. 468-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Greening Government Initiative]; to be printed [No. 426-v] [Mr John Horam].

4 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Department of Health Expenditure, 1999]; to be printed [No. 469-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Debt Relief and the Cologne G8 Summit]; to be printed [No. 470-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Bill read the third time, and passed.

3 Referendums Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Referendums Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Commencement (No. 2))—(Mr Andrew Miller)—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 Miller, Mr Tony McNulty, 3.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Dismore, Dr Alan Whitehead, 0.

And it appearing on the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next Sitting of the House.

4 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 14th May on consideration of the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Amendment (No. 36) be made;

Which Amendment was, in page 2, line 20, at the end, to insert the words '(c) in Northern Ireland, to the Crown Court';

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 11th June.

5 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

6 Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

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 23rd July.

8 Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

9 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 11th June.

10 Licensing (Young Persons) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 16th April, That the Licensing (Young Persons) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 11th June.

11 Age Limits on Health Care Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

12 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd April, That the Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 11th June.

13 Access to Environmental Information Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

14 Planning Appeals Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning Appeals Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.
15 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 11th June.

16 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 11th June.

17 European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 11th June.

18 Adjournment (Whitsun).—A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That the Order of the House [30th April] relating to Adjournment (Whitsun) shall have effect subject to the following modification in line 3, to leave out ‘Thursday 27th May’ and insert ‘Wednesday 26th May’—(Mr Kevin Hughes).—It was agreed to.

19 Business of the House,—Ordered, That the Order of the House [30th April] relating to Business of the House shall have effect subject to the following modification in line 1, to leave out ‘Thursday 27th May’ and insert ‘Wednesday 26th May’.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

20 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 24th May, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to the Second Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons, on Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall (House of Commons Paper No. 194), and to Sittings in Westminster Hall not later than three hours after the commencement of those proceedings and the Motions may be entered upon and proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

21 Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill.—Resolved, That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill published in the Command Paper entitled Local Leadership, Local Choice (Cm. 4298), and that the Committee should report by 31st July 1999.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

To be communicated to the Lords, and their concurrence desired thereto.

22 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 24th May.

[Adjourned at 3.01 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges) (Third Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1412), dated 13th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 Air Force (Constitution),—New Regulations and Amendments to the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force (Chapter 48) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson and Mrs Marion Roe Chairmen of Standing Committee E.
Monday 24th May 1999.

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 Rating (Valuation) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Bill, without Amendment.

Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill.—The Lords concur with the Commons in their Message [21st May], That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill published in the Command Paper entitled Local Leadership, Local Choice (Cm. 4298), and that the Committee should report by 31st July 1999.

2 Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) Bill [Lords],—The Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 109].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 109-EN].

3 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords],—The Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Commonwealth Development Corporation 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 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the issuing out of the National Loans Fund of sums required by the Secretary of State for making loans to the Commonwealth Development Corporation or a company associated with it;

(2) the charging on and issuing out of the Consolidated Fund of sums required by the Treasury for fulfilling any guarantee given for the discharge of financial obligations of the Corporation;

(3) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(i) sums required by the Secretary of State for fulfilling any guarantee given for the discharge of financial obligations of companies associated with the Corporation;

(ii) sums required by the Secretary of State in connection with the acquisition of, or of rights to subscribe for, securities issued by the Corporation and companies associated with it;

(iii) any increase attributable to the Act in the administrative expenses of the Secretary of State or the Treasury;

(iv) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under any other Act;

(4) the extinguishing of liabilities of the Corporation and of companies associated with it in respect of guarantees under the Act and advances and guarantees under the Commonwealth Development Corporation Act 1978;

(5) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund or the National Loans Fund—(Mr Greg Pope)—It was agreed to.

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House approves the Second Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons, on Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall (House of Commons Paper No. 194)—(Margaret Beckett);
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 3, at the end to add the words ‘except for paragraphs 17 and 24, and considers that the new sittings should be known as the Commons Committee; that the Wednesday morning sitting devoted to private members’ business should not be transferred to Westminster Hall, and that the seating plan to be adopted should be as set out in Appendix 2 of the Report.’—[Mr Eric Forth.]

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Speaker put the Questions necessary to dispose of those proceedings, pursuant to Order [21st May].

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Maclean: 43.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Kevin Hughes: 144.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Kevin Hughes: 145.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Maclean: 36.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House approves the Second Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons, on Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall (House of Commons Paper No. 194).

6 Sittings in Westminster Hall.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [21st May], That in the next Session of Parliament the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

1 On days on which the House shall sit there shall be a sitting in Westminster Hall—

(a) on Tuesdays between Ten o’clock and One o’clock;

(b) on Wednesdays between half-past Nine o’clock and Two o’clock; and

(c) on Thursdays beginning at half-past Two o’clock and continuing for up to three hours (and in calculating that period no account shall be taken of any period during which the sitting may be suspended owing to a division being called in the House or a committee of the whole House).

2 Any Member of the House may take part in a sitting in Westminster Hall.

3 Subject to paragraph (12) below, the business taken at any sitting in Westminster Hall shall be such as the Chairman of Ways and Means shall appoint.

4 The Chairman of Ways and Means or a Deputy Chairman shall take the chair in Westminster Hall as Deputy Speaker; and the House may appoint not more than four other members of the Chairmen’s Panel to sit in Westminster Hall as Deputy Speaker.

5 Any order made or resolution come to at a sitting in Westminster Hall (other than a resolution to adjourn) shall be reported to the House by the Deputy Speaker and shall be deemed to be an order or resolution of the House.

6 If a motion be made by a Minister of the Crown that an order of the day be proceeded with at a sitting in Westminster Hall, the question thereon shall be put forthwith, but such motion may be made only with the leave of the House and may not be made on a Friday.

7 The quorum at a sitting in Westminster Hall shall be three.

8 If at a sitting in Westminster Hall the opinion of the Deputy Speaker as to the decision of a question (other than a question for adjournment) is challenged, that question shall not be decided, and the Deputy Speaker shall report to the House accordingly; and any such question shall be put forthwith upon a motion being made in the House.

9 If any business other than a motion for adjournment is under consideration at a sitting in Westminster Hall, and not fewer than six Members rise in their places and signify their objection to further proceeding, that business shall not be further proceeded with in Westminster Hall, and the Deputy Speaker shall report to the House accordingly, and any order under paragraph (6) above relating thereto shall be discharged.
(10) At the end of each sitting in Westminster Hall, unless a question for adjournment has previously been agreed to, the Deputy Speaker shall adjourn the sitting without putting any question; and proceedings on any business which has been entered upon but not disposed of shall lapse.

(11) The provisions of Standing Orders No. 29 (Powers of chair to propose question), No. 36 (Closure of debate), No. 37 (Majority for closure or proposal of question), No. 38 (Procedure on divisions), No. 39 (Voting), No. 40 (Division unnecessarily claimed), No. 41 (Quorum), No. 43 (Disorderly conduct), No. 44 (Order in debate), No. 45 (Members suspended, &c. to withdraw from precincts), No. 45A (Suspension of salary of Members suspended) and No. 163 (Motions to sit in private) shall not apply to sittings in Westminster Hall.

(12) The House shall meet on Wednesdays at half-past two o’clock, and paragraphs (1) and (2) of Standing Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House) shall have effect on Wednesdays; and Standing Order No. 10 (Wednesday sittings), so far as it relates to business taken before Two o’clock, shall apply only to sitting in Westminster Hall, and shall have effect as if paragraph (3) were omitted—(Mr David Clelland).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Maclean: 26.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That in the next Session of Parliament the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

(1) On days on which the House shall sit there shall be a sitting in Westminster Hall—

(a) on Tuesdays between Ten o’clock and One o’clock;

(b) on Wednesdays between half-past Nine o’clock and Two o’clock; and

(c) on Thursdays beginning at half-past Two o’clock and continuing for up to three hours (and in calculating that period no account shall be taken of any period during which the sitting may be suspended owing to a division being called in the House or a committee of the whole House).

(2) Any Member of the House may take part in a sitting in Westminster Hall.

(3) Subject to paragraph (12) below, the business taken at any sitting in Westminster Hall shall be such as the Chairman of Ways and Means shall appoint.

(4) The Chairman of Ways and Means or a Deputy Chairman shall take the chair in Westminster Hall as Deputy Speaker; and the House may appoint not more than four other members of the Chairmen’s Panel to sit in Westminster Hall as Deputy Speaker.

(5) Any order made or resolution come to at a sitting in Westminster Hall (other than a resolution to adjourn) shall be reported to the House by the Deputy Speaker and shall be deemed to be an order or resolution of the House.

(6) If a motion be made by a Minister of the Crown that an order of the day be proceeded with at a sitting in Westminster Hall, the question thereon shall be put forthwith, but such motion may be made only with the leave of the House and may not be made on a Friday.

(7) The quorum at a sitting in Westminster Hall shall be three.

(8) If at a sitting in Westminster Hall the opinion of the Deputy Speaker as to the decision of a question (other than a question for adjournment) is challenged, that question shall not be decided, and the Deputy Speaker shall report to the House accordingly; and any such question shall be put forthwith upon a motion being made in the House.

(9) If any business other than a motion for adjournment is under consideration at a sitting in Westminster Hall, and not fewer than six Members rise in their places and signify their objection to further proceeding, that business shall not be further proceeded with in Westminster Hall, and the Deputy Speaker shall report to the House accordingly, and any order under paragraph (6) above relating thereto shall be discharged.

(10) At the end of each sitting in Westminster Hall, unless a question for adjournment has previously been agreed to, the Deputy Speaker shall adjourn the sitting without putting any question; and proceedings on any business which has been entered upon but not disposed of shall lapse.

(11) The provisions of Standing Orders No. 29 (Powers of chair to propose question), No. 36 (Closure of debate), No. 37 (Majority for closure or proposal of question), No. 38 (Procedure on divisions), No. 39 (Voting), No. 40 (Division unnecessarily claimed),
No. 41 (Quorum), No. 43 (Disorderly conduct), No. 44 (Order in debate), No. 45 (Members suspended, &c. to withdraw from precincts), No. 45A (Suspension of salary of Members suspended) and No. 163 (Motions to sit in private) shall not apply to sittings in Westminster Hall.

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

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 Negative Resolution:


3 Protection of Wrecks,—The Protection of Wrecks (Designation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1438), dated 23rd May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

4 Broadcasting,—Report and Financial Statements of the Channel Four Television Corporation for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Freedom of Information,—Paper, entitled Freedom of Information: Consultation on Draft Legislation [by Command] [Cm. 4355] [Mr Secretary Straw].

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

   (1) Procurement in the English Higher Education Sector, and

   (2) The Millennium Threat: 221 Days and Counting

   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 437 and 436] [Clerk of the House].

7 Representation of the People,—European Parliamentary Elections (Welsh Forms) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1402), dated 18th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Terry Davis from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order), and nominated in substitution Mr Martin Salter.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Security of Supply: The Award of a Propellant Contract]; to be printed [No. 274–iii] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [National Savings: Developments in Financial Reporting]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 243]:


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

PRAYERS.

1 Health Bill [Lords].—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Health Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereto, and had amended the Title as follows:

A Bill to amend the law about the national health service; make provision in relation to arrangements and payments between health service bodies and local authorities with respect to health and health-related functions; confer power to regulate any professions concerned (wholly or partly) with the physical or mental health of individuals; and for connected purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 110]. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 483].

2 Waiting Times (National Health Service).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the publication of average patient waiting times for first outpatient appointments by specialty and average patient waiting times for treatment by specialty; and for connected purposes. And that Mr David Amess, Mrs Angela Browning, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Michael Fabricant, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Edward Leigh, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr John Randall, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr Robert Syms, Mr Andrew Tyrie, and Mr Robert Walter do prepare and bring it in.

3 Waiting Times (National Health Service) Bill.—Mr David Amess accordingly presented a Bill to require the publication of average patient waiting times for first outpatient appointments by specialty and average patient waiting times for treatment by specialty; and for connected purposes. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 111].

4 Adjournment (European Union).—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.

5 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 Order of the House of 2nd December relating to sittings of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall have effect with the substitution in line 3 for the words ‘10th June’ of the words ‘24th June’—(Mr David Clelland).—It was agreed to.
6 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 26th May—

(1) the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the names of Margaret Beckett or Mrs Marion Roe relating to—

(a) Line of Route not later than two hours after the Motion has been entered upon;

(b) Financial Assistance to Opposition Parties not later than one and a half hours after the Motion has been entered upon;

and the second Motion may be entered upon and proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock;

(2) the Questions referred to in paragraph (1) shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; and

(3) the Motion in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to Select Committees (Quorum) may be entered upon and proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.—(Mr David Clelland)

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Christian Action for Justice in Immigration Law and others for new and inclusive nationality legislation was presented and read; 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—(Mr David Clelland);

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 twenty-eight minutes to Eleven o’clock, 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,—Education (Governors’ Annual Reports) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1406), dated 17th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].


Other Papers:

3 Charities,—Report and Accounts of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales for 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 405] [Mr Secretary Straw].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Robin Corbett from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order), and nominated in substitution Dr George Turner.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy]; to be printed [No. 479-i] [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 [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; to be printed [No. 307-vii]; and
1 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill); And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Contingencies Fund, 1997–98.—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Accounts of the Contingencies Fund, 1997–98, showing:

(1) The Receipts and Payments in connection with the Fund in the year ended the 31st day of March 1998;

(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.—(Jim Dowd.)

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:

Scottish Enterprise Act 1999
Rating (Valuation) Act 1999
Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Act 1999.
4 Sustainable Energy Agency.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a sustainable energy agency to promote renewable energy generation and encourage energy efficiency, and for related purposes: And that Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West), Mr Tony Colman, Frank Cook, Mr Paul Clark, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr Clive Eilford, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Andrew Reed, Angela Smith, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Stephen Twigg and Dr Alan Whitehead do prepare and bring it in.

5 Sustainable Energy Agency Bill.—Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West) accordingly presented a Bill to establish a sustainable energy agency to promote renewable energy generation and encourage energy efficiency, and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 112].

6 Line of Route,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House approves the First Report from the Administration Committee on the Proposal to Re-open the Line of Route during the Summer Adjournment (House of Commons Paper No. 394)—(Mrs Marion Roe); An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question, and to add the words ‘declines to approve the First Report from the Administration Committee (House of Commons Paper No. 394) on the proposal to re-open the Line of Route during the Summer Adjournment until the full implications for entry into the Houses of Parliament at other times of the year, and other options for making these arrangements, are examined and costed.’, instead thereof.—(Mr Paul Tyler.) Question put, That the Amendment be made. The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Heath, Mr Adrian Sanders: 119.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Marion Roe, Dr Nick Palmer: 36.

So the Question was agreed to.

Main Question, as amended, agreed to.

Resolved, That this House declines to approve the First Report from the Administration Committee (House of Commons Paper No. 394) on the proposal to re-open the Line of Route during the Summer Adjournment until the full implications for entry into the Houses of Parliament at other times of the year, and other options for making these arrangements, are examined and costed.

7 Travel by Members to National Parliaments and European Union Institutions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Resolution of 6th December 1991 relating to travel by Members to European Community Institutions be rescinded. That, in the opinion of this House, provision should be made as from 1st April 1999 for reimbursing Members in respect of the cost of travelling on parliamentary duties between the United Kingdom and any European Union institution in Brussels, Luxembourg or Strasbourg or the national parliament of another European Union member state and any additional expenses necessarily incurred in such travelling, subject to the limit that

(1) the amount payable to a Member in any year, beginning with 1st April, shall not exceed the aggregate of—

(a) the cost of a return business class airfare for the journey on the assumption that the journey begins and ends at a London airport and that the destination is any of the three cities mentioned above or the location of the national parliament of a European Union member state; and

(b) twice the corresponding civil service class A standard subsistence rate for the time being in operation, and

(2) expenditure in pursuance of this Resolution within financial year 1999-2000 shall not exceed the total currently planned for expenditure on travel by Members to European Union institutions within that year—(Margaret Beckett);

An Amendment (k) was proposed to the Question, in line 16, at the end, to insert the words ‘(1A) A Member must submit in advance to the Fees Office a statement of the visit’s purpose, location and duration and the persons or organisations to be met.’—(Mr David Davis.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made:—It was agreed to.

Main Question, as amended, put.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 108.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr David Maclean: 5.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Resolution of 6th December 1991 relating to travel by Members to European Community Institutions be rescinded.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, provision should be made as from 1st April 1999 for reimbursing Members in respect of the cost of travelling on parliamentary duties between the United Kingdom and any European Union institution in Brussels, Luxembourg or Strasbourg or the national parliament of another European Union member state and any additional expenses necessarily incurred in such travelling, subject to the limit that

1. the amount payable to a Member in any year, beginning with 1st April, shall not exceed the aggregate of—
   (a) the cost of a return business class airfare for the journey on the assumption that the journey begins and ends at a London airport and that the destination is any of the three cities mentioned above or the location of the national parliament of a European Union member state; and
   (b) twice the corresponding civil service class A standard subsistence rate for the time being in operation;
   (2) a Member must submit in advance to the Fees Office a statement of the visit’s purpose, location and duration and the persons or organisations to be met; and
   (3) expenditure in pursuance of this Resolution within financial year 1999–2000 shall not exceed the total currently planned for expenditure on travel by Members to European Union institutions within that year.

8 Opposition Parties (Financial Assistance),—Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the provisions of this Resolution should have effect in relation to the giving of financial assistance to opposition parties in this House:

1.—(1) Financial assistance to assist an opposition party in carrying out its Parliamentary Business shall be available under this paragraph at any time on or after 1st April 1999 if at that time one of the following conditions is satisfied with respect to the party, that is to say
   (a) there are at that time at least two Members of this House who are members of the party and who were elected at the previous General Election after contesting it as candidates for the party; or
   (b) there is at that time one such Member who was so elected and the aggregate of the votes cast in favour of all the party’s candidates at that Election was at least 150,000.
   (2) The amount of financial assistance which may be given under this paragraph to any party in respect of the expenses incurred by it in any period shall be the aggregate of
      (a) the first relevant amount for that period multiplied by the number of seats won by its candidates at the Election; and
      (b) the second relevant amount for that period multiplied by one two-hundredth of the number of votes cast for its candidates at that Election (rounded down to the nearest whole number).
   (3) For the period of one year beginning with 1st April 1999
      (a) the first relevant amount shall be £10,732.69; and
      (b) the second relevant amount shall be £21.44.
   (4) For any subsequent period of one year beginning with 1st April
      (a) the first relevant amount shall be that amount for the previous period but increased by the appropriate percentage for the subsequent period; and
      (b) the second relevant amount shall be that amount for the previous period but increased by the appropriate percentage for the subsequent period.
   (5) The appropriate percentage for any period is the percentage by which the retail prices index for the month of March immediately preceding that period has increased compared with the retail prices index for the previous March.
(6) The references in sub-paragraph (5) above to the retail prices index is a reference to the general index of retail prices (for all items) published by the Office for National Statistics, and if that index is not published for a month which is relevant for the purposes of this paragraph those references in that sub-paragraph shall be construed as references to any substituted index or index figure published by that Office.

(7) In consequence of this paragraph, the Resolution of 4th November 1993 shall not have effect with respect to any time after 31st March 1999.

(8) Financial assistance provided under the terms of this paragraph shall be paid in arrears, at intervals of not less than one month.

2.—(1) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 1 above, financial assistance towards travelling and associated expenses necessarily incurred by an opposition party’s spokesmen in relation to the party’s parliamentary business shall be available under this paragraph if at any time on or after 1st April 1999 one of the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 1 above is satisfied with respect to the party.

(2) The maximum amount of financial assistance which may be given under this paragraph to any party in respect of the expenses incurred in any period shall be such of the available amount for that period as may be allocated to the party in accordance with any apportionment under sub-paragraph (3) below.

(3) The available amount for any period shall be apportioned between each of the opposition parties in the same proportion as the amount of financial assistance which may be given to each of them under paragraph 1 above for that period or for any period forming part of that period.

(4) Any reference in this paragraph to the available amount for a period is a reference

(a) in the case of the period of one year beginning with 1st April 1999, to the sum of £17,896.00; and

(b) in the case of each subsequent period of one year beginning with 1st April, to the available amount for the previous period but increased by the appropriate percentage for the subsequent period.

(5) Sub-paragraphs (5) and (6) of paragraph 1 above shall apply for the purposes of this paragraph as they apply for the purposes of that paragraph.

3.—(1) Financial assistance shall be available for the costs necessarily incurred in the running of the Leader of the Opposition’s Office.

(2) For the period of one year beginning with 1st April 1999, the amount of financial assistance which may be given under this paragraph in respect of expenses incurred in that period shall be £500,000.

(3) For any subsequent period of one year beginning with 1st April the relevant amount shall be that amount for the previous period but increased by the appropriate percentage in accordance with paragraph 1(5).

(4) Sub-paragraphs (5) and (6) of paragraph 1 above shall apply for the purposes of this paragraph as they apply for the purposes of that paragraph.

(5) Financial assistance provided under the terms of this paragraph shall be paid in arrears, at intervals of not less than one month.

4. Any claims for financial assistance towards travelling expenses under paragraph 2 are to be made to the Accounting Officer of the House; and a party claiming such assistance shall

(a) furnish that Officer with a statement of the facts on which the claim is based;

(b) certify to that Officer that the expenses which are claimed have been incurred exclusively in relation to the party’s parliamentary business in accordance with this resolution.

5.—(1) As soon as practicable, but no later than nine months after 31st March each year, a party claiming financial assistance under this resolution, shall furnish the Accounting Officer of the House with the certificate of an independent professional auditor, in a form determined by the Accounting Officer, to the effect that all expenses in respect of which the party received financial assistance during the period ending with that day were incurred exclusively in relation to the party’s parliamentary business under this resolution.

(2) If an audit certificate under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph has not been furnished within the time specified no further financial assistance under this resolution shall be paid until such a certificate is so furnished.
6.—(1) in the case of any year in which there is a General Election
   (a) the period ending immediately before the date of the Election and
   (b) the period beginning with that date shall be treated for the purposes of
   paragraph 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) and 3 above as separate periods.

(2) In relation to any such separate period
   (a) the first relevant amount and the second relevant amount for the period ending
       immediately before the date of the General Election shall be apportioned
       according to the number of days in that period as a proportion of the total
       number of days in the year in question; and
   (b) the available amount for the period beginning with the date of the General
       Election shall be a proportionate part of the available amount for the year in
       question.

(3) In relation to any such separate period ending immediately before the date of the
    Election, paragraph 5(1) above shall have effect as if the 31st March referred to were
    a reference to the day immediately before the date of the Election.

(4) In this paragraph "year" means a year beginning with 1st April.

(5) The cost of providing financial assistance shall be borne on the House of
    Commons: Members' salaries etc. Vote.—(Margaret Beckett.)

9 Select Committees (Quorum).—Ordered, That, for the remainder of the present Session of
Parliament, Standing Order No. 152 (Select Committees related to government
departments) shall have effect subject to the following modification: in line 48, at the end
of the Order, to add the words—

'(4A) Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (4) above, where more than two committees
or sub-committees appointed under this order meet concurrently in accordance with
paragraph (4)(e) above, the quorum of each such committee or sub-committee shall be

Paddy Tipping.'—(Paddy Tipping.)

10 Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund,—Ordered, That, in pursuance of section 1(2) of
the Parliamentary and other Pensions Act 1987, Mr Eric Martlew be appointed a
Managing Trustee of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund in the room of
Paddy Tipping.—(Paddy Tipping.)

11 Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill,—Ordered, That a Select
Committee of eight Members be appointed to join with a committee to be appointed by
the Lords to consider the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill
published in the Command Paper entitled Local Leadership, Local Choice (Cm. 4298);

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee;

Ordered, That the Committee shall have power—
   (i) to send for persons, papers and records;
   (ii) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
   (iii) to report from time to time;
   (iv) to appoint specialist advisers;
   (v) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom; and
   (vi) to communicate to any Select Committee appointed by either House its
evidence and any documents of common interest;

Ordered, That the Committee shall report by 31st July 1999;

Ordered, That Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr James
Gray, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Peter L. Pike, Mr Graham Stringer and Dr Alan
Whitehead be members of the Committee.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Purbeck in Dorset calling for improved
road access to Purbeck was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and
to be printed.

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Ross, Skye and
Inverness West and others concerning the price of fuel in the Highlands of Scotland 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 five minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till Tuesday 8th June, pursuant to Resolution [30th April and 21st May].

[Adjourned at 9.05 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law,—(1) Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Border Rivers) Order 1999,
   (2) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2) Order 1999,
   (3) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Cross-Border Public Authorities) (Adaptation of Functions etc.) Order 1999,
   (4) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 1999,
   (5) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions) Order 1999,
   (6) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedules 4 and 5) Order 1999,
   (7) draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 1999, and
   (8) draft Scottish Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties) Order 1999
      [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

2 Contracting Out,—Draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Highway Functions) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Dangerous Drugs,—(1) Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1404),
   and  
   (2) Misuse of Drugs (Safe Custody) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1403),
      dated 17th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Disabled Persons,—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (LTS Rail Class 357 Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1448), dated 23rd May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Education,—(1) Education Development Plans (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1439),
   dated 19th May 1999,
   (2) Education (Inspection of Nursery Education) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1441),
      dated 24th May 1999,
   (3) Education (School Inspection) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1440),
      dated 24th May 1999, and
   (4) Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) (Wales) Regulations 1999
      (S.I., 1999, No. 1442), dated 23rd May 1999
      [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

6 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1411), dated 20th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Adoption (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1477), dated 25th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

8 Taxes,—Stamp Duty and Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (Open-ended Investment Companies) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1467), dated 26th May 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

354 26th May 1999 Vol. 255


**Other Papers:**


12 Contingencies Fund, 1997–98,—Accounts of the Contingencies Fund for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 486] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

13 Environment, Transport and the Regions,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–1999, on the Countryside Agency [by Command] [Cm. 4359] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

14 National Heritage,—Report of the Board of Trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum for April 1995 to March 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

15 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the United Kingdom Central Council 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. 433] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

16 Treaty Series (No. 33, 1999),—Protocol No. 11, done at Strasbourg on 11th May 1994, to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, restructuring the control machinery established thereby [by Command] [Cm. 4353] [Mr Secretary Cook].

17 Treaty Series (No. 34, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at London on 2nd and 30th December 1993, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Peru concerning Certain Commercial Debts (United Kingdom/Peru Debt Agreement No. 4 (1993)) [by Command] [Cm. 4356] [Mr Secretary Cook].

18 Treaty Series (No. 35, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Lima on 4th November 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Peru concerning Certain Commercial Debts (United Kingdom/Peru Debt Agreement No. 5 (1996)) [by Command] [Cm. 4357] [Mr Secretary Cook].

**APPENDIX II**

**Standing Committees**

1 Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1999:

   (1) The Speaker has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Dr George Turner from the Committee (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and has nominated in substitution Shona McIsaac.

2 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999,—The Speaker has nominated Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance) Order 1999:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Tenth 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 Tony Clarke, Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Jim Dowd, Mr Michael Foster, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr John Grogan, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Ken Maginnis, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Lembit Opik, Ms Debra Shipley, Sir Michael Spicer and Mr John Wilkinson.

4 Draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board) Order of Council 1999, the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board) Order of Council 1999 and the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board) Order of Council 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders of Council to the Eleventh 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.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Clive Betts, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Terry Davis, Mr John Denham, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Ivan Henderson, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Kevin McNamara, Sir David Maged, Mr Richard Shepherd and Mr Marsha Singh.

**European Standing Committees**

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 6528/99, relating to the Commission Communication entitled *Galileo—involving Europe in a new generation of satellite navigation services*.

6 European Union Documents Nos. 12756/97 and 12791/98, relating to incineration of hazardous and non-hazardous waste, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

7 European Union Document No. SEC (1999) 600, relating to 2000 Preliminary Draft Budget—Overview, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

**APPENDIX III**

**Reports from Select Committees**

1 Defence,—(1) Fifth Report from the Defence Committee [Security of Supply and the Future of Royal Ordnance Factory Bishopton], 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. 274]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Strategic Defence Review: Defence Medical Services]; to be printed [No. 447-ii]

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Twelfth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Future of the UK Shipping Industry], 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. 172].

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Climate Change Programme]; to be printed [No. 171-viii];

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Revision of PPG3: Housing]; to be printed [No. 490-II]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Tendered Bus Services]; to be printed [No. 429-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-First Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Second Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Further Response by the Government to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Electoral Malpractice in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 484] [Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts]; to be printed [No. 472-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

6 Social Security,—(1) Third Special Report from the Social Security Committee [Unauthorised Receipt of Draft Report], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 482]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Contributory Principle]; to be printed [No. 485-i].

[Mr Archy Kirkwood].

7 Treasury,—Memoranda laid before the Treasury Sub-Committee [Inland Revenue] [Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1999.

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

2 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance) Order 1999.

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 Tax Credits Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Obscenity Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the law relating to obscenity; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Consolidation, &c., Bills.—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of twelve Lords to join with a Committee of this House as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman, and that the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee from time to time shall, if the Committee think fit, be printed and delivered out.

Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill.—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of eight Lords to join with the Committee appointed by this House to consider the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill, published in the Command Paper entitled ‘Local Leadership, Local Choice’ (Cm. 4298); 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 adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom, 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 Committee shall report by 31st July; and they propose that the Committee meet with the Committee appointed by the Commons on Tuesday 15th June at half-past Three o’clock in Committee Room 4.

4 Tax Credits Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Tax Credits Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 114].

5 Digital Television Broadcasting Bill,—The Order for reading the Digital Television Broadcasting Bill a second time on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

6 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill,—The Order for reading the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill a second time on Friday was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

7 Streetworks Bill,—Ordered, That the Streetworks Bill be read a second time on Friday.

8 Animal Welfare (Prohibition of Imports).,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make it illegal to import into the United Kingdom any meat or food product originating from any country where animal welfare standards are not certified as being equivalent to animal welfare standards in the United Kingdom—(Mr Tony Baldry);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Gray, Mr Andrew Robathan: 173.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr John Bercow: 0.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Roy Beggs, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr David Curry, Mr David Faber, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr David Prior, Angela Smith and Mr Tim Yeo do prepare and bring in the Bill.
9 Animal Welfare (Prohibition of Imports) Bill.—Mr Tony Baldry accordingly presented a Bill to make it illegal to import into the United Kingdom any meat or food product originating from any country where animal welfare standards are not certified as being equivalent to animal welfare standards in the United Kingdom. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 11th June and to be printed [Bill 113].

10 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords].—The Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

11 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Pollution Prevention and Control 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 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by any Minister of the Crown in consequence of the Act, and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

12 Pollution Prevention and Control 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 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the imposition of charges under regulations made under the Act—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

13 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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 46). Private Finance Initiative (House of Commons Paper No. 408), which was laid before this House on 7th May, be approved—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

14 Assistance to Newly Independent States and Mongolia.—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 Union Document No. 5263/99, a draft Council Regulation on the provision of assistance to economic reform and recovery in the Newly Independent States and Mongolia; and supports the Government’s position that the proposed Regulation is broadly acceptable, that the Government will work with Member States to secure a Regulation which will ensure greater emphasis on social and environmental issues, maintain TACIS as a technical assistance instrument, improve procedures and incorporate a dialogue-driven approach to programming—(Mr Greg Pope):—It was agreed to.

15 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Consumers for Health Choice, the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association, the National Association of Health Stores and others against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

16 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the people of Sunderland and others for protection of jobs at the Vaux Brewery site in Sunderland was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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

[Adjourned at 9.59 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 Culture, Media and Sport.—Government Response to the Third Report of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 1998–99, Back to the Dome [Cm. 4360] [Mr Secretary Smith].
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:

Thursday 27th May 1999

2 Horse Racing and Betting (Northern Ireland).—Horse Racing (Charges on Bookmakers) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 231), dated 14th May 1999 [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


Friday 28th May 1999

5 Education,—(1) Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1494), dated 26th May 1999, and
(2) Foundation Body Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1502), dated 28th May 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Wednesday 2nd June 1999


Thursday 3rd June 1999


10 Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1521), dated 1st June 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Friday 4th June 1999


12 Food,—Food Labelling (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1483), dated 25th May 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].


Monday 7th June 1999

14 Clean Air,—Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1515), dated 28th May 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

15 Consumer Protection,—Cosmetic Products (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1552), dated 7th June 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

17 Food,—(1) Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1543), dated 4th June 1999,
   (2) Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1542), dated 4th June 1999, and
   [Mr Nicholas Brown].

18 Social Security,—Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1539), dated 3rd June 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

Thursday 27th May 1999

19 Police,—Police (Secretary of State’s Objectives) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1415), dated 19th May 1999 [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Tuesday 8th June 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

20 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures),—Measure passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, entitled Care of Places of Worship Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 487] [Clerk of the House].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

21 Agriculture,—Bovines and Bovine Products (Trade) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1554), dated 7th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

22 Council Tax,—Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1522), dated 27th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


24 Food,—Contaminants in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1603), dated 7th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].


26 School Standards and Framework,—Draft Code of Practice on School Admission Appeals [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


28 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—(1) Public Interest Disclosure (Compensation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1548), and
   (2) Public Interest Disclosure (Prescribed Persons) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1549), dated 5th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

29 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 21st December 1998, made by the University of Cambridge amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

31 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures),—Report by the Ecclesiastical Committee on the Care of Places of Worship Measure [by Act]; to be printed [No. 488] [Clerk of the House].

32 Dentists,—Accounts of the General Dental Council for 1998 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

33 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute, dated 8th June 1999, concerning a further financial objective desirable of achievement by the Vehicle Inspectorate Trading Fund for the period 1st April 1998 to 31st March 2003 [by Act] [Mr Alan Milburn].
34 Law Reform (Scotland).—Report of the Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 443] [Mr Secretary Reid].

35 Local Government (Scotland).—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

36 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on The Management of Medical Equipment in NHS Acute Trusts in England [by Act]; to be printed [No. 475] [Clerk of the House].

37 National Health Service,—Statements of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 7th June 1999 on loans proposed to be raised by the following National Health Service Trusts—

(1) Kent Ambulance, and

(2) Kent & Sussex Weald

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

38 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Petition [27th April] from Mrs Jane Ellison, members of the Twins and Multiple Births Association and others for extending the rate of child benefit for the eldest child to all children of a multiple birth [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

39 Welsh Language,—Accounts of the Welsh Language Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 508] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board) Order of Council 1999, the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board) Order of Council 1999 and the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board) Order of Council 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Patrick Hall and Mr Ivan Henderson from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders of Council); and nominated in substitution Mr David Stewart and Mr Huw Edwards.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—(1) Fourth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The work of OFSTED], 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. 62]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The work of OFSTED]

[Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Town and Country Parks]; to be printed [No. 477-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Financial Services and Markets,—Second Report from the Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets, together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee [No. 465] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select Committees (adjournment of the House))] [Clerk of the House].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Fourth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Gibraltar], 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. 366] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The Future of Sanctions]; to be printed [No. 454-iii] [Ann Clwyd].

6 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee—Two Years On]; to be printed [No. 505-i] [Mr Giles Radice].
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—(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 Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board) Order of Council 1999, the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board) Order of Council 1999 and the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board) Order of Council 1999.

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

3 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 6528/99, a Commission Communication: Galileo—involving Europe in a new generation of satellite navigation systems; and endorses the Government’s prudent approach to the Commission’s proposals as set out in the Explanatory Memorandum.

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

4 Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill,—Ordered, That so much of the Lords Message of 8th June as relates to the Joint Committee on the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill be now considered.

So much of the Lords Message considered accordingly.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed by this House meet the Lords Committee as proposed by their Lordships.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

5 Concessionary Television Licences for Pensioners,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to extend the concessionary television licence entitlement to all pensioners living in households consisting only of pensioners; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Winnick, Mr Peter Bradley, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Ken Purchase, Mr David Drew, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Maria Fyfe, Valerie Davey, Mrs Ann Cryer and Mr Jeremy Corbyn do prepare and bring it in.

6 Concessionary Television Licences for Pensioners Bill,—Mr David Winnick accordingly presented a Bill to extend the concessionary television licence entitlement to all pensioners living in households consisting only of pensioners; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 115].

7 Adjournment (White Paper on Reforming the House of Lords (Cm. 4183)),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Hanson),

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

8 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the consultation document ‘Life Long Learning—a new Learning Culture for All’ be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration;

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 24th June, the Committee shall take questions for oral answer and shall then consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above;

(3) at the conclusion 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(5).—(Jim Dowd).
Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill.—Ordered. That Mr Robin Corbett be discharged from the Joint Committee on the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill and Mr John Smith be added to the Committee.—(Jim Dowd.)

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Dowd.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nineteen minutes past Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.19 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 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Home-Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1577), dated 3rd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Third Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999 No. 1544), dated 1st June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Constitutional Law,—(1) National Assembly for Wales (Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997) (Modifications) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1545), dated 4th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael]; and

(2) Scotland Act 1998 (Concurrent Functions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1592), dated 7th June 1999,


6 Education,—Education (Annual Parents’ Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1407), dated 6th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

7 Energy Conservation,—Energy Information (Lamps) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1517), dated 26th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Food,—Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1585), dated 4th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Housing,—Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1523), dated 27th May 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


12 National Lottery,—National Lottery etc. Act 1993 (Amendment of Section 23) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1563), dated 8th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

13 Savings Banks,—(1) Draft National Savings Bank (Investment Deposits) (Limits) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1999, and
   (2) National Savings Bank (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1611), dated 9th June 1999
   [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].


Other Papers:

15 Health Service Commissioner,—Fourth Report of the Health Service Ombudsman, Session 1998–99: Investigations of complaints about clinical failings [by Act]; to be printed [No. 496] [Clerk of the House].

16 National Health Service,—Accounts of the Public Health Laboratory Service Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 511] [Clerk of the House].

17 Race Relations,—Report of the Commission for Racial Equality for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

18 Statutory Instruments,—Reports to the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker from the Statutory Instruments Reference Committee, That it has been notified in accordance with Regulation 11(3) of the Statutory Instruments Regulations 1947 that:—

   (1) the Secretary of State for the Home Department has certified, under Regulation 6 of the said Regulations, that the printing and sale of copies of the Young Offender Institution (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 729) in accordance with the requirements of section 2(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 is unnecessary, having regard to the fact that the instrument was revoked and later replaced by another instrument before the above had come into effect; and

   (2) the Secretary of State for Scotland has certified, under Regulation 6 of the said Regulations, that the printing and sale of copies of the Scottish Local Elections (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 406) in accordance with the requirements of section 2(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 is unnecessary, having regard to the fact that the Rules were revoked by the Scottish Local Elections (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 492) before they came into force.

That the Committee is satisfied that the certificates are justified and has taken no further action in the matter [The Speaker].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords]:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Simon Burns, Mr David Drew, Mrs Teresa Gorman, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Michael Meacher, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Terry Rooney, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West) and Joan Walley.

2 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords]:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mr John Maxton Chairman; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed eighteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Clive Betts, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr George Foulkes, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr David Heath, Mr Phil Hope, Ms Tess Kingham, Chris McCafferty, Mr Tony McWalter, Sir David Madel, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Clare Short, Mr Gary Streeter, Dr Jenny Tonge, Mr Dennis Turner and Mr Andrew Tyrie.
Draft Scottish Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth 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.: Mr Douglas Alexander, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Malcolm Bruce, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Jim Murphy, Ms Sandra Osborne, Mr John Randall, Mr Frank Roy, Sir Robert Smith and Sir Teddy Taylor.

Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedules 4 and 5) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as regards Scotland) Order 1999, and the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Menzies Campbell, Mr William Cash, the Advocate General for Scotland, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr David Faber, Mr George Galloway, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Frank Roy and Dr Gavin Strang.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr A. J. Beith, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Malcolm Chisholm, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr George Galloway, Mr James Gray, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr John McAllion, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Malcolm Savidge and Mr David Stewart.

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Documents Nos. 12756/97 and 12791/98, relating to Incineration of Hazardous and Non-Hazardous Waste.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Sixth Report from the Agriculture Committee [Genetically-Modified Organisms], 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. 427];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Sea Fishing]; to be printed [No. 141-v]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; Genetically-Modified Organisms; Outcome of the CAP Reform Negotiations]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Department for Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos]; to be printed [No. 506-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Defence.—Fourth Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Observations on the Second Report from the Committee, on the Appointment of the New Head of Defence Export Services]; to be printed [No. 512] [Mr Bruce George].

4 Education and Employment.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Role of School Governors]; to be printed [No. 509-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].
5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Young and Newly-Qualified Drivers: Standards and Training]; to be printed [No. 515-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

6 International Development,—Fourth Report from the International Development Committee [Debt Relief and the Cologne G8 Summit], 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. 470] [Ann Clwyd].

7 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Cabinet Office and Action 2000: The Millennium Threat: 221 Days and Counting]; to be printed [No. 517-i] [Mr David Davis].

8 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Mobile Phones and Health]; to be printed [No. 489-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

9 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 85-vi] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 100.]

Thursday 10th June 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Food Standards Bill,—Mr Nicholas Brown, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Reid, Mr Secretary Dobson, Secretary Marjorie Mowlam and Mr Secretary Michael presented a Bill to establish the Food Standards Agency and make provision as to its functions, to amend the law relating to food safety and other interests of consumers in relation to food; to enable provision to be made in relation to the notification of tests for food-borne diseases; to enable provision to be made in relation to animal feedingstuffs; 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 117].

Ordered, that the Explanatory Notes relating to the Food Standards Bill be printed [Bill 117–EN].

2 Royal Parks (Trading) Bill,—Mr Peter Brooke presented a Bill to make provision about certain offences under section 2 of the Parks Regulation (Amendment) Act 1926: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 116].

Ordered, that the Explanatory Notes relating to the Royal Parks (Trading) Bill be printed [Bill 116–EN].

3 Adjournment (Defence in the World),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Mike Hall);

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

4 Committee of Public Accounts,—Ordered, That Mr Derek Twigg be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Barry Gardiner be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

5 Select Committee on Public Administration,—Ordered, That Dr Lynda Clark, Mr Fraser Kemp and Mr Rhodri Morgan be discharged from the Select Committee on Public Administration and Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Brian White and Dr Tony Wright be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

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

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].
Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.16 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4. Defence,—Army Terms of Service (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1610), dated 8th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].


6. National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1627), dated 10th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson], and

(2) National Health Service (Indicative Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1606), dated 9th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

7. National Health Service (Scotland),—National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1620), dated 8th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Scottish Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Malcolm Bruce from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alasdair Morgan.

[No. 101.]

Friday 11th June 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1. Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Availability of international football banning order in respect of unconvicted persons)—(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. 10) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 17, to leave out the words ‘the duty of’ and to insert the words ‘available to’.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 12) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 4, to leave out the words 'absolutely or'.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 13, at the end to insert the words—

'(6) Any person placed under a duty to report to a police station as specified in an order under subsection (5) above shall have the right of appeal to the court within fourteen days of the imposition of the order.'—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, to leave out lines 20 to 25.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, to leave out lines 19 to 25.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 17) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 6, to leave out the word 'ten' and to insert the word 'fifteen'.—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

2 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 9) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, to leave out lines 17 to 22.—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 14th May on consideration of the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Amendment (No. 36) be made;

Which Amendment was, in page 2, line 20, at the end, to insert the words 'in Northern Ireland, to the Crown Court';

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

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Depute stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

4 Referendums Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 21st May on consideration of the Referendums Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That Clause (Commencement (No. 2)) be read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

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

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

6 Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

7 Restraining and Protection Orders Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Restraining and Protection Orders Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.
8 Country Lanes and Villages Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Country Lanes and Villages Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

9 Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill (Lords).—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill (Lords);
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

10 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th April, That the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

11 Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

12 Pensions (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Pensions (Amendment) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

13 Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

14 Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

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 23rd July.

16 Age Limits on Health Care Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

17 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd April, That the Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

18 Access to Environmental Information Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

19 Planning Appeals Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Planning Appeals Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.

20 Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 23rd July.

21 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 23rd July.

22 European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill (Lords).—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill (Lords);
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.
23 Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) Bill [Lords];
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.
24 Waiting Times (National Health Service) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Waiting Times (National Health Service) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.
25 Streetworks Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Streetworks Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.
26 Royal Parks (Trading) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Royal Parks (Trading) Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 23rd July.
27 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill).
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 14th June.

[Adjourned at 3.02 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Customs and Excise,—Excise Duties (Personal Reliefs) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1617), dated 10th June 1999 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
3 Customs and Excise,—Excise Goods (Sales on Board Ships and Aircraft) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1565), dated 10th June 1999 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].
5 Lands Tribunal,—Lands Tribunal (Salaries) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 236), dated 11th May 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Scottish Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Brian H. Donohoe and Mr Calum Macdonald from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution the Advocate General for Scotland and Mr Nigel Griffiths.
2 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedules 4 and 5) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged the Advocate General for Scotland and Mr Nigel Griffiths from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Mr Brian H. Donohoe and Mr Calum Macdonald.
3 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Alice Mahon from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Roger Berry.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills (Standing Orders not previously inquired into complied with).—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, referred after the Second Reading thereof, the Standing Orders not previously inquired into, which are applicable thereto, have been complied with, viz:

Transport Salaried Staffs' Association (Amendment of Rules) etc. Bill.  
Bill committed.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scottish Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties) Order 1999. 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:

Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for the enforcement of contractual terms by third parties, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 118–EN].

The Bill stood referred to a Second Reading Committee, pursuant to Standing Order No.59 (Law Commission Bills).

4 New Member makes Affirmation,—Hilary James Benn, Esquire, Member for Leeds Central, made the Affirmation required by law.

6 Health Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Health Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (English and Scottish border provisions)—(Mr John Denham)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Criteria for appraisals by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence)—(Dr Evan Harris)—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.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed 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 Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th May, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

8 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

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

9 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 (Continuance) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 6th May, be approved—(Jane Kennedy):—It was agreed to.

10 Professions Supplementary to Medicine,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).
Legislation), That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board) Order of Council 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th May, be approved—(Jane Kennedy); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Keith Hill: 314.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Tim Collins: 136.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board) Order of Council 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th May, be approved.

11 Professions Supplementary to Medicine,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board) Order of Council 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th May, be approved—(Jane Kennedy); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Keith Hill: 337.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Elainor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 110.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board) Order of Council 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th May, be approved.

12 Professions Supplementary to Medicine,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board) Order of Council 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th May, be approved—(Jane Kennedy); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Keith Hill: 334.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Elainor Laing, Mr Tim Collins: 109.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board) Order of Council 1999, which was laid before this House on 18th May, be approved.

13 Global Navigation Satellite System,—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 Union Document No. 6528/99, a Commission Communication: Galileo—involving Europe in a new generation of satellite navigation services; and endorses the Government’s prudent approach to the Commission’s proposals as set out in the Explanatory Memorandum—(Jane Kennedy)—It was agreed to.

14 Education and Employment,—Ordered. That Mr Joe Benton be discharged from the Education and Employment Committee and Mr Bill Rammell be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered. That Mr Ken Livingstone be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Mr Stephen Pound be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 11.26 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out,—Draft Contracting Out (JurySummoning Functions) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1663), dated 11th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Road Traffic,—(1) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (Borough of Luton) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1666),
   (2) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Buckinghamshire) (High Wycombe Town Centre) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1667),
   (3) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Hertfordshire) (Borough of Watford) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1669),
   and
   (4) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Areas and Special Parking Areas) (City of Oxford and Parish of North Hinksey) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1668),
   dated 13th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Social Security,—(1) Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1623), dated 9th June 1999, and
   (2) Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1670), dated 14th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

   (3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Belgacom UK Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1636),
   (5) Public Telecommunication System Designation (City Telecom (HK) Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1633),
   (6) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Cyberlight Europe Plc) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1629),
   (8) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Flute Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1638),
   dated 9th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Scottish Further Education Colleges: Managing Costs [by Act]; to be printed [No. 493] [Clerk of the House].
7 Teenage Pregnancy.—Report by the Social Exclusion Unit on Teenage Pregnancy [by Command] [Cm. 4342][The Prime Minister].

8 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—

(1) Alpha Telecom Limited,
(2) Axxon Telecom Limited,
(3) Belgacom UK Limited,
(4) Call-Net (UK) Limited,
(5) City Telecom (HK) Limited,
(6) Cyberlight Europe Plc,
(7) Eurotunnel Telecommunications Limited,
(8) Flute Limited,
(9) International Optical Network Limited,
(10) Japan Telecom UK Limited,
(11) Jersey Telecoms,
(12) NTT Europe Limited,
(13) Zereau Limited

[by Act][Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale an additional Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 1999; the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedules 4 and 5) Order 1999; the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Functions) Order 1999; the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as regards Scotland) Order 1999; and the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2) Order 1999.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders, in place of Mr Jim Cunningham.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Home Affairs.—Third Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Accountability of the Security 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. 291] [Mr Chris Mullin].

2 Public Accounts.—(1) Nineteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [BBC World Service], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 219]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Financial Management and Governance at Gwent Tertiary College]; to be printed [No. 531-i]

[Mr David Davis].


(2) Eighth Special Report from the Committee [Government Observations on the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1998–99, on The Draft Limited Liability Partnership Bill]; to be printed [No. 529]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Electronic Government: The Horizon Project for Automated Payment of Benefits through Post Offices]; to be printed [No. 530-i]

[Mr Martin O’Neill].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—Mr Robert Jackson reported from the Committee on the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, That it had agreed to a Special Report, which it had directed him to make to the House.

Report, and so much of the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee as relates to the Report, to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 534].

2 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—Mr Robert Jackson reported from the Committee on the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble of the Bill and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill to be considered.

3 Deregulation,—Mr Peter L. Pike reported from the Deregulation Committee the following Resolutions:

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (New Year Licensing) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 13th April, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

That, in respect of the proposal for the Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 19th April, a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal should be laid before the House.

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedules 4 and 5) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Functions) Order 1999, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 1999, and the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2) Order 1999.

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

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Cross-Border Public Authorities) (Adaptation of Functions etc.) Order 1999 and the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Border Rivers) Order 1999.

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

6 Safety at Sea,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require testing of the competency of users of pleasure and recreational craft; and to require the carrying of minimum safety equipment while at sea—(Mr Mike Hancock);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and 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 Mike Hancock, Mr Brian Cotter, Dr Rudi Vis, Paul Flynn, Bob Russell, Mr Peter Viggers, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Richard Allen and Mr Nigel Jones do prepare and bring in the Bill.

7 Safety at Sea Bill.—Mr Mike Hancock accordingly presented a Bill to require testing of the competency of users of pleasure and recreational craft; and to require the carrying of minimum safety equipment while at sea. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 119].

8 Health Bill [Lords] and Immigration and Asylum 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 Health Bill [Lords] and the Immigration and Asylum Bill—
Timetable

1.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration and on Third Reading of the Health Bill [Lords] shall be completed at the sitting this day and shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, five hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

(2) Proceedings on Consideration and on Third Reading of the Immigration and Asylum Bill shall be completed in two allotted days and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion at midnight on the second allotted day.

Questions to be put

2.—(1) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings on either of the Bills to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 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) 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.

(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.

Miscellaneous

3 Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings—

(a) on the Health Bill [Lords];
(b) on the Immigration and Asylum Bill at the sitting this day until midnight;
(c) on the Immigration and Asylum Bill on the second allotted day;

and those proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House.

4—(1) If at the sitting this day—

(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 this Motion have begun before that time,

the Motion for the Adjournment shall stand over until midnight.

(2) If on the second allotted day a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 stands over to seven o'clock or from an earlier day, the Motion shall stand over until the conclusion of any proceedings on the Immigration and Asylum Bill.

5 Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on either of the Bills.

6 No Motion shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown, to alter the order in which any proceedings on either of the Bills are taken or to recommit either of the Bills; and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.

7 No dilatory Motion shall be made in relation to either of the Bills except by a Minister of the Crown; and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.

8 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) shall apply to those proceedings.

9 If at the sitting this day the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of proceedings on this Motion or on either of the Bills, 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.
Interpretation

10 In this Order, ‘allotted day’ means this day and any other day on which the Immigration and Asylum Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day.—(Mr Secretary Dobson.)

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Jane Kennedy: 325.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Tim Collins: 145.

So the Question was agreed to.

9 Health Bill [Lords] [allotted day].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, on consideration of the Health Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee, that the Clause (Criteria for appraisals by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence) be read a second time.

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

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Oaten, Sir Robert Smith: 34.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Graham Allen: 322.

Another Clause (Independent review of the incidence of discrimination within the NHS)—(Mr Simon Hughes)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Health Care and Energy Efficiency Schemes)—(Sir Robert Smith)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Health and safety of NHS doctors)—(Dr Evan Harris)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

And it being five hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Health Bill [Lords] and Immigration and Asylum Bill (Allocation of Time), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Michael Moore: 154.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Graham Allen: 337.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions he was directed to put to bring proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading to a conclusion.

Question, That the Amendments standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown be made to the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendments (Nos. 7 to 16, 94 to 104, 17 to 39, 105 and 40 to 76) accordingly made to the Bill.

Question put, That the Bill be now read the third time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Graham Allen: 372.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 112.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

10 Immigration and Asylum Bill [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Immigration and Asylum Bill, as amended in the Special Standing Committee.

A Clause (Treatment of certain overstayers)—(Mr Mike O’Brien)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

A Clause (Removal of asylum claimants under standing arrangements with member States)—(Mr Secretary Straw)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.
And it being midnight, the Debate stood adjourned, pursuant to Order [15th June].

Debate to be resumed this day.

11 Constitutional Law,—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 Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall)—It was agreed to.

12 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Galloway and Upper Nithsdale against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

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

(Approved at 12.29 a.m.)

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Gas,—Public Gas Transporter Pipe-line Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1672), dated 12th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

2 Crofters (Scotland),—Report and Abstract of Accounts of the Crofters Commission for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

3 Denmark (No. 1, 1999),—Agreement, done at Tórshavn on 18th May 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the one hand, and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark together with the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, on the other hand, relating to the Maritime Delimitation in the area between the United Kingdom and the Faroe Islands, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4373] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Food Standards,—Government Response to the Report from the Food Standards Committee, Session 1998–99, on the Food Standards Draft Bill [by Command] [Cm. 4377] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

5 Law Commission,—(1) Report by the Law Commission on the Seventh Programme of Law Reform, and


6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [19th May] from residents of Broxtowe and others calling for legislation to require bells to be fitted to bicycles [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Railways,—Report of the Rail Regulator for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords],—The Committee of Selection has discharged Jim Fitzpatrick, Ms Tess Kinngham and Chris McCaffery from Standing Committee D (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Brian White and Mr Tony Worthington.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Administration,—Second Report from the Administration Committee [Record copies of Acts], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 539] [Mrs Marion Roe].
2 Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry,—
   (1) Fifth Special Report from the Defence Committee,
   (2) Third Special Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee,
   (3) Second Special Report from the International Development Committee, and
   (4) Ninth Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee
   [Committees’ Inquiry into the 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports on Strategic Export
    Control], together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence, Foreign
    Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry Committees, meeting
    concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select Committees
    related to government departments), and Appendices thereto; to be printed, with the
    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committees relating to the Special Report [No. 540] [Mr
    Bruce George, Mr Donald Anderson, Ann Clwyd, Mr Martin O’Neill].

3 Deregulation,—Third Report from the Deregulation Committee [Proposal for the
Deregulation (New Year Licensing) Order 1999; Proposal for the Deregulation
(Casinos) Order 1999]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee
relating to the Report [No. 532] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

4 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and
Employment Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 111-iv]
[Mr Derek Foster].

5 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the
Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs
Committee [Town and Country Parks]; to be printed [No. 477-ii] [Mr Andrew F.
Bennett].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public
Administration [Accountability of Public Bodies]; to be printed [No. 209-vii] [Dr Tony
Wright].

7 Social Security and Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the
Social Security Committee and the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and
Employment Committee, meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing
Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) [Single Work-
focused Gateway Pilots]; to be printed [No. 412-v] [Mr Derek Foster].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-first Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory
Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No.
50-xxi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Treasury,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [The 1999 Budget:
Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee in Session 1998–99]; to
be printed [No. 536]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Bank of England Monetary
Policy Committee—Two Years On]; to be printed [No. 505-u] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 104.]

Wednesday 16th June 1999.

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 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the
   Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Double Taxation Relief
   (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
3 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:


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

4 House of Commons Disqualification (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to allow persons ordained and ministers of any religious denomination to be Members of the House of Commons: And that Siobhain McDonagh, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Simon Hughes, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Martin Linton, Mr Robert Macleman, Mr Gordon Marsden, Bridget Prentice and Bob Russell do prepare and bring it in.

5 House of Commons Disqualification (Amendment) Bill.—Siobhain McDonagh accordingly presented a Bill to allow persons ordained and ministers of any religious denomination to be Members of the House of Commons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 120].

6 Immigration and Asylum Bill [2nd allotted day].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, on consideration of the Immigration and Asylum Bill, as amended in the Special Standing Committee, That Clause (Removal of asylum claimants under standing arrangements with member States) be read a second time;

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

Question put and agreed to.

Clause accordingly read a second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Removal of asylum claimants in other circumstances)—(Mr Greg Pope) brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Facilitation of entry)—(Mr Mike O’Brien)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (EEA Nationals)—(Mr Mike O’Brien)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Support for children)—(Mr Secretary Straw)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Jane Kennedy: 331.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 161.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Repeal of section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996)—(Mr Richard Allan)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Dr Evan Harris, Dr Vincent Cable: 39.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Clive Betts: 334.

Amendments (Nos. 28 to 39) made to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 9) proposed to the Bill, in page 16, to leave out lines 24 to 27 and insert the words—

"( ) The code shall not come into operation unless a draft of the code has been laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of each House;", instead thereof.—(Miss Ann Widdecombe.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 143.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Clive Betts: 326.
Thursday 17th June 1999

And it being midnight, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions necessary to bring proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading to a conclusion, pursuant to Order [15th June].

Question, That the remaining Amendments standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown be made to the Bill, put and agreed to.

Other Amendments (Nos. 40 to 72, 3, and 74 to 142) accordingly made to the Bill.

A Schedule (Asylum Support: Interim Provisions)—(Mr Mike Hall)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Question put, That the Bill be now read the third time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Clive Betts: 310.

Tellers for the Noes, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Don Foster: 41.

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

7 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

8 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Schedules 4 and 5) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

9 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

10 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

11 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Cross-Border Public Authorities) (Adaptation of Functions etc.) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

12 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

13 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Border Rivers) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from constituents of Weston-super-Mare against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Clelland)

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

[Adjourned at 12.46 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Civil Aviation,—Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2. Education,—Education (School Organisation Proposals) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1671), dated 9th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

3. Local Government,—Local Government Officers (Political Restrictions) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1665), dated 14th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].


Other Papers:

6. Competition Commission,—Report by the Competition Commission on the proposed transfers of the newspapers of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc to Johnston Press PLC, Newsquest (Investments) Limited and News Communications and Media plc [by Command] [Cm.4358] [Mr Secretary Byers].

7. Fair Trading,—Consent by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the transfer of the newspapers of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc to—
   (1) Johnston Press PLC,
   (2) News Communications and Media plc, and
   (3) Newsquest (Investments) Limited following a Report from the Competition Commission [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 497 and 498] [Clerk of the House].

9. Israel (No.1, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 24th May 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the State of Israel on Bilateral Co-operation in Private Sector Industrial Research and Development, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4374] [Mr Secretary Cook].

10. Scottish Land Court,—Report as to the proceedings of the Scottish Land Court for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4332] [Mr Secretary Reid].


12. Treaty Series (No.36, 1999),—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 Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, with Agreed Minutes [by Command] [Cm. 4370] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood and Mr Bill O’Brien additional Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Simon Burns and Mrs Caroline Spelman from the Committee; and nominated in substitution Mr Damian Green and Mrs Jacqui Lait.

2 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Andrew Tyrie from Standing Committee D (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Bowen Wells.

3 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr John Burnett, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Keith Darvill, Mrs Linda GIlroy, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Kidney, Mr David Lock, Fiona Maclaggart, Mr Andrew Rowe, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Keith Vaz and Dr Alan Whitehead.

4 Draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Highway Functions) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Norman Baker, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr Ivan Henderson, Glenda Jackson, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr David Maclean, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Llew Smith, Mr Gareth Thomas, Dr George Turner, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr Nigel Waterson.

5 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords]:

The Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Second Reading Committee on the Bill, viz.: Mr Richard Allan, Mr John Burnett, Christine Butler, Mr Michael Jabez Foster, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Kidney, Mr David Lock, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Phil Sawford, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Keith Vaz, Mr Peter Viggers and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Department for Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos]; to be printed [No. 506-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Annual Major Projects Survey: The Common New Generation Frigate]; to be printed [No. 544-i] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Role of School Governors]; to be printed [No. 509-a] [Mr Malcolm Wicks]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Committee on 27th May [The Employment Consequences of European Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 547-a] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Revision of PPG3: Housing]; to be printed [No. 490-i]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Committee [Young and Newly-Qualified Drivers: Standards and Training]; to be printed [No. 515-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-second Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].
6 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [The PRIME project: the transfer of the Department of Social Security estate to the private sector]; to be printed [No. 548-i] [Mr David Davis].

7 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Mobile Phones and Health]; to be printed [No. 489-ii] [Dr Michael Clark].

8 Social Security,—(1) Sixth Report from the Social Security Committee [War Pensions Agency Business Plan 1999–2000], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 377], and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Social Security Implications of Parental Leave]; to be printed [No. 543-i]

[Mr Archy Kirkwood].

July 17th June 1999.

The House met at half-past Eleven 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 Health Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

2 Financial Services and Markets Bill.—Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, supported by Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Byers, Mr Alan Milburn, Dawn Primarolo, Mrs Barbara Roche, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Peter Kilfoyle and Mr Keith Vaz, presented a Bill to make provision about the regulation of financial services and markets; to provide for the transfer of certain statutory functions relating to building societies, friendly societies, industrial and provident societies and certain other mutual societies; 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 121].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Financial Services and Markets Bill be printed [Bill 121–EN].

3 Traffic Reduction (Air Quality and Health) Bill.—Mr Don Foster presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to publish a report on the effects of various levels of road traffic on emissions of certain gases and on health: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 122].

4 Adjournment (Kosovo) (No. 4).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Hanson);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

5 Liaison.—Ordered, That Mr Rhodri Morgan be discharged from the Liaison Committee and Dr Tony Wright be added to the Committee.—(Jane Kennedy.)

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from staff of Holland and Barrett retail stores in Warminster and Trowbridge against European Union legislation concerning the sale of natural health products was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jane Kennedy.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Energy Conservation,—Energy Information (Dishwashers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1676), dated 11th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Sea Fisheries,—Tollesbury and Mersea (Blackwater) Fishery Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1708), dated 16th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

Other Papers:

3 Armed Forces Pay,—Supplement to the Twenty-eighth Report of the Armed Forces’ Pay Review Body: Service Medical and Dental Officers [by Command] [Cm. 4313] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Defence,—Lists of exceptions to—

   (1) the Air Force Regulations,
   (2) the Army Regulations, and
   (3) the Navy Regulations

as to pensions for 1998–99 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster,—Financial Statements of the Duchy of Cornwall for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 455] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

6 Intelligence Services,—Report of the Intelligence Services Commissioner for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4361] [The Prime Minister].

7 Interception of Communications,—Report of the Interception of Communications Commissioner for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4364] [The Prime Minister].

8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Procurement of Equipment from Research Grants [by Act]; to be printed [No. 494] [Clerk of the House].

9 Pensions,—Accounts of the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 550] [Clerk of the House].

10 Security Service,—Report of the Security Service Commissioner for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4365] [The Prime Minister].

11 Special Procedure Orders,—Report by the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, under section 3 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, That they had taken into consideration the Petitions presented by—

   (i) Packmoor Area Residents Association,
   (ii) Newchapel Riders Association,
   (iii) Cllr. Ann Elizabeth James,
   (iv) Ian Norris,
   (v) Gary Challinor,
   (vi) John Benjamin Edwards,
   (vii) Mr Robert Cooper and Miss Lisa Johnson,
   (viii) Mr Leslie Tilsley and Mr Alan Griffiths,
against the City of Stoke-on-Trent Tunstall Northern By-pass Local Government Act Compulsory Purchase Order 1997; and that they had certified each of them under the said section as proper to be received and as a Petition of General Objection [by Act] [Chairman of Ways and Means].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Procedures related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care]; to be printed [No. 549-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards); to be printed [No. 542-i] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 16th June [Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland: Inward Investment]; to be printed [No. 551-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

[No. 106.]

Friday 18th June 1999.

PRAYERS.

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

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Martin Bowers, Chairman and company director, and Fred Cutts, Trustee, of the Peacock Gymnasium, London E16, for the extension of the Gaming Act 1968 to allow casinos to operate in the Docklands area of London was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Adjournment (Tourism in the new millennium),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Greg Pope).

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 Monday 21st June, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Question on the Motion in the name of Secretary Marjorie Mowlam relating to the draft Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order not later than three hours after the commencement of proceedings thereon; and the said Motion may be entered upon and proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o’clock.—(Jim Dornan.)
4 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(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 21st June.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Road Traffic,—M6 Motorway (Junction 38 Slip Roads) (Speed Limit) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1646), dated 8th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Town and Country Planning,—Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1661), dated 9th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

3 General Medical Council,—Accounts of the General Medical Council for 1998 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

4 Miscellaneous (No. 24, 1999),—Convention, done at Farnborough on 9th September 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of the French Republic, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Italian Republic on the Establishment of the Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation (Organisation Conjointe de Cooperation en Matière d’Armement) OCCAR, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4367] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bills [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Ray Michie an additional Chairman of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

2 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

3 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of the Second Reading Committee in respect of the Bill.

4 Draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Highway Functions) Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman of the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

Grand Committees

5 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 24th June.
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 University College London Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords have agreed to the Imperial College Bill, without Amendment.

2 Food Standards Bill,—The Food Standards Bill was, according to Order, read a second time
   and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

3 Food Standards Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to
   the proposed Motion relating to Food Standards 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 Food Standards Bill, it is
   expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure incurred by the Food Standards Agency established by the
   Act;
   (b) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown by virtue of the Act;
   (c) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so
   provided under any other enactment—(Mr Clive Betts):—It was agreed to.

4 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft
   Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House
   on 9th June, be approved—(Mr Paul Murphy);
   And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the
   Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [18th June]:—It was agreed to.

5 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) (Kuwait) Order 1999 be made in the form of the draft laid before this
   House on 10th May—(Jim Dowd):—It was agreed to.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Social Security,—Social Security Amendment (Educational Maintenance Allowance)
   Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1677), dated 14th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
   Darling].

[Adjourned at 1.29 a.m.]

Other Papers:

3 Armed Forces,—Army Act 1955 (Part I) (Regular Army) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Broadcasting,—Accounts of the Broadcasting Standards Commission for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 559] [Clerk of the House].

5 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of the Scottish Prisons Complaints Commission for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4376] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Role of school governors]; to be printed [No. 509-iii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) Twentieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Handgun Surrender and Compensation]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 354];

(2) Twenty-first Report from the Committee [Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils: 1997–98 Accounts (CCLRC)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 332]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Arts Council of England: Monitoring major capital projects funded by the National Lottery]; to be printed [No. 563-i]

[Mr David Davis].

3 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Tourism in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 85-vii] [Mr David Marshall].
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 125].
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 577].

4 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords].—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords], and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 565].

5 Parliamentary Control of the Executive,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make the exercise of certain powers of Ministers of the Crown subject to control by the House of Commons: And that Mr David Davis, Mr Robert Macleman, Mr David Maclean, Mr Tony Benn, Mr Derek Foster, Mr Douglas Hogg and Mr Eric Forth do prepare and bring it in.

6 Parliamentary Control of the Executive Bill.—Mr David Davis accordingly presented a Bill to make the exercise of certain powers of Ministers of the Crown subject to control by the House of Commons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 123].

7 Tax Credits Bill and Access to Justice Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means] and Access to Justice Bill [Lords] (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to—
(a) proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to the Tax Credits Bill,
(b) proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mrs Barbara Roche relating to Access to Justice Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means], and
(c) consideration and Third Reading of the Access to Justice Bill [Lords].

1.—(1) The proceedings to which this Order applies shall be taken in the order specified in the Table:
(2) Each part of the proceedings to which this Order applies shall, if not previously concluded, be concluded today at the times shown in the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credits Bill: Consideration of Lords Amendments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 1</td>
<td>5.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 2</td>
<td>6.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remaining Amendments</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion on Access to Justice Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means]</td>
<td>7.15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Justice Bill [Lords]: Consideration and Third Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses and amendments relating to Part 1</td>
<td>8.45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government new Clauses and new Schedule</td>
<td>10.15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining new Clauses</td>
<td>11.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining amendments and Motions, and Third Reading</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion of proceedings on Tax Credits Bill

2.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of concluding any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to the Tax Credits Bill 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 of 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.
(4) 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.
(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees to a Lords Amendment.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees to all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(7) As soon as the House has agreed or disagreed to a Lords Amendment, 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.

(8) 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.

(9) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of this day’s sitting.

**Conclusion of proceedings on Access to Justice Bill [Lords]**

3.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of concluding any proceedings on the Access to Justice Bill [Lords] in accordance with paragraph 1.

(2) 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; and

(d) any other 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 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 (2)(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.

**Common provisions**

4.—In the case of any proceedings to which this Order applies—

(a) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply;

(b) Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply;

(c) the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House;

(d) 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);

(e) 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

(f) 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.—(Jane Kennedy.)

8 Tax Credits Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Tax Credits 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—(Dawn Primarolo);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Greg Pope: 306.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 160.

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—(Dawn Primarolo);

And it being half-past Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Jim Dowd: 317.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Stephen Day: 161.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 4 to 11 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 4.

Ordered. That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 to 3;

That Ms Hazel Blears, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Greg Pope and Dawn Primarolo be members of the Committee;

That Dawn Primarolo be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

9 Access to Justice Bill [Lords][Ways and Means].—Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Access to Justice Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the imposition on professional bodies of requirements to make payments towards meeting the expenditure of the Legal Services Ombudsman and the Legal Services Complaints Commissioner, and

(b) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

10 Tax Credits Bill,—Dawn Primarolo reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 to 3, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed her to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 1 and 3 for the following Reason:—

Because it is not appropriate for smaller employers to be exempted from paying tax credit to their employees.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 2 for the following Reason:—

Because it is appropriate for tax credit paid to employees to be paid by their employers.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

11 Access to Justice Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Access to Justice Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Principles applicable to Part I)—(Mr Edward Garnier)—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, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 146.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Jim Dowd: 313.

Amendments (Nos. 87, 88, 11 to 16, 89, 90, 17 to 22 and 38 to 44) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 95) proposed to the Bill, in page 68, line 32, at the end, to insert the words ‘and actions brought by or on behalf of children under 18, patients within the meaning of the Mental Health Act 1983, persons with disabilities within the meaning of section 1(1) of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and persons in receipt of Income Support, save that services shall not be funded if the Commission is satisfied in any individual case that a conditional fee agreement is available’.—(Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.
Mr Edward Garnier rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

Question, That the Question be now put, put and agreed to.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Alan Simpson: 173.

And it being after a quarter to Nine o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded at that hour, pursuant to Order [this day].

Other Amendments (Nos. 45 to 69) made to the Bill.

A Clause (Powers of Ombudsman)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Funding of Ombudsman by professional bodies)—(Mr Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (The Commissioner)—(Mr Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Commissioner's functions)—(Mr Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Bar practising certificates)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Fees for solicitors' practising certificates)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Code of conduct)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

And it being a quarter-past Ten o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Another Clause (Recovery where body undertakes to meet cost liabilities)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Adjournment of inquest in event of judicial inquiry)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Judges holding office in European or international courts)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

A Schedule (Legal Services Complaints Commissioner)—(Mr Keith Vaz)—brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 23 to 26) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 98) proposed to the Bill, in page 19, line 3, after the word 'proceedings', to insert the words 'save those brought under section 82 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990'.—(Mr Nick Hawkins.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 27 to 37) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 94) proposed to the Bill, in page 27, line 36, at the end, to insert the words—

'( ) No person shall take or use any name, title or description implying that he is certificated as a notary by the Incorporated Company of Scriveners of London unless he is qualified to practise as a Scrivener notary in accordance with the rules and ordinances of that Company.

( ) A person who contravenes the preceding subsection shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale'.—(Mr Peter Brooke.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Ordered, That Clause No. 54 be transferred to the end of line 32 on page 33.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Ordered, That Clause No. 59 be transferred to the end of line 5 on page 31.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Ordered, That Clause No. 60 be transferred to the end of line 32 on page 33.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Another Amendment (No. 1) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That Clause No. 70 be transferred to the end of line 32 on page 33.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Other Amendments (Nos. 100 to 103, 91, 3, 104, 92, 70 to 81, 4 and 105) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That Schedule No. 10 be transferred to the end of line 36 on page 91.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Other Amendments (Nos. 106 to 112, 5 to 7, 82, 8 to 10, 113, 114, 83, 84, 93, 85, 86 and 115 to 118) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That Part IV(5) (Enforcement of community orders) of Schedule No. 14 be transferred to the end of line 27 on page 148.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Another Amendment (No. 119) made to the Bill.

Title accordingly amended, as follows:

A Bill to establish the Legal Services Commission, the Community Legal Service and the Criminal Defence Service; to amend the law of legal aid in Scotland; to make further provision about legal services; to make provision about appeals, courts, judges and court proceedings; to amend the law about magistrates and magistrates' courts; and to make provision about immunity from action and costs and indemnities for certain officials exercising judicial functions.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Secretary Blunkett, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put;

The House proceeded to a Division.

Wednesday 23rd June 1999

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Clive Betts: 301.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 151.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

12 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the Review of the Criminal Justice System in Northern Ireland be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee for its consideration;

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 8th July—

(i) the Committee shall take questions for oral answer and shall then consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above;

(ii) the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings at Five o'clock; and

(iii) at the conclusion 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(5).—(Mr David Jamieson.)

13 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the Health Food Manufacturers' Association against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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 I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Animals,—Report of the Animal Procedures Committee for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 492] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 22nd June 1999, 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 1999-2000 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

3 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the British Broadcasting Corporation for 1998–99 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4 Health,—Government Response to the Third Report from the Health Committee, Session 1998–99, on Future NHS Staffing Requirements [by Command] [Cm. 4379] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

5 Interception of Communications,—Consultation Paper, entitled Interception of Communications in the United Kingdom [by Command] [Cm. 4368] [Mr Secretary Straw].


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Seventh Report from the Agriculture Committee [Outcome of the CAP Reform Negotiations], 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. 442].

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, on The UK Pig Industry: The Government’s Response], together with an Appendix; to be printed [No. 573];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Sea Fishing]; to be printed [No. 141-v]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; The Marketing of Milk] [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 [Town and Country Parks]; to be printed [No. 477-iii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Foreign Affairs,—(1) Fifth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Resources], 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. 271]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Resources] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs,—(1) Third Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Government Observations on the First Report from the Committee on the work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission]; to be printed [No. 569]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Drugs and Prisons]; to be printed [No. 363-iii] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Department for International Development: Departmental Report 1999]; to be printed [No. 567-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards), to be printed [No. 542-ii] [Mr Peter L. Pike].
7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill], to be printed [Nos. 570-i and -ii] [Dr Tony Wright].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee—Two Years On], to be printed [No. 505-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 109.]

Wednesday 23rd June 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire).

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

2 Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Highway Functions) Order 1999.

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

3 Equal Access (Public and Private Buildings),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish that where men and women are granted access to public or private buildings they are granted equal access; and for connected purposes: And that Derek Wyatt, Ms Clare Ward, Mr John Maxton, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw and Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews do prepare and bring it in.

4 Equal Access (Public and Private Buildings) Bill,—Derek Wyatt accordingly presented a Bill to establish that where men and women are granted access to public or private buildings they are granted equal access; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 127].

5 Opposition Day [14th allotted day–1st part],—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.

Proportional Representation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House, in the light of experience of recent elections held on the basis of proportional representation, believes that this is not an appropriate basis for election to the House of Commons; and urges the Government to resolve the uncertainty it has caused on this matter either by abandoning its commitment to hold a referendum, or by holding the referendum forthwith—(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 'recognises that different electoral systems may be appropriate for elections to different institutions; commends the Government’s commitment to let the final decision on the voting system for the House of Commons be made by the people in a referendum; and welcomes the Government’s approach which allows for a full debate in the country on the merits of the Jenkins system before a referendum is held'; 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 Eleanor Laing, Mr Keith Simpson: 143.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Keith Hill: 365.

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 recognises that different electoral systems may be appropriate for elections to different institutions; commends the Government's commitment to let the final decision on the voting system for the House of Commons be made by the people in a referendum; and welcomes the Government's approach which allows for a full debate in the country on the merits of the Jenkins system before a referendum is held.

6 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures),—Resolved, That the Cathedrals Measure, passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent in the form in which the said Measure was laid before Parliament.—(Mr Stuart Bell.)

7 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures),—A Motion being made, That the Care of Places of Worship Measure, passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent in the form in which the said Measure was laid before Parliament—(Mr Stuart Bell);

Margaret Beckett acquainted the House, That she had it in Command from Her Majesty the Queen to acquaint the House that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Measure, has consented to place her prerogative and interest, so far as it is concerned on behalf of the Crown and the Duchy of Lancaster, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Measure.

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

Resolved. That the Care of Places of Worship Measure, passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent in the form in which the said Measure was laid before Parliament.

8 The Speaker's Absence,—Resolved, That the Speaker have leave of absence on Thursday 1st July to attend the opening of the Scottish Parliament.—(Mr Robert Ainsworth.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 9.40 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Revival of Parts IVA and IVB) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Customs and Excise,—(1) Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1778), and


3 Education,—Education (Student Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1784), dated 22nd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1774), dated 22nd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

5 Further and Higher Education (Scotland),—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland on Further Education in Scotland for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

6 Industrial Training,—Report and Accounts of the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
7 Parliamentary Commissioner,—(1) Sixth Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1998–99: Selected cases and summaries of some completed investigations, October 1998 to March 1999, and

8 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Seventh to Ninth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4380] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

9 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [13th May] from Mr Bernard Calvert for a referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

10 Water,—Report of the Director General of Water Services for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 510] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Food Standards Bill:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B and has appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr Jimmy Hood Chairmen; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Clive Betts, Dr Peter Brand, Mr Richard Burden, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Andrew George, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Tessa Jowell, Mr Sally Keeble, Mr Calum Macdonald, Mr David Maclean, Mr James Paice, Mr Owen Paterson, Mr Jeff Rooker, Mr Frank Roy, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Mark Todd and Dr Desmond Turner.

2 Excise Duties (Personal Reliefs) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1617):
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Amess, Mr Colin Breed, Barbara Follett, Maria Fyfe, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Jim Marshall, Laura Moffatt, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Ted Rowlands, Dr Rudi Vis and Mr David Wilshire.

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Sir David Madel Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Peter Bottomley, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Mr Edward Davey, Valerie Davey, Mrs Llin Golding, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Alan Johnson, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Oliver Letwin, Rosemary McKenna, Alice Mahon, Mr Paul Marsden, Dawn Primarolo and Dr Alan Whitehead.

4 Draft Contracting Out (Jury Summoning Functions) Order 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Tenth 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.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr John Burnett, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Alan Campbell, Ann Clwyd, Mr David Curry, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr John Hayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Lock, Mr Syd Rapson, Joan Ruddock, Mr Alan Simpson, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr John M. Taylor and Mr Keith Vaz.

5 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of the Second Reading Committee in respect of the Bill, in place of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody.

European Standing Committees

6 European Union Document No. 8329/99, relating to financial services, 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 Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Rail Regulation]; to be printed [No. 585-i]; and
   (2) Memorandum laid before the Transport Sub-Committee [Air Traffic Control]; to be printed [No. 586]
   [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

2 European Scrutiny,—(1) Twenty-Third Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxiii]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The ECOFIN Council, 25 May 1999]; to be printed [No. 589]
   [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Third Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee (Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland: Special Needs Education)]; to be printed [No. 587]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Road Fuel Price Differentials]; to be printed [No. 334-iv]
   [Mr Peter Brooke].

4 Procedure,—Fifth Report from the Procedure Committee [Ministerial Statements on Fridays], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 588] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

5 Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-Second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Delays to the new National Insurance Recording System], 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. 182];
   (2) Twenty-Third Report from the Committee [Getting better value for money from the Private Finance Initiative]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 583]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Immigration and Nationality Directorate’s Casework Programme]; to be printed [No. 584-i]
   [Mr David Davis].

6 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [The Modernisation of Social Security Appeals]; to be printed [No. 581-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 110.]

Thursday 24th June 1999.

The House met at half-past Eleven 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 the following recommendations for the allocation of time for the consideration of Estimates on an allotted day (being the second allotted day in the present Session):
   That a day not later than 5th August be allotted for the consideration of the following Estimates for the financial year 1999–2000:
2. Class III: Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions as it relates to transport policy;

and that debate on the first Estimate be interrupted not later than three hours after its commencement.

Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the consultation document “Life Long Learning—a New Learning Culture for All”, referred to it on 9th June, and had directed him to report accordingly to the House.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 99].

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

The Lords have agreed to the Water Industry Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the HFC Bank Bill, without Amendment.

4 Genetically Modified Food and Producer Liability Bill,—Mr Alan Simpson, supported by Mr Tony Benn, Audrey Wise, Mr John McDonnell, Alice Mahon, Mr Llew Smith, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Maria Fyfe, Mr John McAllion and Dr Ian Gibson, presented a Bill to make further provision with respect to the safety of and liability for the deliberate release or marketing of genetically modified organisms and genetically modified food; to establish a genetically modified organism compensation fund; and for connected purposes.

And the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 128].

5 Opposition Day [15th 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.

Government’s Policy for Widows,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House welcomes the long-overdue extension of widow’s benefits to widowers, and the doubling of Bereavement Payments; but notes that this costs only £100 million annually in the long term, compared with the £600 million cut the Government will make through the replacement of widows’ pensions by a Bereavement Tax Allowance, the abolition of Dividend Tax Credits and the restriction of Council Tax Benefit on higher-value properties; regrets the Government’s woefully inadequate response to next year’s halving of widows’ entitlement to additional pension; welcomes the fact that this is now under investigation by the Parliamentary Ombudsman; and calls on the Government to cease their attacks on the living standards of widows—(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 ‘supports the Government’s proposals to reform bereavement benefits, including the Bereavement Payment, which will provide a tax-free lump sum of £2,000—double the value of the current Widow’s Payment; welcomes the additional help given to the children of widowers, who will qualify for the new Widowed Parent’s Allowance, which will replace the Widowed Mother’s Allowance; welcomes the protection given to widows over 55, who might otherwise have no practical alternative to relying on Income Support; and welcomes the wide range of policies which are designed to assist women to play a full and active part in the community’, instead thereof.—(Mr Stephen Timms.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Phil Willis, Sir Robert Smith: 37.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr David Jamieson: 274.

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’s proposals to reform bereavement benefits, including the Bereavement Payment, which will provide a tax-free lump sum of £2,000—double the value of the current Widow’s Payment; welcomes the
additional help given to the children of widowers, who will qualify for the new Widowed Parent’s Allowance, which will replace the Widowed Mother’s Allowance; welcomes the protection given to widows over 55, who might otherwise have no practical alternative to relying on Income Support; and welcomes the wide range of policies which are designed to assist women to play a full and active part in the community.

Food and Supermarkets.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the rapid expansion of out-of-town superstores under the Conservatives and the concentration of local market share has hit traditional town centres; notes that supermarket purchasing and pricing policies have hit farmers but not led to lower prices for consumers and are now under investigation by the Competition Commission as a result; further notes that a new wave of larger superstore developments and predatory pricing to gain market dominance, and a squeeze of local producers and traditional retailers, is threatened by Wal-Mart’s acquisition of ASDA; therefore calls on the Government to reaffirm its commitment to preventing further out-of-town greenfield development, and to tackle urgently anti-competitive, anti-producer and anti-consumer practices by the major food retailers, and calls on the Prime Minister to put on record in the House the substantive contents of his meeting earlier this year with the Chief Executive of Wal-Mart and to clarify exactly what flexibility in planning regulation was offered in respect of any future superstore development—(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 ‘welcomes the Government’s planning policy on town centres and retail development, which promotes the development of food retailing in existing centres; endorses its attempts to maintain vital, viable competitive town, district and neighbourhood centres, which provide a broad range of retail services accessible to the whole population regardless of whether they have access to a car; welcomes the benefits which supermarkets have brought to consumers; notes the concerns over the level of supermarket profits and approves the investigation of grocery retailing being carried out by the Competition Commission; welcomes the recently agreed re-shaping of the CAP and the establishment of the second pillar of the CAP—an integrated rural development policy; and welcomes the Government’s commitment to rural communities, its efforts to increase collaborative marketing among farmers and encourage diversification, and its support for regional, speciality and traditional food producers’ instead thereof.—(Mr Richard Caborn.)

Question proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question.

And it being Seven o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

6 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Resolved, That the draft Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Revival of Parts IVA and IVB) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 23rd June, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

7 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 Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Highway Functions) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Nine o’clock, adjourned till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 9 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Food,—Food (Peanuts from Egypt) (Emergency Control) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1800), dated 24th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Land Drainage,—Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1783), dated 22nd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

4 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards of Safety Communications) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1704), dated 14th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Other Papers:

5 Audit Commission,—Accounts of the Audit Commission for Local Authoriti es and the 
National Health Service in England and Wales for the year ended 31st October 1998, 
with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed 
[No. 592] [Clerk of the House].

6 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of S4C for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Cloning,—Government Response to the Report by the Human Genetics Advisory 
Commission and the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority on Cloning Issues 
in Reproduction, Science and Medicine [by Command] [Cm. 4387] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

8 Criminal Appeal,—Accounts of the Criminal Cases Review Commission for 1998–99, with 
the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 
591] [Clerk of the House].

9 Crown Agents,—(1) Accounts of the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board for 1998, 
with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed 
[No. 522] [Clerk of the House]; and 
(2) Report of the Chairman of the Crown Agents Holding and Realisation Board for 
1998 [by Act] [Secretary Clare Short].

10 Greenwich Hospital,—Accounts of the Greenwich Hospital and Travers Foundation for 
1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to 
be printed [No. 514] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Judicial Statistics,—Judicial Statistics for England and Wales for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 
4371] [Mr Keith Vaz].

12 Legal Aid and Advice,—Report and Accounts of the Legal Aid Board for 1998–99 [by Act]; 
to be printed [No. 537] [Mr Keith Vaz].

13 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence: 
Major Projects Report 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 519] [Clerk of the House].

14 Prisons,—Report of the Prisons Ombudsman for the period 1st January 1998 to 31st March 
1999 [by Command] [Cm. 4369] [Mr Secretary Straw].

15 Race Relations (Northern Ireland),—Report and Accounts of the Commission for Racial 
Equality for Northern Ireland for 1998–99 [by Statutory Instrument] [Secretary Marjorie 
Mowlam]

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport 
Committee [The Department for Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos]; to be 
printed [No. 506-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Kosovo]; to be printed 
[No. 593-i] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit 
Committee [The Budget 1999]; to be printed [No. 326-iii] [Mr John Horam].

4 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Procedures related to 
Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care], to be printed [No. 549-ii][Mr 
David Hinchliffe].

5 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the 
Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards), to be printed 
[No. 542-iii] [Mr Peter L. Pike].
6 Scottish Affairs.—First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 84-I and -II] [Mr David Marshall].

[No. 111.]

Friday 25th June 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Consumers for Health Choice, the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association, the National Association of Health Stores and others against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Adjournment (Innovation and Enterprise).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Robert Ainsworth);

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

3 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr David Hanson.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 28th June.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Education,—(1) Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (Prescribed Period) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1728), dated 16th June 1999,

(2) Charles Keene College of Further Education, Leicester and Leicester South Fields College (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1802), dated 23rd June 1999, and

(3) Local Education Authority (Payment of School Expenses) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1727), dated 15th June 1999

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Landlord and Tenant,—Assured and Protected Tenancies (Lettings to Students) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1803), dated 23rd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Other Papers:

5 Industrial Training,—Report and Accounts of the Construction Industry Training Board for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Disqualification of a Member,—The Speaker laid upon the Table a notification, That Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer had this day appointed the Right honourable Sir Alastair Robertson Goodlad, Member for Eddisbury, to the office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty’s Three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough and Burnham in the county of Buckingham.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Tax Credits Bill, to which this House has disagreed.

3 Financial Services and Markets Bill,—The Financial Services and Markets Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Financial Services and Markets Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Financial Services and Markets 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 Financial Services and Markets Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown in consequence of the Act; and
   (b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable by virtue of any other Act—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

5 Financial Services and Markets 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 Financial Services and Markets Bill, it is expedient to authorise the imposition of charges to income tax and corporation tax by provisions of that Act relating to the treatment for the purposes of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 of payments made as a result of any provision of the Financial Services and Markets Compensation Scheme providing for the repayment of levies paid under the Scheme—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.26 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

   (2) Education (Maintained Special Schools) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1780), dated 22nd June 1999, and
   (3) Education (Transfer of Functions Concerning School Lunches) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1779), dated 20th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

3 Housing,—Protection from Eviction (Excluded Licences) (The Shaftesbury Society) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1758), dated 21st June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Goods and Services) (Public Bodies) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1754), dated 17th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

6 Courts and Legal Services,—Report of the Legal Services Ombudsman for the period 1st January 1998 to 31st March 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 495] [Mr Keith Vaz].

7 Development of Tourism,—Accounts of the Scottish Tourist Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 599] [Clerk of the House].

8 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—(1) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Hong Kong Locally Engaged Ratings' Service Gratuities and Attributable Disablement and Death Awards) Order 1999, and

(2) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Hong Kong Locally Engaged Ratings' Service Pensions Increases) Order 1999, dated 22nd June 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

9 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of the Parole Board for Scotland for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 503] [Mr Secretary Reid].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Kidney and Mr David Lock from the Second Reading Committee (nominated in respect of the Bill), and nominated in substitution Mrs Eileen Gordon and Siobhain McDonagh.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Future of Professional Rugby]; to be printed [No. 590-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Home Affairs,—(1) Fourth Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Police Training and Recruitment], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 81]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Police Training and Recruitment] [Mr Chris Mullin].

3 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of the Environment, Transport & The Regions: The Sale of Railfreight Distribution]; to be printed [No. 601-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 113.]

Tuesday 29th June 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—Ordered, That the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill be considered to-morrow.

2 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Second Reading Committee on the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords], That it had come to the following Resolution, which it had directed him to report to the House: That the Committee recommends that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords] ought to be read a second time.
Report to lie upon the Table.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 603].

3 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—Mr George Stevenson reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereto, and had amended the Title as follows:

A Bill to provide for the referral of offenders under 18 to youth offender panels; to make provision in connection with the giving of evidence or information for the purposes of criminal proceedings; to amend section 51 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994; to make pre-consolidation amendments relating to youth justice; and for connected purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 130].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 606].

4 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Dr Michael Clark reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Excise Duties (Personal Reliefs) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1617).

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 Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to the Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill, without Amendment.

6 Regulation of Operating Department Practitioners.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for a registration scheme for operating department practitioners and for the regulation of their professional conduct; and for related purposes: And that Helen Jones, Charlotte Atkins, Laura Moffatt, Dr Alan Whitehead, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Jonathan Shaw, Mrs Diana Organ and Mr Stephen Hesford do prepare and bring it in.

7 Regulation of Operating Department Practitioners Bill.—Helen Jones accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for a registration scheme for operating department practitioners and for the regulation of their professional conduct; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 129].

8 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.

Delays in the Issue of Passports.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the Government’s handling of the current crisis in the issuing of passports including the untimely introduction of children’s passports, the untimely introduction of a flawed computer system, the unsatisfactory manner in which the above were introduced, the failure to instruct the passport office to work around the clock to meet demand, confusion over compensation, the failure to deliver passports in time for many families who have now missed overseas trips, the failure to meet the Passport Agency’s turn around target of 10 days and the great inconvenience and distress caused to the general public; and calls upon Her Majesty’s Government to take urgent measures to ensure the speedy and efficient delivery of passports and that there are no further instances of UK citizens being denied overseas trips due to the combination of bad planning, inefficiency and complacency—(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 ‘acknowledges the difficult operational situation that the Passport Agency is facing and greatly regrets the inconvenience caused to the public; notes the measures that the Agency is taking to remedy the situation including the deployment of 300 additional staff, the streamlining of processes to boost productivity whilst maintaining security and the willingness of Agency staff to work seven days a week to help clear the arrears; further notes that in spite of this difficult position the Agency is meeting 99.99 per cent. of travel dates and will continue to do so throughout the summer and beyond; and agrees that it is right to introduce the policy of separate passports for children’, 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, Mr Stephen Day, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 165.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Jane Kennedy: 351.

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 acknowledges the difficult operational situation that the Passport Agency is facing and greatly regrets the inconvenience caused to the public; notes the measures that the Agency is taking to remedy the situation including the deployment of 300 additional staff, the streamlining of processes to boost productivity whilst maintaining security and the willingness of Agency staff to work seven days a week to help clear the arrears; further notes that in spite of this difficult position the Agency is meeting 99.99 per cent. of travel dates and will continue to do so throughout the summer and beyond; and agrees that it is right to introduce the policy of separate passports for children.

Planning and Transport Congestion,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s contradictory signals on transport and planning policies; requests the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions to cancel the M4 bus lane, and find a way of reopening the Circle Line and keeping other tube lines open; notes that the Government has no policies to increase road or rail capacity in line with traffic growth forecasts; is appalled that motorists are paying more and more tax under Labour to sit in ever worse traffic jams; and urges the Government to revitalise town centres and to follow transport and planning policies that can get Britain moving again—(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 previous Government’s record of under-investment and disintegration in the transport network, its failure to tackle congestion as traffic rose by 75 per cent., the £1.2 billion investment backlog it left on the London Underground and its cut in road maintenance; commends the Government for producing the first Transport White Paper for 20 years, taking a far-sighted and more integrated approach than the previous administration, and linking together planning and transport policy more closely; and notes that the present Government has begun to tackle the inherited problems of under-investment, pollution and increasing traffic congestion, by a new radical integrated strategy, including an extra £1.8 billion for public transport and local transport management, winning back passengers to public transport, improving road maintenance, encouraging greater fuel efficiency, reducing pollution, and introducing the long-term policies needed to increase transport choice and improve Britain’s transport system’, instead of—(Mr Secretary Prescott.)

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, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Stephen Day: 137.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Mike Hall: 350.

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, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Mike Hall: 311.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 147.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved. That this House deprecates the previous Government’s record of under-investment and disintegration in the transport network, its failure to tackle congestion as traffic rose by 75 per cent. the £1.2 billion investment backlog it left on the London
Underground and its cut in road maintenance; commends the Government for producing the first Transport White Paper for 20 years, taking a far-sighted and more integrated approach than the previous administration, and linking together planning and transport policy more closely; and notes that the present Government has begun to tackle the inherited problems of under-investment, pollution and increasing traffic congestion, by a new radical integrated strategy, including an extra £1.8 billion for public transport and local transport management, winning back passengers to public transport, improving road maintenance, encouraging greater fuel efficiency, reducing pollution, and introducing the long-term policies needed to increase transport choice and improve Britain’s transport system.

9 Estimates.—A Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That this House agrees with the Report [24th June] of the Liaison Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill).—It was agreed to.

10 Broadcasting.—Ordered, That Mr Ivor Caplin be discharged from the Select Committee on Broadcasting and Mr Kelvin Hopkins be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the village of Thorney, Peterborough, for the construction of a proposed A47 Thorney Bypass 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 Keith Hill.)

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 Civil Aviation,—Draft Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Parliament,—Draft Ministerial and other Salaries Order 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Consumer Protection,—Cigarette Lighter Refill (Safety) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1844), dated 28th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 County Courts,—Register of County Court Judgements (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1845), dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

5 Education,—(1) Education (Mandatory Awards) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1824), dated 28th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett]; and

(2) Education (School Information) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1812),

(3) Education (School Performance and Unauthorised Absence Targets) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1811), and

(4) Education (School Performance Information) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1470),
dated 24th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

6 Food,—(1) Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1764), and

(2) Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1763),
dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

7 Local Government,—Local Government Reorganisation (Wales) (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1782), dated 24th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

8 National Health Service (Scotland),—(1) Road Traffic (NHS Charges) (Reviews and Appeals) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1843), and

(2) Road Traffic (NHS Charges) (Scotland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1842),
dated 28th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

10 Development of Tourism.—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Tourist Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

11 International Labour Conference.—Paper, entitled International Labour Conference: Proposed action on three Conventions, three Recommendations and a Protocol adopted at the 84th (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference (1996) by Her Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 4372] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

12 Northern Ireland.—Northern Ireland Trading and Other Accounts for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 557] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

13 Science and Technology.—Paper, entitled The Forward Look of Government-funded Science, Engineering and Technology 1999 [by Command] [Cm. 4363] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Abolition of Zero-Rating for Tax-Free Shops) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1617).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Rosemary McKenna from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order), and nominated in substitution Mrs Eileen Gordon.

2 Draft Contracting Out (Jury Summoning Functions) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Lock and Mr Syd Rapson from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Jabez Foster and Ms Linda Perham.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment.—(1) Third Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on Part-time Working]; to be printed [No. 609];

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on Highly Able Children]; to be printed [No. 610]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People]; to be printed [No. 111-v]

[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 [Town and Country Parks]; to be printed [No. 477-iv] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 Environmental Audit.—Sixth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Greening Government Initiative 1999], 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. 426] [Mr John Horam].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Drugs and Prisons]; to be printed [No. 363-iv] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development.—(1) Third Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on The Provisions of the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords]]; to be printed [No. 604]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Future of Sanctions]; to be printed [No. 454-iv]

[Mr Bowen Wells].
6 Local Government (Organisation and Standards).—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards), to be printed [No. 542-iv] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 570-iii and -iv] [Dr Tony Wright].

8 Standards and Privileges,—Eighth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Premature Disclosure of Reports of the Foreign Affairs Committee, together with Appendices and Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 15th June; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 607]] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-Third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry,—Eighth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Trade Marks, Fakes and Consumers], 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] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

11 Treasury,—(1) Seventh Report from the Treasury Committee [Public Service Agreements], 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. 378]: and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Demutualisation]; to be printed [No. 605-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

12 Welsh Affairs,—(1) Fourth Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Health Issues 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 [Nos. 343-I and -II]; and
(2) Fifth Report from the Committee [Paediatric Cardiac Services in Wales]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 608] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 114.]

Wednesday 30th June 1999.

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 Mike Hall);
And it being Two o’clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

2 Eddisbury 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 Eddisbury in the room of the Right honourable Sir Alastair Robertson Goodlad, KCMG, who since his election for the said County Constituency hath accepted the office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty’s Three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough and Burnham in the county of Buckingham.—(Mr James Arbuthnot)

3 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, as amended in the Committee;
Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Tuesday 6th July.

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 Acts, agreed upon by both Houses, and to the following Measures passed under the provisions of the Church of England (Assembly Powers) Act 1919:
Health Act 1999
Water Industry Act 1999
Tax Credits Act 1999
Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999
Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Act 1999
University College London Act 1999
Imperial College Act 1999
HFC Bank Act 1999
Cathedrals Measure 1999
Care of Places of Worship Measure 1999

5 Holocaust Remembrance Day.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to introduce a national day to learn about and remember the Holocaust: And that Mr Andrew Dismore, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Stephen Twigg, Mr Mike Gapes, Mr Peter Bradley, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr James Clappison and Dr Evan Harris do prepare and bring it in.

6 Holocaust Remembrance Day Bill,—Mr Andrew Dismore accordingly presented a Bill to introduce a national day to learn about and remember the Holocaust: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 131].

7 Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee:
A Clause (Action plans)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Amendments (Nos. 1 to 25) made to the Bill.
The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

8 Finance Bill,—Resolved, That, notwithstanding the practice of the House as to the intervals between stages of Bills brought in upon Ways and Means Resolutions, more than one stage of the Finance Bill may be taken at any sitting of the House.—(Jim Dowd.)

9 Customs and Excise,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Excise Duties (Personal Reliefs) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1617), dated 10th June 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 11th June, be approved—(Jim Dowd).—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Dowd.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till thirteen minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.47 pm.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct) Order 1999,
   (2) draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines) Order 1999, and
   (3) draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules) Order 1999
   [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
2 Agriculture,—(1) Feeding Stuffs (Establishments and Intermediaries) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1872), and
(2) Feedingstuffs (Zootechnical Products) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1871),
dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Third Amendment) (Revocation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1859), dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Education,—(1) Education (Exclusion from School) (Prescribed Periods) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1868), dated 25th June 1999, and
(2) Education (Further Education in Schools) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1867),
dated 26th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett], and
(3) Education (National Curriculum) (Temporary Exceptions for Individual Pupils) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1815), dated 28th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

(2) Cereal Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1860),
(3) Fodder Plant Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1864),
(4) Oil and Fibre Plant Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1862),
(5) Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1865), and
(6) Vegetable Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1863),
dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

Other Papers:

6 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas,—Report of the Ancient Monuments Board for Wales for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

7 Development of Tourism,—Statement by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the appointment of Alan Britten as the Chairman of the English Tourist Board [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 Education,—Paper, entitled Learning to Succeed—A New Framework for Post-16 Learning [by Command] [Cm. 4392] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 European Community Finances,—Statement on the 1999 EC Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement [by Command] [Cm. 4382] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

10 Fair Trading,—Report of the Director General of Fair Trading for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 524] [Mr Secretary Byers].

11 Lebanon (No. 1, 1999),—Agreement, done at Beirut on 16th February 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Lebanese Republic for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [by Command] [Cm. 4384] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the Local Government Commission for England for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Police (Northern Ireland),—Report of the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary for 1998–99 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
Public Processions (Northern Ireland).—(1) Draft Parades Commission 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 Parades Commission Guidelines under section 5 of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 relating to the exercise of the Commission’s powers to impose conditions on public processions, and

(3) draft Parades Commission Procedural Rules under section 4 of the Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 relating to the practice and procedure to be followed by the Commission and by other persons or bodies in their dealings with the Commission in the exercise of certain functions

[Treaty Series (No.37, 1999).—Agreement, done at Mauritius on 4th November 1995, amending the Fourth ACP-EC Convention of Lomé, with Final Act [by Command] [Cm. 4383] [Mr Secretary Cook].]

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Financial Services and Markets Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed twenty-five Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Nigel Beard, Mrs Liz Blackman, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Colin Breed, Mrs Helen Brinton, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Brian Cotter, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Patrick Hall, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Miss Melanie Johnson, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr David Kidney, Mr Tim Loughton, Sir Nicholas Lyell, Mr Alan Milburn, Ms Sandra Osborne, Mr James Plaskitt, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr Keith Simpson and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

2 Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Amendment) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft 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.: Mr Tom Brake, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Robin Corbett, Mr Stephen Hesford, Mr Keith Hill, Glenda Jackson, Helen Jones, Mrs Jacqui Laat, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Jim Marshall, Bob Russell, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Derek Twigg, Mr Dave Watts, Mr David Wilshire and Mr Shaun Woodward.

European Standing Committees


4 European Union Document No. 13526/99, together with the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18th May 1999 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 21st June 1999, all relating to Sectors and Activities excluded from the Working Time Directive, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, on Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis]; to be printed [No. 612]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1999]; to be printed [No. 613-i]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing; MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1999]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Broadcasting.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Broadcasting Committee [The Development of Parliamentary Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 618-i] [Mr Roger Gale].

3 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Department for Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos]; to be printed [No. 506-xv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

4 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Research Expenditure]; to be printed [No. 616-i] [Mr Bruce George].

5 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Employment Consequences of European Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 547-ii] [Mr Derek Foster].

6 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Revision of PPG3: Housing]; to be printed [No. 490-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

7 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-fourth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxiv] [Mr Jim Marshall].

8 Health,—Memorandum laid before the Health Committee [Public Expenditure on Health and Personal Social Services 1999]; to be printed [No. 620] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

9 Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [DETR: The Flotation of Railtrack]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 256]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [NHS (England) Summarised Accounts 1997–98]; to be printed [No. 619-ii] [Mr David Davis].

10 Social Security,—(1) Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee on 29th July 1998, in the last Session of Parliament [DSS Departmental Report 1998]; to be printed [No. 614]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Contributory Principle]; to be printed [No. 485-ii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

11 Standards and Privileges,—Ninth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints against Mr Peter Mandelson], together with Appendices and part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 18th May; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 611] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

[No. 115.

Thursday 1st July 1999.

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

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, the Clerk at the Table informed the House of the Speaker’s absence from this day’s sitting, pursuant to leave given [23rd June].

   Whereupon Sir Alan Haselhurst, the Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order.

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

4 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out (Jury Summoning Functions) Order 1999.

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

5 Business of the House (Statutory Instruments).—Ordered, That, if a Statutory Instrument or Statutory Instruments relating to a Northern Ireland matter be laid before the House this day, a Minister of the Crown may, notwithstanding the practice of the House, make without notice a Motion or Motions for the approval of the said Instrument or Instruments at the sitting this day.—(Mr David Clelland.)

6 Adjournment (Armed Forces Personnel).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr David Clelland);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

7 Finance and Services.—Ordered, That Mr George Mudie be discharged from the Finance and Services Committee and Mr Keith Bradley be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.29 pm.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Miscellaneous Provisions Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Banks and Banking,—Cross-Border Credit Transfers Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1876), dated 30th June 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

3 Copyright,—Copyright (Application to Other Countries) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1751), dated 22nd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

4 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Counting and Registration of Persons on Board Passenger Ships) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1869), dated 30th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment and Assignment, Forfeiture, Bankruptcy etc.) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1849), dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

6 Rights in Performances,—Performances (Reciprocal Protection) (Convention Countries) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1752), dated 22nd June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

7 British Council,—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 1999–2000 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Cook].
8 Welfare.—Paper, entitled A new contract for welfare: Children's Rights and Parents' Responsibilities [by Command] [Cm. 4349] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Financial Services and Markets Bill.—The Chairman of Ways and Means has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson and Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Amendment) Order 1999.—(1) The Chairman of Ways and Means has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Keith Hill from the Committee (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Graham Allen.

European Standing Committees


Grand Committee

4 The Chairman of Ways and Means has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of the matter of the review of the Criminal Justice System in Northern Ireland.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Procedures relating to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care]; to be printed [No. 549-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Local Government (Organisation and Standards).—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards); to be printed [No. 542-v] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

[No. 116.]

Friday 2nd July 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

   (1) Jake Steel and others for a ban on all genetically modified food and crops in the United Kingdom, and an independent investigation into genetically modified foods;

   (2) Consumers for Health Choice, the Health Food Manufacturers' Association and the National Association of Health Stores in Chesham and Amersham against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines; and

   (3) Rodney Howlett, residents of the constituency of Chesham and Amersham and others for re-establishment of British Sovereignty ceded to the European Commission were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

2 Adjournment (Drugs).—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.
3 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 Tuesday 27th July, do adjourn till Tuesday 19th October—(Mrs Anne McGuire).—It was agreed to.

4 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 27th July, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified the Royal Assent to Acts agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

5 Deregulation,—Ordered, That Mr Oliver Letwin be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Mrs Teresa Gorman be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

6 Public Accounts,—Ordered, That Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr David Curry be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

7 Public Administration,—Ordered, That Mr David Ruffley be discharged from the Select Committee on Public Administration and Mr Nicholas Soames be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 5th July.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft INTELSAT (Immunities and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Approved Investments) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1852), dated 25th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 National Lottery,—National Lottery Charities Board (Increase in Membership) (Revocation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1878), dated 1st July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

4 Korea (No. 1, 1999),—Convention on Social Security, done at Seoul on 20th April 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Korea, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4390] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Treaty Series (No. 38, 1999),—First supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1999 [by Command] [Cm. 4385] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Treaty Series (No. 40, 1999),—Agreement, done at London on 6th December 1993, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on International Road Transport [by Command] [Cm. 4389] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Financial Services and Markets Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien an additional Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.
[No. 117.]

Monday 5th July 1999.

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 Protection of Children Bill, without Amendment.

2 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Capital Allowances (first year allowances).—Resolved,
   That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in the
   Finance Bill restricting the expenditure on machinery and plant for use in Northern
   Ireland in respect of which 100 per cent. first year allowances may be made.—(Mrs
   Barbara Roche.)

3 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Oil taxation (anti-avoidance).—Resolved, That provision
   may be included in the Finance Bill about—
   (a) the receipts which are to be treated as tariff receipts or disposal receipts attributable
      to an oil field;
   (b) the persons who are to be treated as participators in an oil field; and
   (c) the time for payment of petroleum revenue tax.—(Mrs Barbara Roche.)

4 Finance Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the
   proposed Motion relating to Finance Bill [Money];
   
   Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Finance Bill, it is
   expedient to authorise any increase in the sums payable out of or into the National Loans
   Fund attributable to any provision of that Act relating to borrowing from the General
   Account of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise or the General Account of the
   Commissioners of Inland Revenue.—(Mrs Barbara Roche.)

5 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Chargeable gains: absolute entitlement to settled
   property.—Resolved, That provision may be made in the Finance Bill amending section
   71 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.—(Mrs Barbara Roche.)

6 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Goods for sale on board ships or aircraft.—Resolved, That
   provision may be made in the Finance Bill amending section 1 of the Customs and Excise
   Management Act 1979 as respects stores.—(Mrs Barbara Roche.)

7 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Works of art, antiques, etc.—A Motion was made, and
   the Question being proposed, That provision may be made in the Finance Bill amending
   section 21 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994—(Dawn Primarolo);
   
   And it being three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings, the
   Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money
   resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills):—It was agreed to.
   
   Resolved, That provision may be made in the Finance Bill amending section 21 of the

8 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Value added tax (preparations etc. of meat, yeast or egg).—
   Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made
   in the Finance Bill amending the provisions of Schedule 8 to the Value Added Tax Act
   1994 by virtue of which supplies of preparations and extracts of meat, yeast or egg are
   zero-rated.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

9 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Discounted securities etc.—Resolved, That provision
   (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in the Finance Bill
   amending paragraphs 10 and 13 of Schedule 13 to the Finance Act 1996 and section 92
   of that Act.—(Mrs Barbara Roche.)

10 Finance Bill,—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 (First-year allowances for investment in Northern Ireland)—(Mrs Barbara
   Roche)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   
   Another Clause (Oil taxation: qualifying assets)—(Mrs Barbara Roche)—brought up,
   read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
   
   Another Clause (Petroleum revenue tax: instalments)—(Mrs Barbara Roche)—
   brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (Business assets: roll-over relief)—(Mrs Barbara Roche)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Lending by Revenue Accounts to National Loans Fund)—(Ms Patricia Hewitt)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Allowable losses where beneficiary absolutely entitled)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (EU travel expenses)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Goods for sale on board ships or aircraft)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Works of art, antiques, etc.)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Preparations etc. of meat, yeast or egg)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Capital allowances: road fuel gas)—(Mr Michael Jack)—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, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 149.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Jamieson: 316.

Another Clause (Capital allowances: road fuel gas)—(Mr Michael Jack)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Oliver Heald, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 149.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Jamieson: 316.

Tuesday 6th July 1999

Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (Administrative efficiency of the tax system)—(Mr Edward Davey)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Ordered, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

Bill to be further considered this day.

11 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees), That the Bill be now read a second time:—

It was agreed to.

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

12 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 (Abolition of Zero-Rating for Tax-Free Shops) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1642), dated 11th June 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 11th June, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

13 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 (Jury Summoning Functions) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 14th June, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

14 Deregulation.—Ordered, That Mr Iain Coleman and Miss Geraldine Smith be discharged from the Deregulation Committee and Mr Russell Brown and Mr Andrew Love be added to the Committee.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

15 Agriculture.—Ordered, That Mr John Hayes be discharged from the Agriculture Committee and Mr Michael Jack be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Catering.—Ordered, That Mrs Jacqui Lait be discharged from the Catering Committee and Mr Michael Fabricant be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
17 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Ordered, That Mrs Eleanor Laing be discharged from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee and Miss Anne McIntosh be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

18 Foreign Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr Shaun Woodward be discharged from the Foreign Affairs Committee and Sir David Madel be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

19 Health,—Ordered, That Mr Robert Walter be discharged from the Health Committee and Mr Simon Burns be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

20 Science and Technology,—Ordered, That Mrs Jacqui Lait be discharged from the Science and Technology Committee and Mr Robert Jackson be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

21 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That Mr John Bercow be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Mr Christopher Chope be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

22 Treasury,—Ordered, That Sir Peter Lloyd be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr Michael Fallon be added to the Committee.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

23 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 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 six minutes to Two o’clock on Tuesday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.54 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Deregulation,—(1) Draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999, and
(2) draft Deregulation (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999, together with statements by the Home Office [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Patents,—Patents and Trade Marks (World Trade Organisation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1899), dated 1st July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

5 Church Commissioners,—Report and Accounts of the Church Commissioners for England for 1998 [by Measure] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Crime and Disorder,—Report and Accounts of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales for the period 30th September 1998 to 31st March 1999, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 473] [Clerk of the House].


8 National Lottery,—Account of the Sports Council for Wales Lottery Distribution for 1998-99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 637] [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 Performing Right Society and the Abolition of the Classical Music Subsidy]; to be printed [No. 468-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Medical Services]; to be printed [No. 447-iii] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [MAFF: Arable Area Payments Scheme]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 306];

(2) Twenty-sixth Report from the Committee [Overseas Operations, Governance and Management at Southampton Institute]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 343].

(3) Twenty-seventh Report from the Committee [HM Customs and Excise: The Red Channel]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 439].

(4) Twenty-eighth Report from the Committee [Cost Over-runs, Funding Problems and Delays on Guy’s Hospital Phase III Development]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 289], and

(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Department of Social Security: Progress on Measures to Combat Housing Benefit Fraud]; to be printed [No. 643-i] [Mr David Davis].

[No. 118.]

Tuesday 6th July 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,

Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Thursday 8th July.

2 Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) etc. Bill (changed to Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill),—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) etc. Bill and had amended the same so as to make it consistent with the facts as proved by the evidence adduced, and found the same, as amended, to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Amendment) Order 1999.

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

4 Property Letting Agents (Client Money Segregation),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the segregation of client monies collected by letting agents, to be held in designated client money accounts: And that Mr Howard Flight, Mr Peter Viggers, Mr Graham Brady, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Mr Andrew Tyrie, Mr John Bercow, Mr Christopher Fraser and Mrs Marion Roe do prepare and bring it in.

5 Property Letting Agents (Client Money Segregation) Bill,—Mr Howard Flight accordingly presented a Bill to require the segregation of client monies collected by letting agents, to be held in designated client money accounts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 132].

6 Finance Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Finance Bill, not amended in the Committee, and as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 40) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 24, to leave out ‘£0.5288’ and insert ‘£0.499’ instead thereof.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made. The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 135.
Tellers for the Noes, Jane Kennedy, Mr Kevin Hughes: 355.

Amendments (Nos. 30, 3 to 13 and 15 to 24) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 31) proposed to the Bill, in page 90, line 6, after ‘122’ to insert ‘(1)’.—(Mr Francis Maude.)

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

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 134.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Clive Betts: 336.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 102, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(5) For the purposes of subsection (2) above the Commissioners may only give notice in the circumstances specified in subsection (2) above if it appears to the Commissioners that—

(a) a company is engaged in a VAT avoidance scheme,
(b) membership of the group threatens the collectability of tax, or
(c) the revenue loss associated with its membership of the group goes beyond the natural consequences of grouping.’.—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory.)

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

Other Amendments (Nos. 25 and 35) 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 Keith Hill, Mr David Jamieson: 326.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 149.

So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr J C Hamblin, residents of the constituency of Bury St. Edmunds and others for re-establishment of British sovereignty ceded to the European Commission was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

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

[Adjourned at 11.33 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 48) on 1999–2000 Special Grant for Developing New Approaches to Commissioning Services for Drug Misusers [by Act]; to be printed [No. 513] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education,—Greenhill College, Harrow and Weald College, Harrow (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1919), dated 24th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Parking Adjudicators) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1918), dated 30th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
4 Town and Country Planning,—Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1810), dated 25th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

5 Education Reform,—Account of the Education Transfer Council for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 674] [Clerk of the House].


7 Financial Services,—Report and Accounts of the Financial Services Authority for 1998–99 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

8 Health,—Paper, entitled Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation [by Command] [Cm. 4386] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Monopolies and Mergers,—Report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the supply in Great Britain of raw cows’ milk [by Command] [Cm. 4286] [Mr Secretary Byers].

10 Public Accounts,—Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on the Eleventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4394] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

11 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Economic Secretary, HM Treasury, on the Petition [26th May] from residents of the constituency of Ross, Skye and Inverness West and others concerning the price of fuel in the Highlands of Scotland [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [School Meals]; to be printed [No. 676-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy]; to be printed [No. 479-ii] [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 [Town and Country Parks]; to be printed [No. 477-v] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Home Office Annual Report]; to be printed [No. 653-i] [Mr Chris Mullin].

5 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The Future of Sanctions]; to be printed [No. 454-v] [Mr Bowen Wells].

6 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards), to be printed [No. 542-vi] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

7 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 570-v and -vi] [Dr Tony Wright].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Climate Change Levy]; to be printed [Nos. 678-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

10 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Demutualisation]; to be printed [No. 605-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].
The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs. Anne McGuire);

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 Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents Nos. COM(99)200, the Preliminary Draft Budget (PDB) of the European Communities for 2000, and SEC(99)600, the Commission’s Overview of the PDB, and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community; and European Union Document No. 7698/99, Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 6th May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure; and supports the Government in welcoming the renewal of the IIA as an important contribution to increasing the efficiency of the budgetary procedure and to maintaining budgetary discipline.

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

3 Mr Peter Jennings, CVO, Serjeant at Arms.—The Speaker informed the House that she had received a letter from Mr Peter Jennings, CVO, Serjeant at Arms, which she read to the House, as follows:

‘I write to confirm that I wish to retire on 31st December this year, when I shall be 65.

I have been highly privileged to serve the House for over 22 years, most recently in a senior capacity. I would like to thank all members of the House staff, particularly those in my Department who have so ably helped me to discharge my duties. I also include the Metropolitan Police Division whose staff provide security here and the Post Office staff who provide our mail services. It has been enormously rewarding to lead such a dedicated and diverse team and to see how all those involved in it have developed to meet the ever increasing demands placed on them to meet the Departmental objective of providing “the best possible service”.

May I finally record my appreciation for the many kindnesses shown to me during my time here and particularly for all the support which you personally have given me during my time as Serjeant.’

4 Railways Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Byers, Mr Secretary Reid, Mr Secretary Michael, Mrs Helen Liddell and Glenda Jackson, presented a Bill to establish the Strategic Rail Authority and make other provision about railways: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 133].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Railways Bill be printed [Bill 133–EN].

5 Empty Homes.—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for reducing the incidence of vacant dwellings; to extend the duties and powers of local authorities to that end; to require local authorities to publish empty homes strategies and to exercise their duties and powers in accordance with those strategies; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Kidney, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr David Curry, Mrs Lin Golding, Mr David Lepper, Mr Andrew Love, Siobhain McDonagh, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Peter L. Pike and Mr Jonathan R. Shaw do prepare and bring it in.

6 Empty Homes Bill.—Mr David Kidney accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for reducing the incidence of vacant dwellings; to extend the duties and powers of local authorities to that end; to require local authorities to publish empty homes strategies and to exercise their duties and powers in accordance with those strategies; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 134].

7 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.
Dairy Industry.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House notes that, since 1st May 1997, the farm gate price of milk has fallen by over a quarter, the price received by farmers for culled cows has fallen by over one third and the income of dairy farmers has collapsed; condemns the Government’s failure in recent CAP negotiations to secure any immediate increase in milk quota for mainland Britain whilst conceding increases for other EU countries; deplores the delay in publishing the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on Milk Marque, thus needlessly damaging confidence in the industry; expresses concern that outbreaks of TB have risen substantially; and urges the Government to remedy this crisis by addressing these issues, ending its disgraceful neglect of the dairy industry, strengthening Milk Marque and implementing the Krebs Report without further delay.—(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 to add the words ‘recognises the economic difficulties faced by the dairy industry; supports the Government’s efforts to reform the Common Agriculture Policy during the recent Agenda 2000 negotiations in order to move towards a freer, more competitive market; welcomes the publication of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the supply of raw milk; notes its conclusions and looks forward to a new selling system being in place which meets the needs both of consumers and the dairy industry; endorses the Government’s view that the industry itself must help shape its own future; and congratulates the Government for its support for industry initiatives to achieve this’, 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, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 176.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Mike Hall: 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.

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

Resolved. That this House recognises the economic difficulties faced by the dairy industry; supports the Government’s efforts to reform the Common Agricultural Policy during the recent Agenda 2000 negotiations in order to move towards a freer, more competitive market; welcomes the publication of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the supply of raw milk; notes its conclusions and looks forward to a new selling system being in place which meets the needs both of consumers and the dairy industry; endorses the Government’s view that the industry itself must help shape its own future; and congratulates the Government for its support for industry initiatives to achieve this.

Choice and Diversity in Education.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House deplores the reduction in choice and diversity in education caused by the Government’s abolition of grant maintained status, introduction of ballots to close grammar schools and restriction on the ability of schools to determine their own ethos; notes with concern the threat posed to school sixth forms by the Government’s review of post-16 education; condemns the pursuit of uniformity at the expense of diversity; believes that the increasing bureaucratic burdens placed on schools, teachers and governors by the Government and its practice of holding back funding at the centre, to be allocated on the basis of a complicated bidding process, have a particularly adverse impact on rural schools; and further believes that these policies will damage children’s education—(Mrs Theresa May),

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and to add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s success in cutting infant class sizes after 10 years of rising class sizes and the successful introduction of the literacy hour, which is restoring phonics, spelling and grammar to the primary school curriculum; notes the plans to extend daily numeracy lessons nationwide from September, which will place strong emphasis on mental arithmetic; recognises the Government’s strong commitment to diversity through the rapid expansion of specialist schools and beacon schools; welcomes the success to date of the Government’s policy in support of failing schools; supports the considerable work already undertaken to reduce bureaucracy in schools following years of neglect; supports the Government’s new code of practice on school admissions; welcomes the new White Paper on reform of post-16 education and the clear guarantees it offers on sixth form funding; supports the Government’s plans to reward good teaching; and believes that the extra £19 billion allocated to education is beginning to make a real difference to the money available to schools, not least in tackling the substantial repairs and maintenance backlog’, 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, Mr Keith Simpson, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 129.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Mrs Anne McGuire: 352.
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, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Keith Hill: 321.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Keith Simpson: 149.
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 success in cutting infant class sizes after 10 years of rising class sizes and the successful introduction of the literacy hour, which is restoring phonics, spelling and grammar to the primary school curriculum; notes the plans to extend daily numeracy lessons nationwide from September, which will place strong emphasis on mental arithmetic; recognises the Government’s strong commitment to diversity through the rapid expansion of specialist schools and beacon schools; welcomes the success to date of the Government’s policy in support of failing schools; supports the considerable work already undertaken to reduce bureaucracy in schools following years of neglect; supports the Government’s new code of practice on school admissions; welcomes the new White Paper on reform of post-16 education and the clear guarantees it offers on sixth form funding; supports the Government’s plans to reward good teaching; and believes that the extra £19 billion allocated to education is beginning to make a real difference to the money available to schools, not least in tackling the substantial repairs and maintenance backlog.

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 Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 16th June, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall)—It was agreed to.

9 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

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

[Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Paper subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Criminal Law,—Fixed Penalty Offences Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1851), dated 25th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Fire Precautions,—Fire Precautions (Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1877), dated 29th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Income Tax,—(1) Corporation Tax (Instalment Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1929), and

2) Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1928), dated 6th July 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].
5 Social Security,—Social Fund Winter Fuel Payment Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1880), dated 30th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

    (2) Safety of Sports Grounds (Designation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1930), dated 7th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1925), dated 7th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

8 Appropriations in Aid,—Treasury Minute, dated 7th July 1999, directing the application of certain receipts as appropriations in aid of the Vote specified in the Late Revised Estimates for 1999–2000 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

9 Housing,—Report and Accounts of the Castle Vale Housing Action Trust for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance,—Report of the Law Society of Northern Ireland on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland in 1997–98, with the Report of the Lord Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 526] [Mr Keith Vaz].

11 Miscellaneous (No. 25, 1999),—Second Optional Protocol, adopted at New York on 15th December 1989, to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the Death Penalty [by Command] [Cm. 4375] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 Pensions,—Accounts of the Pensions Compensation Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 682] [Clerk of the House].

13 Police and Criminal Evidence,—(1) Account of the Police Complaints Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 681] [Clerk of the House]; and
    (2) Report and Financial Statements of the Police Complaints Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 553] [Mr Secretary Straw].

14 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Tenth and the Twelfth to Fourteenth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4381] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

15 Supply Estimates, 1999–2000,—Late Revised Estimates for 1999–2000 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 684] [Mrs Barbara Roche].


17 Treaty Series (No. 43, 1999),—Agreement, done at The Hague on 18th September 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning a Scottish Trial in the Netherlands including Annexes and Exchange of Notes [by Command] [Cm. 4378] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill:
    (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
    (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed seventeen Members to serve on the Committee, viz. Mr Peter Bottomley, Mr John Burnett, Christine Butler, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Michael Jabez Foster, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Keith Hill, Mr David Lock, Siobhain McDonagh, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr David Ruffley, Bob Russell, Mr Phil Sawford, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Keith Vaz and Mr Anthony D. Wright.
2 Draft Ministerial and other Salaries Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Ian Cawsey, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Geraint Davies, Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr David Hanson, Mr John Healey, Mr Andrew Lamley, Mr Tom Levitt, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Nick St Aubyn, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Mr Andrew Stunell, Paddy Tipping and Mr Paul Tyler.

3 Draft North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz: Ann Clwyd, Mr James Cran, Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Gapes, Ms Harriet Harman, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ken Livingstone, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Paul Murphy, Mr Lembit Öpik, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Syd Rapson, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mr David Wilshire.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Karen Buck, Mr David Drew, Mr Eric Forth, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Mr David Heath, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr John Horam, Mr Brian Jenkins, Jane Kennedy, Mr Tony Lloyd, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Alice Mahon, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr John M. Taylor, Dr Jenny Tonge and Mr Alan W. Williams.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: John Austin, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr Stephen Day, Jim Dowd, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr Adam Ingram, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Lembit Öpik, Mr William Thompson and Mr David Winnick.

6 Draft Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Toms Brake, Mr Roger Casale, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Michael Fabricant, Glenda Jackson, Ms Jenny Jones, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Richard Page, Mr Ian Stewart, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr Shaun Woodward.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Research Expenditure]; to be printed [No. 616-ii][Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Highly Able Children: follow up]; to be printed [No. 680-i];[Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Operation of the Landfill Tax], 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 [Nos. 150-I and -III];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Revision of PPG3: Housing]; to be printed [No. 490-iii]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Young and Newly-Qualified Drivers: Standards and Training]; to be printed [No. 515-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny.—(1) Twenty-Fifth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xiv]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Post-Council Scrutiny: the Social Affairs Council, 25 May 1999]; to be printed [No. 689] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Financial Management and Control in the European Union]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 690];

   (2) Thirtieth Report from the Committee [How the Utility Regulators are addressing the Year 2000 problems in the Utilities]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 449];

   (3) Thirty-first Report from the Committee [DETR & The Welsh Office: Sale of Residual Loans to Housing Associations]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 431]; and

   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [OFFER/OFGAS: Giving Customers a Choice—The Introduction of Competition into the Domestic Gas Market]; to be printed [No. 691-i] [Mr David Davis].

6 Science and Technology,—Second Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 472] [Dr Michael Clark].

7 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [The Contributory Principle]; to be printed [No. 485-iii] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Finance Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 120.]

Thursday 8th July 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Wednesday 14th July at Seven o’clock.

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Peter Atkinson reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Review of the Criminal Justice System in Northern Ireland 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. 99].

3 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords] (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the remaining proceedings on the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords]—

   Timetable

   1 Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be taken in the order specified in the Table and completed at today’s sitting; and each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column of the Table.
### TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses relating to Part I; amendments relating to Clauses 1 to 13, Schedule 1 and Clauses 14 and 15.</td>
<td>2 hours after commencement of proceedings on this Order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any New Clauses relating to the making of orders under Clause 44(5) which may be selected; amendments relating to Clauses 44 to 48, Schedule 2 and Clauses 49 to 52.</td>
<td>4 hours after commencement of proceedings on this Order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining New Clauses; amendments relating to Clauses 16 to 43.</td>
<td>5 hours after commencement of proceedings on this Order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Clauses 53 to 59, Schedule 3 and Clauses 60 to 63; New Schedules; amendments relating to Clauses 64 to 67, Schedules 4 to 7 and Clause 68; Third Reading.</td>
<td>6 hours after commencement of proceedings on this Order.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Questions to be put

1. (1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1.

2. (2) 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; and
   
   (d) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

3. (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. (4) If two or more Questions would fall to be put under sub-paragraph (2)(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

3. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted Business) shall apply to proceedings on the Bill at today’s sitting and the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House.

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 any proceedings on the Bill are taken or to recommit the Bill, and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.

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

7. 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) shall apply to those proceedings.

8. If at today’s sitting a Motion for the Adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (as that Standing Order has effect in accordance with the Order of the House [16th December 1998]) stands over to Four o’clock and proceedings on this Motion have begun before that time, the Motion for the Adjournment shall stand over until the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill.

9. If the House is adjourned at today’s sitting, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of proceedings on the Bill, 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 Kevin Hughes.)

4. Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.
A Clause (Referral of young offenders to youth offender panels)—(Mr John Greenway)—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 Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 296.

Amendments (Nos. 2 and 3) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (Conditions for making an order under section 44(5))—(Mr John Greenway)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time;

And it being four hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords] (Programme), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day].

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 122.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Graham Allen: 288.

Another Clause (Restriction on reports about person accused or suspected of committing a sexual offence)—(Mr John Greenway)—brought up, and read the first time.

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

Another Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 13, line 24, to leave out the word ‘section’ and insert the word ‘subsection’ instead thereof.—(Mr Paul Boateng.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being five and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

Question, That the Amendment be made, put and agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question required to bring proceedings on amendments relating to Clauses 17 to 43 to a conclusion.

Question, That Amendments Nos. 5 to 8 be made to the Bill, put and agreed to.

Other Amendments (Nos. 9 to 11) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

5 EC Preliminary Draft Budget for 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 Union Documents Nos. COM(99)200, the Preliminary Draft Budget (PDB) of the European Communities for 2000, and SEC(99)600, the Commission’s Overview of the PDB, and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community; and European Union Document No. 7698/99, Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 6th May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure; and supports the Government in welcoming the renewal of the IIA as an important contribution to increasing the efficiency of the budgetary procedure and to maintaining budgetary discipline—(Mr Mike Hall).—It was agreed to.

6 Business of the House.—Ordered, That paragraph 2(a) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates) shall not apply at the sitting on Monday 12th July, insofar as any Motion in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to the Eighth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges (HC 607) shall stand as first business.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

7 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) members of the OK Stroke Club and its supporters for a specialist stroke unit to be provided for the people of Hull and East Yorkshire; and
(2) residents of the United Kingdom against hunting with dogs
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Daniel Charles Tissington for an inquiry into the policy of the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions relating to levels of local authority taxation was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment.—Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Mike Hall.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past Eight o’clock, adjourned till Monday 12th July.

[Adjourned at 8.28 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Cinemas and Films,—Draft Films (Modification of the Definition of “British Film”) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Financial Services,—Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemptions) Order 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

3 Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 50), on Children’s Services (Quality Protects) Special Grants for 1998–1999 and 1999–2000 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 617] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Disabled Persons,—(1) Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Anglia Railways Class 170/2 Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1931), and
dated 7th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett], and
(3) Education (Parent Governor Representatives) (Wales) Regulations 1999 [S.I., 1999, No. 1900], dated 30th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

6 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1923), dated 5th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

7 National Health Service,—(1) Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1901), and
(2) National Health Service (Functions of Health Authorities and Administration Arrangements) Amendment (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1902), dated 30th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

8 Post Office,—Postal Privilege (Suspension) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1933), dated 6th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].


Other Papers:

11 Agriculture,—Report on Smallholdings in England for 1996–97 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].
12 Appropriation Accounts, 1998–99,—Appropriation Account of the sums granted by Parliament for 1998–99 for Class XVIII, B (National Audit Office) [by Act]; to be printed [No. 491] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

13 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Local Government Finance [by Command] [Cm. 4402] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


15 National Heritage,—Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General therein [by Act]; to be printed [No. 693] [Clerk of the House].

16 National Lottery,—Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund Lottery Distribution for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General therein [by Act]; to be printed [No. 694] [Clerk of the House].

17 Post Office,—Paper, entitled Post Office Reform: A world class service for the 21st century [by Command] [Cm. 4340] [Mr Secretary Byers].

18 Post Office,—Report and Statement of Accounts of the Post Office Users’ Council for Scotland for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

**APPENDIX II**

**Standing Committees**

1 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Ministerial and other Salaries Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999, the draft International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Miscellaneous Provisions Order 1999, and the draft INTELSAT (Immunities and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.


6 Draft Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

**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 [The Employment Consequences of European Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 547-iii] [Mr Derek Foster].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Procedures related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care]; to be printed [No. 549-iv] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards), to be printed [No. 542-vii] [Mr Peter L. Pike].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

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

Academic and Academic-related Staff Pay and Conditions Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision with respect to the remuneration, recruitment, retention and other conditions of employment of academic and academic-related staff, and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Academic and Academic-related Staff Pay and Conditions Bill [Lords].—The Academic and Academic-related Staff Pay and Conditions Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 137].

3 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 Robertson, Mr Secretary Michael, Mr Secretary Reid and Mr Paul Murphy presented a Bill to make provision for the suspension in certain circumstances of devolved government in Northern Ireland and the exercise of certain functions conferred by or under Part V of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, 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 136].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Northern Ireland Bill be printed [Bill 136–EN].

4 Standards and Privileges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House—

(i) approves the Eighth Report of the Committee on Standards and Privileges (House of Commons Paper No. 607); and

(ii) accordingly suspends Mr Ernie Ross, Member for Dundee West, from the service of the House for ten sitting days—(Margaret Beckett);

The House proceeded to a Division.

Jane Kennedy and Mr Kevin Hughes 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.

Resolved, That this House—

(i) approves the Eighth Report of the Committee on Standards and Privileges (House of Commons Paper No. 607); and

(ii) accordingly suspends Mr Ernie Ross, Member for Dundee West, from the service of the House for ten sitting days.

5 Estimates Day [2nd allotted day].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [29th June], to consider the Estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee).

Estimates, 1999–2000 (Class I, Vote 4).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That a further sum not exceeding £59,500,000 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 2000 for expenditure by the Office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in England on administration and inspection, including the inspection of schools and other educational institutions, funded nursery providers and local education authorities.—(Jane Kennedy.)

The Debate was concluded, and the Question necessary to dispose of proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

Class III.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That a further revised sum not exceeding £25,917,026,000 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 2000 for expenditure by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.—(Mr David Hanson.)

And it being Ten o'clock, the Speaker interrupted the Proceedings, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred.
The Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), put the deferred Questions on Estimates 1999-2000, (Class I, Vote 4 and Class III).

Class I, Vote IV

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £59,500,000 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 2000 for expenditure by the Office of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in England on administration and inspection, including the inspection of schools and other educational institutions, funded nursery providers and local education authorities.

Class III

Resolved, That a further revised sum not exceeding £25,917,026,000 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 2000 for expenditure by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

6 Estimates and Supplementary Estimates, 1999–2000.—The Speaker then put the Questions which she was required to put pursuant to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Resolved, That a further sum not exceeding £97,900,070,000 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to complete or defray the charges for Defence and Civil Services for the year ending on 31st March 2000, as set out in House of Commons Paper Nos. 336, 337, 338, 520 and 684.

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 Alan Milburn, Dawn Primarolo, Mrs Barbara Roche and Ms Patricia Hewitt do prepare and bring it in.

7 Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill.—Mrs Barbara Roche accordingly presented a Bill to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending 31st March 2000; 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 135].

8 Food Standards Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Food Standards Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment of sums into the Consolidation Fund.—(Mr Clive Betts.)

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 223.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mr Christopher Gill: 2.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Food Standards Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund.

9 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.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

10 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 15th July,

(1) any Message received from the Lords relating to the Northern Ireland Bill may be considered, though opposed, at any hour; and

(2) the House shall not adjourn until the Speaker shall have reported the Royal Assent to any Act agreed upon by both Houses.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

11 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Friday 16th July, proceedings on the Motion for the adjournment of the House in the name of the Prime Minister may continue for up to five hours and may be proceeded with, though opposed, after half-past Two o’clock, and in calculating that period of five hours, the time taken by any interruption of the proceedings under paragraph 8 of Standing Order No. 11 (Friday sittings) shall be disregarded.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Consumers for Health Choice, the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association, the National Association of Health Stores and others against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Mike Hall);

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 past Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 9th July 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of Statutory Instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Credit.—Consumer Credit (Exempt Agreements) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1956), dated 8th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

2 Income Tax.—(1) Retirement Benefits Schemes (Continuation of Rights of Members of Approved Schemes) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1963), and


3 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment No.2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1959), dated 8th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Social Security.—(1) Social Security Amendment (Students) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1935), dated 7th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling]; and

(2) Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment No.4) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1965), and

(3) Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment No. 4) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1965), dated 9th July 1999 [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 12th July 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

5 Road Traffic.—Draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) (Termination of Restrictions) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

6 Social Security.—Income Support (General) and Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1921), dated 5th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7 Data Protection.—Account of the Data Protection Registrar for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 705] [Clerk of the House].

8 Development of Tourism.—Accounts of the British Tourist Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 704] [Clerk of the House].

9 Museums and Galleries.—Accounts of the Museums and Galleries Commission for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 703] [Clerk of the House].

10 Pensions.—Report of the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

11 Police.—Report of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis for 1998–99 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

12 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [18th January] from Residents of the Parish of Wing in Buckinghamshire relating to a proposed Wing by-pass [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Third Special Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Committee, on the Integrated Transport White Paper]; to be printed [No. 708] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

2 Health,—Fifth Report from the Health Committee [The Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare], 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. 281], and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare]
[Mr David Hinchliffe].

Wednesday 13th July 1999.

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 the draft Deregulation (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 5th July, should be approved.

That the draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 5th July, should be approved.

The Committee came to these Resolutions without a Division.

2 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Ministerial and other Salaries Order 1999.

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:

Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to confirm the validity of and vary the trusts of a settlement created by Baxi Partnership Limited for the benefit of employees of Baxi Partnership Limited; to modify certain provisions of the settlement; to confer powers on the trustees of that settlement, and for other purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords],—The Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

5 Broadcasting (Religious Programming),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to remove restrictions on the ownership by religious bodies of broadcasting licences and to clarify the role of the Radio Authority and the Independent Television Commission in relation to the religious content of programmes—(Mr Edward Leigh).

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 James Gray, Mr John Bercow: 138.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Tim Loughton: 9.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Donald Anderson, Frank Cook, Steve Webb, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, The Reverend Martin
Smyth, Mr Gary Streeter, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Gerald Howarth and Mr Christopher Chope do prepare and bring in the Bill.

6 Broadcasting (Religious Programming) Bill.—Mr Edward Leigh accordingly presented a Bill to remove restrictions on the ownership by religious bodies of broadcasting licences and to clarify the role of the Radio Authority and the Independent Television Commission in relation to the religious content of the programmes. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 138].

7 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.

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.

8 Northern Ireland Bill (Programme).—Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to proceedings on the Northern Ireland Bill:—

Timing of proceedings

1.—(1) Proceedings on the Bill shall be completed at today’s sitting.

(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) In Committee—

(a) proceedings on any new clause which may be selected relating to the operation of the Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 shall be taken first and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion five hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion; and

(b) remaining proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion seven and a half hours after that commencement.

(4) Remaining proceedings on the Bill shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion eight hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

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,

(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 an 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 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

(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.
Lords Amendments

4.—At the sitting on Thursday 15th July—
   (a) any Message received from the Lords relating to the Bill shall be considered forthwith without any Question being put; and
   (b) proceedings on any Message shall be brought to a conclusion, if not previously concluded, one hour after commencement.

5.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of concluding in accordance with paragraph 4 any proceedings on any message received from the Lords relating to the Bill.
   (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 of 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.
   (4) 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.
   (5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees to a Lords Amendment.
   (6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees to all the remaining Lords Amendments.
   (7) As soon as the House has agreed or disagreed to a Lords Amendment, 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.
   (8) 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.
   (9) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of that day’s sitting.

Miscellaneous

6. If at the sitting today or on Thursday 15th July—
   (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 or 4 shall be postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that Motion.

7.—(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 Speaker shall put forthwith any Question necessary to dispose of the Motion, including the Question on any amendment.
   (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.
   (8) Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to this Order.
   (9)—(1) The Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order shall be put forthwith; and Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Bill at the sittings today and on Thursday 15th July.
(2) If at the sitting today or on Thursday 15th July 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 4, no notice shall be required of a Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order.

10. Proceedings on the Bill shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.—(Mr Paul Murphy.)

9 Northern Ireland Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Northern Ireland Bill;

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

Mr Paul Murphy 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 they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 312.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr William Ross, The Reverend Martin Smyth: 19.

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 [this day].

Further proceedings stood postponed, pursuant to Order.

10 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 the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act—(Mrs Anne McGuire).—It was agreed to.

11 Northern Ireland Bill,—The House, pursuant to Order, immediately resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

A Clause (Suspension of prisoner releases)—(Mr Andrew MacKay)—brought up and read the first time.

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

And it being five hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Northern Ireland Bill (Programme), the Chairman put the Question necessary to dispose of proceedings to be concluded at that hour, pursuant to Order.

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

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 147.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Jane Kennedy: 349.

Clause No. 1 (Suspension of devolved government etc.)

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 1, line 13, to leave out from the word ‘Commission’ to the end of line 16.—(Mr David Trimble.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Stephen Day: 145.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 352.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 1, line 19, to leave out from the word ‘Assembly’ to the end of line 21.—(Mr Andrew MacKay.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Stephen Day: 144.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 340.
And it being seven and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Northern Ireland Bill (Programme), the Chairman put the Question necessary to dispose of remaining proceedings in Committee.

Question, That Clauses Nos. 1 to 6 stand part of the Bill, and that Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 be the Schedules to the Bill, put and agreed to.

Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill to the House.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Jim Dowd reported, That the Committee had gone though 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 eight hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion on Northern Ireland Bill (Programme), the Deputy Speaker put the Question necessary to bring to a conclusion remaining proceedings on the Bill.

Question put, That the Bill be now read the third time.

The House proceeded to a Division.

Wednesday 14th July 1999

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Keith Hill: 343.


So the Question was agreed to.

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

12 Northern Ireland.—Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 7th July, be approved.—(Mr Paul Murphy.)

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from patients, parents, relatives and supporters of patients and residents within the catchment area served by the Poole Hospital Cleft Team against the relocation of services provided by the Team was presented and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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

[Adjourned at 1.55 a.m.

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APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Merchant Shipping.— Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (Rate of Interest) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1922), dated 6th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

2 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries.— Reports and Accounts of the Horserace Betting Levy Board and the Horserace Totalisator Board for 1998-99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


4 Civil Aviation.—Report and Accounts of Highlands and Islands Airports Limited for 1998-99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

5 Data Protection.—Report and Statement of Account of the Data Protection Registrar for 1998-99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 575] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Defence Executive Agencies.—Report and Accounts of the Defence Bills Agency for 1998-99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 414] [Mr Secretary Robertson].
7 Development of Tourism.—Accounts of the English Tourist Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 713] [Clerk of the House].

8 Education,—Accounts of the Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 715] [Clerk of the House].

9 Further and Higher Education,—Accounts of the Further and Higher Education Funding Councils for Wales for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 712] [Clerk of the House].

10 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Meteorological Office for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 685] [Clerk of the House].

11 National Heritage,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 499] [Mr Secretary Smith].

12 National Lottery,—Strategic Plan of the New Opportunities Fund [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

13 Police,—Report and Accounts of the Police Information Technology Organisation for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 516] [Mr Secretary Straw].

14 Science and Technology,—Accounts of the Economic and Social Research Council for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 714] [Clerk of the House].

15 Social Exclusion,—Report by the Social Exclusion Unit on Bridging the Gap: New opportunities for 16–18 year olds not in education, employment or training [by Command] [Cm. 4405] [The Prime Minister].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Andrew Dismore from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Roger Stott.

2 Draft Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Graham Allen, Mr Paul Truswell and Mr Derek Twigg from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Charlotte Atkins, Mr Mike Hall and Mr Ivan Henderson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Memoranda laid before the Agriculture Committee [Sea Fishing; The Marketing of Milk] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Deregulation,—Fourth Report from the Deregulation Committee [The draft Deregulation (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999, and the draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee Relating to the Report [No. 710] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) Fifth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Role of School Governors], 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. 509]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Role of School Governors] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Town and Country Parks]; to be printed [No. 477-v] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Kosovo]; to be printed [No. 188-v] [Mr Donald Anderson].

The Speaker has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins to replace Sir Alastair Goodlad for the duration of the present Parliament on the Advisory Committee on the Registration of Political Parties, established under section 10 of the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998.

[No. 123.]

Wednesday 14th July 1999.

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 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 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft North/South Cooperation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Income Tax.—The Vice Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That its Address of 21st June relating to Income Tax had been presented to Her Majesty; and that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and to give the following Answer.

I have received your Address praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999 be made in the form of the draft laid before your House.

I will comply with your request.

4 Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill.—The Order for reading the Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill a second time on Friday 23rd July was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

5 Children’s Rights Commissioner.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the establishment of a children’s rights commissioner to promote the rights and interests of children in England; to make provision for the powers and duties of the commissioner; and for related purposes. And that Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Martin Bell, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mrs Lin Golding, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Andrew Rowse, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Bob Russell, Mr Donald Gorrie, Ms Julie Morgan and Mr Jonathan R. Shaw do prepare and bring it in.

6 Children’s Rights Commissioner Bill.—Mr Hilton Dawson accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the establishment of a children’s rights commissioner to promote the rights and interests of children in England; to make provision for the powers and duties of the commissioner; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 139].
7 Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Time-limited disposal or waste management licences)—(Mr Alan Meale)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 41, after the word 'information', to insert—

(i')—(Mr Alan Meale.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Jane Kennedy: 335.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 132.

Other Amendments (Nos. 2 to 5) made to the Bill.

Title accordingly amended, as follows:

A Bill to make provision for implementing Council Directive 96/61/EC and for otherwise preventing and controlling pollution; to make provision about certain expired or expiring disposal or waste management licences; and for connected purposes.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Secretary Clare Short, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

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

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

8 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Investment policy)—(Mr Gary Streeter)—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 Keith Simpson, Mrs Eleanor Laing: 165.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Clive Betts: 309.

So the Question was negatived.

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.

9 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 19, at the end, to insert the words—

“‘relevant employee’ means a person whose principal or only place of work on the qualifying date is ordinarily the hereditament in respect of which the entitlement to appoint a voter arises and who works for that qualifying body.’.—(Mr John McDonnell.)

Mr Peter Brooke rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now proposed.

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Walter, Mr Nick Hawkins: 199.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Michael Connarty: 62.

So the Question was agreed to.

Question accordingly proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Mr Peter Brooke 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 Walter, Mr Nick Hawkins: 218.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Michael Connarty: 101.

So the Question was agreed to.
And the Question being accordingly put, That the Amendment be made:
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Michael Connarty: 102.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Robert Walter, Mr Nick Hawkins: 209.

And it being after Ten o’clock, further consideration of the Bill stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Bill be further considered on Tuesday 20th July.

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 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords] and Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords] may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Graham Allen)—It was agreed to.

11 Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords],—The House resumed the postponed proceedings on consideration of the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords].

Another Clause (Sale of shares or other securities)—(Mrs Cheryl Gillan)—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 Eric Forth, Mr Edward Leigh: 21.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Jane Kennedy: 293.

Amendment (No.2) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 31, to leave out from the word ‘nominee’ to the end of line 32.—(Mr David Heath.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Douglas Hogg: 9.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Hill, Jane Kennedy: 265.

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

Thursday 15th July 1999

Question put and agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

12 Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Trustee Delegation Bill [Lords], not amended in the Standing Committee.
The Bill was read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

13 Parliament,—A Motion was made and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Ministerial and other Salaries Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 29th June, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall);
The House proceeded to a Division.
Mr Mike Hall and Mr David Hanson 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.
Resolved. That the draft Ministerial and other Salaries Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 29th June, be approved.

14 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Mike Hall);

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 seven minutes to One o’clock on Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.53 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Social Security,—Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3. Crown Estate,—(1) Accounts of the Crown Estate Commissioners for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 651]; and

4. Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—Accounts of Highlands and Islands Enterprise Network for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 717] [Clerk of the House].

5. Gaming,—Report and Accounts of the Gaming Board for Great Britain for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 525] [Mr Secretary Straw].


10. Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Reports of the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

11. Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [26th May] from residents of Purbeck in Dorset calling for improved road access to Purbeck [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12. Science and Technology,—Accounts of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 722] [Clerk of the House].

13. Social Security,—Report by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Social Fund for 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4351] [Mr Secretary Darling].

14. Social Security Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Benefits Agency,
   (2) Child Support Agency,
   (3) Contributions Agency,
   (4) Information Technology Services Agency, and
   (5) War Pensions Agency
   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 580, 533, 523, 518 and 527] [Mr Secretary Darling].
15 Treaty Series (No. 44, 1999).—Agreement, done at Bonn on 13th September 1983, for Co-
operation in Dealing with Pollution of the North Sea by Oil and Other Harmful
Substances [by Command] [Cm. 4397] [Mr Secretary Cook].

16 Welsh Language.—Report and Accounts of the Welsh Language Board for 1998–99, with the
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Michael].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemptions) Order 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft 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.: Mr Robert Amoswth, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Ian Bruce, Mr Michael
Clapham, Mr Paul Darvill, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Denzil Davies, Mr Andrew Dismore,
Mr Howard Flight, Mr Neil Gerrard, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Ms Oona King, Dr Doug
Naysmith, Mr Keith Simpson, The Reverend Martin Smyth and Mr Don Touhig.

2 Draft Films (Modification of the Definition of ‘British Film’) Order 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order 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 David Amess, Janet Anderson, Mr Crispin Blunt, Jim Dowd, Mr
Ronnie Fearn, Mr Frank Field, Mr Nigel Jones, Fiona Mactaggart, Sir Raymond Powell,
Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Peter Snape, Helen Southworth, Mr Richard Spring, Ms Dari
Taylor, Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West) and Audrey Wise.

3 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 48) on 1999 –2000 Special
Grant for developing new approaches to commissioning services for drug misusers
(House of Commons Paper No. 513):
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report 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 Richard Allan, Mr Harold Best, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr David
Clelland, Mr David Crausby, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Jeff Ennis, Lynne Jones, Tessa Jowell,
Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Miss Geraldine Smith, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Jon Trickett,
Mr Peter Viggers, Ms Claire Ward and Sir Raymond Whitney.

4 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 50) on Children’s Services
No. 617):
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Special Grant Report to the Fifth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the
Committee, viz.: Jackie Ballard, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr David Clelland, Mr Stephen Day,
Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr John Hutton, Ms Fiona Jones, Mr John
McDonnell, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr John
Randall, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mrs Caroline Spelman and Mr Graham Stringer.

5 Draft Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Rules to the Sixth Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the
Committee, viz.: Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Jim Fitzpatrick, Caroline Flint, Mr Nick
Hawkins, Mr Keith Hill, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Eric Illsley, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr
David Lock, Mr Peter Mandelson, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Andrew Reed, Mr Ian Taylor,
Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Keith Vaz and Mr Brian White.

6 Draft International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999, the draft
International Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Miscellaneous Provisions Order
1999, and the draft INTELSAT (Immunities and Privileges) (Amendment) Order
1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Karen Buck from the Tenth
Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft
Orders); and nominated in substitution Mr Chris Pond.

7 Draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules) Order 1999, the
draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct) Order 1999 and
the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines) Order 1999.—The
Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Win Griffiths from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders); and nominated in substitution Mr Jim Murphy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Broadcasting,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Broadcasting Committee. [The Development of Parliamentary Broadcasting], to be printed [No. 618-ii] [Mr Roger Gale].

2 Defence,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Defence Committee [Government Observations on the Fifth Report from the Committee on Security of Supply and the Future of Royal Ordnance Factory Bishopton]; to be printed [No. 725]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Defence Research Expenditure]; to be printed [No. 616-iii]
[Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [Standards—disadvantage and opportunity], to be printed [No. 695-ii] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Fourteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Aviation Safety], with the 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. 273] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee [Commission for Integrated Transport]; to be printed [No. 724-iii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-sixth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Second Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Electricity Supplies in Northern Ireland: Impact of the 26 December 1998 Storm]; 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. 227] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Third Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Thursday Sittings], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 719] [Margaret Beckett].

8 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill], to be printed [No. 570-ix] [Dr Tony Wright].

9 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Year 2000—Computer Compliance: follow up]; to be printed [No. 692-i] [Dr Michael Clark].

10 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [The Contributory Principle]; to be printed [No. 485-iv] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

11 Trade and Industry,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Electronic Government: The Horizon Project for Automated Payment of Benefits through Post Offices]; to be printed [No. 530-ii]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The Future of The Post Office]; to be printed [No. 94-iii]
[Mr Martin O'Neill].

12 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Valuation Office Agency]; to be printed [No. 420-iii] [Mr Giles Radice].

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 Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Food Standards Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Food Standards Bill, and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 141].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 730].

2 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords],—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords], and directed him to report the same, without Amendment. Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 732].

3 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Draft International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999, the draft International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Miscellaneous Provisions Order 1999 and the draft Intelsat (Immunities and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.


5 Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999. 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 agreed to the Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed to certain of the Amendments made by this House to the Access to Justice Bill [Lords], without Amendment; they have agreed to another of the Amendments made by this House, with an Amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and they have disagreed to the remaining Amendments made by this House, for which disagreement they assign their Reasons.

The Lords have agreed to the Employment Relations Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords have agreed to the Local Government Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Access to Justice Bill [Lords].—Lords Amendment to Commons Amendment and Lords Reasons for disagreeing to certain other of the Commons Amendments to the Access to Justice Bill [Lords] to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 140].

8 Employment Relations Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 142].

9 Local Government Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Local Government Bill to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 143].

10 Opposition Day [18th 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.

Impact of the Government’s Policies on the Motorist,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deprecates the Government’s anti-car policies and believes that the motorist deserves a fairer deal; condemns the Government for
increasing congestion with massive cuts in roads investment, whilst imposing congestion and non-residential parking and motorway taxes; regrets that the Government’s transport policies are bringing Britain to a standstill at the same time as undermining the competitiveness of business; regards the car as a force for good, bringing unparalleled freedom and opportunities to millions; recognises that 93 per cent. of all passenger journeys and nearly 80 per cent. of freight transport is by road; regrets that roads are now in their worst condition since records began, causing accidents, delays and congestion; urges the Government to bring forward a comprehensive transport policy for modernising Britain’s road system so that road users can enjoy a more efficient, safer and environmentally-friendly service, pursuing policies to remove through-traffic and heavy lorries from towns and villages, and urges the Government to increase investment in public transport, facilities to let people get out of their car on to a bus or train, and alternatives to the car such as walking and cycling so that more people have real choice, instead of trying to force motorists out of their cars before the alternatives are available—

(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 previous Government’s record of under-investment and disintegration in the transport network, its failure to tackle congestion as traffic rose by 75 per cent., and its cut in road maintenance; commends the Government for producing the first Transport White Paper for 20 years which has a comprehensive approach to transport across all modes and welcomes the Government’s new deal for the motorist in the Transport White Paper; applauds the Government for its clear and open framework for appraising and informing the prioritisation of trunk road investment, taking a far-sighted and more integrated approach than the previous administration; notes that the present Government has begun to tackle the inherited problems of under-investment, pollution and increasing traffic congestion, by a new radical integrated strategy, including an extra £1.8 billion for public transport and local transport management, improving road maintenance, encouraging greater fuel efficiency, reducing pollution, and introducing the long-term policies needed to increase transport choice and improve Britain’s transport system; and recognises the freedom that the car has given and that congestion can remove the convenience and pleasure from driving’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Prescott.)

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, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 121.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 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)—It was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That this House deplores the previous Government’s record of under-investment and disintegration in the transport network, its failure to tackle congestion as traffic rose by 75 per cent., and its cut in road maintenance; commends the Government for producing the first Transport White Paper for 20 years which has a comprehensive approach to transport across all modes and welcomes the Government’s new deal for the motorist in the Transport White Paper; applauds the Government for its clear and open framework for appraising and informing the prioritisation of trunk road investment, taking a far-sighted and more integrated approach than the previous administration; notes that the present Government has begun to tackle the inherited problems of under-investment, pollution and increasing traffic congestion, by a new radical integrated strategy, including an extra £1.8 billion for public transport and local transport management, improving road maintenance, encouraging greater fuel efficiency, reducing pollution, and introducing the long-term policies needed to increase transport choice and improve Britain’s transport system; and recognises the freedom that the car has given and that congestion can remove the convenience and pleasure from driving.

Future of Post Offices.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House is concerned that the Government’s proposed arrangements for the Post Office put at risk its long-term viability by failing to free it from state control while also failing to maintain accountability; is concerned that these arrangements will create an uncompetitive distortion in the existing private sector mail delivery market; supports the Universal Service Obligation; and condemns the failure by the Government to implement the Horizon programme, with the resulting 30 per cent. drop in income to the network of private sector sub-post offices which threatens the survival of rural sub-post offices and represents yet another government policy detrimental to the interests of those who live and work in the countryside—(Mrs Angela Browning);
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 important White Paper on the Post Office published by the Government; notes the contrast with the years of Tory dithering, blinkered by ideology, that left the Post Office to decline; welcomes the slashing of the EFL which contrasts with the Tory use of it as a variable tax on Post Office users; welcomes for the first time the clear commitment of the Government to a network throughout the United Kingdom of post offices which will be automated; welcomes the fact that for the first time the Universal Service Obligation will be guaranteed in legislation; and notes that the Opposition believes in immediate privatisation of the Post Office, showing they are still an ideologically-driven party, not one intent on improving services to the British public’, instead thereof—(Mr Secretary Byers);

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 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 Greg Pope, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 293.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Keith Simpson: 140.

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 important White Paper on the Post Office published by the Government; notes the contrast with the years of Tory dithering, blinkered by ideology, that left the Post Office to decline; welcomes the slashing of the EFL which contrasts with the Tory use of it as a variable tax on Post Office users; welcomes for the first time the clear commitment of the Government to a network throughout the United Kingdom of post offices which will be automated; welcomes the fact that for the first time the Universal Service Obligation will be guaranteed in legislation; and notes that the Opposition believes in immediate privatisation of the Post Office showing they are still an ideologically-driven party, not one intent in improving services to the British public.

11 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:

Appropriation Act 1999

Protection of Children Act 1999

Trustee Delegation Act 1999.

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 North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 28th June, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

13 Delegated Legislation.—Ordered, That the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Straw relating to the salary of the Data Protection Registrar shall be treated as if it related to an instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) in respect of which notice has been given that the instrument be approved.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

14 Food.—Ordered, That the Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1585) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

15 National Health Service.—Ordered, That the National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1627) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

16 National Health Service (Scotland).—Ordered, That the National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1620) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Graham Allen.)
17 Education,—Ordered, That the Education (Head Teachers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1287) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

18 Fire Precautions,—Ordered, That the Fire Precautions (Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1877) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Graham Allen.)

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

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

[Adjourned at 7.54 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1957), dated 6th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

2 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Duke of York’s Royal Military School for 1998-99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 729] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

3 Development of Tourism,—Report and Accounts of the English Tourist Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4 Disability Discrimination,—Report of the National Disability Council for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 683] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Environmental Protection,—Accounts of the Countryside Council for Wales for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 728] [Clerk of the House].

6 Further and Higher Education (Scotland),—Accounts of the Scottish and Higher Education Funding Council for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 727] [Clerk of the House].

7 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of the—

   (1) Central Office of Information,
   (2) Medicines Control Agency,
   (3) Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, and
   (4) Vehicle Inspectorate

   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 621, 555, 672 and 545] [Clerk of the House].

8 Health,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Health Committee, Session 1998–99, on Long Term Care [by Command] [Cm. 4414] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

9 Local Government,—Financial Statements of the South Bank Centre for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

10 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 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

11 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petitions [8th June, 9th June, 16th June, 22nd June, 25th June and 2nd July] from Consumers for Health Choice, the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association, the National Association of Health Stores and others against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12 Science and Technology,—Report and Accounts of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemptions) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Robert Ainsworth from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Mike Hall.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Future of Professional Rugby]: to be printed [No. 590-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Procedures related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care]: to be printed [No. 549-v] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards): to be printed [No. 542-ix] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

4 Trade and Industry,—(1) Ninth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [The Impact on Industry of the Climate Change Levy], 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. 678];

(2) Tenth Report from the Committee [Electronic Commerce], together with Appendices: to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 648]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Electronic Government: The Horizon Project for Automated Payment of Benefits through Post Offices; The Future of the Post Office] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 125.]

Friday 16th July 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

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

Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make further provision about the enforcement of requirements relating to drivers’ hours and about the licensing of the operators of goods vehicles; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Adjournment (Policing of London).—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.

3 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 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 19th July.

[Adjourned at 3.03 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Education,—Holme Lacy College (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1997), dated 25th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Other Papers:

4 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Pay and Personnel Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 595] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

5 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of Highlands and Islands Enterprise for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

6 National Health Service (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Hospital Trust for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 566] [Mr Secretary Reid].

7 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Radiocommunications Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 554] [Mr Secretary Byers].

8 Treaty Series (No. 41, 1999),—Agreement, done at Washington on 20th April 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on behalf of the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Government of the United States of America relating to Investment Incentives [by Command] [Cm. 4395] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemptions) Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

2 Draft Films (Modification of the Definition of “British Film”) Order 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 48), on 1999–2000 Special Grant for Developing New Approaches to Commissioning Services for Drug Misusers (House of Commons Paper No. 513).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Barry Jones Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Special Grant Report.


5 Draft Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999,—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Rules.

European Standing Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 13526/99, relating to Sectors and Activities excluded from the Working Time Directive, and the unnumbered Explanatory Memoranda submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18th May and 21st June 1999 relating to Sectors and Activities excluded from the Working Time Directive.
Monday 19th July 1999.

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

**PRAYERS.**

1. European Standing Committee C.—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 13526/98, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18th May 1999 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 21st June 1999, all on the extension of the Working Time Directive to excluded sectors; and supports the Government’s view that the proposal agreed by Member States at the Social Affairs Council on 25th May will ensure that workers who were previously excluded will now enjoy the benefit of working time protection; agrees that all workers should have the right to minimum standards in the workplace; and that the extension of the Working Time Directive to the excluded sectors supports the Government’s aim of promoting family friendly employment.

Report, together with Resolution, 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 Amendments made by this House to the Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

3. Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords].—The Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 144].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 144–EN].

4. Railways Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Railways 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 Railways Bill because the introduction of this Bill now, when it will inevitably fall due to lack of legislative time and will have to be reintroduced in the next Session, is not the best use of the time of this House and represents a new definition of pre-legislative scrutiny which the Government is using as a way of side-stepping its own decision-making responsibilities and covering its doubts and internal divisions about the wisdom of the measures which the Bill contains’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Redwood.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 123.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 330.

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 Robert Ainsworth: 329.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 121.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

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 on Business of the House (Railways Bill) may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Jim Dowd.)—It was agreed to.
6 Business of the House (Railways Bill).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That

(1) notwithstanding Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of Bills), the Railways Bill be referred to the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee; and

(2) the Committee shall consider the provisions of the Bill and report thereon by 12th November 1999—(Mrs Helen Liddell);

Tuesday 20th July 1999

Mr Keith Bradley 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 Keith Hill, Mrs Anne McGuire: 220.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr David Maclean: 9.
So the Question was agreed to.

And the Main Question being put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mrs Anne McGuire: 218.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr James Gray: 9.
So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That

(1) notwithstanding Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of Bills), the Railways Bill be referred to the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee; and

(2) the Committee shall consider the provisions of the Bill and report thereon by 12th November 1999.

7 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 International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 21st May, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mrs Anne McGuire: 195.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr David Maclean: 7.
So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 21st May, be approved.

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 Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 29th June, be approved—(Mr Mike Hall);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Mrs Anne McGuire: 195.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Nick St. Aubyn: 5.
So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Aeroplane Noise (Amendment) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 29th June, be approved.

9 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 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th June, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 194.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr David Maclean: 7.
So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th June, be approved.
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 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th June, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 188.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Maclean, Mrs Teresa Gorman: 7.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th June, be approved.

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 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th June, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr David Hanson: 184.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Eric Forth: 7.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 30th June, be approved.

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 International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Miscellaneous Provisions Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 1st July, be approved—(Mr David Clelland);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Mike Hall: 172.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr James Gray: 7.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Miscellaneous Provisions Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 1st July, be approved.

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 INTELSAT (Immunities and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 2nd July, be approved—(Mr David Clelland);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr Mike Hall: 162.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Maclean, Mr Gerald Howarth: 7.
So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved, That the draft INTELSAT (Immunities and Privileges) (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 2nd July, be approved.

Home Affairs.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That Mr Nick Hawkins be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee, and Mr Michael Fabricant be added to the Committee—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection),
The Motion was opposed.

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Janet Elizabeth Oddy and Lorraine Rita Drake calling for an investigation into the Charity Commission’s dealings with the charity The Protection of Animal Life Society was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 2.33 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—Yugoslavia (Prohibition of Flights) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2018), dated 15th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


3 Health and Safety,—Pressure Equipment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2001), dated 15th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

4 Audit Commission,—Report and Accounts of the Audit Commission for the period 1st November 1997 to 31st October 1998, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


6 Criminal Justice,—Report of the Serious Fraud Office for 1998–99 [by Act], to be printed [No. 561] [Mr Attorney General].


8 House of Commons,—(1) Accounts of the House of Commons Refreshment Department for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and

   (2) Report of the House of Commons Commission for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 723 and 721] [The Speaker].

9 Housing,—Report and Financial Statements of Liverpool Housing Action Trust for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Human Fertilisation and Embryology,—Account of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 736] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restrictions of Exemptions) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Keith Darvill, Mr Neil Gerrard, Ms Oona King and Dr Doug Naysmith from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Tom Cox, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Kelvin Hopkins and Mr David Stewart.

2 Draft Films (Modification of the Definition of “British Film”) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West) from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Keen.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Department of Health Expenditure 1999]; to be printed [No. 469-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Transport Salaried Staffs' Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill.—The House proceeded to consider the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill, as amended in the Committee.

   Bill to be read the third time.

2 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for further consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, as amended in the Committee;

   Ordered, That the Bill be further considered on Tuesday 27th July.

3 Standing Orders.—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Standing Orders Committee the following Resolution:

   That a dispensation from the provisions of Standing Order 171A ought to be granted in the case of the late Petition against the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].

   The Resolution was agreed to.

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill O'Brien reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Films (Modification of the Definition of "British Film") Order 1999.

   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 Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Bill, without Amendment.

Genetically Modified Crops Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to regulate the use of certain genetically modified organisms for agricultural purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Government to consult interested parties on whether to designate the coastal waters off Berwickshire as Scottish internal waters and to report to Parliament; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Archy Kirkwood, Mr Michael Moore, Mrs Ray Michie, Mr Donald Gorrie and Sir Robert Smith do prepare and bring it in.

7 Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment) Bill.—Mr Archy Kirkwood accordingly presented a Bill to require the Government to consult interested parties on whether to designate the coastal waters off Berwickshire as Scottish internal waters and to report to Parliament; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 145].

8 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.

   Health Care Provision in the United Kingdom.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the failure of the Government to deliver improvements in the provision of health care in the United Kingdom, resulting in increased waiting times for patients, plummeting morale in the medical and nursing professions, distortion of clinical priorities and the increasingly widespread rationing of drugs and treatments; and believes that repeated announcements, soundbites and photo opportunities are no substitute for a coherent and effective health policy—(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 'welcomes the action the action the Government has taken to turn around the National Health Service by finding £21 billion extra funds for the coming three years, starting building work on 13 new hospitals, modernising every Accident and Emergency Department that needs it, abolishing the unfair and divisive system of fundholding and replacing it with Primary Care Groups putting doctors and nurses in the driving seat, cutting waiting lists, ending 18 month waiting in the NHS, creating the National Institute for Clinical Excellence and National Service Frameworks to promote quality treatment, delivering the biggest real terms pay rise for nurses for 10 years, publishing the most comprehensive strategy ever produced for improving the status, training, pay and job opportunities for Britain's half a million
nurses, midwives and health visitors, with 3,800 nurses returning to the NHS so far this year and 2,200 additional doctors in the Government’s first year of office; further welcomes the 450,000 more waiting list operations carried out last year plus the 142,000 extra emergency cases treated, and half a million more outpatient cases dealt with; and congratulates the staff on providing record results in what remains the fairest and most efficient healthcare system in the world’; 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, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 169.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Mike Hall: 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 welcomes the action the Government has taken to turn around the National Health Service by finding £21 billion extra funds for the coming three years, starting building work on 13 new hospitals, modernising every Accident and Emergency Department that needs it, abolishing the unfair and divisive system of fundholding and replacing it with Primary Care Groups putting doctors and nurses in the driving seat, cutting waiting lists, ending 18 month waiting in the NHS, creating the National Institute for Clinical Excellence and National Service Frameworks to promote quality treatment, delivering the biggest real terms pay rise for nurses for 10 years, publishing the most comprehensive strategy ever produced for improving the status, training, pay and job opportunities for Britain’s half a million nurses, midwives and health visitors, with 3,800 nurses returning to the NHS so far this year and 2,200 additional doctors in the Government’s first year of office; further welcomes the 450,000 more waiting list operations carried out last year plus the 142,000 extra emergency cases treated, and half a million more outpatient cases dealt with; and congratulates the staff on providing record results in what remains the fairest and most efficient healthcare system in the world.

The Government’s Proposed Energy Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the proposed energy tax represents a huge transfer of cash from manufacturing and energy intensive industries to the public and service sectors; threatens to drive large energy users out of the United Kingdom altogether and is a badly targeted and inefficient way of reducing CO2 emissions; believes this is another stealth tax on industry and notes the Government has increased the Landfill Tax without applying the revenue to offsetting cuts in National Insurance Contributions as was done by the last Conservative Government, and calls on the Government to consult on alternative ways of meeting Britain’s international commitments to counter global warming and to withdraw this damaging threat to industry—(Mr David Heathcoat-Amory);

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 there is now compelling evidence that climate change needs to be tackled, that there is therefore a need for action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and that the United Kingdom has a legally-binding target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions set under the Kyoto Protocol; welcomes the recommendations of Lord Marshall on the case for a climate change levy; further welcomes the measures taken by the Government to help British business, including cutting corporation tax rates to their lowest ever level; welcomes the Government’s decision to pre-announce the introduction of the climate change levy by two years to give time for further consultation on its design; and supports the Government’s determination to work with industry and other parties to ensure that it meets its environmental objectives whilst safeguarding Britain’s international competitiveness’, instead thereof.—(Ms Patricia Hewitt.)

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, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 132.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Hanson, Jane Kennedy: 346.
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, Jane Kennedy: 311.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 162.

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 that there is now compelling evidence that climate change needs to be tackled, that there is therefore a need for action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and that the United Kingdom has a legally-binding target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions set under the Kyoto Protocol; welcomes the recommendations of Lord Marshall on the case for a climate change levy; further welcomes the measures taken by the Government to help British business, including cutting corporation tax rates to their lowest ever level; welcomes the Government’s decision to pre-announce the introduction of the climate change levy by two years to give time for further consultation on its design; and supports the Government’s determination to work with industry and other parties to ensure that it meets its environmental objectives whilst safeguarding Britain’s international competitiveness.

9 Proposal to Extend the Working Time Directive to Excluded Sectors.—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 Union Document No. 13526/98, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18th May 1999 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 21st June 1999, all on the extension of the Working Time Directive to excluded sectors; supports the Government’s view that the proposal agreed by Member States at the Social Affairs Council on 25th May will ensure that workers who were previously excluded will now enjoy the benefit of working time protection; and agrees that all workers should have the right to minimum standards in the workplace and that the extension of the working time directive to the excluded sectors supports the Government’s aim of promoting family friendly employment—(Jim Dowd);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Jane Kennedy: 302.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr John M. Taylor: 156.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 13526/98, the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18th May 1999 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 21st June 1999, all on the extension of the Working Time Directive to excluded sectors; supports the Government’s view that the proposal agreed by Member States at the Social Affairs Council on 25th May will ensure that workers who were previously excluded will now enjoy the benefit of working time protection; and agrees that all workers should have the right to minimum standards in the workplace and that the extension of the working time directive to the excluded sectors supports the Government’s aim of promoting family friendly employment.

10 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 (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 5th July, be approved—(Jim Dowd);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Jane Kennedy: 324.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mr Edward Leigh: 7.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Deregulation (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 5th July, be approved.

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 (Casinos) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 5th July, be approved—(Jim Dowd);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Keith Hill, Jane Kennedy: 304.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mr Eric Forth: 12.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 5th July, be approved.

12 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the Crawley Observer and residents of Crawley in West Sussex against plans to downgrade Crawley Hospital was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from customers of Oliver’s Wholefood Store, Kew, and the Holland and Barratt Store, Sheen, against the proposal to give the Medicines Control Agency power to classify natural health products as medicines was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

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

[Adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Value Added Tax,—Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1994), dated 14th July 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education,—Education (Grants in respect of Voluntary Aided Schools) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2020), dated 25th June 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Food,—(1) Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2026), and


Other Papers:

4 British Library,—Accounts of the British Library Board for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 755] [Clerk of the House].

5 Competition Commission,—Report by the Competition Commission on the proposed merger of British Airways plc and CityFlyer Express Limited [by Command] [Cm. 4346] [Mr Secretary Byers].

6 Coroners,—West Midlands (Coroners’ Districts) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1990), dated 12th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster,—Revenue and Capital Accounts of the Duchy of Lancaster for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mrs Barbara Roche].

8 Education,—Account of the Funding Agency for Schools for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 752] [Clerk of the House].

9 Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland),—Accounts of Scottish Enterprise for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 753] [Clerk of the House].

10 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Ordnance Survey for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 568] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 Further and Higher Education,—Accounts of the—

(1) Further Education Funding Council for England, and
(2) Higher Education Funding Council for England
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 757 and 756] [Clerk of the House].

12 Housing (Scotland),—Accounts of Scottish Homes for 1998–99, with the Report of the
Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 751] [Clerk of
the House].

13 Law Commission,.—Report by the Law Commission and the Scottish Law Commission on
Trustees’ Powers and Duties [by Act]; to be printed [No. 538] [Mr Keith Vaz].

14 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Further Education in
Wales [by Act]; to be printed [No. 641] [Clerk of the House].

be printed [No. 624] [Mr Secretary Smith].

16 Northern Ireland.—Report of the Sentence Review Commissioners for the period 30th July
1998 to 31st March 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 659] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

17 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors,—Account of the English National Board for Nursing,
Midwifery and Health Visiting for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and
Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 673] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

18 Radiological Protection,—Accounts of the National Radiological Protection Board for
1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
be printed [No. 754] [Clerk of the House].

19 Science and Technology,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Biotechnology
and Biological Sciences Research Council for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

20 Scottish Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Court Service for
1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
be printed [No. 623] [Mr Secretary Reid].

21 Transport,—Report and Accounts of British Waterways for1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary
Prescott].

22 Welsh Development Agency,—(1) Accounts of the Welsh Development Agency for 1998–99,
the Development Board for Rural Wales for the period 1st April 1998 to 30th September
1998 and the Land Authority for Wales for the period 1st April 1998 to 30th September
1998, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be
printed [No. 758] [Clerk of the House], and
(2) Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Welsh Development Agency for
1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr
Secretary Michael].

Papers withdrawn:

23 Financial Services,—Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemptions) Order
1999 [laid 8th July].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Fire Precautions (Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1877),—The
Speaker has appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman of the First Standing Committee
on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations).

2 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 48) on 1999–2000 Special
Grant for developing new approaches to commissioning services for drug misusers
(House of Commons Paper No. 513),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr
David Crausby, Lynne Jones and Miss Geraline Smith from the Fourth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special Grant Report),
and nominated in substitution Mr Bill Etherington, Mr David Lepper and Laura
Moffatt.

3 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 50) on Children’s Services
No. 617),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Paul Goggins from the Fifth
Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Special
Grant Report); and nominated in substitution Mr Jeff Ennis.
Draft Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Eric Illsley and Mr Peter Mandelson from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Rules); and nominated in substitution Dr Stephen Ladyman and Mrs Diana Organ.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment and Social Security,—(1) Sixth Report from the Education and Employment Committee, and
   (2) Seventh Report from the Social Security Committee [The ONE Service Pilots], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee, before the Social Security Committee and before the Employment Sub-Committee and the Social Security Committee 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 Committees relating to the Reports [No. 412] [Mr Derek Foster; Mr Archy Kirkwood].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Seventh Report from the Education and Employment Committee [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment 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. 197]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [DfEE Funding]; to be printed [No. 761-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Fifteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Departmental Annual Report 1999 and Expenditure Plans 1999–2002], 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. 440]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee [Potential Risk of Fire Spread in Buildings via External Cladding Systems]; to be printed [No. 741-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 Environmental Audit Committee,—(1) Seventh Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Energy Efficiency], 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. 159]; and
   (2) Eighth Report from the Committee [The Budget 1999], 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. 326] [Mr John Horam].

5 Foreign Affairs,—(1) Sixth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [South Caucasus and Central Asia], 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. 349];
   (2) Seventh Report from the Committee [Kosovo: 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. 188]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [South Caucasus and Central Asia; Kosovo] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Drugs and Prisons]; to be printed [No. 363-vi] [Mr Chris Mullin].

7 International Development,—Fifth Report from the International Development Committee [The Department for International Development: Departmental Report 1999]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 567] [Mr Bowen Wells].

8 Procedure,—Sixth Report from the Procedure Committee [Procedure for Debate on the Government’s Expenditure Plans], 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. 295] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].
9 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 570-x and -x1] [Dr Tony Wright].

10 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [DSS Departmental Report 1999]; to be printed [No. 749-i] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

11 Standards and Privileges,—Tenth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Unauthorised Receipt of a Draft Report of the Social Security Committee], together with Appendices and the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 13th July; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 747] [Mr Robert Sheldon].

12 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxvi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

13 Treasury,—(1) Eighth Report from the Treasury Committee [The Monetary Policy Committee—Two Years On], 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. 505]; and
(2) Sixth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, on Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 746] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 128.]


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 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 48) on 1999–2000 Special Grant for developing new approaches to commissioning services for drug misusers (House of Commons Paper No. 513).

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 Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.) Bill, without Amendment.

Road Traffic (Use of Mobile Telephones) Bill,—The Lords have passed a Bill to make it an offence to drive while using a hand-held mobile telephone; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Employment Rights (International Obligations) Bill,—Mr Tony Benn, supported by Mr Harold Best, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Llew Smith, Audrey Wise, Mr Mike Wood, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr Bill Etherington and Marla Fyfe presented a Bill to make provision for the implementation in the laws of the United Kingdom of the rights in employment which are established by certain international instruments ratified by the United Kingdom: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 146].

5 Work with Asbestos,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create new offences relating to negligent or malicious practice involving work with asbestos; to increase the penalties available to the courts for existing offences; to confer new powers on the Health and Safety Executive; to amend the law with regard to the employment rights of health and safety representatives; and for connected purposes. And that Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Tom Cox, Mr Neil Gerrard, Dr Norman A. Godman, Helen Jackson, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Mr John Smith, Dr Howard Stoate and Mr Tony Worthington do prepare and bring it in.
6 Work with Asbestos Bill.—Mr Harry Cohen accordingly presented a Bill to create new offences relating to negligent or malicious practice involving work with asbestos; to increase the penalties available to the courts for existing offences; to confer new powers on the Health and Safety Executive; to amend the law with regard to the employment rights of health and safety representatives; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd July and to be printed [Bill 147].

7 Access to Justice 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, and an Amendment made by the Lords to an Amendment made by this House to the Access to Justice Bill [Lords].

Lords Reason for disagreeing to Commons Amendments in page 1, line 18, page 11, line 20, page 11, line 40, page 11, line 43 (Nos. 27 to 30) considered:—

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House does not insist on its Amendments—(Mr Keith Vaz);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Jim Dowd: 294.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House does not insist on its Amendments.

Amendments (a) to (e) made to the Bill, in lieu of the Commons Amendments Nos. 27 to 30 to which the Lords have disagreed.

Lords Reason for disagreeing to Commons Amendments in page 12, line 35 (No. 31) considered:—

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House does not insist on its Amendment—(Mr Keith Vaz);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Kevin Hughes: 288.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Keith Simpson: 173.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House does not insist on its Amendment.

Amendments (a) and (b) made to the Bill in lieu of Commons Amendment No. 31, to which the Lords have disagreed.

Lords Amendment to Commons Amendment in page 19, line 14 (No. 56) considered:—

Resolved, That this House disagrees to the Amendment proposed by the Lords in line 4 of Commons Amendment No. 56.—(Mr Keith Vaz.)

Amendment (a) made to the Bill in lieu of the Lords Amendment to Commons Amendment No. 56.

8 Employment Relations Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 16 agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 17.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Secretary Byers);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Keith Hill: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Keith Simpson: 109.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 18 and 19 agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 20.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords in the said Amendment;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Keith Hill: 319.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bill Rammell, Mr Martin Caton: 0.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That this House agrees with the Lords in the said Amendment.
And it being after Ten o'clock, further proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill stood adjourned.

Lords Amendments to be further considered to-morrow.

9 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords], not amended in the Standing Committee.

Ordered. That the Bill be considered to-morrow.

10 Cinemas and Film.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Films (Modification of the Definition of “British Film”) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Jim Dowd).
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Robert Ainsworth, Mr Graham Allen: 314.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Douglas Hogg, Mrs Teresa Gorman: 36.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Films (Modification of the Definition of “British Film”) Order 1999, which was laid before the House on 8th July, be approved.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(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:

1 Courts and Legal Services,—Report of the Court Service for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 706] [Mr Keith Vaz].

2 Culture, Media and Sport Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Parks Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 600] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Defence Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Defence Codification Agency,
(2) Defence Postal and Courier Services Agency, and
(3) Royal Air Force Signals Engineering Establishment

for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 720, 521 and 677] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

4 Electricity,—Report of the Director General for Electricity Supply: Office of Electricity Regulation (OYer) for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 646] [Mr Secretary Byers].

5 Gas,—Report of the Director General for Gas Supply: Office of Gas Supply (Ofgas) for 1998 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 645] [Mr Secretary Byers].

6 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Companies House, and
(2) The Patent Office

for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 635 and 718] [Clerk of the House].

7 Local Government,—Report and Accounts of the London Pensions Fund Authority for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the Victoria and Albert Museum for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 768] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Heritage (Scotland),—Accounts of the Royal Botanical Garden, Edinburgh for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 769] [Clerk of the House].


14 Public Lending Right,—Account of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 770] [Clerk of the House].


16 Treaty Series (No. 45, 1999),—Agreement, done at Tallinn on 16th August 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Estonia on International Road Transport [by Command] [Cm. 4398] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) (Termination of Restrictions) Order 1999:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second 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.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr David Borrow, Mr Tom Brake, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, Mr David Faber, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Glenda Jackson, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Andrew Robathan, Miss Geraldine Smith, Helen Southworth, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Derek Twigg and Mr Shaun Woodward.

2 Salary of the Data Protection Registrar for the period 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2000:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Salary of the Data Protection Registrar to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Hilary Benn, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Keith Darvell, Mr Denzil Davies, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr John Greenwood, Mr Mike Hall, Mr John Horam, Mr George Howarth, Mr Paul Keetch, Ms Oona King, Dr Doug Naysmith, Bob Russell, Mr Nick St. AUBYN, Mr Keith Simpson and Ms Gisela Stuart.

3 Education (Head Teachers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1287):

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Edward O’HARA Chairman; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr James Clappison, Mr Charles Clarke, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Don Foster, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Eric Illesly, Mr David Jameson, Lynne Jones, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Chris McCafferty, Stobham McDonagh, Mr Andrew Miller, Christine Russell, Joan Ryan and Mr Phil Willis.

4 National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1627), and the National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1620):
The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman; and

the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Peter Bottomley, Dr Peter Brand, Mr David Clelland, Mr Stephen Day, Mr John Denham, Maria Fyfe, Dr Norman A. Godman, Mr Paul Goggins, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Evan Harris, Rosemary McKenna, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Gareth R. Thomas (Harrow West) and Mr Robert N. Wareing.

Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1585):

The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Bowen Wells Chairman; and

the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Dr Peter Brand, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr David Clelland, Mr Terry Davis, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr Andrew George, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Tessa Jowell, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Tom Pendry, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Mark Todd and Mr Brian White.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Research Expenditure]; to be printed [No. 616-iv] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The role of private companies in the management and supply of state education services]; to be printed [No. 763-i] [Mr Malcolm Wicks]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The Employment Consequences of European Economic and Monetary Union]; to be printed [No. 547-iv] [Mr Derek Foster].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Multilateral Environmental Agreements]; 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 [Nos. 307-i and III]; and

(2) Seventeenth Report from the Committee [Housing: PPG3]; 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 [Nos. 490-i and III] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

4 European Scrutiny,—(1) Twenty-seventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxvi]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Post-Council Scrutiny: the Internal Market Council, 21 June 1999]; to be printed [No. 766] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Third Report from the Committee [Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Road Fuel Price Differentials], 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. 334];

(2) Fourth Report from the Committee [The Operation of the Fair Employment Act 1989: Ten Years On], 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. 95]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Miscellaneous] [Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed [No. 570-xii] [Dr Tony Wright].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Year 2000–Computer Compliance: Follow up]; to be printed [No. 692-ii] [Lynne Jones].
8 Scottish Affairs.—(1) Second Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Tourism in Scotland], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 85]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Work of The Scottish Office], to be printed [No. 771]

[Mr David Marshall].

9 Social Security.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [Social Security Implications of Parental Leave]; to be printed [No. 543-a] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

10 Welsh Affairs.—(1) Sixth Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [Denbighshire County Council’s Funding Crisis], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 340];

(2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on Broadcasting in Wales and the National Assembly]; to be printed [No. 774]; and

(3) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Welsh Office Departmental Report 1999]

[Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 129.]

Thursday 22nd July 1999.

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

PRAYERS.


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

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr George Stevenson reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999.

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 Amendments made by this House to the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords], without Amendment.

4 Food Standards Bill and Employment Relations 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 Food Standards Bill and on the Employment Relations Bill—

Timetable

1.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading of the Food Standards Bill shall be completed at today’s sitting and shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion six hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Motion.

(2) Remaining proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill shall be completed on the allotted day and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement on that day.
Questions to be put

2.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1(1).

(2) 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.

(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.

3.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1(2).

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question already proposed from the Chair.

(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 of 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.

(4) 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.

(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees to a Lords Amendment.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees to all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(7) As soon as the House has agreed or disagreed to a Lords Amendment, 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.

(8) 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.

(9) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting on the allotted day.

Miscellaneous

4. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings—

(a) on the Food Standards Bill at today’s sitting, and
(b) on the Employment Relations Bill on the allotted day,

and those proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of the House.

5. Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply to proceedings on either of the Bills.

6. No Motion shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown, to alter the order in which any proceedings on either of the Bills are taken or to recommit the Food Standards Bill; and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.
7. No dilatory Motion shall be made in relation to either of the Bills except by a
Minister of the Crown; and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the
Motion shall be put forthwith.

8. The Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for varying or
supplementing the provisions of this Order shall be put forthwith; and Standing Order
No. 15(1) shall apply to proceedings on any such Motion.

9.—(1) If at today’s sitting a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing
Order No. 24 (as that Standing Order has effect in accordance with the Order of the House
[16 December 1998]) stands over to Four o’clock and proceedings on this Motion have
begun before that time, the Motion for the adjournment shall stand over until the
conclusion of proceedings on the Food Standards Bill.

(2) If on the allotted day a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing
Order No. 24 stands over to Seven o’clock (or, in accordance with the Order of the House
[16 December 1998], Four o’clock), and proceedings on the Employment Relations Bill
have begun before that time, or if such a Motion stands over from an earlier day, the
Motion for the adjournment shall stand over until the conclusion of any proceedings on
the Employment Relations Bill.

10. If at the sitting today or on the 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 paragraph 1(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.

Interpretation

11. In this Order, “allotted day” means any day on which the Employment Relations
Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day—(Margaret
Beckett);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Jim Dowd: 276.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 108.

So the Question was agreed to.

5 Food Standards Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Food
Standards Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Labelling of food products)—(Mrs Caroline Spelman)—brought up, and
read the first time.

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

Another Clause (Exercise of functions in Wales)—(Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones)—brought up,
and read the first time.

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

Amendment (No. 11) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 19, at the end, to insert the
words—

‘(1B) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Agency has the
function of—

(a) investigating and monitoring the effect on food safety of—

(i) animal husbandry systems and practices with inadequate standards of
animal health and welfare;

(ii) the routine use of antibiotics on farm animals for growth promotion or
prophylactic purposes; and

(iii) slaughterhouse systems and practices with inadequate standards of hygiene
and animal welfare; and

(b) developing policies relating to any matters identified during the investigation
and monitoring mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) which the Agency considers
have a significant effect on food safety.’.—(Mr Chris Mullin.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave,
withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 25, at the end, to insert the words—

'(4) Any Authority making such a request shall immediately publish its reasons for so doing.'—(Mrs Caroline Spelman.)

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

Amendments (Nos. 19 to 23) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 21, at the end, to insert the words—

'(6) In any case where the Agency itself or a body for which it is accountable is the enforcement authority, subsection (1) shall not have effect and the function of monitoring enforcement shall be held by the Secretary of State.'—(Mr James Paice.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being six hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Food Standards Bill and Employment Relations Bill (Allocation of Time), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day].

Question, That the Amendment (No. 3) be made, put and negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Questions necessary to bring proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading to a conclusion.

Other Amendments (Nos. 24 to 29, 31, 30 and 35) made to the Bill.

A Schedule (Accounts and Audit) brought up, read the first time, and added to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time.

The House proceeded to a Division.

Mr Graham Allen and Mr Keith Hill 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.

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

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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 48) on 1999–2000 Special Grant for developing new approaches to commissioning services for drug misusers (House of Commons Paper No. 513), which was laid before this House on 6th July, be approved—(Mr Graham Allen):—It was agreed to.

7 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Cambridge and elsewhere against closure of Coleridge Community College;

(2) users and supporters of West Midlands Special Needs Transport Ltd for rebates on duties paid on fuel for transport for persons with mobility difficulties; and

(3) residents of the constituency of Maidstone and the Weald against hunting with dogs

were presented and read; 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—(Mr Graham Allen).

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December], it being then eight minutes to Nine o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.52 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Taxes,—Draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Consumer Protection,—(1) Dangerous Substances and Preparations (Safety) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [S.I., 1999, No. 2084), and (2) Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2083), dated 22nd July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

3 Landfill Tax,—Landfill Tax (Site Restoration and Quarries) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2075), dated 21st July 1999 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

4 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2089), and (2) Legal Advice and Assistance at Police Stations (Remuneration) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2088), dated 20th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

5 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2082), dated 21st July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment No. 2) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 333), dated 21st July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].


Other Papers:

8 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the— (1) Central Science Laboratory, (2) Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, (3) Farming and Rural Conservation Agency, (4) Meat Hygiene Service, (5) Pesticides Safety Directorate, and (6) Veterinary Medicines Directorate for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 627, 556, 765, 759, 602 and 552] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

9 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on School Inspection in Northern Ireland [by Act]; to be printed [No. 636] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

10 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Civil Service Occupational Health and Safety Agency for 1995–96 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 109] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

11 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons,—Report by the Secretary of State for Health on Research and Development Work on Equipment for Disabled People, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

12 Coal Industry,—Report and Accounts of the Coal Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

13 Consumer Protection,—Paper, entitled Modern markets: confident consumers: The Government’s Consumer White Paper [by Command] [Cm. 4410] [Mr Secretary Byers].

14 Culture, Media and Sport Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Historic Royal Palaces for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 598] [Mr Secretary Smith].
15 Defence Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Defence Animal Centre,
   (2) Disposal Sales Agency,
   (3) Duke of York’s Royal Military School, and
   (4) Logistic Information Systems Agency
   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 654, 625, 775 and 688] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

16 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 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

17 Government Trading Funds,—(1) Reports and Accounts of—
   (i) Driving Standards Agency,
   (ii) HM Land Registry, and
   (iii) United Kingdom Hydrographic Office
   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 560, 716 and 597] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report and Accounts of Registers of Scotland for 1998–99, with the Report of the
   Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 502] [Mr
   Secretary Reid].

18 Health Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Medical Devices Agency,
   (2) NHS Estates Management and Health Building Agency, and
   (3) NHS Pensions Agency
   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 574, 596 and 633] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

19 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Forensic Science Service for
1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
be printed [No. 679] [Mr Secretary Straw].

20 Hong Kong,—Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong, January–June 1999 [by Command] [Cm.
4415] [Mr Secretary Cook].

21 Housing,—Review and Accounts of the Housing Corporation for 1998–99: Building
Communities [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

22 Human Rights,—Report by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Department for
International Development on Human Rights for 1999 [by Command] [Cm. 4404] [Mr
Secretary Cook].

23 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 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

24 Magistrates’ Courts,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of the Magistrates’ Courts
Service for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 696] [Mr Keith Vaz].

25 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on English Partnerships:
Assisting Local Regeneration [by Act]; to be printed [No. 642] [Clerk of the House].

[by Command] [Cm. 4391] [Mr Secretary Straw].

27 Scottish Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Agricultural Science
[by Act]; to be printed [No. 622] [Mr Secretary Reid].

28 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Insolvency Service for
1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
be printed [No. 644] [Mr Secretary Byers].
Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—(1) Fifth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Performing Right Society and the Abolition of the Classical Music Subsidy], 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. 468]; and

(2) Sixth Report from the Committee [The Department of Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos], 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. 506]

[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Department of Health Expenditure 1999]; to be printed [No. 469-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The World Bank]; to be printed [No. 776-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

4 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed [No. 570-xii] [Dr Tony Wright].

5 Treasury.—(1) Ninth Report from the Treasury Committee [Demutualisation], 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. 605]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Council of Economic and Finance Ministers (ECOFIN), Tax Competition and Co-ordination]; to be printed [No. 425-ii]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Demutualisation]

[Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 130.]

Friday 23rd July 1999.

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:

Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords].

Bill to be read a second time.

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

The Lords have agreed to the Finance Bill, without Amendment.

3 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) staff of the Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust calling for the introduction of a single pay review body for the NHS, and
(2) residents of the constituency of Devon West and Torridge against hunting with dogs

were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords].—The Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

5 Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, not amended in Committee.

A Clause (Report to Mental Welfare Commission)—(Mr Eric Forth)—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 9 to 11 and to insert the words—

'(a) hold, and receive interest accruing thereon, money, other financial assets and investments, and valuables on behalf of a person in pursuance of subsection (1) of this section, and’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Maclean.)

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

Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 19, to leave out ‘two’ and insert ‘six’, instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

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

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 14th May on consideration of the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Amendment (No. 36) be made;

Which Amendment was, in page 2, line 20, at the end, to insert the words ‘(c) in Northern Ireland, to the Crown Court’;

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

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 5th November.

7 Referendums Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 21st May on consideration of the Referendums Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That Clause (Commencement (No. 2)) be read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 5th November.

8 Crown Prerogatives (Parliamentary Control) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Crown Prerogatives (Parliamentary Control) Bill;

Mr Secretary Reid, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives Her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Objection was taken to further proceeding.

9 Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

10 Cancer Care Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Cancer Care Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

11 Fuel Safety Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Fuel Safety Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

12 Recycling of Household Waste Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Recycling of Household Waste Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 29th October.
13 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 5th November.

14 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 5th November.

15 Digital Television Broadcasting Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Digital Television Broadcasting Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

16 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

17 Concessionary Television Licences for Pensioners Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Concessionary Television Licences for Pensioners Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

18 Nuclear Safeguards Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Nuclear Safeguards Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

19 Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy) Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

20 Country Lanes and Villages Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Country Lanes and Villages Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 29th October.

21 Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th April, That the Energy Conservation (Housing) Bill be now read a second time;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Debate be resumed on Friday 5th November.

22 Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Debate be resumed on Friday 5th November.

23 Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

24 Age Limits on Health Care Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Age Limits on Health Care Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

25 Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd April, That the Health Care and Energy Efficiency Bill be now read a second time;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Debate be resumed on Friday 5th November.

26 Access to Environmental Information Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Access to Environmental Information Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

27 European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) Bill [Lords];
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

28 Waiting Times (National Health Service) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Waiting Times (National Health Service) Bill;
   
   **Ordered,** That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.
29 Royal Parks (Trading) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Royal Parks (Trading) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 29th October.

30 Parliamentary Control of the Executive Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Parliamentary Control of the Executive Bill;

Mr Secretary Reid, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty's prerogative is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Objection was taken to further proceeding.

31 Holocaust Remembrance Day Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Holocaust Remembrance Day Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

32 Academic and Academic-related Staff Pay and Conditions Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Academic and Academic-related Staff Pay and Conditions Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 29th October.

33 Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords];

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

34 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes past Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 26th July.

[Adjourned at 3.06 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Customs and Excise,—Dual-Use and Related Goods (Export Control) (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2091), dated 22nd July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].


4 National Lottery,—National Lottery etc. Act 1993 (Amendment of Section 23) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2090), dated 23rd July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Pensions,—Superannuation (Application of the Superannuation Act 1972, Section 1) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2092), dated 23rd July 1999 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].


Other Papers:

7 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Intervention Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 701] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

8 Animals,—Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals in Great Britain for 1998 [by Command] [Cm. 4418] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Competition Commission,—Report by the Competition Commission on the proposed merger of Trinity plc/Mirror Group plc and Regional Independent Media Holdings Limited/Mirror Group plc [by Command] [Cm. 4593] [Mr Secretary Byers].
10 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Air Force Personnel Management Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 564] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

11 Electronic Commerce,—Paper, entitled Promoting Electronic Commerce: Consultation on Draft Legislation and the Government’s Response to the Trade and Industry Committee’s Report [by Command] [Cm. 4417] [Mr Secretary Byers].

12 Environmental Protection,—Report and Accounts of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, and
   (2) Vehicle Certification Agency
   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 546 and 707] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

14 Fair Trading,—Consent by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the transfer of newspapers following a report of the Competition Commission [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

15 Foreign and Commonwealth Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Wilton Park for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 582] [Mr Secretary Cook].

16 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Buying Agency for 1998, and
   (2) Royal Mint for 1998–99,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 726 and 500] [Clerk of the House].

17 Home Office Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) HM Prison Service, and
   (2) United Kingdom Passport Agency
   for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 748 and 594] [Mr Secretary Straw].

18 House of Commons Commission,—Report on Management and Services by a team led by Mr Michael Braithwaite; to be printed [No. 745] [The Speaker].

19 Housing,—Reports and Accounts of—
   (1) Stonebridge Housing Action Trust, and
   (2) Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust
   for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

20 Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development,—Financial Statements of English Partnerships for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

21 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Examining the value for money of deals under the Private Finance Initiative, and
   (2) The Procurement of Non-Combat Vehicles for the Royal Air Force
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 739 and 738] [Clerk of the House].

22 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 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 444] [Clerk of the House].

23 New Towns,—Accounts of the Commission for the New Towns for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
24 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Compensation Agency,
   (2) Construction Service,
   (3) Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland,
   (4) Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency,
   (5) Environment and Heritage Service,
   (6) Forensic Science Agency,
   (7) Government Purchasing Agency,
   (8) Industrial Research and Technology Unit,
   (9) Land Registers of Northern Ireland,
   (10) Northern Ireland Child Support Agency,
   (11) Northern Ireland Health and Social Services Estates Agency,
   (12) Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency,
   (13) Northern Ireland Water Service,
   (14) Planning Service,
   (15) Public Record Office of Northern Ireland,
   (16) Rate Collection Agency,
   (17) Social Security Agency,
   (18) Training and Employment Agency, and
   (19) Valuation and Lands Agency
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General or the
Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed
[Nos. 660, 687, 558, 762, 655, 657, 657, 666, 656, 670, 664, 663, 667, 661, 668,
669 and 630] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Act]; to be printed [No. 658] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

26 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [8th July]
from members of the OK Stroke Club and its supporters for a specialist stroke unit to
be provided for the people of Hull and East Yorkshire [by Standing Order]; to be printed
[Clerk of the House].

Patricia Hewitt].

28 Scottish Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency, and
   (2) Scottish Office Pensions Agency
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 562 and 649] [Mr Secretary Reid].

29 Trade and Industry Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the National Weights and
Measures Laboratory for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor
General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 628] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Courses for Drink-Driving Offenders (Experimental Period) (Termination of
Restrictions) Order 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Dale
Campbell-Savours and Helen Southworth from the Second Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in
substitution Ms Fiona Jones and Mr Syd Rapson.

2 Education (Head Teachers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1287),—The Committee of
Selection has discharged Lynne Jones from the Fourth Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in
substitution Mr Stephen Pound.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill.—The Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill was read the third time, and passed.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Courses for Drink- Driver Offenders (Experimental Period) (Termination of Restrictions) Order 1999.

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

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Straw relating to the Salary of the Data Protection Registrar for the period 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2000.

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

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was received from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House to the Access to Justice Bill [Lords] to which the Lords have disagreed; they do not insist on their Amendment to a further Amendment made by this House; and they have agreed without Amendment to the Amendment made by this House in lieu of that Amendment.

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords].

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords].

5 New Member sworn.—Stephen Rothwell O’Brien, Esquire, Member for Eddisbury, was sworn.

6 Business of the House,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, at this day’s sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any message from the Lords shall have been received—(Paddy Tipping);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Clelland: 318.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Graham Brady: 12.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That, at this day’s sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Message from the Lords shall have been received.

7 Employment Relations Bill [allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 21 to 34 agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 35.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords in the said Amendment—(Mr Ian McCartney);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Hanson, Mr David Clelland: 350.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Jacqui Lait: 121.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 36 to 322 agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 323.

An Amendment ((c)) to the Lords Amendment was agreed to.

Lords Amendment, as amended, agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 324 to 331 agreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 17.—(Mr Keith Hill.)
Ordered, That Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Stephen Day, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Ian McCartney and Mr Greg Pope be members of the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

Ordered, That Mr Ian McCartney do take the Chair of the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

Ordered, That three be the Quorum of the Committee.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

8 Employment Relations Bill (Supplemental Allocation of Time),—Ordered, That the Order of the House of 22nd July 1999 be supplemented as follows—

Subsequent stages

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 Employment Relations 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 the Speaker shall—

(a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has
not been decided, and the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the
Crown which is related to the Question already proposed from the Chair,

(b) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown
on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords Message, and

(c) put forthwith the Question, That this House does agree with the Lords in all
the remaining Lords Proposals.

Reasons Committee

4. 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.

5. A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of
the sitting at which it is appointed.

Miscellaneous

6.—(1) This paragraph applies to proceedings on any further Message from the Lords
on the Bill and to proceedings of the kind mentioned in paragraph 4.

(2) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings; and
the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to sittings of
the House.

(3) Where proceedings on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House would, by
virtue of Standing Order No. 24, commence at a time when proceedings to which this
paragraph applies are in progress, the proceedings on the Motion shall be postponed to
the conclusion of the proceedings to which this paragraph applies.

7. If the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the time at which
proceedings on any further Lords Message 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 Keith Hill.)

9 Employment Relations Bill,—Mr Ian McCartney reported from the Committee appointed to
draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 17
to the Employment Relations Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason
accordingly, which it had directed him to report to the House.

The Commons disagree to Amendment No. 17 made by the Lords in page 8, line 20,
for the following Reason:

Because it is inappropriate to restrict regulations under Clause No. 15 in this way.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendment.

10 Local Government Bill (Supplemental Allocation of Time),—Ordered, That the Order of the
House of 24th March 1999 be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendments

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.—(1) For the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 the Speaker shall—

(a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not been decided and, if that Question is for the amendment of a Lords Amendment, 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 does agree or disagree with the Lords in the Lords Amendment or, as the case may be, in the Lords Amendment as amended.

(b) put forthwith the Question on any Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords Amendment followed by the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House does agree or disagree with the Lords in their Amendment or, as the case may be, in their Amendment as amended.

(c) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House does disagree with the Lords in a Lords Amendment, and

(d) put forthwith the Question, That this House does agree with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(2) 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.

**Subsequent stages**

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. For the purpose of bringing those proceedings to a conclusion the Speaker shall—

(a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not been decided, and the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown which is related to the Question already proposed from the Chair,

(b) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords Message, and

(c) put forthwith the Question, That this House does agree with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Proposals.

**Reasons Committee**

6. 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.

7. A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting at which it is appointed.

**Miscellaneous**

8. This paragraph applies to—

(a) proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments,

(b) proceedings on any further Message from the Lords, and

(c) proceedings of the kind mentioned in paragraph 6.

9. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies.

10. Proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

11. No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown; and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

12. Where proceedings on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House would, by virtue of Standing Order No. 24, commence at a time when proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies are in progress, the proceedings on the Motion shall be postponed to the conclusion of the proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies.

13. If the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the expiry of the period at the end of which proceedings to which paragraph 8 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.—(Hilary Armstrong.)
11 Local Government Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Local Government Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 20 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 14 and 20.

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 Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999, which were laid before this House on 5th July, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

13 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 Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 50) on Children’s Services (Quality Protects) Special Grants for 1998–99 and 1999–2000 (House of Commons Paper No. 617), which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Mr David Jamieson)—It was agreed to.

14 Home Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Nick Hawkins be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee, and Mr Michael Fabricant be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Bradley, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Social Security.—Ordered, That Mr Howard Flight be discharged from the Social Security Committee, and Mr Desmond Swayne be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Bradley, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 European Scrutiny.—Ordered, That Mr Shaun Woodward and Mr Robert Walter be discharged from the European Scrutiny Committee, and Mr Owen Paterson and Mr Laurence Robertson be added to the Committee.—(Mr Keith Bradley.)

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

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Employment Relations Bill to which this House has disagreed, but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, to which they desire the concurrence of this House, and they have agreed without Amendment to the Amendment proposed by the Commons to the remaining Lords Amendment.

18 Employment Relations Bill.—Lords Amendment in Lieu of an Amendment to the Employment Relations Bill to which the Commons have disagreed to be printed [Bill 148].

19 Employment Relations Bill.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [this day], That the Message from the Lords this day relating to an Amendment proposed by the Lords in lieu of the Lords Amendment to the Employment Relations Bill to which this House has disagreed be considered forthwith—(Mr Ian McCartney)—It was agreed to.

The House accordingly proceeded to consider the said Message.

The Lords Amendment in lieu was read, as follows: in page 8, line 20, at the end to insert the words—

“(4) The payment of higher wages or higher rates of pay or overtime or the payment of any signing on or other bonuses or the provision of other benefits having a monetary value to other workers employed by the same employer shall not constitute a detriment to any worker not receiving the same or similar payments or benefits within the meaning of subsection (1)(a) of this section so long as—

(a) there is no inhibition in the contract of employment of the worker receiving the same from being the member of any trade union, and

(b) the said payments of higher wages or rates of pay or overtime or bonuses or the provision of other benefits are in accordance with the terms of a contract of employment and reasonably relate to services provided by the worker under that contract.”

Question, That this House agrees with the Lords Amendment in lieu, put and agreed to.

20 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) users and supporters of Greater Manchester Accessible Transport Ltd, commonly known as “Ring and Ride”, calling for reform of the system of rebates on fuel duty; and

(2) residents of the constituency of Basildon against hunting with dogs were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

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

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-one minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (National Limits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 320), dated 9th July 1999 [by Act] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

2 Criminal Law,—Costs in Criminal Cases (General) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2096), dated 14th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

3 Education,—Education (Annual Parents' Meetings) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2104), dated 15th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Telecommunications,—Telecommunications (Data Protection and Privacy) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2093), dated 22nd July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

5 Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 750] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

6 Aliens' Employment,—Cabinet Office Minute, dated 26th July 1999, under section 1(4) of the Aliens' Employment Act 1955 relating to aliens employed in the Civil Service during 1998–99 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

7 Atomic Energy,—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 782] [Mr Secretary Byers].

8 Cabinet Office Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Civil Service College, and
(2) Government Car and Despatch Agency
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [Nos. 742 and 711] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

9 Defence Executive Agencies,—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Armed Forces Personnel Administration Agency,
(2) Army Personnel Centre,
(3) Army Technical Support Agency,
(4) Defence Analytical Services Agency,
(5) Defence Vetting Agency, and
(6) Queen Victoria School
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [Nos. 631, 767, 697, 700, 764 and 507] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

10 Education,—Accounts of the Teacher Training Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 783] [Clerk of the House].

11 Environmental Protection,—Accounts of the Nature Conservancy Council for England for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 789] [Clerk of the House].

12 Environment, Transport and the Regions Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the—

(1) Maritime and Coastguard Agency, and
(2) Planning Inspectorate Executive Agency
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [Nos. 579 and 740] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Government Report,—Paper entitled the Government’s Annual Report 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4401] [The Prime Minister].

14 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Chessington Computer Centre for the period 1st April to 31st July 1996, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 110] [Dr Jack Cunningham].

15 Housing,—Report and Accounts of Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
16 Industrial Development,—Report by the Secretaries of State for Trade and Industry, Scotland and Wales under the Industrial Development Act 1982 for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 698] [Mr Secretary Byers].
17 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the British Potato Council for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].
18 Judicature (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of Funds in Court in Northern Ireland for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 779] [Clerk of the House].
20 Miscellaneous (No. 28, 1999),—Protocol, done at Strasbourg on 22nd June 1998, of amendment to the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals used for Experimental and other Scientific Purposes, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 4421] [Mr Secretary Cook].
21 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the—
   (1) National Museum of Science and Industry, and
   (2) National Portrait Gallery for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 778 and 788] [Clerk of the House].
22 National Health Service (Scotland),—Treasury Minute, dated 26th July 1999, concerning a proposed write off of originating capital debt of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh NHS Trust [by Act] [Mr Alan Milburn].
23 National Lottery,—(1) Accounts of the—
   (i) Arts Council of Northern Ireland Lottery Distribution,
   (ii) Arts Council of Wales Lottery Distribution, and
   (iii) Scottish Sports Council National Lottery Fund, for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 780, 786 and 787]; and
   (2) Accounts of the New Opportunities Fund for the nine months ended 31st March 1999, with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 785] [Clerk of the House].
24 National Savings Bank,—Statements with respect to—
   (1) investment deposits of National Savings, and
   (2) ordinary deposits and expenses of the National Savings for 1997, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 777 and 699] [Clerk of the House].
25 Northern Ireland Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Roads Service Agency for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 662] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].
26 Opticians,—Accounts of the General Optical Council for 1998–99 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].
27 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Fifteenth to Seventeenth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4408] [Mrs Barbara Roche].
28 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [8th July] from Daniel Charles Tissington for an enquiry into the policy of the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions relating to levels of local authority taxation [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].
30 Science and Technology,—(1) Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 784] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council for...
1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

31 Scottish Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Student Awards Agency for Scotland for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 640] [Mr Secretary Reid].


33 Treasury Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of National Savings for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 733] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1585),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Linda Gilroy and Mr Brian White from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations), and nominated in substitution Mr Martin Caion and Judy Mallaber.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Employment,—Fifth Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government’s and OFSTED’s Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, on the work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 791] [Mr Malcolm Wicks].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) Thirty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Modifying Defence Equipment], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 500].

(2) Thirty-third Report from the Committee [Managing Sickness Absence in the Prison Service], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 453].

(3) Thirty-fourth Report from the Committee [BSE: The Cost of a Crisis], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 790].

(4) Thirty-fifth Report from the Committee [Public Trust Office: Protecting the Financial Welfare of People with Mental Incapacity], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 278].

(5) Thirty-sixth Report from the Committee [The Millennium Threat], together with Appendices, 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. 517].

(6) Thirty-seventh Report from the Committee [Investigations of Alleged Irregularities at Halton College], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 413].

(7) Thirty-eighth Report from the Committee [Inheritance Tax: A Progress Report], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 474]; and

(8) Thirty-ninth Report from the Committee [The NHS in Scotland: Making the Most of the Estate and Other Issues], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 323]

[Mr David Davis].

3 Standards and Privileges,—Eleventh Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Unauthorised Receipt of a draft Report of the Social Security Committee]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 747] [Mr Robert Sheldon].
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for further consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill;
   Ordered, That the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill be further considered on Tuesday 19th October.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, — Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Education (Head Teachers) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1287).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1627) and the National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1620).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1585).
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment) Bill,—Ordered, That the Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment) Bill be read a second time on Friday 29th October.

6 Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme) Bill,—Mrs Linda Gilroy, supported by Mr David Chaytor, Mr Alan Simpson, Mr Peter Temple-Morris, Mr Matthew Taylor, Angela Smith, Marra Eagle and Ms Linda Perham presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to draw up and facilitate the carrying out, over a period of fifteen years, of a programme of action to provide at least 500,000 households per year with a comprehensive package of home insulation and other energy efficiency improvements; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 149].

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:
   Finance Act 1999
   Disability Rights Commission Act 1999
   Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Act 1999
   Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc) Act 1999
   Commonwealth Development Corporation Act 1999
   Football (Offences and Disorder) Act 1999
   Access to Justice Act 1999
   Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999
   Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999
   Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Act 1999
   Employment Relations Act 1999

8 Funeral Parlours (Planning) (Amendment),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law in connection with the change of use of premises intended to be funeral parlours: And that Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Eric Pickles and Mr David Lidington do prepare and bring it in.

9 Funeral Parlours (Planning) (Amendment) Bill,—Mr Oliver Letwin accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law in connection with the change of use of premises intended to be funeral parlours: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 150].
10 Data Protection,—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Data Protection;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [15th July] and Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That, in respect of service in the period starting with 1st April 1999 and ending with 31st March 2000, the salary of the Data Protection Registrar shall be £66,290 per annum—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

11 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 Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) (Termination of Restrictions) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 12th July, be approved—(Mr Keith Hill)—It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment (Economic Stability and Public Services),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Keith Hill);

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

13 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the Evening Gazette and residents of Colchester and surrounding areas of Essex against closure of cancer services in Colchester and for the provision of a centre of excellence for the treatment of cancer in Colchester was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituencies of Reading West and Reading East against hunting with dogs was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 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 Tuesday 19th October, pursuant to Order [2nd July].

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Financial Services,—Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemption) Order 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].
2 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Draft Working Time Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
3 Banks and Banking,—Banking (Gibraltar) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2094), dated 22nd July 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].
4 Disabled Persons,—Disability Discrimination (Description of Insurance Services) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2114), dated 26th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

(2) Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2112), dated 12th July 1999,

(3) Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2110), dated 10th July 1999,

(4) Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2108), dated 10th July 1999; and


[by Measure] [Clerk of the House].

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
8 Income Tax,—Gifts for Relief in Poor Countries (Designation of Kosovo) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2118), dated 27th July 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].
9 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) 
(Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2124), and 
(2) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) 
Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2123), dated 20th July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Keith Vaz].

10 Medicines,—Medicines (Aristolochia) (Emergency Prohibition) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, 
No. 2109), dated 23rd July 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Dobson].

dated 26th July 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

12 Postal Services,—Postal Services Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2107), dated 26th July 
1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

13 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendment (No. 2) to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air 
Force (Fourth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

14 Building Societies,—Report and Statement of Account of the Building Societies Commission 
for 1998–99 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

15 Coinage,—Forgery and Counterfeiting (Protected Coins) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2095), 
dated 22nd July 1999 [by Act] [Ms Patricia Hewitt].

16 Competition Commission,—Report by the Competition Commission on the merger situation 
between NTL Communications Corp and Newcastle United PLC [by Command] [Cm. 4411] [Mr Secretary Byers].

17 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Defence Police Chief 
[by Act]; to be printed [No. 743] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

18 Development of Tourism,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Wales Tourist 
Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

19 Education and Employment Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the Employment 
[by Act]; to be printed [No. 735] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

[Mr Secretary Reid].

21 Environment,—Report and Accounts of the Environment Agency for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr 
Secretary Prescott].

22 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Response to the Twelfth 
Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on The Future of the UK Shipping Industry [by Command] [Cm. 4423] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Patricia Hewitt].

24 Insurance,—Report on Insurance for 1998 pursuant to section 98 of the Insurance Companies 
Act 1982 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

25 Local Government, Planning and Land,—Report and Accounts of the Cardiff Bay 
Development Corporation for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Michael].

26 Prisons (Scotland),—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Prison Service for 1998–99, with 
the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 638] [Mr Secretary Reid].

27 Public Expenditure,—Public Expenditure 1998–99: Provisional Outturn [by Command] [Cm. 4416] [Mr Alan Milburn].

28 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 
Petition [2nd July] from Jake Steel and others for a ban on all genetically-modified food 
and crops in the United Kingdom and independent investigation into genetically-
modified foods [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

29 Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland),—Report of the Registrar General 
for Scotland for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

30 Reserve Forces,—(1) Change 4 to the Regulations for the Naval and Marine Reserve (BR 
64), and
(2) Change 1 to the Regulations for the Royal Fleet Reserve and Recall Reserve (Naval and Marine) (BR 61) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Robertson].

31 Roads,—Report for 1998 under section 18 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


33 Standards in Public Life,—Paper, entitled The Funding of Political Parties in the United Kingdom: The Government’s proposals for legislation in response to the Fifth Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life [by Command] [Cm. 4413] [Mr Secretary Straw].

34 Superannuation,—(1) Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1999, and (2) Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 1999 [by Act] [Dr Jack Cunningham].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Food Safety (Fishery Product and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Linda Gilroy from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Martin Caton.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Eighth Report from the Agriculture Committee [Sea Fishing], 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. 141]; and (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sea Fishing: The Marketing of Milk] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Eighteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Tendered Bus 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. 429] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody]; (2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on the Future of National Air Traffic Services]; to be printed [No. 794]; and (3) Minutes of Evidence before the Environment Sub-Committee [The Role and Work of OFWAT]; to be printed [No. 792-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

3 International Development,—Fourth Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on Kosovo: the Humanitarian Crisis]; to be printed [No. 795] [Mr Bowen Wells].

4 Local Government (Organisation and Standards),—Report from the Joint Committee on Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill, together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee [No. 542] [Mr Peter L. Pike].

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

PRAYERS.

1 Deaths of Members.—The Speaker made the following communication to the House:

I regret to have to report to the House the deaths of Mr Roger Stott, Member for Wigan, and the Right honourable Alan Clark, Member for Kensington and Chelsea. I am sure that Members in all parts of the House will join me in mourning the loss of our two colleagues during the recess and extending our sympathy to the families and friends of those Members.

2 Writs issued during the Adjournment.—The Speaker acquainted the House that, during the Adjournment, pursuant to the Recess Elections Act 1975, the Chairman of Ways and Means on her behalf had issued warrants to the Clerk of the Crown to make out new Writs for the electing of Members to serve in this present Parliament for the County Constituency of Wigan in the room of Roger Stott, Esquire, deceased, and for the Burgh Constituency of Hamilton South in the room of the Right honourable George Robertson, called up to the House of Peers.

3 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for further consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill;

Ordered, That the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill be further considered on Tuesday 26th October.

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

The Lords have come to the following Resolution, That, notwithstanding the Resolution of this House of 8th February 1849, the record copy of each Act of Parliament, authenticated by the Clerk of the Parliaments and deposited in the House of Lords Record Office, shall be printed on archive paper instead of vellum; that the supply of a duplicate copy to the Public Record Office shall be discontinued; and that these changes shall take effect in respect of all Acts which receive Royal Assent after 1st January 2000; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 New Member sworn.—Bill Tynan, Esquire, Member for Hamilton South, was sworn.

6 New Member makes Affirmation.—Neil Turner, Esquire, Member for Wigan, made the Affirmation required by law.

7 Military Expenditure (Conscientious Objection),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to give taxpayers the right to direct that proportion of their income tax which would otherwise be spent on military purposes to a fund for international aid: And that Mr John McDonnell, Mr Harry Cohen, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Audrey Wise, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Tony Benn, Dr Rudi Vis, Ms Jenny Jones, Mr Alan Simpson and Mr Cynog Dafis do prepare and bring it in.

8 Military Expenditure (Conscientious Objection) Bill.—Mr John McDonnell accordingly presented a Bill to give taxpayers the right to direct that proportion of their income tax which would otherwise be spent on military purposes to a fund for international aid: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 151].

9 Adjournment (First Report from the Treasury Committee on the Office for National Statistics and Reports from the Select Committee on Public Administration on the work of the Ombudsman).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe);

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.—(Jim Dowd.)

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 by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Wednesday 28th July 1999

1 Treaty Series (No. 48, 1999).—Agreement, done at Moscow on 6th October 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Russian Federation on Co-operation in Fighting Crime [Cm. 4403] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Friday 30th July 1999

2 Sports Councils.—Accounts of the United Kingdom Sports Council for 1998–99 [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Treaty Series (No. 46, 1999).—Text on the establishment of a Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization, adopted at New York on 19th November 1996 [Cm. 4399] [Mr Secretary Cook].

4 Treaty Series (No. 47, 1999).—Exchange of Notes, done at Yerevan on 9th and 28th December 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Armenia amending the Air Services Agreement done at London on 9th February 1994 [Cm. 4400] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Wednesday 4th August 1999

5 Treaty Series (No. 49, 1999).—Convention on Nuclear Safety, done at Vienna on 20th September 1994 [Cm. 4422] [Mr Secretary Cook].

6 Treaty Series (No. 50, 1999).—Agreement, done at Ljubljana on 3rd July 1996, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [Cm. 4425] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Tuesday 10th August 1999


Wednesday 11th August 1999

8 Miscellaneous (No. 26, 1999).—Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, done at London on 11th November 1988, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4419] [Mr Secretary Cook].

9 Miscellaneous (No. 27, 1999).—Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, done at London on 11th November 1988, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4420] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Thursday 12th August 1999

10 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—Government Response to the Sixth Report of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on The Maritime and Coastguard Agency [Cm. 4433] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 HM Coastguard.—Review of the Five Year Strategy for HM Coastguard (Closure and Co-location of Co-ordination Centres) by the Right honourable the Lord Donaldson of Lymington [Cm. 4432] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Friday 13th August 1999

12 Brazil (No. 7, 1999).—Agreement, done at London on 3rd December 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil on Cooperation in Science and Technology, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4429] [Mr Secretary Cook].
Wednesday 16th August 1999

13 Miscellaneous (No. 29, 1999),—Protocol of 1997, done at London on 26th September 1997, to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 4427] [Mr Secretary Cook].

14 Treaty Series (No. 51, 1999),—1996 Amendments, adopted at London on 10th July 1996, to the Annex to the Protocol Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances other than Oil, 1973 [Cm. 4426] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Thursday 19th August 1999

15 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Government Response to the Eleventh Report of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Reducing the Environmental Impact of Consumer Products [Cm. 4435] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Wednesday 25th August 1999

16 Prisons (Scotland),—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland for 1998–99 [Cm. 4428] [Mr Secretary Reid].


18 Treaty Series (No. 52, 1999),—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 [Cm. 4434] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Thursday 26th August 1999

19 Immigration,—Paper, entitled Control of Immigration: Statistics, United Kingdom 1998 [Cm. 4431] [Mr Secretary Straw].

20 Science and Technology,—Science, Engineering and Technology Statistics 1999 [Cm. 4409] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Wednesday 1st September 1999

21 Treaty Series (No. 53, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Quito on 22nd April and 18th May 1999, extending the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Ecuador for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at Quito on 10th May 1994 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey [Cm. 4437] [Mr Secretary Cook].

22 Treaty Series (No. 54, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Bucharest on 25th February and 22nd March 1999, extending the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Romania for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at London on 13th July 1995 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey [Cm. 4438] [Mr Secretary Cook].

23 Treaty Series (No. 55, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Ashgabat on 15th and 17th June 1999, extending the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Turkmenistan for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at Ashgabat on 9th February 1995 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey [Cm. 4439] [Mr Secretary Cook].

24 Treaty Series (No. 56, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Kathmandu on 20th and 22nd April 1999, extending the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and His Majesty’s Government of Nepal for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at Kathmandu on 2nd March 1995 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey [Cm. 4440] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Thursday 2nd September 1999

25 Culture, Media and Sport,—Departmental Minute, dated 2nd September 1999, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnities for loans to the British Museum’s “Gilded Dragons—Buried Treasures from China’s Golden Age” Exhibition [Mr Secretary Smith].
Friday 3rd September 1999

26 Treaty Series (No. 57, 1999)—Agreement to amend the Agreement of 3rd August 1959, as amended by the Agreements of 21st October 1971 and 18th May 1981, to Supplement the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces with respect to Foreign Forces stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany, done at Bonn on 18th March 1993 [Cm. 4441] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Friday 10th September 1999

27 Treaty Series (No. 58, 1999)—Exchange of Notes, done at London on 2nd July 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil concerning the abolition of visas [Cm. 4443] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Tuesday 21st September 1999

28 Law Commission.—Report of the Law Commission and the Scottish Law Commission on Company Directors: Regulating conflicts of interests and formulating a statement of duties [Cm. 4436] [Mr Keith Vaz].

29 Social Exclusion,—Paper, entitled Opportunity for all: Tackling poverty and social exclusion [Cm. 4445] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Wednesday 22nd September 1999

30 Education (Northern Ireland),—Statements and Summary of the Accounts of the Education and Library Boards for 1997–98, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [Cm. 4442] [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].

Tuesday 28th September 1999

31 Sport,—Report and Summary Accounts of UK Sport for 1998–99 [Mr Secretary Smith].

Wednesday 29th September 1999

32 Treaty Series (No. 59, 1999),—Second Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 1999 [Cm. 4448] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Friday 1st October 1999

33 Devolution,—Memorandum of Understanding and supplementary agreements between the United Kingdom Government, Scottish Ministers and the Cabinet of the National Assembly for Wales [Cm. 4444] [Mr Keith Vaz].

34 Historical Manuscripts,—Twenty-eighth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts 1991–99, on Archives at the Millennium [Mr Secretary Straw].

Tuesday 5th October 1999

35 Social Security Administration,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee preceded by a statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on the Housing Benefit (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2734) [Cm. 4459] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Wednesday 6th October 1999

36 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Eighteenth to Twenty-second Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [Cm. 4456] [Mr Stephen Timms].

37 Treaty Series (No. 60, 1999),—Convention on Temporary Admission with Annexes, done at Istanbul on 26th June 1990 [Cm. 4450] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Friday 8th October 1999

38 Treaty Series (No. 61, 1999),—1994 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (Annex 2) (Resolution MSC 31 (63)), done at London on 23rd May 1994 [Cm. 4451] [Mr Secretary Cook].

39 Treaty Series (No. 62, 1999),—1992 Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code) (Resolution MSC.38(61)), done at London on 11th December 1992 [Cm. 4452] [Mr Secretary Cook].
40 Treaty Series (No. 63, 1999).—1994 Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gas in Bulk (IGC Code) (Resolution MSC.32(63)), done at London on 23rd May 1994 [Cm. 4453] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Wednesday 13th October 1999

41 Treaty Series (No. 65, 1999).—Framework Cooperation Agreement, done at Florence on 21st June 1996, leading ultimately to the Establishment of a Political and Economic Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Chile, of the other part, with Minutes of Signing and Joint Declarations [Cm. 4396] [Mr Secretary Cook].

42 Treaty Series (No. 66, 1999).—Exchange of Notes between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the Entry and Exit Procedures for Aircraft Crews on Flights between the USSR and the United Kingdom, done at Moscow on 22nd June and 28th November 1990 [Cm. 4455] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Friday 15th October 1999


45 Treaty Series (No. 67, 1999).—1997 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (Resolution MSC. 65 (68)), done at London on 4th June 1997 [Cm. 4457] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Monday 18th October 1999

46 Prisons.—Prison statistics for England and Wales for 1998 [Cm. 4430] [Mr Secretary Straw].

47 Statistics.—Paper, entitled Building trust in statistics [Cm. 4412] [Miss Melanie Johnson].

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:

Wednesday 28th July 1999

48 Education,—(1) Education (Proposals for Grammar Schools to cease to have Selective Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2103), dated 22nd July 1999,

   (2) Education (Substituted Grammar Schools) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2102), dated 22nd July 1999, and

   (3) Nursery Education (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2130), dated 26th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

49 Legal Services.—Appointment of Queen’s Counsel Fees Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2138), dated 28th July 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].

50 Local Government.—Public Airport Companies (Capital Finance) (Second Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2125), dated 27th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Thursday 29th July 1999

51 Civil Aviation.—Air Navigation (Fifth Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2059), dated 21st July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

52 European Communities.—European Communities (Designation) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2027), dated 21st July 1999 [Dr Jack Cunningham].


54 Income Tax,—(1) Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment No.3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2155), and


Friday 30th July 1999


58 Fees and Charges,—Travel Documents (Refugees and Stateless Persons) (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2150), dated 27th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Straw].

Monday 2nd August 1999

59 Arbitration,—Unfair Arbitration Agreements (Specified Amount) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2167), dated 28th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

60 Social Security,—Social Security Amendment (Sports Awards) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2165), dated 29th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Tuesday 3rd August 1999

61 Environmental Protection,—Environmental Protection (Restriction on Use of Lead Shot) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2170), dated 29th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


63 Marine Pollution,—Merchant Shipping (Reporting Requirements for Ships Carrying Dangerous or Polluting Goods) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2121), dated 26th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Thursday 5th August 1999

64 Magistrates’ Courts,—Magistrates’ Courts Committees (South Yorkshire) Amalgamation Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2209), dated 26th July 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].

65 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Type Approval and Approval Marks) (Fees) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2149), dated 26th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Friday 6th August 1999

67 Agriculture.—(1) Countryside Access (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2197), dated 3rd August 1999, and
[Mr Nicholas Brown].

68 Education.—(1) Arnold and Carlton College, Nottingham (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2220), dated 3rd August 1999,
(2) Education (Maintained Special Schools) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2212), dated 2nd August 1999, and
[Mr Secretary Blunkett].

69 National Health Service.—(1) National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2218), and
(2) National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Amendment Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2219),
dated 5th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Monday 9th August 1999

70 Agriculture.—(1) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Blackdown Hills) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2233), dated 9th August 1999,
(2) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Cotswold Hills) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2234), dated 9th August 1999,
(3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Dartmoor) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2236), dated 9th August 1999,
(5) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Essex Coast) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2232), dated 9th August 1999,
(6) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Shropshire Hills) Designation (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2235), dated 9th August 1999, and
[Mr Nicholas Brown].


72 National Health Service.—Health Service Medicines (Consent to Voluntary Scheme) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2229), dated 6th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Tuesday 10th August 1999

[Mr Secretary Blunkett].

74 Health and Safety.—Railway Safety Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2244), dated 30th July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

75 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2199), dated 31st July 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Wednesday 11th August 1999

76 Civil Aviation.—Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2276), dated 10th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].
77 Competition,—(1) Competition Act 1998 (Definition of Appropriate Person) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2282), and
78 Education,—(1) Education Act 1996 (Modification of Section 517) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2260), dated 6th August 1999,
(3) Education (Grants) (Dance and Drama) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2264), dated 6th August 1999,
(8) Education (School Meals Staff) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2258), dated 9th August 1999,
(13) Education (Student Support) (Dance and Drama) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2263), dated 6th August 1999,
(14) Education (Student Support) (European Institutions) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2270), dated 6th August 1999,
79 Education (Wales),—(1) Education (New Schools) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2243), and
(2) Education (School Government) (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2242) dated 5th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Murphy].
80 Highways,—Dartford-Thurrock Crossing (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2208), dated 3rd August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].
81 Landlord and Tenant,—Assured and Protected Tenancies (Renting to Students) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2268), dated 5th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
82 Pensions,—Judicial Pensions (Qualifying Judgments Office) (President of the Competition Commission Appeal Tribunals) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2283), dated 10th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].
83 Social Security,—(1) Child Benefit (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2225), and
(2) Social Security (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2227), dated 5th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].
84 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Redundancy Payments (Continuity of Employment in Local Government, etc.) (Modification) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2277), dated 11th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

Thursday 12th August 1999

85 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Personal Protective Equipment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2205), dated 3rd August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

86 Social Security,—Social Security (Incident Benefit and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2226), dated 5th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Friday 13th August 1999

87 National Health Service,—Central Manchester Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2298), dated 12th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Monday 16th August 1999

88 Civil Aviation,—Licensing of Air Carriers Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2245), dated 5th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

89 Education,—(1) Education (Modification of Instruments Relating to Voluntary Schools) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2314),

(2) Greenwich—Time to Succeed Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2313), and

(3) Hamilton Oxford Schools Partnership Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2312),

dated 13th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Tuesday 17th August 1999

90 Agriculture,—Feeding Stuffs (Enforcement) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2325), dated 17th August 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

91 Companies,—Companies (Contents of Annual Return) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2322), dated 13th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

92 Food,—(1) Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (England and Wales) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2333), and

(2) Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) (England and Wales) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2332),

dated 17th August 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

Wednesday 18th August 1999

93 National Health Service,—Primary Care Trusts (Consultation on Establishment, Dissolution and Transfer of Staff) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2337), dated 18th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Thursday 19th August 1999


Friday 20th August 1999

95 Pensions,—Local Government (Discretionary Payments) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2331), dated 13th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Tuesday 24th August 1999


Wednesday 25th August 1999


100 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2324), dated 16th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Thursday 26th August 1999


Friday 27th August 1999

102 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicles (Third Party Risks) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2392), dated 26th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Tuesday 31st August 1999

103 Road Traffic.—M61 Motorway (Kearsley Spur) (Speed Limit) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2359), dated 19th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Wednesday 1st September 1999


105 Magistrates’ Courts.—(1) Justices’ Chief Executives and Justices’ Clerks (Appointment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2397), and

(2) Magistrates’ Courts Committees (Constitution) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2398),
dated 31st August 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].

Thursday 2nd September 1999

106 Social Security.—Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2401), dated 2nd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

107 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2402), dated 1st September 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

Friday 3rd September 1999

108 Disabled Persons.—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (South West Trains Class 458 Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2404), dated 2nd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Monday 6th September 1999

110 Public Order.—Public Order (Domestic Football Banning) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2460),
dated 6th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Straw].

111 Sports Grounds and Sporting Events.—(1) Football (Offences) (Designation of Football Matches) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.2462), and

(2) Football Spectators (Designation of Football Matches in England and Wales) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2461),
dated 6th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Straw].

112 Telecommunications.—(1) Telecommunications (Licence Modification) (British Telecommunications plc) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2453),

(2) Telecommunications (Licence Modification) (Cable and Local Delivery Operator Licences) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.2454),
(3) Telecommunications (Licence Modification) (Fixed Voice Telephony and International Facilities Operator Licences) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.2451),
(4) Telecommunications (Licence Modification) (Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2455),
(5) Telecommunications (Licence Modification) (Mobile Public Telecommunication Operators) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2452), and
(6) Telecommunications (Licence Modification) (Standard Schedules) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2450),
dated 3rd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

Tuesday 7th September 1999

113 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Canadian Navigation Services) (Second Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2458), dated 27th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Wednesday 8th September 1999

115 Education,—Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2506), dated 2nd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


117 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2507), dated 8th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].


119 Social Security (Northern Ireland),—(1) Tax Credits Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2488), and
(2) Tax Credits Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2487),
dated 7th September 1999 [Dawn Primarolo].

Thursday 9th September 1999

120 Customs and Excise,—Gaming Duty (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2489), dated 8th September 1999 [Mrs Barbara Roche].

121 Landlord and Tenant,—Administration of the Rent Officer Service (England) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No.2403), dated 2nd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

122 Medicines,—Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2510), dated 8th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

123 Public Passenger Transport,—Public Service Vehicle Operators (Qualifications) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2431), dated 2nd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

124 Road Traffic,—Goods Vehicle Operators (Qualifications) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2430), dated 2nd September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

125 Taxes,—(1) Stamp Duty (Collection and Recovery of Penalties) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2537),
(2) Stamp Duty (Exempt Instruments) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2539),
(3) Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2536), and
(4) Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2538),
dated 9th September 1999 [Miss Melanie Johnson].

126 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Rent Officer Service) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2511), dated 9th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

128 County Courts,—County Court Fees (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2548), dated 9th September 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].

129 Education,—(1) Bilston Community College (Dissolution) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2544), and
   (2) Education (School Inspection) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2545), dated 10th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

130 Health and Safety,—Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (Certification) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2550), dated 9th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].


134 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Scheme (Preservation of Benefit) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2543), dated 9th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

135 Disabled Persons,—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (ScotRail Class 170/4 Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2547), dated 9th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

136 Health and Safety,—Mines (Control of Ground Movement) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2463), dated 1st September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


138 Social Security,—(1) Income Support (General) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2554), dated 9th September 1999,
   (2) Social Security Amendment (Personal Allowances for Children and Young Persons) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2555), dated 13th September 1999, and
   (3) Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2556), dated 13th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

139 Food,—Welfare Food (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2561), dated 10th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

140 Housing,—Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2568), dated 14th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

141 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2565),
   (2) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2572),
   (3) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2577), and
   (4) Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2576), dated 14th September 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].
National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2562), and (2) National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2563), dated 13th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].


Social Security (Northern Ireland),—(1) Tax Credits (Claims and Payments) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2574), (2) Tax Credits (Decisions and Appeals) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2588), and (3) Tax Credits (Payments on Account, Overpayments and Recovery) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2573), dated 14th September 1999 [Dawn Primarolo].

Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Supreme Court Fees (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2569), dated 14th September 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].


Health and Safety,—Health and Safety (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2597), dated 15th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Broadcasting,—Broadcasting (Unlicensed Television Services) Exemption (Revocation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2628), dated 12th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Smith].

Agriculture (Wales),—Organic Farming (Wales) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2611), dated 17th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2567), dated 13th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Gas,—Gas Act 1986 (Exemptions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2639), dated 18th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

Monday 27th September 1999

155 Social Security,—Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals), Vaccine Damage Payments and Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2677), dated 27th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Tuesday 28th September 1999

156 Rating and Valuation,—Rates and Precepts (Final Adjustments) (Amendment) (England) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2629), dated 21st September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Wednesday 29th September 1999

157 National Health Service,—National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2714), dated 29th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

Thursday 30th September 1999


Friday 1st October 1999

160 Consumer Credit,—Consumer Credit (Content of Quotations) and Consumer Credit (Advertisements) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2725), dated 29th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

Monday 4th October 1999


162 Explosives,—Explosives (Fireworks) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 392), dated 17th September 1999 [Secretary Marjorie Mowlam].


Tuesday 5th October 1999

164 Social Security,—Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2734), dated 30th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Wednesday 6th October 1999

165 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2737), and

(2) Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2738),
dated 4th October 1999 [Mr Keith Vaz].

Thursday 7th October 1999


Friday 8th October 1999

167 Children and Young Persons,—Children (Protection from Offenders) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2768), dated 5th October 1999 [Mr Secretary Dobson].

168 Companies,—Companies (Investment Companies) (Distribution of Profits) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2770), dated 7th October 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].

169 Defence,—Army Terms of Service (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2764), dated 4th October 1999 [Mr John Spellar].
170 Education,—(1) Changing of School Session Times (England) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2733), dated 30th September 1999, and
   (2) Funding Agency for Schools Dissolution Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2767), dated 6th October 1999
   [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

171 Merchant Shipping,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances for Passenger Ships of Classes III to VI(A)) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2723),
   (2) Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances for Ships Other Than Ships of Classes III to VI(A)) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2721), and
   (3) Merchant Shipping (Musters, Training and Decision Support Systems) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2722),
   dated 30th September 1999 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Monday 11th October 1999

172 Agriculture,—Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (England and Wales) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2799), dated 11th October 1999 [Mr Nicholas Brown].

173 Criminal Law,—(1) Prosecution of Offences (Custody Time Limits) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2744), and
   (2) Prosecution of Offences (Youth Courts Time Limits) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2743),
   dated 5th October 1999 [Mr Secretary Straw].


176 National Health Service,—(1) Commission for Health Improvement (Membership and Procedure) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2801), dated 11th October 1999,
   (2) Health Act 1999 (Supplementary and Consequential Provisions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2798), dated 10th October 1999, and
   (3) National Health Service (Penalty Charge) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2794), dated 10th October 1999
   [Mr Secretary Dobson].

177 Social Security,—Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2781), dated 7th October 1999 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Tuesday 12th October 1999


Wednesday 13th October 1999

179 Customs and Excise,—(1) Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Supply, Sale and Export of Petroleum Products) (Penalties and Licences) (No. 3) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2821), and
   (2) Indonesia (Supply, Sale, Export and Shipment of Equipment) (Penalties and Licences) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2822),
   dated 13th October 1999 [Mr Secretary Byers].


Friday 15th October 1999

181 Value Added Tax,—(1) Value Added Tax (Cars) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2832),
   (2) Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2831),
(3) Value Added Tax (Subscriptions to Trade Unions, Professional and Other Public Interest Bodies) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2834), and
(4) Value Added Tax (Supplies of Goods where Input Tax cannot be recovered) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2833),
dated 14th October 1999 [by Act][Dawn Primarolo].

Monday 18th October 1999


183 Road Traffic and Vehicles,—Road Traffic (Traffic Wardens) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. (N.I.), 1999, No. 410), dated 4th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

184 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Crown Court (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2838), dated 16th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr David Lock].

Other Papers:

Wednesday 28th July 1999


Thursday 29th July 1999


Monday 2nd August 1999


Friday 6th August 1999

188 Cinemas and Films,—Films (Certification) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2224), dated 6th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Smith].

Wednesday 18th August 1999

189 Cinemas and Films,—Films (Certification) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2334), dated 17th August 1999 [Mr Secretary Smith].

Thursday 7th October 1999


Friday 8th October 1999


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Tuesday 19th October:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

192 Insurance Brokers Registration Council,—Draft Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Miss Melanie Johnson].

193 Northern Ireland,—Draft Licensing and Registered Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

194 Taxes,—Draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

195 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Draft Working Time Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

196 Currency and Bank Notes,—Draft Bank of England (Limit on Fiduciary Note Issue) Order 1999 [by Act] [Miss Melanie Johnson].
Other Papers:

197 Air Force (Constitution).—(1) Amendments to Air Publication 400B-0001: Regulations for the Royal Air Force Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force (First Edition), and (2) Royal Air Force Manual of Assessment of Medical Fitness: Air Publication 1269A (Third Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

198 Armed Forces.—Army Act 1955 (Part 1) (Regular Army) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999, dated 4th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

199 Broadcasting.—Report and Accounts of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

200 Coal Industry Nationalisation.—Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on 19th October 1999 on borrowing by the British Coal Corporation [by Act] [Mr Stephen Timms].

201 Covent Garden Market.—Statement of salaries of the chairman and members of the Covent Garden Market Authority [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

202 Criminal Justice.—Account of the Parole Board for England and Wales for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 819] [Clerk of the House].

203 Culture, Media and Sport.—Departmental Minute, dated 19th October 1999, concerning a contingent liability consequent upon two proposed leases of the Tower Hill Vaults site [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

204 Development of Tourism.—Accounts of the Wales Tourist Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 820] [Clerk of the House].


206 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 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 811] [Mr Secretary Byers].

207 Fair Trading.—Consent by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the transfer of newspapers of which Mirror Group plc is the proprietor to Trinity plc following a report from the Competition Commission [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

208 Fisheries.—Report and Accounts of the Sea Fish Industry Authority for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

209 General Medical Council.—Accounts of the General Medical Council for 1997 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

210 Health.—Government Response to the Second Report of the Health Committee, Session 1998–99, on Primary Care Groups [by Command] [Cm. 4468] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

211 Housing (Scotland).—Report and Summary of Accounts of Scottish Homes for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

212 Mental Health.—Report of the Mental Health Act Commission for 1997–99, including a Summary of Finances for 1997–98 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

214 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Modernising Procurement [by Act]; to be printed [No. 808] [Clerk of the House].

215 National Heritage (Scotland).—Report and Summary Accounts of National Museums of Scotland for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

216 National Lottery.—(1) Accounts of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 818] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Report and Summary Financial Statement of the National Lottery Charities Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

217 Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.—Report and Financial Statement of the National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

218 Oil and Pipelines.—Report and Accounts of the Oil and Pipelines Agency for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].


220 Post Office.—Reports of the—

(1) Post Office Users' Council for Northern Ireland, and

(2) Post Office Users' Council for Wales

for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

221 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 Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar (Eriskay Causeway) 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 Reid].

222 Public Petitions.—Observations by—

(1) the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [24th March] from citizens of Gosport, Fareham and surrounding areas and others for the retention of the Royal Hospital, Haslar,

(2) the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petitions [2nd July and 6th July] from Rodney Howell, residents of the constituency of Chesham and Amersham and others and from Mr J C Hamblin, residents of the constituency of Bury St. Edmunds and others for re-establishment of British Sovereignty ceded to the European Commission,

(3) the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on:—

(i) the Petition [29th June] from residents of the village of Thorney, Peterborough, for the construction of a proposed A47 Thorney Bypass, and

(ii) the Petition [22nd July] from users and supporters of West Midlands Special Needs Transport Ltd for rebates on duties paid on fuel for transport for persons with mobility difficulties, and

(4) the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [17th June] from staff of Holland and Barrett retail stores in Warminster and Trowbridge against European Union legislation concerning the sale of natural health products

[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

223 Railways.—Report of the Central Rail Users Consultative Committee for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

224 Registration Service.—Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics: Review of the Registrar General on marriages, divorces and adoptions in England and Wales, 1997 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

225 Reserve Forces.—(1) Amendment No. 21 to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978, and

(2) Change 2 to the Regulations for the Royal Naval Reserve (BR60)

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

226 Statistics of Trade.—Production and Construction Inquiries—Summary Volume 1997 [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].
227 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:

Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2737)

Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2738)

[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].


Papers withdrawn:

229 Taxes,—Draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999 [laid 22nd July].

230 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Draft Working Time Regulations 1999 [laid 27th July].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Financial Services and Markets Bill,—(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale an additional Chairman of Standing Committee A in respect of the Financial Services and Markets Bill, in place of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Robert Ainsworth, Ms Patricia Hewitt, Mr Alan Milburn and Mrs Barbara Roche from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Graham Allen, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Andrew Smith and Mr Stephen Timms.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Agriculture Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on Outcome of the CAP Reform Negotiations], together with an Appendix; to be printed [No. 825]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Marketing of Milk; Segregation of GM Foods]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee on 1st September, and Appendices thereto, to be printed [No. 824] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]; [Clerk of the House].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 12th October [Relations with the Russian Federation]; to be printed [No. 815] [ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]; [Clerk of the House].

4 International Development,—Sixth Report from the International Development Committee [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction], 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. 55][ordered to be printed in the adjournment pursuant to S.O. No. 137 (Select committees (adjournment of the House))]; [Clerk of the House].

5 Procedure,—First Special Report from the Procedure Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, on The Procedural Consequences of Devolution]; to be printed [No. 814] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

6 Public Administration,—(1) Third Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 570-I]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Freedom of Information Draft Bill] [No. 570-II]
Wednesday 20th October 1999.

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 Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords].—The Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

3 Control of Hedgerows in Residential Areas.—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Environmental Protection Act 1990 by extending powers to environmental health officers to intervene in neighbourly disputes involving hedgerows in residential areas, and for connected purposes: And that Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Alan Hurst, Mr Tom Clarke, Lynne Jones, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Andrew Rowe and Christine Butler do prepare and bring it in.

4 Control of Hedgerows in Residential Areas Bill.—Mr Jim Cunningham accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Environmental Protection Act 1990 by extending powers to environmental health officers to intervene in neighbourly disputes involving hedgerows in residential areas, and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 4th November and to be printed [Bill 152].

5 Opposition Day [20th 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.

Food and Farming.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with dismay the plight of British farmers whose incomes have plummeted to record lows in the last four years, as a result of higher costs and lower farm gate prices producing rapidly increasing losses, despite continually high supermarket profit margins and costs to consumers; further notes that the extra costs imposed through regulation and public health protection that fall directly on the industry should more properly come from the public health budget; deplores the failure of the Government to provide an adequate response to this national food crisis; and therefore calls on the Government to recognise that its latest financial package is insufficient to tackle the fundamental restructuring of UK and EU agriculture policy, necessary for a secure future for British farmers, consumers and the countryside—(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 ‘recognises the difficulties faced by agriculture and the wider rural economy as a result of the depressed level of farm incomes; approves of the special measures the Government has taken to assist the industry through three aid packages plus EU agri-monetary compensation worth in total £742 million; endorses the establishment of industry-led working groups to examine urgently the regulatory burdens on agriculture; supports the Government’s promotion of collaborative working throughout the food chain to add value and generate the price premium that high-quality United Kingdom produce deserves, while noting that the Competition Commission’s investigation of supermarket pricing includes an examination of trading practices throughout the supply chain; welcomes the Government’s achievement of significant reform of the Common Agricultural Policy in the interests of producers, consumers and taxpayers; and fully supports the Government’s commitment to the future of United Kingdom agriculture as a competitive, flexible and diverse industry, and the use of options available under Agenda 2000 to help secure this’, 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, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Donald Gorrie: 50.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Mike Hall: 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.

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

Resolved. That this House recognises the difficulties faced by agriculture and the wider rural economy as a result of the depressed level of farm incomes; approves of the special measures the Government has taken to assist the industry through three aid packages plus EU agri-monetary compensation worth in total £742 million; endorses the establishment of industry-led working groups to examine urgently the regulatory burdens on agriculture; supports the Government’s promotion of collaborative working throughout the food chain to add value and generate the price premium that high-quality United Kingdom produce deserves, while noting that the Competition Commission’s investigation of supermarket pricing includes an examination of trading practices throughout the supply chain; welcomes the Government’s achievement of significant reform of the Common Agricultural Policy in the interests of producers, consumers and taxpayers; and fully supports the Government’s commitment to the future of United
Partnerships for National Air Transport Safety, whether there is a case for a single independent authority for transport safety regulation; and further notes that one of the prime aims of the Government’s Public Private Partnerships for National Air Transport Safety is the enhancement of safety by securing high and stable levels of future investment, which are essential for safety as travel increases, and that safety regulation will be kept firmly in public hands in both cases’ instead thereof.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

And the Question being proposed, That the proposed words stand part of the Question;

Mr Paul Tyler 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, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Donald Gorrie: 46.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 329.

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 extreme sadness the recent Paddington rail disaster and the ensuing injuries and loss of life and extends its deepest sympathies to all those affected; congratulates the emergency services on their outstanding work in very difficult conditions; welcomes the prompt and comprehensive actions taken since the tragedy at Paddington, which demonstrate how serious the Government are about transport safety; notes the Government’s continuing determination to take real steps to make transport safer for the public and the workforce; acknowledges the long-term reduction in fatalities on roads, in the air, at sea and on the railways; recognises specific action taken to improve rail, road, marine and air safety; commends the Government for setting up a comprehensive Transport Safety Review to look at how to improve the organisation of transport safety in the United Kingdom and whether there is a case for a single independent authority for transport safety regulation; and further notes that one of the prime aims of the Government’s Public Private Partnerships for National Air Traffic

Kingdom agriculture as a competitive, flexible and diverse industry, and the use of options available under Agenda 2000 to help secure this.

Transport Safety,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with extreme sadness the recent Paddington rail disaster and the ensuing injuries and loss of life and extends its deepest sympathies to all those affected; congratulates the emergency services on their outstanding work in very difficult conditions; urges the Government not to respond prematurely but to ensure that swift action follows the enquiry into rail safety systems by implementing the key recommendations due in December 1999; condemns past Governments for failing to invest in an effective advanced train protection system; calls on the Government to remove responsibility for the setting of safety standards from Railtrack; further notes the serious concerns that exist over safety in other modes of transport and draws specific attention to the continuing pressure on safety standards in the air transport industry due to the vast rate of growth in journeys; notes the considerable opposition from all sides of the House to the Government’s plans to privatise the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) and the London Underground and the possible effect this could have on safety standards; urges the Government to re-consider its proposals and instead to make NATS and London Underground public interest companies, ensuring safety remains a core priority; further urges the Government to ensure that maritime safety standards are not compromised by the closure of coastguard stations around the country; and calls on the Government to reduce the possibility of road safety incidents by setting national targets for reducing overall traffic levels and encouraging nationwide implementation of initiatives such as ‘Safe Routes to School’—(Mr Don Foster).

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 extreme sadness the recent Paddington rail disaster and the ensuing injuries and loss of life and extends its deepest sympathies to all those affected; congratulates the emergency services on their outstanding work in very difficult conditions; welcomes the prompt and comprehensive actions taken since the tragedy at Paddington, which demonstrate how serious the Government are about transport safety; notes the Government’s continuing determination to take real steps to make transport safer for the public and the workforce; acknowledges the long-term reduction in fatalities on roads, in the air, at sea and on the railways; recognises specific action taken to improve rail, road, marine and air safety; commends the Government for setting up a comprehensive Transport Safety Review to look at how to improve the organisation of transport safety in the United Kingdom and whether there is a case for a single independent authority for transport safety regulation; and further notes that one of the prime aims of the Government’s Public Private Partnerships for National Air Transport Services and the London Underground is the enhancement of safety by securing high and stable levels of future investment, which are essential for safety as travel increases, and that safety regulation will be kept firmly in public hands in both cases’, instead thereof.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

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

Mr Paul Tyler 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, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Donald Gorrie: 46.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr David Clelland: 329.

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 extreme sadness the recent Paddington rail disaster and the ensuing injuries and loss of life and extends its deepest sympathies to all those affected; congratulates the emergency services on their outstanding work in very difficult conditions; welcomes the prompt and comprehensive actions taken since the tragedy at Paddington, which demonstrate how serious the Government are about transport safety; notes the Government’s continuing determination to take real steps to make transport safer for the public and the workforce; acknowledges the long-term reduction in fatalities on roads, in the air, at sea and on the railways; recognises specific action taken to improve rail, road, marine and air safety; commends the Government for setting up a comprehensive Transport Safety Review to look at how to improve the organisation of transport safety in the United Kingdom and whether there is a case for a single independent authority for transport safety regulation; and further notes that one of the prime aims of the Government’s Public Private Partnerships for National Air Traffic
Services and the London Underground is the enhancement of safety by securing high and stable levels of future investment, which are essential for safety as travel increases, and that safety regulation will be kept firmly in public hands in both cases.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.)

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:

1 Post Office,—Postal Privilege (Suspension) Order 1999 (Revocation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2863), dated 19th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

2 Environmental Protection,—Report and Accounts of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


4 National Heritage (Scotland),—(1) Accounts of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 832] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Review and Accounts of National Galleries of Scotland for 1994–97 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order 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.: Mr Robert Ainsworth, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr John Cummings, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Chris Pond, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Bob Russell, Helen Southworth and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

2 Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemption) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second 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 Graham Allen, Norman Baker, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr David Curry, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Ivan Lewis, Ms Julie Morgan, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw and Mr Stephen Twigg.

3 Draft Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 (Amendment) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third 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.: Mr Graham Brady, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jim Dowd, Mr Howard Flight, Mr Oliver Heald, Miss Melanie Johnson, Lynne Jones, Mr Nigel Jones, Dr Ashok Kumar, Miss Anne McIntosh, Judy Mallaber, Kali Mountford, Mr Paul Truswell, Mrs Betty Williams and Mr Mike Wood.

European Standing Committees

4 European Union Document Nos. 6615/98, 8781/98 and 8484/1/99, together with European Union Document No. 8329/99 already referred to the Committee on 23 June 1999, all relating to Taxation and Financial Services, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.
5 European Union Document No. 10644/99 and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18 October 1999, together with European Union Document No. 5123/99 referred to the Committee on 10 February 1999, all relating to Electronic Commerce in the Single Market, have been referred to European Standing Committee C.

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Jim Cunningham Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 6793/97, relating to Taxation of Energy Products.

7 The Speaker has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 5562/98, relating to Harmonisation of Copyright, and European Union Documents Nos. 5123/99 and 10644/99, relating to Electronic Commerce in the Single Market.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Marketing of Milk]; to be printed [No. 830-i] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Millennium Dome]; to be printed [No. 826-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Railways Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 827-i and ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-eighth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxvii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Fuel Price Differentials]; to be printed [No. 836]; and

(2) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Responses to the Fourth Report from the Committee, on The Operation of the Fair Employment Act 1989: Ten Years On]; to be printed [No. 837]

[Mr Peter Brooke].

6 Social Security,—(1) Eighth Report from the Social Security Committee [The Modernisation of Social Security Appeals], 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. 581].

(2) Ninth Report from the Committee [Social Security Implications of Parental Leave], 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. 543]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Social Security Implications of Parental Leave]

[Mr Archy Kirkwood].

7 Trade and Industry,—(1) Eleventh Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Ninth Report from the Committee, on The Impact on Industry of the Proposed Climate Change Levy]; to be printed [No. 834]; and

(2) Twelfth Special Report from the Committee [Responses from the Government and the Office of Telecommunications to the Tenth Report from the Committee, on Electronic Commerce]; to be printed [No. 835]

[Mr Martin O’Neill].
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

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

United Reformed Church Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill, intituled, An Act to make provision as to property held on behalf of the Congregational Union of Scotland, its member churches and the Scottish Congregational College, and for other purposes incidental to or consequential upon the unification of the Congregational Union of Scotland with the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom; to amend the United Reformed Church Act 1972 and the United Reformed Church Act 1981; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 United Reformed Church Bill [Lords].—The United Reformed Church Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

3 Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment) Bill,—The Order for reading the Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment) Bill a second time on Friday 29th October was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

4 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That this House—

(i) approves the Tenth and Eleventh Reports of the Committee on Standards and Privileges (House of Commons Paper No. 747);

(ii) accordingly suspends Mr Don Touhig, Member for Islwyn, from the service of the House for three sitting days; and

(iii) accordingly suspends Kali Mountford, Member for Colne Valley, from the service of the House for five sitting days.—(Margaret Beckett.)

5 Procedural Consequences of Devolution,—Resolved, That this House takes note of the Fourth Report from the Procedure Committee on The Procedural Consequences of Devolution (House of Commons Paper No. 185), and the First Special Report from the Committee (House of Commons Paper No. 814) containing the Government Response.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

6 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 25th October, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on any Motions in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to Financial Services and Markets Bill (Suspension), Thursday Sittings, Meetings of Standing Committees, Sittings in Westminster Hall, Questions to Ministers, Select Committees (Devolution) and Advocate General for Scotland 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 Tony McNulty.)

7 Committee of Public Accounts,—Ordered, That Jane Griffiths be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts.—(Mr Tony McNulty.)

8 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Tony McNulty);

And the Motion having been made at Seven 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 Seven o’clock, till Monday 25th October.

[Adjourned at 7.30 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—(1) Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999, and
   (2) Draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1999
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Medicines,—Medicines (Aristolochia) (Temporary Prohibition) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2889), dated 20th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

3 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2864), dated 19th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Sixth Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998-99, on South Caucasus and Central Asia [by Command] [Cm. 4458] [Mr Secretary Cook].

5 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the—
   (1) National Gallery, and
   (2) Tate Gallery
   for 1998-99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 932 and 838] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

European Standing Committees

European Union Document No. 8723/99, on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the Information Society, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [EU Environmental Policy Integration]; to be printed [No. 842-i]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Government Observations on the First, Third and Seventh Reports from the Committee, on the Comprehensive Spending Review and Public Service Agreements, the Multilateral Agreement on Investment, and Energy Efficiency]
   [Mr John Horam].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Railways Bill]; to be printed [Nos. 927-iii and iv][Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 International Development,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, on The Department for International Development: 1999 Departmental Report]; to be printed [No. 839]; and
   (2) Sixth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, on Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction];
   to be printed [No. 840]
   [Mr Bowen Wells].
25th October 1999
Vol. 255

[No. 136.]


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

PRAYERS.

1 Financial Services and Markets Bill (Suspension).—A Motion was made and the Question being put, That the following provisions shall apply to the Financial Services and Markets Bill:

1. Standing Committee A shall report the Bill to the House, so far as then amended, not later than Thursday 11th November.

2. On the report of the Bill to the House in accordance with paragraph 1, further proceedings on the Bill shall be suspended until the next Session of Parliament.

3. If a Bill is presented in the next Session in the same terms as the Bill reported to the House in accordance with paragraph 1, it shall be read the first and second time without Question put, shall be ordered to be printed, and shall stand committed, in respect of those clauses and schedules not ordered to stand part of the Bill in this Session, to a Standing Committee of the same Members as the Members of the Standing Committee on the Bill in this Session—(Paddy Tipping);

The House proceeded to a Division.

Mr Mike Hall and Mr David Jamieson were appointed Tellers for the Ayes, and Mr Eric Forth was appointed Teller for the Noes, but no Member being willing to act as a second Teller for the Noes, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Ayes had it.

Ordered, That the following provisions shall apply to the Financial Services and Markets Bill:

1. Standing Committee A shall report the Bill to the House, so far as then amended, not later than Thursday 11th November.

2. On the report of the Bill to the House in accordance with paragraph 1, further proceedings on the Bill shall be suspended until the next Session of Parliament.

3. If a Bill is presented in the next Session in the same terms as the Bill reported to the House in accordance with paragraph 1, it shall be read the first and second time without Question put, shall be ordered to be printed, and shall stand committed, in respect of those clauses and schedules not ordered to stand part of the Bill in this Session, to a Standing Committee of the same Members as the Members of the Standing Committee on the Bill in this Session.

2 Thursday Sittings.—Ordered, That, in the next Session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

(1) The House shall meet on Thursdays at half-past Eleven o’clock, and will first proceed with Private Business, Motions for Unopposed Returns and Questions;

(2) proceedings on business on Thursdays shall be interrupted at Seven o’clock; and

(3) in their application to Thursday sittings of the House, reference to a specified time in the Standing Orders shall be interpreted as reference to a time three hours before the time so specified, save that reference to half-past Ten o’clock shall be substituted for reference to Twelve o’clock in Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on a specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration)—(Paddy Tipping.)

3 Meetings of Standing Committees.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, in the next Session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

Standing Committees shall have leave to sit at any hour and notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, subject to the following provisions:

(a) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays when the House is sitting, no Standing Committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of One o’clock and half-past Three o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees), and

(b) on Thursdays when the House is sitting, no Standing Committees sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of half-past Eleven o’clock and half-past Twelve o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees), with the substitution in that paragraph of “half-past Eleven o’clock” for “One o’clock” and “a quarter to Twelve o’clock” for “a quarter past One o’clock”—(Paddy Tipping);
The Question was amended, as follows:

In line 11, by leaving out the words ‘half-past’ and inserting the words ‘twenty-five minutes past’;

In line 14, by leaving out the words ‘half-past’ and inserting the words ‘twenty-five minutes past’; and

In line 14, by leaving out the words ‘a quarter’ and inserting the words ‘twenty minutes’.—(Mr Nicholas Winterton.)

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

Ordered. That, in the next Session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to the modifications set out below:

Standing Committees shall have leave to sit at any hour and notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, subject to the following provisions:

(a) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays when the House is sitting, no Standing Committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of One o’clock and half-past Three o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees); and

(b) on Thursdays when the House is sitting, no Standing Committee sitting at Westminster shall sit between the hours of twenty-five minutes past Eleven o’clock and half-past Twelve o’clock, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees) with the substitution in that paragraph of ‘twenty-five minutes past Eleven o’clock’, for ‘One o’clock’ and ‘twenty minutes to Twelve o’clock’ for ‘a quarter past One o’clock’.

4 Sittings in Westminster Hall,—Ordered. That there shall be no sittings in Westminster Hall under the terms of the Order [24th May] until Tuesday 30th November.

Ordered. That, following the Order [24th May], Mr Nicholas Winterton, Mr John McWilliam, Frank Cook and Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody be appointed to act as additional Deputy Speakers at sittings in Westminster Hall during the next Session.—(Paddy Tipping.)

5 Questions to Ministers,—Resolved. That, subject always to the discretion of the Chair, and in addition to the established rules of order on the form and content of Questions, Questions may not be tabled on matters for which responsibility has been devolved by legislation to the Scottish Parliament or the National Assembly for Wales unless the Question:

(a) seeks information which the United Kingdom Government is empowered to require of the devolved executive, or

(b) relates to matters which:

(i) are included in legislative proposals introduced or to be introduced in the United Kingdom Parliament,

(ii) are concerned with the operation of a concordat or other instrument of liaison between the Government and the devolved executive, or

(iii) United Kingdom Government ministers have taken an official interest in, or

(c) presses for action by United Kingdom ministers in areas in which they retain administrative powers.—(Paddy Tipping.)

6 Select Committees (Devolution),—Ordered. That Standing Order No. 151 (Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee)) be amended as follows:

In line 22, to leave out the words “and not required to be laid before or to be subject to proceedings in this House only” and insert the words “and not within paragraph (10) of this order”.

In line 23, at the end, to insert the words “any statutory instrument made by a member of the Scottish Executive or by the National Assembly for Wales unless it is required to be laid before Parliament or either House of Parliament and not including”.

Ordered. That Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) be amended as follows:

In item 12 of the table, to leave out the words in column 2 and insert the words “Scotland Office (including (i) relations with the Scottish Parliament and (ii) administration and expenditure of the offices of the Advocate General for Scotland but excluding individual cases and advice given within government by the Advocate General))”; and
In item 16 of the table, in column 2, after “Welsh Office” add the words “(Office of the Secretary of State for Wales (including relations with the National Assembly for Wales))”—(Paddy Tipping.)

7 Advocate General for Scotland.—Ordered, That Standing Order No. 87 (Attendance of law officers and ministers in standing committees) be amended as follows:

In line 1, to leave out the words “the Lord Advocate, Mr Solicitor General and Mr Solicitor General for Scotland” and insert the words “the Advocate General and Mr Solicitor General”.

Ordered, That Standing Order No. 149 (Committee on Standards and Privileges) be amended as follows:

In line 58, to leave out the words “the Lord Advocate, Mr Solicitor General and Mr Solicitor General for Scotland” and insert the words “the Advocate General and Mr Solicitor General”.—(Paddy Tipping.)

8 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 26th October, paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments) shall apply to proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mr William Hague as if that day were one of the Opposition Days allotted under paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business).—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from John Blackman and others for legislation relating to the dates on which benefits may be treated as having been paid was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Kevin Hughes.)

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

[Adjourned at 9.09 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 22nd October 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of Command Papers):

1 Treaty Series (No. 68, 1999),—Protocol, done at Montreal on 10th May 1984, relating to an Amendment to the Convention on International Civil Aviation [Cm. 4463] [Mr Secretary Cook].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 22nd October 1999 (Non-sitting Friday, S.O. No. 12) pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of Statutory Instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Police,—(1) Royal Ulster Constabulary (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 412), and

(2) Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) (Appointment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.R.(N.I.), 1999, No. 411), dated 4th October 1999 [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 25th October 1999:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

3 Legal Services,—Draft Chartered Institute of Patent Agents Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr David Lock].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Constitutional Law,—National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) (No. 2) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2787), dated 12th October 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

5 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 3) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2788), dated 12th October 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

6 Legal Services,—Legal Services Ombudsman (Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2905), dated 25th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr David Lock].

8 Ministers of the Crown,—(1) Transfer of Functions (Nuclear Installations) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2786), and
(2) Transfer of Functions (Scientific Research) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No 2785),
dated 12th October 1999 [by Act] [Margaret Beckett].

9 National Health Service,—(1) Community Health Councils (Amendment) Regulations 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 2906), dated 23rd October 1999, and
(2) Cornwall Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property)
Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2909), dated 22nd October 1999
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

10 Telecommunications,—(1) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Carrier One Ltd)
Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2872),
(2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Farland Services UK Limited)
Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2866),
(3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (GC Pan European Crossing UK
Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2865),
(4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (ICO Services Limited) Order 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 2871),
(5) Public Telecommunication System Designation (IFC Global (UK) Ltd) Order 1999
(S.I., 1999, No. 2876),
(6) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Kingston Communications (Hull)
PLC) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2868),
(7) Public Telecommunication System Designation (MTU Inform Europe Limited)
Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2867),
(8) Public Telecommunication System Designation (PLDncompass Limited) Order
1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2875),
(9) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Swisscom (UK) Limited) Order
1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2873),
(10) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Tele2 Communications Services
Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2869),
(11) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Telia UK Ltd) Order 1999 (S.I.,
1999, No. 2874), and
(12) Public Telecommunication System Designation (USA Global Link (UK) Limited)
Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2870),
dated 18th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

11 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment of a member of the English Tourist
Board (known as the English Tourism Council) and notification of the salaries payable
to the members of that body [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

12 Exchequer,—Treasury Bills (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2907), dated
25th October 1999 [by Act] [Miss Melanie Johnson].

and Accounts of the Health and Safety Executive for 1998–99, with the Reports of the
Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 803] [Clerk of
the House].

14 Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance,—Account of the Legal Aid Fund (Northern Ireland) for
Instrument]; to be printed [No. 848] [Clerk of the House].

15 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts of the—
(1) Imperial War Museum, and
(2) Natural History Museum
for 1998–99, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 846 and 845] [Clerk of the House].
16 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Passport Delays of Summer 1999 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 812] [Clerk of the House].


18 Northern Ireland.—Account of the Public Income and Expenditure of Northern Ireland for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4467] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].


20 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Minister for School Standards in the Department for Education and Employment on the Petition [22nd July] from residents of Cambridge and elsewhere against the closure of Coleridge Community College [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

21 Science and Technology.—Report and Summary Financial Statements of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

22 Severn Bridges.—Report and Financial Statements of Severn River Crossing plc for 1998 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

23 Social Services (Training).—Account of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work for 1997–98, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act], to be printed [No. 844] [Clerk of the House].

24 Telecommunications.—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—

(1) Carrier One Ltd,
(2) Farland Services UK Limited,
(3) GC Pan European Crossing UK Limited,
(4) IFC Services Limited,
(5) IFC Global (UK) Ltd,
(6) Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC,
(7) MTU Inform Europe Limited,
(8) PLDcompass Limited,
(9) Swisscom (UK) Limited,
(10) Tele2 Communications Services Limited,
(11) Telia UK Ltd, and
(12) USA Global Link (UK) Limited
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1994).—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Helen Southworth, Mr Anthony D. Wright, Mr Bob Blizzard and Mr Lawrie Quinn (nominated in respect of the Order); and appointed in substitution Mr Paul Truswell, Mr David Crausby, Mr Neil Turner and Mr Ivan Henderson.

2 Draft Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Mr Paul Truswell, Kali Mountford and Judy Mallaber (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and appointed in substitution Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr David Borrow and Mr Kerry Pollard.
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for further consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, as amended in the Committee; Ordered, That the Bill be further considered on Tuesday 2nd November.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Ray Michie reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1994). Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Organic Food and Farming Targets Bill,—Joan Ruddock, supported by Norman Baker, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Cynog Dafis, Mr David Drew, Julia Drown, Jane Griffiths, Mr Martyn Jones, Mrs Diana Organ, Mr John Randall, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mrs Betty Williams, presented a Bill to make provision regarding the setting and achievement of targets for organic farming and food consumption; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 153].

4 Civil Registration (Access to Records),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to access to registers of births, marriages and deaths; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Keith Darvill, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr David Lidington and Bob Russell do prepare and bring it in.

5 Civil Registration (Access to Records) Bill,—Mr Keith Darvill accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law relating to access to registers of births, marriages and deaths; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 154].

6 Police Numbers, Asylum Seekers, Immigration Control and the Government’s Handling of Revelations Relating to Cold War Spies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the Government’s incompetent handling and mismanagement of Home Office issues in general; further notes that the number of police officers in England and Wales has fallen by more than 1,000 since the General Election; further notes the chaos caused by the Government in the Immigration and Nationality Directorate and the record numbers of asylum-seekers, many of them bogus, now arriving in the United Kingdom; further notes the recent revelations arising from the Mitrokhin Archive; and calls on the Government to increase police numbers, to improve the working of the Immigration and Nationality Directorate, to reduce the numbers of bogus asylum-seekers arriving in the United Kingdom and to ensure that those who betray the United Kingdom to foreign powers are pursued with the utmost vigour—(Miss Ann Widdecombe),

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 3, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘applauds the Government for its achievements on Home Office issues; notes that the previous government left the youth justice system in disarray, left chaos in the immigration and asylum system, in particular as a result of provisions in the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, and that police numbers fell by 1,500 between 1992–93 and 1997–98; further notes the action that the Government has taken in asking the Intelligence and Security Committee to review the handling of the Mitrokhin Archive, including key decisions taken before 1997; and welcomes the Government’s initiatives to provide new money to fund the recruitment of 5,000 police officers over and above the number that would otherwise have been recruited, comprehensively to tackle crime and disorder and to develop a fairer, faster and firmer immigration and asylum system, through the Immigration and Asylum Bill, which will better serve genuine refugees and help reduce the number of abusive claims in the United Kingdom’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

And the Question being put, pursuant to Order [yesterday], That the original words stand part of the Question,

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Stephen Day: 145.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Clelland, Mrs Anne McGuire: 371.
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 applauds the Government for its achievements on Home Office issues; notes that the previous government left the youth justice system in disarray, left chaos in the immigration and asylum system, in particular as a result of provisions in the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, and that police numbers fell by 1,500 between 1992–93 and 1997–98; further notes the action that the Government has taken in asking the Intelligence and Security Committee to review the handling of the Mitrokhin Archive, including key decisions taken before 1997, and welcomes the Government’s initiatives to provide new money to fund the recruitment of 5,000 police officers over and above the number that would otherwise have been recruited, comprehensively to tackle crime and disorder and to develop a fairer, faster and firmer immigration and asylum system, through the Immigration and Asylum Bill, which will better serve genuine refugees and help reduce the number of abusive claims in the United Kingdom.

7 State of the National Health Service.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes and applauds the dedication of those who work in the National Health Service but regrets the inadequacy of the support they receive from Her Majesty’s Government in their efforts to deliver a first-class service, deplores the mismanagement of the National Health Service by Her Majesty’s Government; regrets the continued distortion of clinical priorities in favour of political targets; urges the new Secretary of State to acknowledge the damage the waiting list initiative has caused to the National Health Service and to abandon waiting list targets as a measure to improve services; calls on him to acknowledge the existence of rationing in the National Health Service and to ensure that in future such rationing takes place solely on the basis of clinical need; and calls for a fully informed and wide-ranging debate on the future of health care delivery to ensure that the people of this country have the health services they deserve—(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 ‘applauds the dedication, skill and professionalism of the staff of the National Health Service but regrets that Her Majesty’s Opposition seek to undermine the National Health Service at every turn; welcomes the Government’s success in cutting waiting lists in line with its manifesto pledge and its programme to make services faster and more convenient; supports the Government’s commitment to modernise cancer, heart disease and mental health services, and to ensure high standards of National Health Service care everywhere; notes that a modernised National Health Service funded through taxation and ensuring treatment according to need not ability to pay is both fairer and more efficient than private alternatives supported by the Opposition; and so believes that the National Health Service should be modernised not privatised’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Milburn.)

And the Question being proposed, pursuant to Order [yesterday], 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.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Stephen Day: 176.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 341.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Order;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 330.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Stephen Day: 167.

So the Question was agreed to.

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

Resolved. That this House applauds the dedication, skill and professionalism of the staff of the National Health Service but regrets that Her Majesty’s Opposition seek to
undermine the National Health Service at every turn; welcomes the Government’s success in cutting waiting lists in line with its manifesto pledge and its programme to make services faster and more convenient; supports the Government’s commitment to modernise cancer, heart disease and mental health services, and to ensure high standards of National Health Service care everywhere; notes that a modernised National Health Service funded through taxation and offering treatment according to need not ability to pay is both fairer and more efficient than private alternatives supported by the Opposition; and so believes that the National Health Service should be modernised not privatised.

8 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of the constituency of Spelthorne against proposals to cut services at Ashford Hospital, Middlesex, 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 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 Dentists,—Draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 National Health Service,—Bath and West Community National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2918), dated 22nd October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

3 Northern Ireland,—(1) Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2789), and


Other Papers:

4 Criminal Justice,—Report and Accounts of the Parole Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 809] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Development of Tourism,—Report for 1999 and Accounts for 1998–99 of the British Tourist Authority, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 National Lottery,—Report of the Arts Council of England on the National Lottery for 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

7 Police,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 1998–99 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 804] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Police (Scotland),—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland for 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4464] [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 Sports Councils,—Review of sportscotland (previously the Scottish Sports Council) and Accounts of the Scottish Sports Council Group for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemption) Order 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Neil Gerrard and Mr Jonathan R. Shaw from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Dr Brian Iddon and Dr Howard Stoate.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Ninth Report from the Agriculture Committee [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1999], 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. 852];

(2) Seventh Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee, on Sea Fishing], together with an Appendix; to be printed [No. 853];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Marketing of Milk]; to be printed [No. 830-ii]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Implications for UK Agriculture and EU Agricultural Policy of Trade Liberalisation and the WTO Round; Marketing of Milk; Segregation of GM Foods]

[Mr Peter Luff].

2 Defence,—(1) Sixth Report from the Defence Committee [The Reserves Call Out Order 1999 and Progress of Territorial Army Restructuring]; to be printed, with Memoranda and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 860]; and

(2) Seventh Report from the Committee [The Strategic Defence Review: Defence Medical Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 447]

[Mr Bruce George].

3 Education and Employment and Social Security,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee, and

(2) Fifth Special Report from the Social Security Committee

[Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Education and Employment Committee and the Seventh Report from the Social Security Committee, on the ONE Service Pilots]; to be printed [No. 855] [Mr Derek Foster; Mr Archy Kirkwood].

4 Education and Employment,—(1) Seventh Special Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on the Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service]; to be printed [No. 858]; and

(2) Eighth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Committee, on the Role of School Governors]; to be printed [No. 859]

[Mr Derek Foster].

5 Environmental Audit,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [EU Environmental Policy Integration]; to be printed [No. 384-ii]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [A Sustainable Millennium Round]

[Mr John Horam].

6 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Work of the Health and Safety Executive]; to be printed [No. 828-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Environment Sub-Committee of the Committee [The Work of the Health and Safety Executive; The Environment Agency]; to be printed [Nos. 828 and 829]

[Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

7 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Relations with the Russian Federation]; to be printed [No. 815-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

8 Home Affairs,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Further Government Observations on the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Electoral Law and Administration]; to be printed [No. 856]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Work of the Home Office]; to be printed [No. 857]

[Mr Robin Corbett].
9 Public Administration,—Fifth Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on the Freedom of Information Draft Bill]; to be printed [No. 831] [Dr Tony Wright].

10 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-Eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxvii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

11 Trade and Industry,—Fourteenth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Draft Electronic Communications Bill], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 862] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

12 Treasury,—(1) Tenth Report from the Treasury Committee [Valuation Office Agency], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 420].

(2) Seventh Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on Public Service Agreements]; to be printed [No. 849].

(3) Eighth Special Report from the Committee [Responses by the Government and the Bank of England to the Eighth Report from the Committee, on the Monetary Policy Committee—Two Years On]; to be printed [No. 850].

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [International Monetary Fund]; to be printed [No. 851-i]; and

(5) Memoranda laid before the Sub-Committee of the Committee [Valuation Office Agency] [Mr Giles Radice].

13 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Role of the Secretary of State for Wales; European Structural Funds]; to be printed [Nos. 854 and 861-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 138.]

Wednesday 27th October 1999.

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 Keith Vaz),

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

2 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Promoters of the London Local Authorities 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 second time and committed (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read and committed);

That all Petitions relating to the Bill presented in the present Session which stand 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, or has been the subject of a Resolution of this House to dispense with Standing Order 171A within the present Session, or has
been 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 Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemptions) Order 1999.

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

4 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Jim Cunningham reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 6793/97, a draft Directive restructuring the Community framework for the taxation of energy products; and supports the Government’s objective of securing a permanent exemption for the domestic use of energy.

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

5 European Standing Committee C,—Dr Michael Clark reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents Nos. 5562/98, a draft Directive on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the Information Society, and 8723/99, an amended draft of this Directive; and of European Union Documents Nos. 5123/99, a draft Directive on certain legal aspects of electronic commerce in the internal market, and 10644/99, an amended draft of this Directive, and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18 October 1999; and concerning the draft Directive on the harmonisation of copyright, supports the Government’s view that while harmonisation of copyright laws for the digital age is essential, the outcome should be a regime that safeguards a fair balance of rights and interests between the various categories of rights holders and between rights holders, users and intermediaries, and has due regard to subsidiarity; and concerning the draft Directive on electronic commerce in the internal market, welcomes the Government’s continued efforts to put in place a light but effective framework for the development of electronic commerce within the internal market; and supports the Government’s view that such a framework is necessary to ensure consumer and business confidence in electronic commerce.

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

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

The Lords have agreed to the House of Lords Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

7 House of Lords Bill,—Lords Amendments to the House of Lords Bill to be considered tomorrow and to be printed [Bill 156].

8 Building Regulation,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the building industry; and to provide for adjudication in disputes involving domestic building contracts: And that Mr Tony Baldry, Mr Gerald Bermingham, Mrs Helen Brinton, Mr John Butterfill, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Bill O’Brien and Mr Bill Olner do prepare and bring it in.

9 Building Regulation Bill,—Mr Tony Baldry accordingly presented a Bill to regulate the building industry; and to provide for adjudication in disputes involving domestic building contracts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 155].

10 Adjournment (Report from the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Dowd);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.
Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Tony McNulty.)

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

[Adjourned at 7.36 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 Air Force (Constitution).—Regulations of the Defence Council amending—
   (1) Air Publication 1296A (3rd Edition), relating to Assessment of Medical Fitness, and
   (2) Air Publication 3393 (5th Edition), relating to Commissioning of Officers and Terms of Service of Officers and Airmen (Aircrew) in the Royal Air Force [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

3 Forestry,—Reports and Accounts for 1998–99 of—
   (1) Forest Enterprise,
   (2) Forest Research, and
   (3) the Forestry Commission with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 800, 801 and 799] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

4 Mental Health,—Paper, entitled Making Decisions: The Government’s proposals for making decisions on behalf of mentally incapacitated adults [by Command] [Cm. 4465] [Mr David Lock].

5 National Heritage (Scotland),—Accounts of the National Library of Scotland for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 863] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Lottery,—Accounts of the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 864] [Clerk of the House].

7 Post Office,—Report of the Post Office Users’ National Council for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

8 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Twenty-third and the Twenty-fifth to Twenty-seventh and Thirtieth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4469] [Mr Stephen Timms].

9 Transport (Scotland),—Reports and Accounts for 1998–99 of—
   (1) Caledonian MacBrayne Limited,
   (2) Caledonian MacBrayne Holdings Limited, and
   (3) David MacBrayne Limited [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Working Time Regulations:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Dr Michael Clark Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Ben Bradshaw, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Brian Cotter, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Alan Hurst, Mr Alan Johnson, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Ms Margaret Moran, Mr Stephen O’Brien, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Lawrie Quinn, Mr Bill Tynan, Mr David Wilshire and Ms Rosie Winterton.
2 Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr John Bercow, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Bob Blizzard, Christine Butler, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr David Faber, Mr Clifford Forsythe, Dr Ian Gibson, Mrs Linda Gilroy, Tessa Jowell, Ms Jackie Lawrence, Shona McIsaac, Mr John Randall, Bob Russell and Mr Peter Temple-Morris.

3 Draft Tax Credits (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third 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.: Jackie Ballard, Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Simon Burns, Mr James Clappison, Dr David Clark, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Jean Corston, Mr Clive Efford, Ms Margaret Hodge, Mr Ken Livingstone, Kali Mountford, Mr Tom Pendry, Mr Jonathan R. Shaw, Mr Richard Shepherd and Steve Webb.

4 Draft Licensing and Registered Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Humfrey Malins Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Tony Colman, Mr James Cran, Mr Hilton Dawson, Jim Dowd, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Roger Goddard, Mrs Eileen Gordon, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr George Howarth, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Lembit Opik, Mr Andrew Robathan, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Jimmy Wray and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

5 Draft Chartered Institute of Patent Agents Order 1999:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth 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.: Norman Baker, Mr John Burnett, Mr Bill Etherington, Ms Harriet Harman, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Andy King, Mr David Lock, Mrs Anne McGuire, Bridget Prentice, Gwyn Prosser, Mr Allan Rogers, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Robert Symns, Mr John M. Taylor, Sir Raymond Whitney, Steve Webb.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Sixth 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.: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Richard Allan, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Jamie Cann, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr David Lidington, Judy Mallaber, Mr Bill Michie, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Nick St Aubyn, Mr Keith Simpson, Angela Smith and Helen Southworth.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Millennium Dome], to be printed [No. 826-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [The role of private companies in the supply of state education services]; to be printed [No. 763-ii] [Valerie Davey].
3 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Nineteenth Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Young and Newly Qualified Drivers: Standards and Training]; 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. 515];

(2) Twentieth Report from the Committee [Town and Country Parks]; 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 [Nos. 477-1 and III];

(3) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Tenth Report from the Committee, on Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 867]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Environmental Impact of Supermarket Competition]; to be printed [No. 841-i]

[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

4 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-ninth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxix] [Mr Bill Rammell].

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—First Special Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Work of the Committee: Second Progress Report]; to be printed [No. 865] [Margaret Beckett].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Northern Ireland Prison Service]; to be printed [No. 866-i] [Mr Peter Brooke].

7 Science and Technology,—(1) Fourth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Regulation of the Biotechnology Industry]; 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. 535];

(2) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts]; to be printed [No. 822]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Diabetes and Driving Licences]; to be printed [No. 823-i]

[Dr Michael Clark].

[No. 139.]

Thursday 28th October 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Promoters of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill shall have leave to suspend proceedings thereon in order to proceed with the Bill 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 on the fifth day on which the House sits in the next Session the Bill shall be presented to the House;

That there shall be deposited with the Bill a declaration signed by the Agents for the Bill, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill presented in the House 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) and shall be committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means;
That the Chairman of Ways and Means shall make such Amendments thereto as have been made by the committee in the present Session, and shall report the Bill as amended to the House forthwith, and the Bill, so amended, shall be ordered to be considered;

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 Chairman of Ways and Means);

And objection being taken to further proceeding;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Tuesday 2nd November at Seven o’clock.

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bowen Wells reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 (Amendment) Order 1999.

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 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, with Amendments, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill.—The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolutions in respect of the Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill, 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 Twelve noon on Thursday 4th November next and that all fees due on or before that day have been paid;

That if the Bill is brought from the House of Commons in the next Session the Agent for the Bill 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 Commons 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 considered the Message from the Commons [yesterday] relating to the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords], and have come to the following Resolution in respect of the said Bill, 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 Twelve noon on Thursday 4th November next;

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.

4 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 157].

5 Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords].—The Order for reading the Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) Bill [Lords] a second time on Friday 5th November was read and discharged.
6 Adjournment (Agriculture).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Graham Allen);
And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Sessional Order [16th December].

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.26 p.m.]

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

1 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Gibraltar [by Command] [Cm. 4470] [Mr Secretary Cook].

2 Judicial Appointments,—Report by the Lord Chancellor on Judicial Appointments for 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4449] [Mr David Lock].

3 Metropolitan Police,—Account of the Metropolitan Police Fund for 1996–97, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4460] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the National Maritime Museum for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4460] [Mr Secretary Straw].


6 Science and Technology,—Report of the Medical Research Council for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—(1) Sixth Report from the Health Committee [Procedures related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 549], and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Procedures related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care]
[Mrs. David Hinchliffe].

2 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The Future of Sanctions; The International Monetary Fund]; to be printed [Nos. 454-vii and 868-i] [Mr Bowen Wells].

[No. 140.]
Friday 29th October 1999.

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.:
United Reformed Church Bill [Lords].
Bill to be read a second time.
2 Adjournment (Future of Broadcasting).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Greg Pope);

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

3 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Monday 1st November, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Message from the Lords, relating to the Greater London Authority Bill, has been received.—(Jim Dowd.)

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

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.—(Jim Dowd.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 1st November.

[Adjourned at 2.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Disabled Persons,—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Serco Metrolink T68A Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2932), dated 27th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


3 European Communities,—Nuclear Reactors (Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2892), dated 19th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


5 Telegraphs,—Wireless Telegraphy (Cordless Telephone Apparatus) (Restriction and Marking) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2934), dated 27th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

6 National Lottery,—Report and Accounts of the Millennium Commission for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 796] [Clerk of the House].

7 Pensions,—Accounts of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 872] [Clerk of the House].

8 Trade Union and Labour Relations,—Reports of the Commissioner for the Rights of Trade Union Members and of the Commissioner for Protection against Unlawful Industrial Action for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

9 Treasury Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Debt Management Office for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 805] [Miss Melanie Johnson].

10 Welsh Office Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Cadw Welsh Historic Monuments for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 802] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
PRAYERS.

1 Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the Promoters of the Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts 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;

Ordered, 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;

Ordered, 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);

Ordered, That no Petitions against the Bill having been presented within the time limited during the present Session, no Petitioners shall be heard before any committee on the Bill save those who complain of any amendment as proposed in the filled up Bill or of any matter which arises during the progress of the Bill before the committee;

Ordered, 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;

Ordered, 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 Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill.—Ordered, That so much of the Lords Message [28th October] as relates to the Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill be now considered.

Ordered, That the Promoters of the Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill shall have leave to suspend proceedings thereon in order to proceed with the Bill 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;

Ordered, That on the fifth day on which the House sits in the next Session the Bill shall be presented to the House;

Ordered, That there shall be deposited with the Bill a declaration signed by the Agents 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 present Session;

Ordered, That the Bill shall be laid upon the Table of the House by one of the Clerks in the Private Bill Office on the next meeting of the House after the day on which the Bill has been presented and, when so laid, shall be read the first, second and third time and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read;

Ordered, 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;

Ordered, 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.

3 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords], not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (Arbitration provisions)—(Mr David Lock)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (Northern Ireland)—(Mr David Lock)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Amendments (Nos. 2, 1 and 3) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.
4 Insurance Brokers Registration Council.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 (Amendment) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

5 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 draft Financial Services Act 1986 (Restriction of Exemption) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 27th July, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

6 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 (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1999 (S.I., No. 1999), dated 14th July 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 20th July, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

7 Harmonisation of Copyright and Electronic Commerce in the Single Market,—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 Union Document Nos. 5562/98, a draft Directive on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the Information Society, and 8723/99, an amended draft of this Directive; and of European Union Documents Nos. 5123/99, a draft Directive on certain legal aspects of electronic commerce in the internal market, and 10644/89, an amended draft of this Directive, and the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18th October 1999; and concerning the draft Directive on electronic commerce in the internal market, welcomes the Government’s continued efforts to put in place a light but effective framework for the development of electronic commerce within the internal market; and supports the Government’s view that while harmonisation of copyright laws for the digital age is essential, the outcome should be a regime that safeguards a fair balance of rights and interests between the various categories of rights holders and between rights holders, users and intermediaries, and has due regard to subsidiarity; and concerning the draft Directive on electronic commerce in the internal market, welcomes the Government’s view that such a framework is necessary to ensure consumer and business confidence in electronic commerce—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

8 Taxation of Energy Products,—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 Union Document No. 6793/97, a draft Directive restructuring the Community framework for the taxation of energy products; and supports the Government’s objective of securing a permanent exemption for the domestic use of energy—(Mrs Anne McGuire)—It was agreed to.

9 Record Copies of Acts,—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 19th October, communicating a Resolution relating to record copies of Acts of Parliament, be now considered.—(Dr Nick Palmer.)

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Resolution.—(Dr Nick Palmer);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Andrew Miller: 53.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Brian White: 121.

So the Question was negatived.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

10 Agriculture,—Ordered, that Mr Andrew George be discharged from the Agriculture Committee and Mr Richard Livsey be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Culture, Media and Sport,—Ordered, That Mr Michael Fabricant be discharged from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee and Miss Julie Kirkbride be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Education and Employment,—Ordered, that Mr Paul Keetch be discharged from the Education and Employment Committee and Dr Evan Harris be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

13 Foreign Affairs,—Ordered, That Mr David Heath be discharged from the Foreign Affairs Committee and Mr David Chidgey be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
14 International Development.—Ordered, That Dr Jenny Tonge be discharged from the International Development Committee and Mr Nigel Jones be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Scottish Affairs.—Ordered, that Mr Michael Moore be discharged from the Scottish Affairs Committee and Sir Robert Smith be added to the Committee.—(Mr Paul Tyler, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Graham Allen).

The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting until a Message was received from the Lords relating to the Greater London Authority Bill, pursuant to Order [29th October]. And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.

17 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
The Lords have agreed to the Greater London Authority Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

18 Greater London Authority Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 158].

19 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Thomas McAvoy.)

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

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Draft Maximum Number of Judges Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr David Lock].

Other Papers:

2 Law Commission,—Reports of the Law Commission on—

(1) Claims for Wrongful Death, and

(2) Damages for Personal Injury: Medical, Nursing and Other Expenses; Collateral Benefits
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 807 and 806] [Mr David Lock].


(2) Accounts of the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 876 and 877] [Clerk of the House].

4 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Funds in Court: Unclaimed Balances [by Act]; to be printed [No. 833] [Clerk of the House].

5 National Lottery,—(1) Reports and Summary Accounts for the period 2nd July 1998 to 31st March 1999 of the—

(i) National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA), and

(ii) New Opportunities Fund (NOF),

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act][Mr Secretary Smith]; and

(2) Report and Statement of Accounts of sportscotland Lottery Fund for 1998–99 [by Command][Mr Secretary Reid].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions on the Petition [26th July] from users and supporters of Greater Manchester Accessible Transport Ltd, commonly known as ‘Ring and Ride’, calling for reform of the system of rebates on fuel duty [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Public Accounts,—(1) Fortieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: The Sale of Railfreight Distribution]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 601];

(2) Forty-first Report from the Committee [The PRIME project: the Transfer of the Department of Social Security Estate to the Private Sector]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 548], and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The 1992 & 1998 Information Management & Technology Strategies of the NHS Executive]; to be printed [No. 879-i] [Mr David Davis].

2 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Dounreay]; to be printed [No. 878-i] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

[No. 142.]

Tuesday 2nd November 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for further consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill, as amended in the Committee;

Ordered, That the Bill be further considered on Tuesday 9th November.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Dr Michael Clark reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Working Time Regulations 1999.

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:

Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts Bill [Lords],—The Lords communicate that they have considered the Message from the Commons [yesterday] relating to the Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts 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 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 on Tuesday 9th November;

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.

4 Cyclists’ Helmets.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to promote the wearing of protective headgear by cyclists; and for connected purposes. And that Jean Corston, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr David Drew, Ann Clwyd, Valerie Davey and Fiona Mactaggart do prepare and bring it in.

5 Cyclists’ Helmets Bill,—Jean Corston accordingly presented a Bill to promote the wearing of protective headgear by cyclists; and for connected purposes. And the same was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 159].

6 Opposition Day [14th allotted day—2nd part].—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.
Planning, Greenfields and Brownfields.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House regrets the growing divide between the prosperous and deprived areas of Britain; condemns the run-down of industry and the dereliction of inner city and old industrial areas; urges the Government to put in place better measures to encourage urban and industrial regeneration; vigorously opposes the idea that hundreds of thousands more people will be encouraged to move out of the urban areas into new housing on greenfield sites; further urges the Secretary of State to veto the South East plan for 1.1 million new homes, half on greenfield land, and to warn inspectors not to come to similar conclusions for other parts of the country; reminds the Government that there will be demand for new and better housing in the cities which they should help developers to meet by their planning and renewal policies, and stresses that sustainable development means limiting greenfield housing construction—(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 Government’s continued commitment to sustainable growth, safeguarding the countryside and promoting an urban renaissance; welcomes the establishment of Regional Development Agencies and the policies and programmes which have been put in place to improve the prosperity and quality of life of the regions and supports the targeting of regeneration initiatives in areas of greatest need; recognises that the Government’s integrated, inclusive and strategic approach is encouraging urban and industrial regeneration; welcomes the Government’s inter-linked policies for revitalising the UK’s towns and cities and protecting the countryside; supports the Government’s target for building 60 per cent. of all new housing on previously developed land and welcomes the new housing planning policy guidance which encourages “in town” brownfield site development first under a phased sequential test; supports this Government’s approach to new out-of-town shopping developments; welcomes the Government’s move away from the previous “predict and provide” approach to housing provision and the introduction of a “plan, monitor and manage” policy under the new regional planning policy arrangements, including Examination in Public and Independent Panel assessment; recognises the need for a more detailed evaluation of land availability and capacity and welcomes the establishment of a National Land Use Database; supports the Government’s policies on protecting the Green Belt; and believes the Government’s planning, housing, transport, countryside protection, welfare and economic policies will achieve more sustainable and equitable patterns of both urban and rural development’, instead thereof.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)

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

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Stephen Day: 185.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Clive Betts: 346.

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 continued commitment to sustainable growth, safeguarding the countryside and promoting an urban renaissance; welcomes the establishment of Regional Development Agencies and the policies and programmes which have been put in place to improve the prosperity and quality of life of the regions and supports the targeting of regeneration initiatives in areas of greatest need; recognises that the Government’s integrated, inclusive and strategic approach is encouraging urban and industrial regeneration; welcomes the Government’s inter-linked policies for revitalising the UK’s towns and cities and protecting the countryside; supports the Government’s target for building 60 per cent. of all new housing on previously developed land and welcomes the new housing planning policy guidance which encourages “in town” brownfield site development first under a phased sequential test; supports this Government’s approach to new out-of-town shopping developments; welcomes the Government’s move away from the previous “predict and provide” approach to housing provision and the introduction of a “plan, monitor and manage” policy under the new regional planning policy arrangements, including Examination in Public and Independent Panel assessment; recognises the need for a more detailed evaluation of land availability and capacity and welcomes the establishment of a National Land Use Database; supports the Government’s policies on protecting the Green Belt, and believes the Government’s planning, housing, transport, countryside protection, welfare and economic policies will achieve more sustainable and equitable patterns of both urban and rural development.
City of London (Ward Elections) Bill shall have leave to suspend proceedings thereon in order to proceed with the Bill 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 on the fifth day on which the House sits in the next Session the Bill shall be presented to the House;

That there shall be deposited with the Bill a declaration signed by the Agents for the Bill, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill presented in the House 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) and shall be committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means;

That the Chairman of Ways and Means shall make such Amendments thereto as have been made by the committee in the present Session, and shall report the Bill as amended to the House forthwith, and the Bill, so amended, shall be ordered to be considered;

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;

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 Crispin Blunt, Mr Tony Baldry: 215.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Harry Cohen: 81.

So the Question was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

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

[Adjourned at 9.46 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Paper subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Dentists,—Draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Road Traffic,—Motor Cycles Etc. (EC Type Approval) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2920), dated 25th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Administration of Justice,—Accounts of Funds in Court in England and Wales for—

(1) the year ended 28th February 1997, and

(2) the year ended 28th February 1998,

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 874 and 875] [Clerk of the House].

5 Defence Executive Agencies,—Report and Accounts of Defence Estates for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 810] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
6 Miscellaneous Financial Provisions.—Accounts of Yorkshire and Humberside Development Agency for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Paper withdrawn:

7 Dentists.—Draft Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment) Regulations 1999 [laid 26th October].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Jean Corston and Kali Mountford from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Jeff Ennis and Mr Paul Stinchcombe.

2 Fire Precautions (Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1877).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Judy Mallaber from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Mark Todd.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Marketing of Milk]; to be printed [No. 830-iii] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Broadcasting.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Broadcasting Committee [The Development of Parliamentary Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 618-iii] [Mr Roger Gale].

3 Education and Employment.—(1) Eighth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Access for All?: a survey of Post-16 participation], 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. 57]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Access for All?: a survey of Post-16 participation] [Mr Derek Foster].

4 Environmental Audit.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [A sustainable Millennium Round (WTO)]; to be printed [No. 883-ii]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Government Observations on the Eighth Report from the Committee, on the Budget 1999: Environmental Considerations] [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 [The Work of the Health and Safety Executive]; to be printed [No. 828-ii] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

6 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Relations with the Russian Federation]; to be printed [No. 815-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

7 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Work of the Lord Chancellor’s Department]; to be printed [No. 882-ii] [Mr Robin Corbett].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-Ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxx] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Treasury.—(1) Ninth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Committee, on Demutualisation]; to be printed [No. 880]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Financial Services Authority]; to be printed [No. 881-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

10 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [European Structural Funds]; to be printed [No. 861-ii] [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 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 Kensington and Chelsea 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 Kensington and Chelsea, in the room of the Right honourable Alan Kenneth McKenzie Clark, deceased.—(Mr James Arbuthnot.)

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Barry Jones reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999.

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

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Humfrey Malins reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Licensing and Registered Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1999.

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

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Frank Cook reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Chartered Institute of Patent Agents Order 1999.

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 agreed to the Immigration and Asylum Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords have agreed to the Food Standards Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Immigration and Asylum Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Immigration and Asylum Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 161].

8 Food Standards Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Food Standards Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 162].

9 City of London (Ward Elections) Bill,—The Order for further consideration of the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill on Tuesday 9th November was read and discharged.

10 Multiple Retailer (Publication and Display of Ethical Sourcing Policies),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require retailers with more than ten outlets to publish and display in each outlet a statement of their procurement policies in relation to child labour, slave labour and environmental protection: And that Mr John Gummer, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Peter Lilley, Sir David Madel and Mr David Ruflley do prepare and bring it in.

11 Multiple Retailer (Publication and Display of Ethical Sourcing Policies) Bill,—Mr John Gummer accordingly presented a Bill to require retailers with more than ten outlets to publish and display in each outlet a statement of their procurement policies in relation to child labour, slave labour and environmental protection: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 160].

12 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill (Supplemental Allocation of Time),—Ordered, That the Order of the House of 20th May 1999 be supplemented as follows—
Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at today’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion at midnight.

2.—(1) The Lords Amendments shall be considered in the following order, namely:

   Nos. 42 to 46, 1 to 41 and 47 to 191.

(2) Each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 42 to 46</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 1 to 34</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 35 to 41, 47 to 191</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2.

(2) The Speaker shall—

   (a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not been decided and, if that Question is for the amendment of a Lords Amendment, 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 agrees or disagrees with the Lords in the Lords Amendment or, as the case may be, in the Lords Amendment as amended,

   (b) put forthwith the Question on any Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords Amendment followed by the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment or, as the case may be, in their Amendment as amended,

   (c) 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, and

   (d) put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(3) As soon as the House has agreed or disagreed with the Lords in any of their Amendments the Speaker shall put forthwith a single Question on any Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown relevant to the Lords Amendment.

Subsequent stages

4. 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.

5. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

6. For the purpose of bringing those proceedings to a conclusion the Speaker shall—

   (a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not been decided, and the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown which is related to the Question already proposed from the Chair,

   (b) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords Message, and

   (c) put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Proposals.

Reasons Committee

7. 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.

8.—(1) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting at which it is appointed.

(2) Proceedings in the Committee shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion 30 minutes after their commencement.

(3) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with sub-paragraph (2) the Chairman shall—
(a) first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and has not yet been decided; and
(b) then put forthwith successively Questions on motions which may be made by a Minister of the Crown for assigning a Reason for disagreeing with the Lords in one of their Amendments.

(4) The proceedings of the Committee shall be reported without any further Question being put.

Miscellaneous

9. This paragraph applies to—
(a) proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments,
(b) proceedings on any further Message from the Lords, and
(c) proceedings of the kind mentioned in paragraph 7.

10. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings to which paragraph 9 applies.

11. Proceedings to which paragraph 9 applies shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

12. No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, proceedings to which paragraph 9 applies shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown, and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

13. Where proceedings on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House would, by virtue of Standing Order No. 24 (Urgent matters), commence at a time when proceedings to which paragraph 9 applies are in progress, the proceedings on the Motion shall be postponed to the conclusion of the proceedings to which paragraph 9 applies.

14. If the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of any proceedings to which paragraph 9 applies, 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 Secretary Darling.)

13 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.

Lords Amendment No.42.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Secretary Darling);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mrs Anne McGuire: 325.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Oliver Heald: 265.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Amendments ((c) and (d)) were made to the words so restored to the Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 43.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mrs Anne McGuire: 320.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Oliver Heald: 262.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Amendments ((c), (d) and (e)) were made to the words so restored to the Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 46.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mrs Anne McGuire: 326.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr Oliver Heald: 253.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 44 and 45 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 44.

Lords Amendment No. 1 was disagreed to.
Amendments were made to the Bill, in lieu of the Lords Amendment disagreed to, in page 52, line 4, at the end to insert a Clause (Preservation of rights in respect of additional pensions), and in page 86, line 26, after the word ‘sections’ to insert the words ‘(Preservation of rights in respect of additional pensions),’.

Lords Amendment No. 2 was agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 3 was disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 4 to 19 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 20.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Jeff Rooker);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Clive Betts: 363.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr John M. Taylor: 193.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

And it being after Ten o’clock, the Deputy Speaker proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 33.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Clelland: 336.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Keith Simpson: 241.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill, in lieu of the Lords Amendment disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 34 was disagreed to.
An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill, in lieu of the Lords Amendment disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 21 to 32 were agreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 35 to 41 and 47 to 52 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 40.
Lords Amendment No. 53.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Stephen Timms);

Thursday 4th November 1999

And it being Twelve o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 345.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Keith Simpson: 203.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
The Deputy Speaker then proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

And the Question being put, That Amendments ((a) to (t)) be made to the words so restored to the Bill;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 344.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

Amendments ((a) to (t)) were accordingly made to the words restored to the Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 54.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 337.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 124.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Amendments ((a) to (t)) were made to the words restored to the Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 85.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Jim Dowd: 301.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 91.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 55 to 84, 86 to 92 and 94 to 191 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 137 and 156.

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. 3, 20, 46, 85 and 93;

That Mr Richard Burden, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Eric Pickles and Mr Jeff Rooker be members of the Committee;
That Mr Jeff Rooker be Chairman of the Committee;
That three be the quorum of the Committee;
That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mrs Anne McGuire);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Hall: 297.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 76.

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. 3, 20, 46, 85 and 93.

Ordered, That Mr Richard Burden, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Eric Pickles and Mr Jeff Rooker be members of the Committee.
Ordered, That Mr. Jeff Rooker be Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.

14 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—Mr. Jeff Rooker reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 3 for the following Reason:
Because it is inconsistent with the condition that a stakeholder pension must have tax exemption or tax approval.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 20 for the following Reason:
Because it involves charges on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 46 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 Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 85 for the following Reason:
Because it is consequential on Lords Amendment No. 53 to which the Commons have disagreed.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 93 for the following Reason:
Because it is consequential on Lords Amendment No. 54 to which the Commons have disagreed.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

15 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Mr. Robert Maclennan and Mrs Barbara Roche be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr David Rendel and Mr Stephen Timms be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

16 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Mr Charles Kennedy be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Mr Malcolm Bruce be added to the Committee.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

17 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire);
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 eleven minutes to Two o’clock on Thursday morning, till this day.

[Adjourned at 1.49 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Paper subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Justices of the Peace.—Draft Maximum Number of Stipendiary Magistrates Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr David Lock].

Paper subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture.—Organic Farming (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2933), dated 3rd November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

3 Consumer Protection.—Road Vehicles (Brake Linings Safety) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2978), dated 2nd November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


5 Health and Safety.—Asbestos (Prohibitions) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2977), dated 2nd November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
Other Papers:

6 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Twenty-Eighth to Twenty-Ninth and Thirty-First to Thirty-Fourth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1998–99 [by Command] [Cm. 4471] [Mr Stephen Timms].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Jobseekers’ Allowance (New Deal) Regulations 1999,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jeff Ennis, Mr David Faber and Mr John Randall from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Jean Corston, Mr David Ruffley and Mr David Wilshire.

2 Draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1999 and draft Jobseekers’ Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999,—The Speaker has allocated the draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1999 and the draft Jobseekers’ Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Jobseekers’ Allowance (New Deal) Regulations 1999); and has appointed Mr Nicholas Winterton Chairman in place of Mr Humfrey Malins.

3 Value Added Tax (Input Tax) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2930): (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman; and (2) the Committee of Selection has appointed sixteen Members to serve on the Committee, viz.: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Eric Illsley, Miss Melanie Johnson, Lynne Jones, Mr Paara S. Khabra, Ms Oona King, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Chris Pond, Mr Bill Rammell and Mr William Ross.

4 Fire Precautions (Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1877),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Helen Southworth from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations); and nominated in substitution Christine Russell.

European Standing Committees

5 European Union Documents Nos.10297/99, relating to the World Trade Organisation Millennium Round, and 10948/99, relating to State Aid to the Coal Industry, have been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Eighth Report from the Defence Committee [Major Procurement Projects Survey: The Common New Generation Frigate], 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. 544]; (2) Ninth Report from the Committee [Defence 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. 616]; and (3) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Correction of Evidence relating to the Sixth Report of the Defence Committee, Session 1997–98, HC 621] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry Committees, meeting concurrently pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) [Committees’ Inquiry into the 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports on Strategic Export Controls]; to be printed [No. 541-i] [Mr Ted Rowlands].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Subcommittee of the Education and Employment Committee [OFSTED: Annual Report/The Work of OFSTED]; to be printed [No. 884] [Valerie Davey]; and (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Employment Sub-Committee of the Committee [Employability and Jobs: Is There a Jobs Gap?]; to be printed [No. 886-i] [Mr Derek Foster].
4 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [The Environmental Impact of Supermarket Competition]; to be printed [No. 841-i]; and

(2) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Environmental Impact of Supermarket Competition]; to be printed [No. 841-iii]

[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

5 European Scrutiny,—Thirtieth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 34-xxx] [Mr Jim Marshall].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Scientific Advisory System: Diabetes and Driving Licences]; to be printed [No. 823-ii] [Mr Nigel Beard].

7 Social Security,—(1) Tenth Report from the Social Security Committee [The 1999 Child Support White Paper], 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. 798].

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Contributory Principle]; to be printed [No. 485-v]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The 1999 Child Support White Paper; The Modernisation of Social Security Appeals Service]

[Mr Archy Kirkwood].

8 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Customs and Excise]; to be printed [No. 885-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

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[No. 144.]


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

PRAYERS.

1 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;

Ordered, 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;

Ordered, 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);

Ordered, That since no Petitions remain against the Bill no Petitioners shall be heard before any committee on the Bill save those who complain of any amendment as proposed in the filled up Bill or of any matter which arises during the progress of the Bill before the committee;

Ordered, 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;
Ordered, That these Orders be Standing Orders of the House.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

2 United Reformed Church Bill [Lords],—Ordered, That the Promoters of the United Reformed Church 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;

Ordered, 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;

Ordered, 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 time and shall be ordered to be read the second time (and shall be recorded in the Journal of this House as having been so read);

Ordered, That, no Petitions against the Bill having been presented within the time limited during the present Session, no Petitioners shall be heard before any committee on the Bill save those who complain of any amendment as proposed in the filled up Bill or of any matter which arises during the progress of the Bill before the committee;

Ordered, 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;

Ordered, That these Orders be Standing Orders of the House.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Fire Precautions (Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 1877).

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:

Private Bills (Suspension),—The Lords concur with the Commons in their Message [3rd November] relating to the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill

Private Bills [Lords] (Suspension),—The Lords communicate that they have come to the following Resolution in respect of the Kent County Council Bill [Lords], the Medway Council Bill [Lords] and the City of Newcastle upon Tyne Bill [Lords], to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House, viz.:

That the promoters of each 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 Twelve noon on Tuesday 9th November and that all fees due on or before that day have been paid;

That such Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than Twelve 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 such 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 such Bill in the next Session only in regard to any stage through which the Bill has not passed during the present Session.

5 Greater London Authority Bill [Money] (No. 2),—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Greater London Authority Bill [Money] (No. 2):
Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Greater London Authority Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the payment out of the National Loans Fund of any sums required to enable the Public Works Loans Commissioners to make loans to the Greater London Authority or any functional body, within the meaning of the Act; and

(b) the payment of sums into the National Loans Fund.—(Mr Keith Hill.)

6 Greater London Authority Bill [Ways and Means] (No. 2).—Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Greater London Authority Bill, it is expedient to authorise the making of provision for or in connection with the imposition of charges to corporation tax (including corporation tax on chargeable gains) on bodies or persons to which property, rights or liabilities are transferred or granted by or under the Act.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)

7 Greater London Authority Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Kevin Hughes: 306.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 151.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Tony McNulty: 322.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John M. Taylor, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 119.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 3 to 5 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 6 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 7 to 40 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 10 and 12 to 14.

And it being Seven o’clock, further consideration of the Lords Amendments stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Lords Amendments be further considered to-morrow.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.37 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

2 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—Draft Maternity and Parental Leave etc. Regulations 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].
Other Papers:


5 Regulatory Impact Assessments,—List of Regulatory Impact Assessments for 1st January to 30th June 1999 [by Command] [Marjorie Mowlam].

6 Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation,—Report and Accounts of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation for 1998 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Value Added Tax (Input Tax) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999, No. 2930),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Kevin McNamara from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order), and nominated in substitution Kali Mountford.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Sixth Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, on The Department for Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos]; to be printed [No. 888] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs,—(1) Twenty-First Report from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee [Railways Bill], 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. 837]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Rural White Paper]; to be printed [No. 887]

[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Cost and Availability of Generic Drugs to the NHS]; to be printed [No. 889] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

[No. 145.]

Friday 5th November 1999.

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 communicate that they have considered the Message from the Commons yesterday 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 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 Twelve noon on Tuesday 9th November;
That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than Twelve 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.

United Reformed Church Bill [Lords].—The Lords communicate that they have considered the Message from the Commons [yesterday] relating to the United Reformed Church 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 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 Twelve noon on Tuesday 9th November;

That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than Twelve 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.

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2 Adjournment (Family-friendly Employment Policies).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Mike Hall),

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

3 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Tony McNulty),

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 8th November.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

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APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 National Health Service.—Road Traffic (NHS Charges) (Appeals: Ending of Transitional Period) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3012), dated 3rd November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Milburn].

Other Papers:

2 Inland Revenue.—Report and Financial Statements of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Inland Revenue for 1998-99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 4477] [Dawn Primarolo].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (Suspension).—Ordered, That so much of the Lords Message [4th November] as relates to the City of Newcastle upon Tyne Bill [Lords], the Kent County Council Bill [Lords] and the Medway Council Bill [Lords] be now considered. The House accordingly proceeded to consider so much of the said Message.

Resolved, That this House concurs with the Lords in their Resolution.—(The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Nicholas Winterton reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1999, the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 and the draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1999.

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

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Input Tax) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2930).

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 do not insist on certain of their Amendments to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill to which this House has disagreed, and they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu of their Amendments disagreed to; they do not insist on another Amendment to which this House has disagreed, but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; they do not insist on their remaining Amendments to which this House has disagreed; they agree, without Amendment, to certain Amendments made by this House to the words restored to the Bill; they disagree to another Amendment made by this House, but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, and agree to the remaining Amendment made by this House, with Amendments to the words restored to the Bill, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—Lords Amendment in lieu of one of their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed, a Lords Amendment in lieu of a Commons Amendment and Lords Amendments to a Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 163].

6 Greater London Authority Bill (Supplemental Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Order of the House of 13th January 1999 relating to the Greater London Authority Bill be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendments

1.—(1) Proceedings on further Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at today’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion at Ten o’clock.

(2) The remaining Lords Amendments shall be considered in the following order, namely:

Nos. 41 to 126, 499, 127 to 212, 703, 213 to 422, 541, 793, 423 to 425, 426 to 498, 500 to 540, 542 to 702, 704 to 792 and 794 to 820.

(3) Each part of the proceedings shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 41 to 126, 499, 127 to 212, 703, 213 to 422, 541, 793 and 423 to 425</td>
<td>8.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nos. 426 to 498, 500 to 540, 542 to 702, 704 to 792 and 794 to 820</td>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1.

(2) The Speaker shall—

(a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not been decided and, if that Question is for the amendment of a Lords Amendment, a single Question on any further Amendments 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 agrees or disagrees with the Lords in the Lords Amendment or, as the case may be, in the Lords Amendment as amended;

(b) put forthwith a single Question on any Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords Amendment followed by the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment or, as the case may be, in their Amendment as amended;

(c) 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;

(d) put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(3) As soon as the House has agreed or disagreed with the Lords in any of their Amendments, the Speaker shall put forthwith a single Question on any Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown relevant to the Lords Amendment.

Subsequent stages

3. 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.

4. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

5. For the purpose of bringing these proceedings to a conclusion the Speaker shall—

(a) put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not been decided, and the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown which is related to the Question already proposed from the Chair;

(b) put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords Message; and

(c) put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Proposals.

Reasons Committee

6. 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.

7.—(1) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting at which it is appointed.

(2) Proceedings in the Committee shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion 30 minutes after their commencement.

(3) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with sub-paragraph (2) the Chairman shall—

(a) first put forthwith any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not yet been decided; and

(b) then put forthwith successively Questions on motions which may be made by a Minister of the Crown for assigning a Reason for disagreeing with the Lords in one of their Amendments.

(4) The proceedings of the Committee shall be reported without any further Question being put.

Miscellaneous

8. This paragraph applies to—

(a) proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments;

(b) proceedings on any further Message from the Lords; and

(c) proceedings of the kind mentioned in paragraph 6.
9. Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies.

10. Proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

11. If proceedings on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House would, by virtue of Standing Order No. 24 (Urgent matters), commence at a time when proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies are in progress, the proceedings on the Motion shall be postponed to the conclusion of the proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies.

12. No Motion shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown, to alter the order in which any proceedings are taken; and if a Minister makes any such Motion, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith.

13. No dilatory Motion with respect to, or in the course of, proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies shall be made, except by a Minister of the Crown; and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

14. If a Minister of the Crown makes a Motion for varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order, the Question on the Motion shall be put forthwith and paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings on the Motion.

15. If the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the conclusion of any proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies, 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 Keith Hill)

And it being three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [13th January].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Greg Pope: 304.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr James Cran: 150.

So the Question was agreed to.

Greater London Authority Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Lords Amendments to the Greater London Authority Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 41 to 126 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 499 was disagreed to.
An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 499 disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 127 to 212 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 168, 169, 204, 206 and 207.
Lords Amendment No. 703.
Amendments ((a)) to ((d)) were made to the Lords Amendment.
The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.
Amendment ((e)), consequential to Lords Amendment No. 703, was made to the Bill.
Lords Amendments Nos. 213 to 222 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 223.
Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Keith Hill).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 315.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Edward Davey: 25.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 224 to 293 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 232.
Lords Amendment No. 294.
Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Keith Hill).
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Clelland, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 311.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 158.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 295 to 331 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 332.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment.—(Jim Dowd);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Anne McGuire: 314.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 156.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 333 to 353 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 354.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Keith Hill);

And it being Eight o'clock, the Deputy Speaker proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment, put and agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 419.

Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 793.

Amendments ((a)) to ((f)) were made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords Amendments Nos. 355 to 418, 420 to 422, 541 and 423 to 425—(Jim Dowd);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Jamieson, Mrs Anne McGuire: 347.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 133.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendments were accordingly agreed to.

Amendment ((a)), consequential to Lords Amendment No. 541, was made to the Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 426 to 498 and 500 to 514 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 515.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Jamieson: 346.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 138.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendment No. 516.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Keith Hill);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe: 349.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 139.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

And it being after Ten o'clock, the Speaker proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 517 to 540, 542 to 702, 704 to 792 and 794 to 820—(Jim Dowd);
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe: 349.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 136.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendments were accordingly agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 555 to 557, 740 and 741.

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 and 6;
That Jim Dowd, Mr Phil Hope, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Shaun Woodward be Members of the Committee;
That Mr Nick Raynsford be the Chairman of the Committee;
That three be the Quorum of the Committee;
That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Jim Dowd.)

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe: 319.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Adrian Sanders: 158.

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 and 6.

Ordered, That Jim Dowd, Mr Phil Hope, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Shaun Woodward be Members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Nick Raynsford be the Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the Quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.

8 Taxes,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe: 342.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 59.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved.

9 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 Working Time Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mike Hall, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 331.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 48.

So the Question was agreed to.
Resolved. That the draft Working Time Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved.

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 Licensing and Registered Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which were laid before this House on 19th October, be approved—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Greg Pope: 311.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Gray, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 33.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Licensing and Registered Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 19th October, be approved.

11 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 Chartered Institute of Patent Agents Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 25th October, be approved—(Mr David Clelland);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Greg Pope: 306.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr James Gray, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 27.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved. That the draft Chartered Institute of Patent Agents Order 1999, which was laid before this House on 25th October, be approved.

12 Greater London Authority 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 and 6, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 1 for the following Reasons:

Because Clause 2(6)(b) of the Bill makes provision for the filling of vacancies in the office of Mayor of London and it is unnecessary to make special provision for particular cases.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 6 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate for the London Assembly to be empowered to remove the Mayor of London from office.

13 Food Standards Bill (Supplementary Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Order [22nd July]. That the Order of the House of 22nd July 1999 be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at today’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion one and a half hours after the commencement of the proceedings on this Order.

2.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1.

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question already proposed from the Chair.

(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 of 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended.
(4) 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 to the Lords Amendment or (as the case may be) to the Lords Amendment as amended;

(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees to a Lords Amendment.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees to all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(7) As soon as the House has agreed or disagreed to a Lords Amendment the Speaker shall put forthwith a separate Question on any amendment which is moved by a Minister of the Crown and relevant to the Lords Amendment.

**Subsequent stages**

3.—(1) The Speaker shall put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown for the consideration forthwith of any further Message from the Lords on the Bill.

(2) The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

(3) For the purpose of bringing these proceedings to a conclusion the Speaker shall put forthwith—

(a) any Question already proposed from the Chair and 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 Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords Message; and

(c) the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Proposals.

**Miscellaneous**

4.—(1) This paragraph applies to proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments and proceedings on any further Message from the Lords.

(2) Paragraph 1 of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to 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) Where proceedings on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House would, by virtue of Standing Order No. 24 (Urgent matters), commence at a time when proceedings to which this paragraph applies are in progress, the proceedings on the Motion shall be postponed to the conclusion of the proceedings to which this paragraph applies.

(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 David Clelland)—It was agreed to.

14 Food Standards Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Food Standards Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 5 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 6.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Ms Joyce Quin);

Tuesday 9th November 1999.

Question put and agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 7 to 24 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 25.

An Amendment was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 3, after the word ‘the’, to insert the word ‘sourcing’—(Mrs Caroline Spelman.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made to the Lords Amendment.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 135
Tellers for the Noes, Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Hall: 266.

So the Question was negatived.

It being more than one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Questions necessary to dispose of the proceedings to be concluded at that hour.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Hall: 276.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 9.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Question put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 26 to 48.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Dowd, Mr Mike Hall: 274
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Jonathan Sayeed: 11

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendments were accordingly agreed to.

15 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Graham Allen.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Two o’clock on Tuesday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 2.00 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Competition,—Competition Act 1998 (Commission Investigation and Director’s Investigation) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3027), dated 5th November 1999 [by Act][Mr Secretary Byers].

2 Gas,—Gas Act 1986 (Exemptions) (No. 4) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3026), dated 4th November 1999 [by Act][Mr Secretary Byers].


   (2) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Completel UK Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2953),

   (3) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Core Telecommunications Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2938),

   (4) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Enitel ASA) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2946),

   (5) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Faultbasic Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2943),


(9) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Level 3 Communications Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2948),


(11) Public Telecommunication System Designation (StarGlobal Ltd) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2951),


(14) Public Telecommunication System Designation (Teleport UK Limited (trading as Satellite Media Services)) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2954),

(15) Public Telecommunication System Designation (TNI (Telecom) Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2940),

(16) Public Telecommunication System Designation (WinStar Communications Limited) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2939), and

dated 28th October 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].


Other Papers:

7 Covent Garden Market,—Report and Accounts of the Covent Garden Market Authority for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Nicholas Brown].

8 Finance,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Audit of the Future Oil Price Convention for the November 1999 Pre-Budget Report [by Act]; to be printed [No. 873] [Clerk of the House].

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

(1) The Millennium Threat: Are We Ready?, and

(2) The Year 2000 Problem in the Utilities: Update Report [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 871 and 843] [Clerk of the House].

10 Telecommunications,—Licences granted under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to—

(1) BSI ACCESS UK Limited,

(2) Completel UK Limited,

(3) Core Telecommunications Limited,

(4) Enetel ASA,

(5) Faultbasic Limited,

(6) G.C. Global Communications Limited,

(7) GTS Business Services (UK) Limited,

(8) IBSC Limited,

(9) Level 3 Communications Limited,

(10) Pantheon Telecom (UK) Limited,

(11) StarGlobal Ltd,

(12) Tele2 Sweden Limited,

(13) Telecom New Zealand (UK) Licences Limited,
(14) Teleport UK Limited (trading as Satellite Media Services),
(15) TNI (Telecom) Limited,
(16) WinStar Communications Limited, and
(17) WXNET Limited
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1999, the draft Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Regulations 1999 and the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Jean Corston from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Rachel Squire.

[No. 147.]

Tuesday 9th November 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1 Financial Services and Markets Bill.—Mr Peter Atkinson, pursuant to Order [25th October], reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Financial Services and Markets Bill, in respect of Clauses Nos. 1 to 134 and Schedules Nos. 1 to 11, and had directed him to report the Bill, as so far amended, to the House.

Bill, as so far amended in the Standing Committee, to lie upon the Table.

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

2 National Science Strategy.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the establishment of a national science strategy; to create a National Science Strategy Council to monitor levels of funding, to consult scientific organisations and to advise the Secretary of State; and for connected purposes: And that Dr Ian Gibson, Ms Judith Church, Dr Michael Clark, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Anthony D. Wright, Mr Ivan Henderson, Dr Ashok Kumar, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Hilary Benn, Dr Desmond Turner and Dr Brian Iddon do prepare and bring it in.

3 National Science Strategy Bill.—Dr Ian Gibson accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the establishment of a national science strategy; to create a National Science Strategy Council to monitor levels of funding, to consult scientific organisations and to advise the Secretary of State; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday 11th November and to be printed [Bill 165].

4 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider a Lords Amendment in lieu of one of their Amendments to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill to which the Commons have disagreed, a Lords Amendment in lieu of a Commons Amendment and Lords Amendments to a Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 20B.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Jeff Rooker);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Clive Betts, Mr Greg Pope: 361.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 178.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 42.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House insists on its Amendment No. 42A to the words restored to the Bill and disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment No. 42D in lieu—(Mr Secretary Darling);
And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [3rd November].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 314.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 234.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved: That this House insists on its Amendment No. 42A to the words restored to the Bill and disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment No. 42D in lieu.

Lords Amendment No. 43E.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 234.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 43F.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Kevin Hughes);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Clive Betts: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 232.

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. 20B, 42D, 43E and 43F and for insisting on Amendment No. 42A.

Ordered, That Mr Richard Burden, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Eric Pickles and Mr Jeff Rooker be members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Mr Jeff Rooker be Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

5 Immigration and Asylum Bill (Supplemental Allocation of Time).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Order of the House [15th June] be supplemented as follows:

Lords Amendments

1.—(1) Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at today’s sitting and, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion five hours after the commencement of proceedings on this Order.

(2) The Lords Amendments shall be considered in the following order: No. 135, Nos. 1 to 134 and Nos. 136 to 369.

(3) Proceedings on Lords Amendment No. 135 shall, if not previously concluded, be brought to a conclusion one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill.

2.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing the proceedings on Amendment No. 135 to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1(3).

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and not yet decided.

(3) If that Question is for the amendment of the Lords Amendment, the Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on the Motion made by a Minister of the Crown, That this House disagrees with the Lords in the Amendment or (as the case may be) in the Amendment as amended.

3.—(1) This paragraph applies for the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1(1).
(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question which has already been 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 of 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 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 their Amendment as amended.

(5) 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.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Amendments.

(7) 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 single Question on any Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown relevant to the Lords Amendment.

Subsequent stages

4.—(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) Sub-paragraphs (4) to (7) apply for the purpose of bringing those proceedings to a conclusion.

(4) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and not yet decided.

(5) The Speaker 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.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question on any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown on any item.

(7) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords Proposals.

Reasons Committee

5. 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.

6.—(1) A Committee appointed to draw up Reasons shall report before the conclusion of the sitting at which it is appointed.

(2) Proceedings in the Committee shall, if not previously brought to a conclusion, be brought to a conclusion 30 minutes after their commencement.

(3) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with sub-paragraph (2) the Chairman shall—
   (a) first put forthwith any Question which has already been proposed from the Chair and has not yet been decided; and
   (b) then put forthwith successively Questions on motions which may be made by a Minister of the Crown for assigning a Reason for disagreeing with the Lords in any of their Amendments.

(4) The proceedings of the Committee shall be reported without any further Question being put.
Miscellaneous

7. If the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the expiry of the period at the end of which any proceedings are to be brought to a conclusion under this Order, 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.

8.—(1) In this paragraph “the proceedings” means proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments, on any further Message from the Lords on the Bill, on the appointment and quorum of a Committee to draw up Reasons and the Report of such a Committee.

(2) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) shall apply to the proceedings.

(3) The proceedings 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, the proceedings shall be made except by a Minister of the Crown, and the Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

9. If proceedings on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House would, by virtue of Standing Order No. 24 (Adjournment on specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration), commence at a time when proceedings to which paragraph 8 applies are in progress, proceedings on the Motion shall be postponed to the conclusion of those proceedings—(Mr Secretary Straw);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Dowd, Mr David Clelland: 339.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 175.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill,—Mr Jeff Rooker reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments and for insisting on a Commons Amendment to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 20B, for the following Reason:—
Because it involves charges on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Commons insist on their Amendment No. 42A and disagree to Lords Amendment No. 42D, for the following Reason:—
Because the Lords Amendment 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 Commons disagree to Lords Amendments No. 43E and 43F 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 Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons with the Bill.

7 Immigration and Asylum Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider Lords Amendments to the Immigration and Asylum Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 135.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Secretary Straw);

And it being one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr David Jamieson: 331.

Tellers for the Noes, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Donald Gorrie: 60.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 1.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 8, at the end to add the words—

'(2) No person shall be accommodated by the Secretary of State under subsection (1) for a period exceeding 10 days.'—(Mr Simon Hughes.)

Wednesday 10th November 1999

Question put, That the Amendment be made to the Lords Amendment;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Robert Smith, Mr David Heath: 39.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 296.

So the Question was negatived.

And it being more than five hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Supplemental Allocation of Time Order, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions necessary to bring proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to a conclusion.

Lords Amendment No. 1 was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendment No. 139.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, so amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 134, 136 to 138, and 140 to 369 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in relation to Lords Amendments Nos. 14, 152, 164, 167, 174, 180, 183, 184, 189, 191, 193, 194, 250, 275, 279 and 287.

Ordered. That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 135.

Ordered. That Mr Mike Hall, Mr Tom Levitt, Mr David Lidington, Mrs Barbara Roche and Mr Keith Simpson be members of the Committee.

Ordered. That Mrs Barbara Roche be Chairman of the Committee.

Ordered. That three be the quorum of the Committee.

Ordered. That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Mr Mike Hall.)

8 Immigration and Asylum Bill.—Mrs Barbara Roche reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 135, That it had drawn up the following Reason:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 135 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.

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 Amendment (New Deal) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 14th July, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire):—It was agreed to.

10 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 1999, which were laid before this House on 21st October, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire):—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 Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999, which were laid before this House on 21st October, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire):—It was agreed to.

12 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 (Input Tax) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2930), dated 26th October 1999, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th October, be approved—(Mrs Anne McGuire):—It was agreed to.
13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mrs Anne McGuire); 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 eighteen minutes past One o’clock, till this day. [Adjourned at 1.18 a.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Other Papers:
1 Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Improving Winter Driving Conditions [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 933] [Mr Secretary Mandelson].

2 Natural Heritage (Scotland),—(1) Report and Summary Financial Statements of Scottish Natural Heritage for 1998–99, and
(2) Scottish Natural Heritage Facts and Figures for 1998–99 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

3 Pre-Budget Report,—Paper, entitled Pre-Budget Report, November 1999: Stability and steady growth for Britain [by Command] [Cm. 4479] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Agriculture,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Agriculture Committee [Marketing of Milk]; to be printed [No. 830-iv];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Current Crisis in the Livestock Industry]; to be printed [No. 931-i]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Current Crisis in the Livestock Industry; Implications for UK Agriculture and EU Agricultural Policy of Trade Liberalisation and the WTO Round; Marketing of Milk; Segregation of GM Foods] [Mr Peter Luff].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [The Future of Professional Rugby]; to be printed [No. 590-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Employment,—(1) Ninth Report from the Education and Employment Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 111]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Opportunities for Disabled People] [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 [The Environment Agency]; to be printed [No. 829-i] [Mr Andrew F. Bennett].

5 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [A Sustainable Millennium Round (WTO)]; to be printed [No. 883-ii] [Mr John Horam].

6 Home Affairs,—(1) Fifth Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Drugs and Prisons], 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. 363]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Drugs and Prisons] [Mr Robin Corbett].

7 International Development,—(1) Seventh Report from the International Development Committee [Women and Development], 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. 160]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Kosovo: Further Developments]; to be printed [No. 924-i]
[Mr Bowen Wells].

8 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Delegated Legislation]; to be printed [No. 930-i] [Mr Nicholas Winterton].

9 Public Administration,—(1) Fifth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Freedom of Information: The Home Office Response]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 925];

(2) Sixth Report from the Committee [Quangos]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 209-i];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Public Sector Ombudsmen Review]; to be printed [No. 926-i]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Quangos] [No. 209-II]
[Dr Tony Wright].

10 Standards and Privileges,—(1) Twelfth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Remunerated Employment as a Member of another Elected Body]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 928];

(2) Thirteenth Report from the Committee [Complaint against Marjorie Mowlam], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 929]; and

(3) Fourteenth Report from the Committee [Complaint against Dr Jack Cunningham]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 929]
[Mr Robert Sheldon].

11 Statutory Instruments,—Thirtyih Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 50-xxx] [Mr David Tredinnick].

12 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Export Credit Guarantee Department]; to be printed [Nos. 934-i and-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

13 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Private Finance Initiative]; to be printed [No. 927-i] [Mr Giles Radice].

[No. 148.]

Wednesday 10th November 1999.

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

The Lords do not insist on certain of their Amendments to the Greater London Authority Bill to which this House has disagreed; they do not insist on a further Amendment to which this House has disagreed and agree, without Amendment, to the Amendment proposed by this House in lieu thereof; they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House to their remaining Amendments; and they agree, without Amendment, to the consequential Amendments made by this House to the Bill.
The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, to which this House has disagreed; and they agree, without Amendment, to the remaining Amendment made by this House to the words restored to the Bill.

The Lords agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House to the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords]

The Lords agree, without Amendment, to the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Immigration and Asylum Bill, to which this House has disagreed; and they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendment proposed by this House to the remaining Amendment.

3 European Standing Committee A.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee A be printed [No. 935].

4 European Standing Committee B.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee B be printed [No. 936].

5 European Standing Committee C.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee C be printed [No. 937].

6 Scottish Grand Committee.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Grand Committee be printed [No. 941].

7 House of Lords Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the House of Lords Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

An Amendment (f) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 4, after the word ‘time’ to insert the words “no more than”.—(Mr Andrew Mackinlay.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment to the Lords Amendment be made:—

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Margaret Beckett);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Dowd, Mrs Anne McGuire: 438.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Andrew Tyrie: 22.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the Question, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Paddy Tipping);

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 House of Lords Bill, the Motion in the name of Margaret Beckett relating to Business of the House, and consideration of any Messages from the Lords relating to the House of Lords Bill may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr David Jamieson):—It was agreed to.

9 House of Lords Bill.—The House again proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the House of Lords Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 2.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the Question, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe: 353.

Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 133.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3 was agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 4.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Paddy Tipping);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes: Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Tony McNulty: 355.

Tellers for the Noes: Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr John M. Taylor: 130.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment Nos. 5 to 12 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 13 was 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. 2, 4 and 13.

That Margaret Beckett, Mr Ivor Caplin, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mrs Eleanor Laing and Mrs Anne McGuire be members of the Committee;

That Margaret Beckett be Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr David Clelland);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe: 331.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr John Randall: 28.

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. 2, 4 and 13.

Ordered, That Margaret Beckett, Mr Ivor Caplin, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mrs Eleanor Laing and Mrs Anne McGuire be members of the Committee.

Ordered, That Margaret Beckett be Chairman of the Committee;

Ordered, That three be the quorum of the Committee;

Ordered, That the Committee do withdraw immediately.

10 House of Lords Bill,—Margaret Beckett reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the House of Lords Bill, that it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed her to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 2 and 13 for the following Reason:—

Because it is not appropriate to make statutory provision for an Appointments Commission.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 4 for the following Reason:—

Because it is unnecessary to protect further the position of the Septennial Act 1715.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill.

11 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the Senior Citizens’ Forum for Better Pensions seeking restoration of the link between pensions and wages was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Clive Betts);

Thursday 11th November 1999

And the Question being put;

Resolved. That this House do now adjourn.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eighteen minutes past Twelve o’clock on Thursday morning, adjourned till this day.

[Adjourned at 12.18 a.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Building Societies,—(1) Building Societies (Members’ Requisitions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3031), dated 9th November 1999,
   (2) Building Societies (Members’ Resolutions) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3033), dated 5th November 1999, and
   [by Act] [Miss Melanie Johnson].

2 Education,—(1) Dudley Partnership for Achievement Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3016),
   (2) East Manchester Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3015),
   (3) Hackney Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3025),
   (4) Hastings and St Leonards Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3020),
   (5) Heart of Slough Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3018),
   (6) New Horizons Kent-Somerset Virtual Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3023),
   (7) North East Derbyshire Coalfields Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3022),
   (8) Preston Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3021),
   (9) Southend Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3019),
   (10) Telford and Wrekin Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3017),
   (11) Wednesbury Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3013),
   (12) Widening Horizons—North Islington Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3024), and
   (13) Wythenshawe Education Action Zone Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3014),
   dated 4th November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


4 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Crown Court (Forms Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3040), dated 9th November 1999 [by Act] [Mr David Lock].

Other Papers:

5 Biological Standards,—Accounts of the National Biological Standards Board for 1998–99, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 939] [Clerk of the House].

6 Coroners,—Devon (Coroners’ Districts) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2980), dated 2nd November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 House of Commons Members’ Fund,—Report by the Government Actuary on the Valuation of the House of Commons Members’ Fund as at 30th September 1997 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 813] [Clerk of the House].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [27th July] from the Evening Gazette and residents of Colchester and surrounding areas of Essex against closure of cancer services in Colchester and for the provision of a centre of excellence for the treatment of cancer in Colchester [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

9 Regional Development Agencies,—Reports and Financial Statements of:—
   (1) Advantage West Midlands—The Development Agency,
   (2) the East Midlands Development Agency,
   (3) the East of England Development Agency,
   (4) the North West Development Agency,
   (5) One North East (North East Development Agency).
(6) the South East England Development Agency,
(7) the South West of England Regional Development Agency, and
(8) Yorkshire Forward—Yorkshire & Humber Regional Development Agency
for the period 14th December 1998 to 31st March 1999, with the Reports of the
Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Treaty Series (No. 69, 1999),—Exchange of Notes, done at Amman on 13th August and 9th
September 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland
and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan concerning Certain
Commercial Debts (The United Kingdom/Jordan Debt Agreement No. 4 (1997)) [by
Command] [Cm. 4472] [Mr Secretary Cook].

11 Treaty Series (No. 70, 1999),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 27th April 1999, between the
Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Commission for the Location of
Victims’ Remains [by Command] [Cm. 4473] [Mr Secretary Cook].

12 Treaty Series (No. 71, 1999),—Amendments, done at Rome on 26th January 1995, to Articles
3.3, 3.4, 4.2, 4.5, 5.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 12 (a) and 13.3 and Schedules I and II effected by
Resolution 86/XVIII, to the Agreement, done at Rome on 13th June 1976, establishing
the International Fund for Agricultural Development [by Command] [Cm. 4474] [Mr
Secretary Cook].

13 Treaty Series (No. 72, 1999),—WEU Security Agreement, done at Brussels on 28th March
1995 [by Command] [Cm. 4475] [Mr Secretary Cook].

APPENDIX II

European Standing Committees

European Union Documents Nos. 10705/99, 10497/99, 11203/99 together with the
unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum submitted by the Department for International
Development on 5th November 1999, all relating to the EC's Humanitarian and
Development Aid, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [The OCCAR
Convention]; to be printed [No. 940-i] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Employment,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education Sub-
Committee of the Education and Employment Committee [School Meals]; to be printed
[No. 676-ii] [Valerie Davey].

3 European Scrutiny,—(1) Thirty-First Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be
printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No.
34-xxxi]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Inquiry into The Forthcoming
Inter-Governmental Conference]; to be printed [No. 942]
[Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs
Committee [Response to the Second Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs
Committee, Session 1998–99, on Electricity Supplies in Northern Ireland: Impact of the
26 December 1998 storm]; to be printed [No. 923]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Current problems relating to the
livestock industry in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 897-i]
[Mr Peter Brooke].

5 Social Security,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Social Security Committee [The
Contributory Principle]; to be printed [No. 485-v] [Mr Archy Kirkwood].

6 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee
[Insolvency: Draft Clauses]; to be printed [No. 938-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee
[Customs and Excise]; to be printed [No. 885-ii] [Mr Giles Radice].
Thursday 11th November 1999.

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

PRAYERS.

1. Accommodation and Works,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Accommodation and Works Committee be printed [No. 890].

2. Administration,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Administration Committee be printed [No. 891].

3. Agriculture,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Agriculture Committee be printed [No. 892].

4. Broadcasting,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Broadcasting Committee be printed [No. 893].

5. Catering,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Catering Committee be printed [No. 894].

6. Culture, Media and Sport,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee be printed [No. 895].

7. Defence,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Defence Committee be printed [No. 896].

8. 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 Employment Sub-Committee [No. 898].

9. 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 Transport Sub-Committee [No. 899].

10. Environmental Audit,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environmental Audit Committee be printed [No. 900].

11. European Scrutiny,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the European Scrutiny Committee be printed [No. 901].

12. Finance and Services,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Finance and Services Committee be printed [No. 902].

13. Food Standards,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Food Standards Committee be printed [No. 908].

14. Foreign Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Foreign Affairs Committee be printed [No. 903].

15. Health,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Health Committee be printed [No. 904].

16. Home Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Home Affairs Committee be printed [No. 905].

17. Information,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Information Committee be printed [No. 906].

18. International Development,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the International Development Committee on 4th November be printed [No. 907].

19. Liaison,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee on 4th November be printed [No. 944].

20. Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons be printed [No. 909].

21. Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee be printed [No. 910].

22. Procedure,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Procedure Committee be printed [No. 911].

23. Public Accounts,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee of Public Accounts be printed [No. 912].
24 Public Administration,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Public Administration be printed [No. 913].

25 Science and Technology,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Science and Technology Committee be printed [No. 914].

26 Scottish Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Affairs Committee be printed [No. 915].

27 Social Security,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Social Security Committee be printed [No. 916].

28 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee on Standards and Privileges be printed [No. 917].

29 Statutory Instruments,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments be printed [No. 918].

30 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. 919].

31 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Trade and Industry Committee be printed [No. 920].

32 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. 921].

33 Welsh Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Welsh Affairs Committee be printed [No. 922].

34 Business of the House,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, at this day's sitting—
   (i) the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords shall have been received; and
   (ii) if the House has completed its consideration of any Messages received from the Lords and the Lords have adjourned their sitting, the Speaker shall adjourn the House without Question put—(Mr Graham Allen);

   Mr Keith Bradley 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, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 258.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Keith Simpson: 72.

   So the Question was agreed to.

   The Main Question being accordingly put;

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Robert Ainsworth: 269
   Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 74.

   So the Question was agreed to

   Ordered, That, at this day's sitting—
   (i) the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords shall have been received; and
   (ii) if the House has completed its consideration of any Messages received from the Lords and the Lords have adjourned their sitting, the Speaker shall adjourn the House without Question put.

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

   The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the House of Lords Bill, to which this House has disagreed.

36 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:—

- Food Standards Act 1999
- Greater London Authority Act 1999
- Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999
- Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999
- Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 1999
- Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

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 Germany last December, of His Excellency The President of Hungary last June and of His Excellency The President of the People’s Republic of China in October.

We recall with pleasure our State Visit to Korea in April.

We were delighted to pay State Visits to Ghana and South Africa over the last four days.

My Government have taken action to build a platform of economic stability and steady growth, based on clear long-term objectives for monetary and fiscal policy, with openness and transparency in policy making.

My Government’s goal is high and stable levels of growth and employment. The new system of monetary policy-making ensures that interest rate decisions are taken in the best long-term interests of the economy. As a result, the UK now has a sound and credible platform of stability. Inflation is historically low and expected to remain close to target. And long-term interest rates are also at historically low levels. Employment is up by over half a million since the election, with more people in work in Britain today than ever before.

To ensure high levels of employment, my Government are extending the New Deal, to help more young people and the long term unemployed. And my Government are tackling the poverty and unemployment traps. To make work pay and encourage job creation, they have introduced the national minimum wage and the new 10p starting rate of tax, cut the basic rate of income tax from next April, and reformed national insurance. And the Working Families Tax Credit, introduced in October, is helping to make work pay for low paid working families.

My Government are continually looking at ways to improve productivity, including in the public sector. They have set tough targets for outputs from every department in Public Service Agreements.

My Government’s legislation to raise standards for all children is now coming into effect. There has been a widespread reduction in the number of children in infant classes of over 30 and there is extensive support for the literacy and numeracy strategies. My Government published the Teachers Green Paper—the most radical reform of the teaching profession in a generation—and has since announced progress towards a new pay structure for teachers.

Parliament has passed for the first time legislation for the creation of a Disability Rights Commission, which will help create a positive climate for people with disabilities in their lives and work.

My Government have put in place the framework for a modern National Health Service. An Act has been passed to replace the NHS internal market with decentralised arrangements based on partnership, quality and efficiency. Waiting lists have been reduced by 200,000 since their high point in April 1998, and by 69,000 since March 1997.

An Act has been passed to establish a Food Standards Agency to protect public health and the interests of consumers in relation to food.

Legislation has been enacted to support minimum standards at work, to promote partnership and to make it easier for people to combine family responsibilities and employment.

An Act has been passed which takes forward my Government’s programme of welfare reform, promoting work for those who are able to work and security for those who cannot.

My Government have begun the modernisation of local government. Legislation has been enacted to secure the delivery of high quality local services on a sound financial basis.
My Government have begun the process of restoring democratic, city-wide government in London. Legislation was enacted to establish the Greater London Authority, providing London with a new form of strategic governance.

An Act has been passed which will enable the implementation of the EU Directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control, which will maintain a coherent pollution control regime for the United Kingdom.

Legislation has been enacted to provide a fair basis for water charging in England and Wales.

An Act has been passed to modernise and strengthen immigration control. It will speed up the system of immigration and asylum appeals. This Act is essential to the delivery of a fairer, faster and firmer immigration and asylum system to which my Government is committed.

An Act has been passed which creates a new sentencing disposal for first time defendants pleading guilty in the youth court and introduces new measures to help vulnerable witnesses to give their best evidence in criminal trials.

Legislation has been enacted to establish a Community Legal Service and a Criminal Defence Service. They will replace existing legal aid arrangements and enable resources to be better targeted. The Act also extends the use of conditional fees, removes unnecessary restrictions on the provision of legal services and makes reforms to magistrates’ courts and the appeals system. This will increase access to justice. Other law reform measures have been enacted.

As a first step in a process of reform, legislation has been enacted to remove the automatic right of hereditary peers to membership of the House of Lords.

The people of Scotland and Wales voted to have their own Parliament and National Assembly and it was my pleasure with The Duke of Edinburgh and The Prince of Wales to open the National Assembly of Wales on 26th May and to open the Scottish Parliament on 1st July.

In Northern Ireland, my Government have continued to work to secure the full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement. They have, in co-operation with the Irish Government, established a review to overcome difficulties in its implementation. They have welcomed the Report of the Independent Commission on Policing.

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 Government have played a leading role in the European Union. They have continued to strengthen bilateral relations with our partners. My Government have welcomed the entry into force of new treaty provisions which strengthen the European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy and have welcomed the appointment of the first High Representative. In co-operation with other Member States, they have ensured a successful outcome to the Agenda 2000 negotiations that maintained the United Kingdom’s budget abatement.

My Government have played a key role in preparing the European Union for the historic challenge of enlargement. They have also helped the applicant countries prepare for membership.

My Government welcomed the launch of the euro on 1st January. They have published an outline National Changeover Plan, which could be implemented should Britain decide to join. They have welcomed the appointment of a new European Commission, committed to reform.

My Government have maintained strong and modern defence for Britain based on the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. They played a leading role in the decisions taken at NATO’s 50th Anniversary summit in Washington to modernise further and prepare the Alliance for the challenges and opportunities it will face in the new century.

My Government launched an historic initiative at the Franco-British St. Malo Summit. This will make the European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy more effective and will revitalise the Atlantic Alliance.

My Government launched an initiative at the British-Italian London Summit to improve the effectiveness of European defence forces. My Government have continued successfully to restructure the Armed Forces to meet the demands of the modern world.

My Government reaffirmed its commitment to support the United Nations by signing a Memorandum of Understanding declaring United Kingdom forces potentially available for United Nations’ peacekeeping Operations and by announcing its intention to make an increased contribution to UN police operations.

My Government made a substantial and vital contribution to the success of the international community’s diplomatic, political and military efforts to halt and reverse ethnic cleansing in Kosovo. Following the end of the conflict, my Government have
played an important role in reconstructing Kosovo and preparing it for free and fair elections.

My Government’s political, military and financial commitment to Bosnia and Herzegovina has continued to help build peace there.

My Government has supported the democratic transition in Indonesia and has played a leading role, including a military contribution, in the UN process to help bring self-determination to the people of East Timor.

Following the abolition of the death penalty under United Kingdom law, my Government signed and ratified the 6th Protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights.

My Government have published a white paper proposing a new partnership with our Overseas Territories and offering British citizenship to their people.

My Government have negotiated new arrangements which re-establish links between the Falkland Islands and Argentina.

After extensive diplomatic effort by my Government, the Government of Libya finally agreed to hand over the two suspects in the Lockerbie bombing case. We are pleased that my Government subsequently reached an agreement on the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Libya.

My Government supported and welcomed the transition to democratic civilian government in Nigeria.

My Government have played a leading role in securing international agreement to reduce further the debt burden of very poor countries. My Government have put into place a strategy to increase the proportion of the United Kingdom’s bilateral development assistance going to low income countries and to increase the focus of the multilateral agencies on the reduction of poverty. An Act has been passed to convert the Commonwealth Development Corporation to a public-private partnership enabling it to make a larger contribution to development by channelling increased private sector investment into the poorest countries.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons
I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may attend you.

After which the Lord Chancellor said:

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons:

By virtue of Her Majesty’s Commission which has now been read we do, in Her Majesty’s name, and in obedience to Her Majesty’s Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Wednesday the seventeenth day of this instant November, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Wednesday the seventeenth day of this instant November.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1. Housing,—Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount) (Amendment) Order 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 3028), dated 8th November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2. Prices,—Price Marking Order 1999 (S.I. 1999, No. 3042), dated 10th November 1999 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Byers].

Other Papers:

3. Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998–99, on Foreign and Commonwealth Office Resources [by Command] [Cm. 4462] [Mr Secretary Cook].


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [A Sustainable Millennium Round]; to be printed [No. 883-ii] [Mr John Horam].
INDEX
to the
Two Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Volume
Session 1998–99

47 & 48 Eliz. II. Parl. 52. Sess. 2 1998–99

PART I

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:
Scheme: 1999: Common Investment (Amendment), 173.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING:

AGRICULTURE:
Orders: 1999: Environmentally Sensitive Areas Designation (Amendment) Orders, in respect of:- Avon Valley, 338; Breckland, 338; Clun, 338; Exmoor, 338; Lake District, 338; North Kent Marshes, 338; North Peak, 338; South Wessex Downs, 338; Suffolk River Valleys, 338; Test Valley, 338; Blackdown Hills, 498; Cotswold Hills, 498; Dartmoor, 498; Essex Coast, 498; Shropshire Hills, 498; Upper Thames Tributaries, 498.
Other Orders: 1999: Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Wales) Designation Orders (Amendment), 272; Home-Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy), 362.
Regulations: 1998: Action Programme for Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (Scotland), 13; Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (Amendment), 33; BSE Offspring Slaughter, 45; Arable Area Payments (Amendment), 64.
Regulations: 1999: Arable Area Payments (Amendment), 74; Miscellaneous Products of Animal Origin (Import Conditions), 109; Hill Livestock (Compensatory Allowances) (Amendment), 138; Common Agricultural Policy (Wine) (Amendment), 165; Organic Farming, 186; Bovines and Bovine Products (Trade), 258; Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (Amendment), 258; Beef Special Premium (Amendment), 268; Countryside Access (Amendment), 272; Land in Care Scheme (Tir Gofal) (Wales), 272; Bovines and Bovine Products (Trade) (Amendment), 359; Feedingstuffs (Amendment), 366; Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis), 372; Feeding Stuffs (Establishments and Intermediaries), 410; Feedingstuffs (Zootechnical Products), 411; Countryside Access (Amendment) (No. 2), 498; Paying Agency (National Assembly for Wales), 498; Environmentally Sensitive Areas (England) Designation Orders (Revocation of Specified Provisions), 498; Feeding Stuffs (Enforcement), 500; Moorland (Livestock Extensification) (Amendment), 500; Organic Farming (Amendment), 505; Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (England and Wales) (No. 3), 506; Organic Farming (Amendment) (No. 2), 547.

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

AGRICULTURE (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Northern Ireland Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of members of the “Residuary” Milk Marketing Board for Northern Ireland, 7.

AGRICULTURE (WALES):
Regulations: 1999: Organic Farming (Wales), 504.
AIR FORCE (CONSTITUTION):

ALIENS’ EMPLOYMENT:

ANCIENT MONUMENTS:

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS:

ANIMAL HEALTH:

ANIMALS:
Regulations: 1999: Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) (Amendment), 139; Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Feeding Stuffs and Surveillance, 225; Cattle Identification (Amendment), 321.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS, 1997-98:
Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1997-98 for classes: Class I (Ministry of Defence), 5; Class II (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), 24; Class XII (Social Security), 58; Class XIV (Trade and Industry and Export Credits Guarantee Department), 74; Class IX (Education and Employment), 74; Class X (Culture, Media and Sport), 74; Class XI (Department of Health), 74; Class XIV (Wales), 74; Class XIII (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Intervention Board Executive Agency), V (Transport), 99; VI (Environment), 99; VII (Home Office), 99; VIII (Lord Chancellor’s and Law Officers’ Departments), 99; XIII (Scotland and the Forestry Commission), 99; XV (Northern Ireland), 99; XVI (Departments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer), 99; XVIII (Cabinet Office: Office of Public Service etc), 99; XVIII(A) and XVIII(B) (Cabinet Office: other services, Privy Council Office, Parliament etc; House of Commons; National Audit Office), 99.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS, 1998-99:
Appropriation Accounts of the sums granted by Parliament for 1998-99 for classes: Class XVIII, B (National Audit Office), 432.

APPROPRIATIONS IN AID:

ARBITRATION:
Order: 1999: Unfair Arbitration Agreements (Specified Amount), 497.

ARMED FORCES:

ARMED FORCES PAY:

ARTS COUNCILS:

ASHWORTH SPECIAL HOSPITAL:
Executive Summary of the Report, and Report (Volume 1) of the Committee of Inquiry into the Personality Disorder Unit, Ashworth Special Hospital, 68; Report (Volume II: Expert Evidence on Personality Disorder), 133.

ATOMIC ENERGY:

AUDIT COMMISSION:

AUDIT (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on: the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company, 301; School Inspection in Northern Ireland, 473; Improving Winter Driving Conditions, 568.
AVERAGE EARNINGS INDEX:
  Review of the Revisions to the Average Earnings Index, submitted by Sir Andrew Turnbull and Mervyn King, 161.

AVIATION AND MARITIME SECURITY:
  Report for 1998 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, 103.

AVIATION SECURITY:
  Report for 1998 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, 103.

BANK OF ENGLAND:

BANKS AND BANKING:
  Regulations: 1999: Cross-Border Credit Transfers, 414; Banking (Gibraltar), 489.

BAXI PARTNERSHIP LIMITED TRUSTS BILL [LORDS]:

BETTING, GAMING AND LOTTERIES:
  Orders: 1999: Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees), 170; Amusements with Prizes (Variation of Monetary Limits), 306; Gaming Act (Variation of Monetary Limits), 306.
  Order (Northern Ireland) 1999: Gaming (Variation of Monetary Limits), 92.
  Regulations: 1999: Gaming Clubs (Hours and Charges) (Amendment), 306.

BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS:

BRAZIL:
  1999.

  Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil on Cooperation in Science and Technology, 493.

BRITISH COUNCIL:
  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 1999-2000, 414.

BRITISH LIBRARY:
  Statement of appointments of Dr Jessica Rawson and Henry Boyd-Carpenter to the Board of the British Library, 317.
  Statement of determination of pay and pensions of Viscount Runciman of Doxford CBE, newly appointed member of the British Library Board, 24.

BRITISH NATIONALITY:
  Order: 1998: British Nationality (Cameroon and Mozambique), 64.

BROADCASTING:
  Statement of principles and administrative arrangements of qualifying revenue and multiplex revenue by the Independent Television Commission, 58.

BUILDING AND BUILDINGS:
  Regulations: 1998: Building (Local Authority Charges), 53.

BUILDING SOCIETIES:
  Orders: 1999: Building Societies (Members' Requisitions), 572; Building Societies (Members' Resolutions), 572; Building Societies (Nominations for Directors' Election), 572.
  Regulations: 1999: Building Societies (Contents of Accounts), 122; Building Societies (Merger Notification Statement), 293.

CABINET OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:
CENSUS

CEREALS MARKETING

CHANNEL TUNNEL SECURITY
Report for 1998 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, 103.

CHARITIES

CHARITIES (SCOTLAND)

CHELSEA HOSPITAL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

CHRONICALLY SICK AND DISABLED PERSONS
Report by the Secretary of State for Health on Research and Development Work on Equipment for Disabled People, 1997, 473.
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 for 1997 in England and Wales, 46.

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND (GENERAL SYNOD) (MEASURES)
Care of Places of Worship Measure, 359.
Report by the Ecclesiastical Committee: Care of Places of Worship Measure, 359.

CINEMAS AND FILMS
Regulations: 1999: Films (Certification) (Amendment), 507; Films (Certification) (Amendment) (No. 2), 507.

CIVIL AVIATION
Draft Orders: 1999: Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Fifth Amendment), 218; Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of Protocol No. 4 of Montreal, 1975), 218; Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Amendment), 381.

Orders: 1999: Air Navigation (Fourth Amendment), 282; Air Navigation (Fifth Amendment), 496.
Regulations: 1998: Airports (Groundhandling) (Amendment), 27; Civil Aviation (Joint Financing) (Amendment), 48; Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services (Second Amendment), 48.
Regulations: 1999: Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges) (Second Amendment), 186; Civil Aviation (Navigation Services Charges) (Third Amendment), 341; Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Third Amendment), 362; Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Third Amendment) (Revocation), 411; Yugoslavia (Prohibition of Flights), 457; Civil Aviation (Route Charges for Navigation Services) (Fourth Amendment), 498; Licensing of Air Carriers, 500; Civil Aviation (Canadian Navigation Services) (Second Amendment), 502.
Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury in respect of temporary borrowing by the Civil Aviation Authority, 230.

CIVIL LIST

CLEAN AIR
Order: 1999: Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces), 358.

CLONING

COAL INDUSTRY

COAL INDUSTRY NATIONALISATION
Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury on borrowing by the British Coal Corporation, 508.

COINAGE
Order: 1999: Forgery and Counterfeiting (Protected Coins), 490.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

COMPANIES
Draft Regulations: 1999: Local Authority (Stocks and Bonds) (Amendment), 248.
Regulations: 1998: Companies (Fees) (Amendment), 44; Open-Ended Investment Companies (Investment Companies with Variable Capital) (Fees), 44.
INDEX to THE TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

Regulations: 1999: Companies (Contents of Annual Return), 500; Companies (Investment Companies) (Distribution of Profits), 505.

COMPETITION:
Paper: Our Competitive Future: Building the Knowledge Driven Economy, 58.
Regulations: 1999: Competition Act 1998 (Definition of Appropriate Person), 499; Competition Act 1998 (Transfer of Property etc. from Privies), 499; Competition Act 1998 (Application for Designation of Professional Rules), 503.

COMPETITION COMMISSION:
Reports by the Competition Commission on the proposed merger of Rockwool Limited and Owens-Corning Building Products (UK) Limited, 308; the proposed transfer of the newspapers of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc to Johnston Press PLC, Newsquest (Investments) Limited and News Communications and Media plc, 381; the proposed merger of British Airways plc and CityFlyer Express Limited, 461; the proposed merger of Trinity plc/Mirror Group plc and Regional Independent Media Holdings Limited/Mirror Group plc, 478; the merger situation between NTL Communications Corp and Newcastle United PLC, 490.

COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW:

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW:
Draft Orders: 1999: Scotland Act 1998 (Transitory and Transitory Provisions) (Proprietary), 112; 1998 (Transitory and Transitory Provisions) (Finance), 112; National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People), 129; National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions), 133; Withdrawn, 139; Re-laid, 138; Scottish Parliament (Disqualification), 133; Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.). withdraw, 139; Re-laid, 138; withdrawn, 153; Re-laid, 152; Scottish Parliament (First Ordinary General Election and First Meeting), 133; Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 1), 152; Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries, 174; Scotland Act 1998 (Border Rivers), 282; Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No. 2), 353; Scotland Act 1998 (Cross-Border Public Authorities) (Adaptation of Functions etc.), 353; Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland), 353; Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions), 353; Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedules 4 and 5), 353; Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.), 353; Scottish Parliament (Assistance for Registered Political Parties), 353.

CONSTRUCTION (NORTHERN IRELAND):

CONSUMER CREDIT:
Order: 1999: Consumer Credit (Exempt Agreements) (Amendment), 435.
Regulations: 1999: Consumer Credit (Content of Quotations) and Consumer Credit (Advertisements) (Amendment), 505.
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME [1998–99]

CONSUMER PROTECTION:
	Regulations: 1999: Cosmetic Products (Safety) (Amendment), 358; Cigarette Lighter Refill (Safety), 407; Dangerous Substances and Preparations (Safety) (Consolidation) (Amendment), 473; Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts, 473; Road Vehicles (Brake Linings Safety), 547.

CONTINGENCIES FUND, 1997-98:

CONTRACTING OUT:
	Draft Orders: 1999: Local Authorities (Contracting Out of Highway Functions), 353; Contracting Out (Jury Summoning Functions), 372.

COPYRIGHT:
	Orders: 1999: Parliamentary Copyright (Scottish Parliaments), 225; Copyright (Application to Other Countries), 414.

CORONERS:
	Orders: 1999: Cambridgeshire (Coroners’ Districts) (Amendment), 327; West Midlands (Coroners’ Districts) (Amendment), 461; Devon (Coroners’ Districts), 572.

COUNCIL TAX:
	Orders: 1999: Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Amendment), 182; Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Amendment) (No. 2), 359.
	Regulations: 1999: Local Government Changes for England (Council Tax) (Transitional Reduction), 114; Council Tax (Demand Notices) (Wales) (Transitional Provisions), 137; Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Wales), 137; Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) (Amendment), 182; Council Tax (Reductions for Disabilities) (Amendment), 258.

COUNCIL TAX (SCOTLAND):
	Order: 1999: Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Amendment, 186.
	Regulations: 1999: Council Tax (Reductions for Disabilities) (Scotland) Amendment, 186.

COUNTRYSIDE:

COUNTRYSIDE AGENCY:

COUNTY COURTS:
	Orders: 1999: Civil Courts (Amendment), 105; County Court Fees, 188; Contracting Out of Functions (Court Staff), 248; High Court and County Courts (Allocation of Arbitration Proceedings) (Amendment), 248; High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction (Amendment), 248; Lay Representatives (Rights of Audience), 285; County Court Fees (Amendment), 503.
	Regulations: 1999: Register of County Court Judgements (Amendment), 407.

COURT OF SESSION (SCOTLAND):
	Order: 1999: Court of Session etc. Fees Amendment, 187.

COURTS AND LEGAL SERVICES:

COVENT GARDEN MARKET:
	Statement of salaries of the chairman and members of the Covent Garden Market Authority, 508.

CRIME AND DISORDER:

CRIMINAL APPEAL:

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION:
	Draft of Alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme, 239.
	Reports and Accounts: 1997-98: Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority, 82; Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, 82; Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel, 92.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE:

CRIMINAL LAW:
	Orders: 1998: Transfer of Prisoners (Isle of Man) (Amendment), 13; Transfer of Prisoners (Restricted Transfers) (Channel Islands and Isle of Man), 13.
	Orders: 1999: Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Designated Countries and Territories) (Amendment), 139; Crime and Disorder Strategies (Prescribed Descriptions) (Amendment), 175; Prosecution of Offences Act 1985
Criminal Law (Scotland):
Regulations: 1999: Restriction of Liberty Order (Scotland) Amendment, 99; Prosecution of Offences (Custody Time Limits) (Amendment), 506; Prosecution of Offences (Youth Courts Time Limits), 506.

Criminal Procedure (Scotland):

Criminal Statistics:

Criminal Statistics (Scotland):

Crofters (Scotland):

Crown Agents:

Crown Copyright:

Crown Estate:

Culture, Media and Sport:
Departmental Minutes concerning contingent liabilities consequent upon: the proposed lease of the Tower Hill Vaults site, 66; indemnities for loans to the British Museum’s “Gilded Dragons – Buried Treasures from China’s Golden Age” Exhibition, 494; two proposed leases of the Tower Hill Vaults site, 508.
Government Response to the 8th Report from the Culture Media and Sport Committee, Session 1997-98, on the Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997-98, 106.

Cure, Media and Sport Executive Agencies:

Currency and Banknotes:

Customs and Excise:

Czech Republic:
1999:
1. Agreement between the UK and the Czech Republic on International Road Transport, 221.

Dangerous Drugs:
Regulations: 1999: Misuse of Drugs (Licence Fees) (Amendment), 187; Misuse of Drugs (Amendment), 353; Misuse of Drugs (Safe Custody) (Amendment), 353.

Dartford-Thurrock Crossing:

Data Protection:

Defence:
Draft Orders: 1999: International Headquarters and Defence Organisations (Designation and Privileges) (Amendment), 266; Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law), 266; Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation), 306.
Ministry of Defence Minute concerning the proposed giving of 100 Paveway 3 precision-guided bombs to the Royal Saudi Air Force, 112.


Regulations: 1999: Army Terms of Service (Amendment), 366; Army Terms of Service (Amendment) (No. 2), 505.

DEFENCE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


DEFENCE (VOTES A), 1999-2000:

Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for 1999-2000, 152.

DEER (SCOTLAND):


DENMARK:

1999:

1. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark together with the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, relating to the Maritime Delimitation in the area between the United Kingdom and the Faroe Islands, 377.

DENTISTS:


Draft Regulations: 1999: Dental Auxiliaries (Amendment), 525; withdrawn, 541; re-laid, 540.

DEREGULATION:

Draft Orders: 1999: Deregulation (Pipe-lines), together with a statement by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, 15; Deregulation (Weights and Measures) together with a statement by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, 49; Deregulation (Casinos), together with a statement by the Home Office, 419; Deregulation (Millennium Licensing), together with a statement by the Home Office, 419.

Proposals under the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994, with accompanying explanatory memorandum, for Deregulation Orders: 1999: (New Year Licensing), 260; (Casinos), 270.

DESIGN:


DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM:

Accounts: 1998-99: Scottish Tourist Board, 404; British Tourist Authority, 435; English Tourist Board, 441; Wales Tourist Board, 508.


Statements of:- appointment of new members and of determination of salaries of chairman and members of the Scottish Tourist Board, 5; appointment and salary of a new member of the Scottish Tourist Board, 31; re-appointment and salary of the Chairman of the Board of the British Tourist Authority, 155; appointment of Chairman of the English Tourist Board, 411; appointment of a member of the English Tourist Board (known as the English Tourism Council) and notification of the salaries payable to the members of that body, 521.

DEVOLUTION:

Memorandum of Understanding and supplementary agreements between the United Kingdom Government, Scottish Ministers and the Cabinet of the National Assembly for Wales, 495.

DEVOLUTION (WALES):

Order: 1999: National Assembly for Wales (Oath of Allegiance in Welsh), 263.

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION:


DISABLED PERSONS:

Orders: 1999: Rail Vehicle Accessibility Exemption, in respect of:- Midland Metro T69 Vehicles (Amendment), 178; Midland Metro T69 Vehicles, 178; Midland Metro T69 Vehicles (No. 2), 308; LTS Rail Class 357 Vehicles, 353; Anglia Railways Class 170/2 Vehicles, 431; Central Trains Class 170/5 Vehicles, 431; South West Trains Class 458 Vehicles, 501; ScotRail Class 170/4 Vehicles, 503; Serco Metrolink T68A Vehicles, 534.

Regulations: 1999: Disability Discrimination (Services and Premises), 285; Disability Discrimination (Description of Insurance Services), 489.

Reports on:- Care in Wales for people with a mental illness and people with a mental handicap, 88; Development of Services for People with Learning Disabilities (Mental Handicap) or Mental Illness in England for 1998, 139.

DOCTORS' AND DENTISTS' REMUNERATION:


DUCHESS OF CORNWALL AND LANCASTER:


ECCLESIASTICAL LAW:
Orders: 1999: Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees), 489; Legal Officers (Annual Fees), 489; Parochial Fees, 489.
Resolution: 1999: Church Representation Rules (Amendment), 489.

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL STRATEGY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET REPORT:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Northern Ireland Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification for statutory redundancy payments to Action for Community Employment (ACE) core workers, 272.

EDUCATION:
Draft Regulations: 1998: Financing of Maintained Schools, 18; withdrawn, 28; re-laid, 27.
Draft Regulations: 1999: Education (Student Support), 112; General Teaching Council for England (Constitution), 225; General Teaching Council for Wales (Constitution), 225.
Orders: 1998: Education Action Zone Orders, in respect of:- Birmingham (Aston and Nechells), 48; Birminghams (Kitt Green and Sherd End), 48; East Basildon, 48; East Brighton, 48; Halifaxes, 48; Kingston upon Hull (Branthome Area), 48; Leigh, 48; North, East Sheffield, 48; North Southwark, 48; Nottingham (Bulwell), 48; Plymouth, 48; South Tyneside, 48; Telford, 48.
Other Orders: 1998: General Teaching Council for Wales, 37; Ayran College (Disolution), 48.
Orders: 1999: York Sixth Form College (Disolution), 115; Education (Transfer of Functions Concerning School Lanches) (England), 178; Education (Transfer of Functions Concerning School Lanches) (Wales), 182; Brackenbury College, Southwell (Disolution), 187; East Durham and Houghall Community College (Government), 187; High Pavement Sixth Form College, Nottingham (Disolution), 187; Leicester College Incorporation, 187; Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales), 225; Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions), 225; Epson College (Modification), 241; Education (Chief Inspector of Schools in England), 282; Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales) (No. 2), 282; Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture (Dissolution), 306; East Durham Community College (Dissolution), 306; Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation, 306; Harrow College (Incorporation), 314; Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (Prescribed Period), 402; Charles Keene College of Further Education, Leicester and Leicester South Fields College (Disolution), 402; Education (Transfer of Functions Concerning School Lanches) (Wales) (No. 2), 403; Greenhill College, Harrow and Weald College, Harrow (Dissolution), 421; Holme Lacy College (Dissolution), 453; Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions) (No. 2), 497; Education (Transfer of Functions Concerning School Lanches etc.) (England) (No. 2), 497; Education (Inspectors of Schools in Wales) (No. 3), 497; Arnold and Carlton College, Nottingham (Dissolution), 498; Education (National Curriculum) (Modern Foreign Languages) (Amendment), 498; Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment), 499; Further Education Funding Council for England (Supplementary Functions), 499; Greenwich—Time to Succeed Education Action Zone, 500; Hamilton Schools Partnership Education Action Zone, 500; Bilton Community College (Dissolution), 503; Funding Agency for Schools Dissolution, 503; Dudley Partnership for Achievement Education Action Zone, 572; East Manchester Education Action Zone, 572; Hackney Education Action Zone, 572; Hastings and St Leonards Education Action Zone, 572; Heart of Slough Education Action Zone, 572; New Horizons Kent-Somerset Virtual Education Action Zone, 572; North East Derbyshire Coalfields Education Action Zone, 572; Preston Education Action Zone, 572; Southend Education Action Zone, 572; Telford and Wrekin Education Action Zone, 572; Wednesbury Education Action Zone, 572; Widening Horizons—North Islington Education Action Zone, 572; Wythenshawe Education Action Zone, 572.

Papers: Teachers, meeting the challenge of change, 28; Learning to Succeed - A New Framework for Post-16 Learning, 411.


Regulations: 1999: School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (School Attendance Targets) (Modification), 90; Education Development Plans (England), 92; Education (Grants for Education Support and Training) (England) Regulations 1998 (Amendment), 112; Education (Aptitude for Particular Subjects), 114; Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements), 114; Education (Objections to Admission Arrangements), 114; Education (Registered Inspectors of Schools Appeal Tribunal and Registered Nursery Education Inspectors Appeal Tribunal) (Procedure), 114; Education (Relevant Areas for Consultation on Admission Arrangements), 114; Education (School Information) (England) (Amendment), 114; Education (School Information) (Wales) (Amendment), 114; Local Education Authority (Post-Compulsory Education Awards), 115; Education Act 1996 (Special Purpose and Capital Grants) (Modification), 115; Education (Transition to New Framework) (New Schools Groups and Miscellaneous), 138; Education (School Attendance Targets) (England), 139; Education (School Organisation Committees) (Initial Financial Arrangements) (England), 139; Education (Grants for Education Support and Training) (England) Regulations 1998 (Amendment No. 2), 155; Education (Amount to Follow Permanently Excluded Pupil), 161;
EDUCATION REFORM:

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND):
Draft Regulations: 1999: Education (Student Loans) (Scotland), 115.
Order: 1998: Scottish Further Education Funding Council (Establishment) (Scotland), 7.
Orders: 1999: Cambusbarron College (Change of Name) (Scotland), 77; Grants for Pre-school Education (Prescribed Children) (Scotland) Amendment, 82; St. Andrew's College of Education (Closure) (Scotland), 155.
Regulations: 1999: Grants for Improvements in School Education (Scotland), 45.

EDUCATION (WALES):
Regulations: 1999: Education (New Schools) (Wales), 499; Education (School Government) (Wales), 499.

ELECTION EXPENSES:
Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return relating to election expenses, 152.

ELECTORAL LAW:

ELECTRICITY:
Order: 1999: Electricity (Non-Fossil Fuel Sources) (Scotland), 152.

ELECTRONIC COMMERCE:

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING:

ENERGY CONSERVATION:
Regulations: 1999: Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Amendment) (Scotland), 253; Energy Information (Lamps), 362; Energy Information (Dishwashers), 384.

ENTERPRISE AND NEW TOWNS (SCOTLAND):

ENVIRONMENT:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:
Regulations: 1999: Environmental Protection Act 1990 (Extension of Section 140), 155; Waste Management Licences (Consultation and Compensation), 173; Environmental Protection (Waste Recycling Payments) (Amendment), 187; United Kingdom Eco-labeling Board (Abolition), 244; Non-Road Mobile Machinery (Emission of Gaseous and Particulate Pollutants), 253; Non-Road Mobile Machinery (Type Approval) (Fees), 253; Environment Act 1995 (Consequential Amendment), 266; Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment), 324; Environmental Protection (Restriction on Use of Lead Shot) (England), 497.
Scheme (England and Wales): 1999: Local Enforcing Authorities Air Pollution Fees and Charges, 139.

ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS:
Amendment No. 3 to the Concession Agreement relating to Development, Financing, Construction and Operation of a Fixed Link across the English Channel, 329.
Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Departmental Minutes concerning contingent liabilities consequent upon- the guarantee of bonds proposed to be issued by London & Continental Railways and of track access payments, 115; the modification of planning permission within the East Devon Pebblebed Heath Special Protection Area, 152.
Government Responses to following Reports from the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, Session 1997-98: 13th, on the Protection of...
Field Boundaries, 90; 8th, on Regional Air Services, 102.


ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


ERSKINE BRIDGE TOLLS:


EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES:

Draft Orders: 1999: European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission), 65; European Communities (Immunities and Privileges of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission), 65; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan), 115; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Framework Agreement for Trade and Cooperation between the European Community and its Member States and the Republic of Korea), 277; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the United Mexican States), 283.


Orders: 1999: European Communities (Designation), 225; European Communities (Designation) (No. 23), 496; European Communities (Designation) (No. 3), 520.


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 1998-99, 508.

1999:


2. Protocol on the interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgements in Matrimonial Matters, 263.

3. Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a Partnership between the European Communities and their Member States and Turkmenistan with Declarations, Protocol, Exchange of Letters and Final Act, 147.


EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FINANCES:

Statement on the 1999 EC Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement, 411.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:

Order: 1999: European Parliamentary (United Kingdom Representatives) Pensions (Additional Voluntary Contributions Scheme) (Amendment), 489.

EUROPEAN UNION:


EXCHEQUER:


EXECUTIVE NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES:


EXECUTIVE NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES (NORTHERN IRELAND):


EXPLOSIVES:

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1999: Explosives (Fireworks), 505.


EXPORT CREDITS GUARANTEE DEPARTMENT:


EXTRADITION:

FAIR EMPLOYMENT:

FAIR TRADING:
Consent by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the transfer: of the newspapers of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc to Johnston Press PLC, 381; of the newspapers of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc to News Communications and Media plc, 381; of the newspapers of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc to Newquest (Investments) Limited, 381; of newspapers following a report from the Competition Commission, 479; of newspapers of which Mirror Group plc is the proprietor to Trinity plc following a report from the Competition Commission, 508.

FAMILY LAW:
Draft Regulations: 1999: Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments), 175; Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2), 175.

FAMILY PROCEEDINGS:

FEES AND CHARGES:
Regulations: 1999: European Economic Interest Grouping (Fees), 115; Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) (Fees) (Amendment), 218; Travel Documents (Refugees and Stateless Persons) (Fees), 497.

FINANCE:
Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Audit of the Future Oil Price Convention for the Regions, Ordnance Survey, OY, 239; Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, 236; Law Officers’ Departments, 236; Cabinet Office, Central Office of Information, Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and Health Service Commissioners, Privy Council Office, House of Lords, House of Commons and National Audit Office, 239; Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, Ordinance Survey, Office of Passenger Rail Franchising, Office of the Rail Regulator and Office of Water Services, 239; Home Office and the Charity Commission, Volumes 1 and 2; 242; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Intervention Board, 242; Ministry of Defence, 242; Chancellor of the Exchequer’s Departments: HM Treasury, National Savings, Registry of Friendly Societies, National Investment and Loans Office, Office for National Statistics, Government Actuary’s Department and Financial Transactions with European Community Institutions, 244; Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Office of the National Lottery (OFLOT), 244; Department for International Development, 249; Departments of the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Forestry Commission, 249; Department of Social Security, 249; Department of Trade and Industry, Export Credits Guarantee Department, Office of Fair Trading, Office of Telecommunications, Office of Gas Supply and Office of Electricity Regulation, 249; HM Customs and Excise, 249; Inland Revenue, 249; Lord Chancellor’s Departments: Lord Chancellor’s Department, Northern Ireland Court Service, Public Record Office and HM Land Registry, 249; Northern Ireland, 249; Welsh Office and the Office of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales, 249; Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 254.

FINANCIAL SERVICES:
Regulations: 1999: Public Offers of Securities (Amendment), 182; Public Offers of Securities (Amendment) (No. 2), 259; Financial Markets and Insolvency (CGO Service), 280; Financial Services Act 1986 (Overseas Investment Exchanges and Overseas Clearing Houses) (Periodical Fees), 359; Financial Markets and Insolvency (Settlement Finality), 547.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND MARKETS:

FIRE PRECAUTIONS:

FISHERIES:

FISH FARMING:
Regulations: 1999: Environmental Impact Assessment (Fish Farming in Marine Waters), 138.

FOOD:
Orders: 1999: Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control), 359; Food (Peanuts from Egypt) (Emergency Control), 400; Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) (England and Wales), 461; Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) (Scotland), 559; Food (Rabbits from Spain) (Emergency Control) (Scotland), 560.
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Volume [1998–99]

FOREIGN OFFICE:
Foreign Office Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification for works of art lent to the British Council for exhibitions to be held in a number of overseas locations during the first half of 1999-2000, 171.

FORESTRY:
Reports and Accounts: 1997-98: Forest Enterprise, 58; Forest Research, 58; Forestry Commission, 58.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION:

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES:
Regulations: 1999: Friendly Societies (General Charge and Fees), 183.

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION:

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION (SCOTLAND):
Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland on Further Education in Scotland for 1998, 396.

GAMING:

GAS:
Orders: 1999: Gas Act 1986 (Exemptions), 504; Gas Act 1986 (Exemptions) (No. 4) (Amendment), 561.

GAS LEVY:

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL:

GIFT OF PUBLIC PROPERTY:
Department for Education and Employment Minute concerning the gifting of assets to UFI Ltd, 304.

FOOD STANDARDS:

FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY:

FOOTBALL SPECTATORS:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:
Government Responses to the following Reports from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1997-98:- 3rd, on Hong Kong, 7; 4th, on Entry Clearance Operations with Particular Reference to Islamabad and New Delhi, 7; Further Response to 3rd, on Hong Kong, 293.
Government Responses to the following Reports from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1998-99:- 1st, on Foreign Policy and Human Rights, 230; 2nd, on Sierra Leone, 260; 3rd, on European Union Enlargement, 321; 6th, on South Caucasus and Central Asia, 517; 4th, on Gibraltar, 533; 5th, on Foreign and Commonwealth Office Resources, 578.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

FOREIGN COMPENSATION:

Control)(England and Wales) (No. 2), 500; Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) (England and Wales) (No. 3), 506.
Regulations: 1999: Processed Cereal-based Foods and Baby Foods for Infants and Young Children (Amendment), 138; Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment, 139; Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (Amendment), 173; Specified Risk Material (Inspection Charges), 175; Meat Products (Hygiene) (Amendment), 182; Food Labelling (Amendment), 218; Sweeteners in Food (Amendment), 248; Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment), 279; Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) (Amendment), 324; Olive Oil (Designations of Origin), 358; Food Labelling (Amendment) (No. 2), 358; Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control), 359; Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water, 359; Contaminants in Food (Amendment), 359; Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Amendment (No. 2), 362; Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control), 407; Food (Animals and Animal Products from Belgium) (Emergency Control) (Amendment), 407; Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (England and Wales), 461; Animal Feedingstuffs from Belgium (Control) (England and Wales) (No. 2), 500; Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (England), 502; Welfare Food (Amendment), 503.
GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES:  
Account of Government Annuities and Insurances for 1998, 244.

GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:  

GOVERNMENT TRADING FUNDS:  
Consultation Report on the establishment of Ordnance Survey as a Trading Fund, 103; Consultation Report concerning the proposal to establish the NHS Estate Management and Health Building Agency as a Trading Fund, 130.


Reports and Accounts: 1998-99: Defence and Evaluation Research Agency, 432; Meteorological Office, 441; Central Office of Information, 451; Medicines Control Agency, 451; Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, 451; Vehicle Inspectorate, 451; Companies House, 466; The Patent Office, 466; Driving Standards Agency, 474; HM Land Registry, 474; United Kingdom Hydrographic Office, 474; Registers of Scotland, 474; Royal Mint, 479.

Treasury Minutes concerning further financial objectives desirable of achievement by:- Forensic Science Service Trading Fund, 109; NHS Estates Trading Fund, 189; Ordnance Survey Trading Fund, 244; Vehicle Inspectorate Trading Fund, 359.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL:  

HALLMARK:  


HARBOURS, DOCKS, PIERS AND FERRIES:  

HEALTH:  

Government Responses to the following Reports from the Health Committee, Session 1998-99: 1st, on the Relationship between Health and Social Services, 263; 3rd, on Future NHS Staffing Requirements, 394; 4th, on Long Term Care, 451; 2nd, on Primary Care Groups, 508.


HEALTH AND SAFETY:  
Regulations: 1998: Carriage of Dangerous Goods (Amendment), 27; Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment), 57; Asbestos (Licensing) (Amendment), 65; Control of Asbestos at Work (Amendment), 65; Prevention of Accidents to Children in Agriculture, 65.

Regulations: 1999: Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application to Environmentally Hazardous Substances) (Amendment), 74; Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment), 115; Transport of Dangerous Goods (Safety Advisers), 115; Carriage of Dangerous Goods (Amendment), 125; Control of Substances Hazardous to Health, 170; Control of Major Accident Hazards, 187; Health and Safety (Fees), 187; Police (Health and Safety), 236; Pressure Equipment, 457; Quarries, 489; Railway Safety, 498; Asbestos (Prohibitions) (Amendment), 500; Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (Certification) (Amendment), 505; Mines (Control of Ground Movement), 503; Health and Safety (Fees) (Amendment), 504; Asbestos (Prohibitions) (Amendment) (No. 2), 547.


HEALTH EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:  

HEALTH (SCOTLAND):  

HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONER:  

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY (SCOTLAND):  
Order: 1999: High Court of Justiciary Fees Amendment, 187.

HIGHWAYS:  
Regulations: 1999: Highways (Assessment of Environmental Effects), 138; Highways (Road Humps), 249; Highways (Traffic Calming), 249; Street Works Register (Registration Fees), 253; Street Works (Registrations, Notices, Directions and Designations) (Amendment), 253; Dartford-Thurrock Crossing (Amendment), 499.

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS:  
28th report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts 1991-99: Archives at the Millennium, 495.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND ANCIENT MONUMENTS:  
HM COASTGUARD:

Review of the Five Year Strategy for HM Coastguard (Closure and Co-location of Co-ordination Centres) by the Rt Hon the Lord Donaldson of Lymington, 493.

HOME AFFAIRS:


HOME OFFICE:

Home Office minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon indemnification of BT for preparatory work on the provision of new systems of radio communications in the police service, 82.

HOME OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


HONG KONG:

Order: 1999: Hong Kong (Overseas Public Servants) (Pension Supplements) (Amendment), 225.
1998:

4. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 58.

HORSE RACING AND BETTING (NORTHERN IRELAND):

HOUSE OF COMMONS:


HOUSE OF COMMONS COMMISSION:

Report on Management and Services by a team led by Mr Michael Braithwaite, 479.

HOUSE OF COMMONS MEMBERS’ FUND:


HOUSE OF LORDS:


HOUSING:

Orders: 1998: North Hull Housing Action Trust (Dissolution), 11; Housing (Right to Buy) (Limits on Discount), 45.

Orders: 1999: Housing Renewal Grants (Common Parts), 55; Housing (Right to Buy) (Limits on Discount) (Wales), 138; Social Landlords (Additional Purposes or Objects), 244; Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount), 270; Social Landlords (Additional Purposes or Objects) (No. 2), 297; Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas), 321; Protection from Eviction (Excluded Licences) (The Shaftesbury Society), 403; Housing (Right to Acquire) (Discount) (Amendment), 578.


Reports and Accounts: 1998-99: Castle Vale Housing Action Trust, 426; Stonebridge Housing Action Trust, 479; Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust, 479; Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust, 485.

HOUSING (NORTHERN IRELAND):

Accounts: 1997-98: Northern Ireland Housing Executive, 137.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND):

Draft Order: 1999: Housing Support Grant (Scotland), 99.
Orders: 1999: Housing Revenue Account General Fund Contribution Limits (Scotland), 102; Housing (Right to Buy) (Cost Floor) (Scotland), 178; Housing Accommodation and Homelessness (Persons subject to Immigration Control) (Amendment) (Scotland), 187; Registered Housing Associations (Accounting Requirements) (Scotland), 258.
Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland under sections 191 (9) and 192 (3) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 in respect of the draft Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order 1999, 100.

HUMAN FERTILISATION AND EMBRYOLOGY:

| INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-fifth Volume | 595 |

**HUMAN RIGHTS:**

**IMMIGRATION:**

**IMPERIAL COLLEGE BILL:**
- Report by the Attorney General on the Imperial College Bill, 175.

**INCOME TAX:**
- Draft Order: 1999: Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income (Kuwait), 310.
- Orders: 1999: Income Tax (Cash Equivalents of Car Fuel Benefits) 178; Capital Allowances (Corresponding Northern Ireland Grants), 183; Insurance Companies (Loan Relationships) (Election for Accruals Basis), 369; Gifts for Relief in Poor Countries (Designation of Kosovo), 489.
- Regulations: 1998: Controlled Foreign Companies (Excluded Countries), 45; Corporation Tax (Installment Payments), 61; Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 2), 61; Individual Savings Account (Amendment), 61.
- Regulations: 1999: Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment), 80; Corporation Tax (Treatment of Unreleved Surplus Advanced Corporation Tax), 133; Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment), 142; Insurance Companies (Capital Redemption Business) (Modification of the Corporation Tax Acts), 161; Friendly Societies (Gilt-edged Securities) (Periodic Accounting for Tax on Interest), 178; Friendly Societies (Provisional Repayments for Exempt Business), 178; Gilt-edged Securities (Periodic Accounting for Tax on Interest) (Amendment), 178; Insurance Companies (Gilt-edged Securities) (Periodic Accounting for Tax on Interest), 178; Manufactured Dividends (Tax) (Amendment), 178; Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment No. 2), 208; Income Tax (Paying and Collecting Agents) (Amendment), 208; Income Tax (Sub-contractors in the Construction Industry) (Amendment), 208; Venture Capital Trust (Amendment), 208; Overseas Insurers (Tax Representatives), 218; Personal Portfolio Bonds (Tax), 249; Non-resident Companies (General Insurance Business), 338; Corporation Tax (Instalment Payments) (Amendment), 425; Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 2), 425; Retirement Benefits Schemes (Continuation of Rights of Members of Approved Schemes) (Amendment), 435; Retirement Benefits Schemes (Restriction on Discretion to Approve) (Additional Voluntary Contributions) (Amendment), 435; Income Tax (Employments) (Amendment No. 3), 496; Income Tax (Sub-contractors in the Construction Industry) (Amendment No. 2), 497; Friendly Societies (Modification of the Corporation Tax Acts) (Amendment), 504; Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 4), 505; Insurance Companies (Overseas Life Assurance Business) (Compliance) (Amendment), 507; Corporation Tax (Simplified Arrangements for Group Relief), 537.

**INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES:**
- Regulations: 1999: Industrial and Provident Societies (Credit Unions) (Fees), 183; Industrial and Provident Societies (Fees), 183.

**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT:**
- Order (Northern Ireland): 1999: Northern Ireland Science Park Foundation Limited (Funding), 263.

**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND):**

**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 1997-98, 109.

**INDUSTRIAL TRAINING:**

**INLAND REVENUE:**

**INLAND REVENUE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:**

**INSOVENCY:**
- 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 1997-98, 125.
- Regulations: 1999: Bankruptcy Fees (Scotland) Amendment, 187.

**INSURANCE:**
- Regulations: 1999: Insurance (Fees), 175.
INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-fifth Volume [1998–99]

INSURANCE BROKERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL:

INTELLIGENCE SERVICES:
Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee on Sierra Leone, 321.
Government Response to the Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee on Sierra Leone, 338.

INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS:
Consultation Paper, entitled Interception of Communications in the United Kingdom, 394.

INTERNATIONAL IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES:

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE:

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS:
Indemnity given by the Treasury to the Bank of England covering its commitment to the Bank for International Settlements in respect of a loan to Brazil, 58.

IRELAND:
1999:
1. Agreement between the UK and the Government of Ireland, 221.
2. Agreement between the UK and Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies, 221.
3. Agreement between the UK and Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, 221.
4. Agreement between the UK and Ireland establishing a British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, 221.
5. Agreement between the UK and Ireland establishing a British-Irish Council, 221.
6. Agreement between the UK and Ireland concerning Mutual Assistance in Relation to Criminal Matters, 242.
7. Agreement between the UK and Ireland establishing the Independent Commission for the Location of Victims’ Remains, 304.

ISLE OF MAN:
Commissioners of Customs and Excise in Account with the Government of the Isle of Man: an Account of Receipts and Payments for 1997-98, 66.

ISRAEL:
1999:
1. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the State of Israel on Bilateral Cooperation in Private Sector Industrial Research and Development, 381.

JUDICATURE (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Rules (Northern Ireland): 1999: Court Funds (Amendment), 366.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS:

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE:
Order: 1999: Judicial Committee (Powers in Devolution Cases), 329.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS:

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:
Draft Order: 1999: Maximum Number of Stipendiary Magistrates, 547.

KOREA:
1999:

LAND DRAINAGE:
Regulations: 1999: Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works), 400.

LANDFILL TAX:
Order: 1999: Landfill Tax (Site Restoration and Quarries), 473.

LANDLORD AND TENANT:
Orders: 1999: Rent Acts (Maximum Fair Rent), 66; Agricultural Holdings (Units of Production) (England), 500; Administration of the Rent Officer Service (England), 502.
Regulations: 1999: Assured and Protected Tenancies (Lettings to Students) (Amendment), 402; Assured and Protected Tenancies (Lettings to Students) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England), 499.

LAND REGISTRATION:
Rules: 1999: Land Registration, 90; Land Registration (No. 2), 507.

LAND REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND):
LANDS TRIBUNAL:
Order (Northern Ireland): 1999: Lands Tribunal (Salaries), 369.

LAW COMMISSION:
Reports of the Law Commission on: Damages for Personal Injury: Non-Pecuniary Loss, 270; Seventh Programme of Law Reform, 377; Claims for Wrongful Death, 537; Damages for Personal Injury: Medical, Nursing and Other Expenses: Collateral Benefits, 537.

LAW COMMISSION (SCOTLAND):
Reports of the Scottish Law Commission on: Abolition of the Feudal System, 126; Unjustified Enrichment, Error of Law and Public Authority Receipts and Disbursements, 152; Penalty Clauses, 329.

LAW REFORM (SCOTLAND):

LEASEHOLD REFORM, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

LEBANON:
1999:

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE:

Draft Regulations: 1998: Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels), 57.

Regulations: 1998: Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 3), 7; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 3), 7; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 1), 7; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 4), 53.

Regulations: 1999: Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment), 129; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment), 129; Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland), 165; Civil Legal Aid (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment), 208; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment), 208; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 2), 208; Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment), 208; Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment), 259; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 2), 324; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 2), 473; Legal Advice and Assistance at Police Stations (Remuneration) (Amendment), 473; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) (No. 3), 490; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 3), 490; Civil Legal Aid (General) (Amendment) (No. 2), 503; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment) (No. 3), 503; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 4), 503; Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment), 503; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 5), 505; Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) (No. 2), 505.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 1999: Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment), 173; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment), 193; Legal Aid (Financial Conditions), 211; Legal Aid (Financial Conditions), 212; Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment No. 2), 288.


Rules (Northern Ireland): 1999: Legal Aid in Criminal Cases (Statement of Means), 329; Legal Aid in Criminal Cases (Statement of Means) (Amendment), 345; Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment), 359.

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE (SCOTLAND):
Draft Regulations: 1998: Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 18; Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Prescribed Proceedings) (Amendment) (No. 2), 18.

Draft Regulations: 1999: Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) (Scotland), 138; Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) (Scotland), 138.

LEGAL REFORM:

LEGAL SERVICES:
Orders: 1999: Appointment of Queen’s Counsel Fees, 496; Legal Services Ombudsman (Jurisdiction) (Amendment), 520.

LIBRARIES:
Draft Order: 1999: Public Lending Right (Increase of Limit), 133.
Order: 1999: The Public Lending Right Scheme 1982 (Commencement of Variations), 142.

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION COMMISSION:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Orders: 1998: Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) in respect of the following councils:- Christchurch Borough Council and Purbeck District Council, 7; Lichfield District Council, 37; Poole Borough Council, 57; Hastings and Luton Borough Councils, 57.

Orders: 1999: Local Government Act 1988 (Defined Activities) (Exemption) in respect of the following councils:- ...


Local Government Finance (Scotland)

Order: 1999: Local Government Finance (Scotland), 102.

Special Grant Reports: Special Grant Report for Scotland (No. 4/1999): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers Assistance, 146; Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rural passenger transport for 1999-2000, 165; Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in aid of expenditure on rail services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area, 218.

Local Government Finance (Wales)


Special Grant Reports: Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999, 99; Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999 (No. 2): Special Grant for Asylum Seekers, 147.

Local Government, Planning and Land


Local Government (Scotland)


Order: 1999: Local Government (Exemption from Competition) (Scotland) Amendment, 239.

Regulations: 1998: Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Scotland) Amendment, 24; Local Government Officers (Political Restrictions) Amendment, 48; Local Authorities etc. (Allowances) (Scotland) Amendment, 64.


INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

MANUFACTURING UNDERTAKINGS:

MARINE AND AVIATION INSURANCE (WAR RISKS):

MARINE POLLUTION:
Regulations: 1999: Merchant Shipping (Reporting Requirements for Ships carrying Dangerous or Polluting Goods) (Amendment), 497.

MARSHALL AID COMMEMORATION:

MEDICAL PROFESSION:
Regulations: 1999: European Specialist Medical Qualifications Amendment, 324.

MEDICINES:
Orders: 1999: Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment, 253; Medicines (Aristolochia) (Temporary Prohibition), 517.
Regulations: 1998: Medicines for Human Use (Marketing Authorisations etc.) Amendment, 48; Medicines (Pharmacies) (Applications for Registration and Fees) Amendment, 49; Medicines (Aristolochia) (Emergency Prohibition), 490.
Regulations: 1999: Medicines (Standard Provisions for Licences and Certificates) Amendment, 66; Medicines (Advertising and Monitoring of Advertising) Amendment, 115; Medicines for Human Use and Medical Devices (Fees and Miscellaneous Amendments), 175; Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment, 183; Medicines (Monitoring of Advertising) Amendment, 204; Medicines (Sale or Supply) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment (No. 2), 502; Medicines (Products for Animal Use—Fees) Amendment, 503.

MEMBERS’ INTERESTS:
Register of Members’ Interests as at 31st January 1999, 103.

MENTAL HEALTH:
Code of Practice: Mental Health Act 1983, 28.

MERCHANT SHIPPING:
Order: 1998: Merchant Shipping (Falkland Islands Colours), 64.
Orders: 1999: State Immunity (Merchant Shipping) (Revocation), 188; Protection of Wrecks (M/S Estonia), 241; Consular Relations (Merchant Shipping) (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (Revocation), 263; Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (Rate of Interest), 440.
Regulations: 1998: Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure), 5; Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Manual Handling Operations), 7; Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) (Amendment), 45.

Regulations: 1999: Merchant Shipping (Pilot Transfer Arrangements), 85; Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Cargoes), 138; Merchant Shipping (Cargo Ship Construction) (Amendment), 204; Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection) (Amendment), 244; Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment), 270; Merchant Shipping (Additional Safety Measures for Bulk Carriers), 381; Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards of Safety Communications) (Amendment), 400; Merchant Shipping (Counting and Registration of Persons on Board Passenger Ships), 414; Merchant Shipping (Fees) (Amendment No. 2), 431; Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment), 451; Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Personal Protective Equipment), 500; Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation), 594; Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances for Passenger Ships of Classes III to VI(A)), 596; Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances for Ships Other Than Ships of Classes III to VI(A)), 596; Merchant Shipping (Musters, Training and Decision Support Systems), 596; Fishing Vessels (EC Directive on Harmonised Safety Regime), 561.


Metropolitan Police:

Ministers of the Crown:
Orders: 1999: Transfer of Functions (Lord Advocate and Advocate General for Scotland), 225; Transfer of Functions (Lord Advocate and Secretary of State), 225; Transfer of Functions (Nuclear Installations), 521; Transfer of Functions (Scientific Research), 521.

Miscellaneous:
1999:
1. Notes between the UK and INTELSAT amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
2. Notes between the UK and CAB International (previously known as the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux) amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
3. Notes between the UK and the Commonwealth Foundation amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
5. Notes between the UK and the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
7. Notes between the UK and the International Coffee Organization amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
8. Notes between the UK and the International Grains Council (previously known as the International Wheat Council) amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
9. Notes between the UK and the International Lead and Zinc Study Group amending the Headquarters Agreement, 128.
10. Notes between the UK and the International Maritime Organization (previously known as the International Marine Consultative Organization) amending the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the Organization, 129.
11. Notes between the UK and the International Mobile Satellite Organization (Inmarsat) (previously known as the International Maritime Satellite Organization) amending the Headquarters Agreement, 129.
12. Notes between the UK and the International Rubber Study Group amending the Headquarters Agreement, 129.
16. Notes between the UK and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund amending the Headquarters Agreement, 129.
17. Notes between the UK and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992 amending the Headquarters Agreement, 129.
18. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden, regarding the M/S Estonia, 96.
19. Notes exchanged between the UK and the Netherlands concerning Privileges and Immunities for the Liaison Officers at Europol, 205.
27. Protocol of amendment to the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

used for Experimental and other Scientific Purposes, 486.


MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL PROVISIONS:


Reports and Financial Statements: 1998-99: Devon & Cornwall Development International, 508; East of England Investment Agency Limited, 508; INWARD, 508; London First Centre, 508; Northern Development Company, 508; South East Regional Investment Limited, 508; West Midlands Development Agency Limited, 508; East Midlands Development Company, 552.


MODERNISING GOVERNMENT:

Paper: Modernising Government, 249.

MONOPOLIES AND Mergers:


Reports by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on:- the Merger Situation between Cendant Corporation and RAC Holdings Limited, 112; the supply in the UK of underwriting services for share offers, 147; the Merger Situation between IMS Health Inc and Pharmaceutical Marketing Services Inc, 153; the proposed merger of British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC and Manchester United PLC, 257; the supply in Great Britain of raw cows’ milk, 422.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES:

Accounts: 1997-98: National Museum of Wales, 7; National Library for Wales, 31; Natural History Museum, 53; Wallace Collection, 153.


Papers concerning the indemnification for works of art lent to:- the Tate Gallery for its Spring Exhibition of works by Jackson Pollock, 64; the National Portrait Gallery for its Spring Exhibition of works by Sir John Everett Millais, 96.


NATIONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES:

Regulations: 1999: National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements), 173.

NATIONAL AUDIT:


Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on:- Modifying Defence Equipment, 31; Overseas Operations, Governance and Management at Southampton Institute, 33; the Flotation of Railtrack, 46; the BBC World Service: New Financial Arrangements, 49; Ministry of Defence Management of Office Space, 62; Final Accounts of Chessington Computer Centre, Recruitment and Assessment Services and the Occupational Health and Safety Agency, 90; Sales of Residual Loans to Housing Associations, 103; Protecting the Financial Welfare of People with Mental Incapacity, 117; How the Utility Regulators are addressing the Year 2000 Problem in the Utilities, 130; the Arable Area Payments Scheme, 133; the NHS in Scotland: Making the Most of the Estate, 133; Handgun Surrender and Compensation, 142; Inheritance Tax: A Progress Report, 158; Royal Brompton Hospital—Sale of North Block Site, 171; Audit of the Unemployment Assumption for the March 1999 Budget Projections, 179; Financial Management and Governance at Gwent Tertiary College, 179; Audit of the General Budget of the European Union for 1997 and Related Developments, 184; Immigration and Nationality Directorate’s Casework Programme, 218; Progress on measures to combat Housing Benefit fraud, 230; The Sale of Railfreight Distribution, 230; Private Finance Initiative: The Contract to Complete and Operate the A74(M)/M74 Motorway in Scotland, 254; Investigation of alleged irregularities at Halton College, 260; The Red Channel, 260; Sale of CINMan by British Coal, 266; The PRIME project: The transfer of the Department of Social Security estate to the private sector, 272; The 1992 and 1998 Information & Technology Strategies of the NHS Executive, 280; Managing Sickness Absence in the Prison Service, 285; Vehicle Emissions Testing, 293; Giving Customers a Choice: The Introduction of Competition into the Domestic Gas Market, 306; Arts Council of England: Monitoring major capital projects funded by the National Lottery, 314; The PFI Contract for the New Dartford and Gravesend Hospital, 321; Company Director Disqualification: A Follow Up Report, 329; Procurement in the English Higher Education Sector, 345; The Millennium Challenge: 221 Days and Counting, 345; The Management of Medical Equipment in NHS Acute Trusts in England, 360; Scottish Further Education Colleges: Managing Costs, 372; Procurement of Equipment from the European Union for 1997 and Related Developments, 384; Ministry of Defence: Major Projects Report 1998, 401; Further Education in Wales, 462; English Partnerships: Assisting Local Regeneration, 474; Examining the value for money of deals under the Private Finance Initiative, 479; The Procurement of Non-Combat Vehicles for the Royal Air Force, 479; Modernising Procurement, 509; the Passport Casework Programme, 512; Progress on measures to combat Housing Benefit fraud, 522; Funds in Court: Unclaimed Balances, 537; The Millennium Threat: Are We Ready?, 562; The Year 2000 Problem in the Utilities: Update Report, 562.

Draft Regulations: 1999: Government Stock (Amendment), 244.


NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE:
Orders: Transfers of Trust Property: 1999: in respect of the following NHS Trusts and Health Authorities: Northumbria Health Care, 183; Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals, 183; Velindre, 218; Central Manchester Healthcare, 500; Cornwall Healthcare, 521; Bath and West Community, 525.

Orders: Special Trustees for England, 1998; for NHS Trusts and Health Authorities: Northumbria Health Care, 183; Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals, 183; Velindre, 218; Central Manchester Healthcare, 500; Cornwall Healthcare, 521; Bath and West Community, 525.


Regulations: 1999: National Institute for Clinical Excellence, 115; National Health Service (Fund-holding Practices) Amendment, 115; National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment, 136; The National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment, 170; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Amendment, 178; National Health Service (Functions of Health Authorities and Administration Arrangements) Amendment, 183; National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment), 183; National Health Service Information Authority, 183; National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Amendment, 183; National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances and Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment, 188; Road Traffic (NHCS Charges), 204; Road Traffic (NHCS Charges) (Reviews and Appeals), 205, 206; Ministry of Health, 206; Welsh Health Common Services Authority (Revocation), 218; National Health Service (Liabilities to Third Parties Scheme), 218; Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment, 229; National Health Service (Membership and Procedure) Amendment, 229; National Health Service (Clinical Negligence Scheme) (Amendment), 303; National Health Service (Existing Liabilities Scheme) (Amendment), 303; National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2), 366; National Health Service (Indicative Amounts) (Amendment), 366; Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment (Wales), 431; National Health Service (Functions of Health Authorities and Administration Arrangements) Amendment (Wales), 431; National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Amendment), 498; National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Establishment and Constitution) Amendment, 498; Health Service Medicines (Consent to Voluntary Scheme), 498; Primary Care Trusts (Consultation on Establishment, Dissolution and Transfer of Staff), 500; National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment, 502; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) Amendment, 504; National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Amendment (No. 2), 504; National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment), 505; Commission for Health Improvement (Membership and Procedure), 506; National Health Service (Penalty Charge), 506; Community Health Councils (Amendment), 521.

Statements of guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on borrowing by the following NHS Trusts:- Epsom Healthcare, 28; Sidcup, 58; Central Nottinghamshire Healthcare, 153; Community Health Care Services (North Derbyshire), 153; Glenfield Hospital, 153; Leicester General Hospital, 153; Pilgrim Health, 153; Rotherham General Hospitals, 153; Southampton Community Health Services, 153; Isle of Wight Healthcare, 158; Bassetlaw Hospital and Community Health Services, 171; Doncaster Healthcare, 171; Loddon Community, 171; Nottingham City Hospital, 171; Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals, 171; South Devon Healthcare, 171; Southampton University Hospitals, 171; Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare, 171; Dowset Health Care, 173; Dorset Healthcare, 173; East Yorkshire Community Healthcare, 173; East Yorkshire Hospitals, 173; Gateshead Health, 173; Harrogate Health Care, 173; Leeds Community & Mental Health Services Teaching, 173; North Durham Health Care, 173; Northampton Community Health Services, 173; Poole Hospital, 173; Priority Healthcare Wearsides, 173; South Durham Health Care, 173; Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals, 173; East Gloucestershire, 175; Huddersfield Health Care Services, 175; The Whittington Hospital, 175; Pinderfields & Pontefract Hospitals, 175; Shropshire’s Community & Mental Health Services, 175; Community Health Services, South Derbyshire, 175; Cornwall Healthcare, 184; Havering Hospitals, 184; Lincolnshire Ambulance and Health Transport Service, 184; North Tees and Hartlepool, 184; Royal Shrewsbury Hospitals, 184; Swindon and Marlborough, 184; Tees and North East Yorkshire, 184; North Hampshire Hospitals, 191; Oxfordshire Mental Healthcare, 191; Portsmouth HealthCare, 191; Portsmouth Hospitals, 191; The Leicestershire and Rutland Healthcare, 191; Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospital, 191; Leicester Royal Infirmary, 191; Plymouth Community Services, 191; Rockingham Forest, 191; Northern General Hospital, 212; Queens Medical Centre Nottingham University Hospitals, 212; Wakefield and Pontefract Community Health, 212; West Dorset General Hospitals, 212; Hinchingbrooke Healthcare, 218; Leeds Teaching Hospitals, 218; Norfolk and Norwich Health Care, 218; Northampton General Hospital, 218; Avalon, Somerset, 226; Exeter & District Community Health Services, 226; Wiltshire Health Care, 226; BHB Community Health Care, 226; Luton and Dunstable Hospitals, 226; North West Anglia Healthcare, 226; Plymouth Hospitals, 226; Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital, 226;
South Tees Acute Hospitals, 226; York Health Services, 226; Gloucestershire Royal, 226; Severn, 226; East Wiltshire Health Care, 242; Royal Devon & Exeter Healthcare, 242; United Bristol Healthcare, 242; Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, 245; The Epsom and St Helier, 245; Weston Area Health, 245; Hastings & Rother, 260; Essex Ambulance Services, 260; Local Health Partnerships, 260; Scunthorpe Community Health, 260; Norfolk Mental Health Care, 260; Avon & Western Wiltshire Mental Health Care, 260; South Buckinghamshire, 263; Phoenix, 272; Royal Berkshire and Battle Hospitals, 272; Dumfries & Galloway Acute & Maternity Hospitals, 304; Isle of Wight Healthcare, 314; Kent Ambulance, 366; Kent & Sussex Weald, 360.

Summarised Accounts: 1997-98: Health Authorities, NHS Trusts in Wales, the Welsh Health Common Services Authority, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales, and Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, the Health Promotion Authority for Wales and NHS Trusts in Wales, 175; Health Authorities, and NHS Trusts in England, the Dental Practice Board and Special Health Authorities providing central services in England, and Funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, NHS Trusts, Special Health Authorities and Special Trustees in England, 301.

Treasury Minute concerning the remission of outstanding debt consequent on dissolution and reconfiguration of certain National Health Service Trusts, 161.

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND):**

Orders: 1999: Scottish Ambulance Service Board, 183; Clinical Standards Board for Scotland, 188; Road Traffic (NHS Charges) (Scotland), 407.

Regulations: 1998: National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Scotland) Amendment, 33; National Health Service (Choice of Dental Practitioner) (Scotland) Amendment 45.

Regulations: 1999: National Health Service (Fund-Holding Practices) (Scotland) Amendment, 138; National Health Service (Scotland) (Injury Benefits) Amendment, 155; National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (Scotland) Amendment, 155; National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment, 175; National Health Service (Dental Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland), 188; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment, 188; National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Scotland) Amendment, 188; National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment, 188; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2), 257; Health Boards (Membership and Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment, 259; National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment, 259; National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3), 366; Road Traffic (NHS Charges) (Reviews and Appeals) (Scotland), 407.


Summarised Accounts: 1997-98: 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, 479.

Treasury Minute concerning a proposed write off of originating capital debt of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh NHS Trust, 486.

**NATIONAL HERITAGE:**

Accounts: 1997-98: Board of Trustees of the Armories, 53.


**NATIONAL HERITAGE (SCOTLAND):**


**NATIONAL INSURANCE:**

Account of Securities held for the National Insurance Fund as at 31st March 1998, 53.


**NATIONAL LOANS:**


Supplementary Statements of Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 1997-98, 62.

**NATIONAL LOTTERY:**


Orders: 1999: National Lottery etc. Act 1993 (Amendment of Section 23), 363; National Lottery Charities Board (Increase in Membership) (Revocation), 416; National Lottery etc. Act 1993 (Amendment of Section 23) (No. 2), 478.


Strategic Plan: New Opportunities Fund, 441.


NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK:

Statements for 1997 with respect to:- investment deposits of National Savings, 486; ordinary deposits and expenses of the National Savings, 486.

NATURAL HERITAGE (SCOTLAND):


NAVAL AND MARINE PAY AND PENSIONS:


NEW TOWNS:


NORTHERN IRELAND:

Accounts: 1997-98: Public Income and Expenditure of Northern Ireland, 153; Northern Ireland Trading and Other, 408.


Draft Orders: 1999: Departments (Northern Ireland), 92; Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period), 102; Appropriation (Northern Ireland), 129; Energy Efficiency (Northern Ireland), 138; Northern Ireland (Modification of enactments—No. 1), 138; Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland, 138; Trade Union Subscription Deductions (Northern Ireland), 139; Water (Northern Ireland), 139; Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996 (Code of Practice), 175; North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland), 175; Northern Ireland (Emergency and Prevention of Terrorism Provisions) (Continuance), 321; Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland), 362; North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Amendment) (Northern Ireland), 403; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Code of Conduct), 410; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Guidelines), 410; Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (Procedural Rules), 410; Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension), 425; Licensing and Registered Clubs (Northern Ireland), 507; Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment), 551.


Northern Ireland Appropriation Accounts for 1997-98 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, 53.


NORTHERN IRELAND (EMERGENCY PROCEDURES):

| NORTHERN IRELAND (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS): Draft Code of Practice governing the audio recording of police interviews of persons detained under section 14(1)(a) or (b) of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 and such other police interviews as may be specified by order, 142. |
| OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS: Orders: 1999: Offshore Installations (Safety Zones), 183; Offshore Installations (Safety Zones) (No. 2), 277. |
| OVERSEAS TERRITORIES: Paper: Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories, 212. |

Regulations: 1999: Local Government (Discretionary Payments) (Amendment), 183; Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes (Levy) Amendment, 188; Overseas Service (Pensions Supplement) (Amendment), 191; Local Government Pensions Scheme (Miscellaneous Provisions), 293; Occupational Pension Scheme (Investment, and Assignment, Forfeiture, Bankruptcy etc.) Amendment, 414; Local Government (Discretionary Payments) (Amendment No. 2), 500; Occupational Pension Scheme (Preservation of Benefit) Amendment, 503.


Scheme: 1999: Personal Injuries (Civilians) Amendment, 125.

PESTICIDES:

PETROLEUM:
Order: 1999: Petroleum (Current Model Clauses), 103.


PLANT BREEDERS' RIGHTS:
Regulations: 1999: Plant Breeders' Rights (Amendment), 258.

PLANT HEALTH:
Orders: 1999: Plant Health (Forestry) (Great Britain) (Amendment) (England), 507; Plant Health (Amendment) (England) (No. 2), 507.

Regulations: 1998: Potatoes Originating in Egypt (Amendment), 61; Potatoes Originating In The Netherlands (Amendment), 61.

Regulations: 1999: Plant Health (Fees) (Forestry) (Great Britain) (Amendment), 212; Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material, 402.

POLICE:
Orders: 1998: Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 5), 53; National Crime Squad Service Authority (Levy) (Amendment), 65; Number of Members of South Wales Police Authority, 65.

Orders: 1999: Police Act 1996 (Commencement and Transitional Provisions), 183; Police (Secretary of State's Objectives), 189; National Crime Squad (Secretary of State's Objectives), 226; NCIS (Secretary of State's Objectives), 226; Police Grant (Scotland), 239; Police (Secretary of State's Objectives) (No. 2), 359.


Regulations: 1999: Police (Conduct), 188; Police (Conduct) (Senior Officers), 188; Police (Efficiency), 188; Police (Conduct) (Scotland) Amendment, 258; Police (Conduct) (Senior Officers) (Scotland), 258; NCIS (Complaints) (Amendment), 314; National Crime Squad (Complaints) (Amendment), 314; Royal Ulster Constabulary (Amendment), 520; Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve (Full-time) (Appointment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment), 520.


POLICE AND CIVILIAN EVIDENCE:


Draft Code of Practice for the exercise by police officers of statutory powers of stop and search, 31.


POLICE (NORTHERN IRELAND):

Determination of objectives for the policing of Northern Ireland, 236.


Statements of Accounts: 1997-98: Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland, 7; Police Authority for Northern Ireland, including Accounts of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Fund and the Police Property Fund, 15.


Statement of Policing Principles for Northern Ireland, issued by the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 after consultation with the Police Authority For Northern Ireland and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, 117.

POLICE (SCOTLAND):


POLICYHOLDERS PROTECTION:

Statements by the Treasury under section 28 of the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 concerning assistance given by the Policyholders Protection Board to: BAI (Run-Off) Limited, 58; Black Sea and Baltic General Insurance Company Limited, 58.

PORT OF LONDON:


POSTAL SERVICES:

Regulations: 1999: Postal Services, 490.

POST OFFICE:

Orders: 1999: Postal Privilege (Suspension), 431; Postal Privilege (Suspension) Order 1999 (Revocation), 514.

INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME


POWERS OF ATTORNEY:


PRE-BUDGET REPORT:


PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISM:


PRICES:


PRIORITIES:


PRISONS:

PRISON STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES FOR 1998, 496.


RULES: 1999: Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment, 129; Prison, 188; Parole Board (Scotland) Amendment, 299.

PRISONS (NORTHERN IRELAND):


PRISONS (SCOTLAND):


PROBATION BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND):


PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

REGULATIONS: 1999: European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) (Second General System) (Amendment), 80.

PROFESSIONS SUPPLEMENTARY TO MEDICINE:

DRAFT ORDERS OF COUNCIL: 1999: Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Clinical Scientists Board), 328; Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Paramedics Board), 328; Professions Supplementary to Medicine (Speech and Language Therapists Board), 328.

PROSECUTION OF OFFENCES:


PROTECTION OF WRECKS:

ORDERS: 1999: Protection of Wrecks (Designation), 103; The Protection of Wrecks (Designation), 345.

PROVINCIAL ORDERS (SCOTLAND):

REPORTS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND THE CHAIRMAN OFWAYS AND MEANS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS UNDER THE PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1936, THAT THE FOLLOWING ORDERS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED, SUBJECT TO SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS AS THEY MAY HEREAFER MAKE WITH RESPECT TO THE SAID ORDERS:- RAILTRACK (WAVERLEY STATION), 219; COMHAILRE NANEILEAN (ERISKAY CAUSEWAY), 509.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS:


TREASURY MINUTES ON THE FOLLOWING REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, SESSION 1998-99: 1ST TO 3RD, 184; 4TH TO 22ND, 495; 23RD, 25TH TO 27TH AND 30TH, 529; 28TH TO 29TH AND 31ST TO 34TH, 548.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE:


PUBLIC HEALTH:


PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT:


PUBLIC ORDER:

PUBLIC ORDER (DOMESTIC FOOTBALL BANNING) ORDER 1999, 501.

PUBLIC PASSENGER TRANSPORT:


PUBLIC PETITIONS:

OBSERVATIONS: 15; 24; 24; 34; 38; 100; 106; 106; 139; 184; 226; 285; 301; 360; 377; 397; 422; 435; 445; 451; 480; 486; 490; 509; 522; 537; 572.
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

PUBLIC PROCESIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Parades Commission Draft Instruments: Code of Conduct 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, 412; Guidelines relating to the exercise of its powers to impose conditions on public processions, 412; Procedural Rules relating to the practice and procedure to be followed by the Commission and by other persons or bodies in their dealings with the Commission in the exercise of certain functions, 412.

PUBLIC RECORDS:

PUBLIC WORKS LOANS:

RACE RELATIONS:

RACE RELATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND):

RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION:

RAILWAYS:
Report: 1997-98: Rail Users’ Consultative Committee for Wales, 158.

RATES:
Order (Northern Ireland): 1999: Rates (Regional Rates), 183.

RATING AND VALUATION:
Draft Orders: 1999: Railways (Rateable Values) (Scotland), 88; Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment), 147.
Orders: 1999: Non-Domestic Rate (Scotland), 115; Rates and Precepts (Final Adjustments) (Amendment) (England), 305.
Report of the Committee chaired by Mr Derek Wood CBE QC on the rating of plant and machinery in industries currently subject to prescribed assessment, 254.
Regulations: 1999: Non-Domestic Rates (Levying) (Scotland), 125.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES:

REGISTRARS AND RECORDS (SCOTLAND):
Regulations: 1998: Registers of Sasines (Registers Direct) (Scotland), 49.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, ETC.:
Order: 1998: Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees), 61.
Order: 1999: Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) (Amendment), 310.
Regulations: 1998: Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment, 64.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES (SCOTLAND):

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES:
Orders: 1998: Registration of Political Parties (Fees), 5; Registration of Political Parties (Prohibited Words and Expressions), 5.

REGISTRATION SERVICE:

REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE:
Rules: 1999: Scottish Local Elections Amendment, 139; Local Elections (Parishes and Communities)
(Amendment), 152; Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Amendment), 152; Scottish Local Elections Amendment (No. 2), 161.

RESERVE FORCES: Amendments to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978: No. 20, 66; No. 21, 509.

Changes to the Regulations for the Naval and Marine Reserve (BR 64); Change 2, 46; Change 3, 308; Change 4, 490.

Change 1 to the Regulations for the Royal Fleet Reserve and Recall Reserve (BR 61), 491.

Change 2 to the Regulations for the Royal Naval Reserve (BR 60), 509.

Report under section 54(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1999 on the making of a call-out order under section 54(1) of that Act, 254.

RIGHTS IN PERFORMANCES: Order: 1999: Performances (Reciprocal Protection) (Convention Countries), 414.


ROADS AND BRIDGES (SCOTLAND): Regulations: 1999: Road Humps and Traffic Calming (Scotland) Amendment, 249.

ROAD TRAFFIC:
Draft Orders: 1999: Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Amendment), 248; Courses for Drink-Drive Offenders (Experimental Period) (Termination of Restrictions), 435.

Orders: 1999: Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Manchester), 92; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Hampshire) (City of Winchester) (Amendment), 92; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Kent) (Borough of Maidstone) (Amendment), 92; Road Traffic Offenders (Prescribed Devices), 115; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Kent) (Borough of Maidstone) (Amendment) (No. 2), 179; Traffic Areas (Reorganisation) (Wales), 182; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (City of Portsmouth), 188; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of East Sussex) (Borough of Hastings), 259; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Berkshire) (High Wycombe Town Centre) (Amendment), 372; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (Borough of Watford), 372; Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Areas and Special Parking Areas) (City of Oxford and Parish of North Hinksey) (Amendment), 372.

Regulations: 1998: Motor Vehicles (Type Approval of Reduced Pollution Adaptations), 45; Vehicle Excise Duty (Reduced Pollution), 45; Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) (Amendment) (No. 2), 49; Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight), 49; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 7), 49.

Regulations: 1999: Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment), 82; Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) (Amendment), 88; M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) (Amendment), 112; Motor Cars (Driving Instruction) (Admission of Community Licence Holders), 152; Removal and Disposal of Vehicles (Amendment) (Scotland), 165; Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 2), 178; Local Authorities’ Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland), 179; Motor Cycles (Eye Protectors), 183; Road Vehicles (Statutory Off-Road Notification) (Amendment), 183; Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment), 225; A720 (Edinburgh City Bypass) Special Road (Prohibition of Traffic on Hard Shoulders), 257; Motorways Traffic (M621 Motorway), 266; M606/M62 Motorways (Bradford Link) (Speed Limit), 293; Road Traffic (Parking Adjudicators) (London) (Amendment), 300; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment), 358; M6 Motorway (Junction 38 Slip Roads) (Speed Limit), 386; Road Traffic (Parking Adjudicators) (England and Wales), 421; Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment No. 2), 435; Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment), 473; Motor Vehicles (Type Approval and Approval Marks) (Fees), 497; Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment), 498; Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment No. 2), 501; Motor Vehicles (Third Party Risks) (Amendment), 501; M61 Motorway (Kearsley Spur) (Speed Limit), 501; Goods Vehicle Operators (Qualifications), 502; Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences), 517; Motor Cyclists Etc. (EC Type Approval), 540.


ROYAL FINE ART COMMISSION:

ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND CORPORATION:

SALARIES:

SALVAGE AND INTERVENTION:

SAVINGS BANKS:

SCHOOL INSPECTIONS:
Reports: 1997-98: Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools, 117; Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales, 184.

SCHOOL STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK:
Draft Codes of Practice on: LEA-School Relations, 80; School Admissions, 115; Welsh Office: School Admissions, 115; Welsh Office: LEA-School Relations, 260; School Admission Appeals, 359.

SCHOOL TEACHERS:

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:
Accounts: 1997-98: Medical Research Council, 58; Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council, 59; Natural Environment Research Council, 66; Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, 161.


Government Response to the 7th Report from the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, Session 1997-98, on Resistance to Antibiotics and other Antimicrobial agents, 62.


Report and Financial Summary: 1997-98: Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, 162.

Reports and Summary Financial Statements: 1997-98: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, 462; Economic and Social Research Council, 467; Natural Environment Research Council, 522.


SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

SCOTTISH LAND COURT:
Report as to the proceedings of the Scottish Land Court for 1998, 381.

SEA FISHERIES:
Orders: 1998: Herring (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 5; Sole, Plaice and Other Species (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 53; Mackerel (Specified Sea Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing), 61.

Orders: 1999: Bass (Specified Areas) (Prohibition of Fishing) (Variation), 58; Sea Fish (Specified Sea Area) (Regulation of Nets and Prohibition of Fishing Methods) (Variation), 88; Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota Measures), 147; Third Country Fishing (Enforcement), 147; Calshot Oyster Fishery (Variation), 183; Inshore Fishing (Prohibition of Fishing and Fishing Methods) (Scotland) Amendment, 188; Sea Fish Industry Authority (Levy) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 Confirmatory, 218; Tollesbury and Mersea (Blackwater) Fishery, 384.

Regulations: 1999: Fish Producers’ Organisations (Formation Grants), 260.

Reports for 1998 under the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 by: the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 280; the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State responsible for Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries in Scotland, 281; the Secretary of State for Wales, 281.

SECURITIES:
Regulations: 1999: Stock Transfer (Gilt-edged Securities) (CGO Service) (Amendment), 280, Stock Transfer (Gilt-edged Securities) (Exempt Transfer) (Amendment), 280.

SECURITY INDUSTRY:

SECURITY SERVICE:

SEEDS:
Regulations: 1999: Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) (Fees) (Amendment), 258; Seeds (Fees) (Amendment), 359; Beet Seeds (Amendment), 411; Cereal Seeds (Amendment), 411; Fodder Plant Seeds (Amendment), 41; Oil and Fibre Plant Seeds (Amendment), 411; Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) (No. 2), 411; Vegetable Seeds (Amendment), 411; Cereal Seeds (Amendment) (England), 497; Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) (England), 505.

SENIOR SALARIES:

SESSIONAL RETURNS:
Sessional Returns for 1997-98, 90.

SEVERN BRIDGES:

SEX DISCRIMINATION:

Regulations: 1999: Sex Discrimination (Gender Reassignment), 258.


SHERIFF COURT (SCOTLAND): Act of Sederunt (Amendment) 1999: Fees of Witnesses in the Sheriff Court, 105; Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court, 179.

Orders: 1999: Confirmation to Small Estates (Scotland), 125; Sheriff Court Fees Amendment, 188.


Reports by the Social Exclusion Unit on:- Teenage Pregnancy, 373; Bridging the Gap: New opportunities for 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training, 441.

SOCIAL SECURITY:


Draft Regulations: 1999: Social Security (New Deal Pilot) Amendment, 139; Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals), 170; Social Security (Incapacity, Earnings and Work Trials) Pilot Schemes, 182; Social Security Commissioners (Procedure), 277; Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment), 300; Jobseeker's Allowance Amendment (New Deal), 445; Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment) (No. 2), 517; Social Security (New Deal Pilot), 517.


Orders: 1999: Social Security (Industrial Injuries) (Dependancy) (Permitted Earnings Limits), 183; Housing Benefit (Permitted Totals) (Amendment), 188; Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Amendment, 188; New Deal (25 plus) (Miscellaneous Provisions), 191; Social Security Revaluation of Earnings Factors, 304.


Regulations: 1998: Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 5), 7; Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2), 13; Social Security (Claims and Payments) Amendment (No. 2), 49; Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2), 65; Social Security (Categorisation of Earnings) Amendment, 65.

Regulations: 1999: Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment), 99; Child Benefit (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment, 115; Employer's Contributions Re-imbursement Amendment, 130; Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating) Consequential Amendment, 142; Statutory Maternity Pay (Compensation of Employers) Amendment, 142; Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2), 147; Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment), 170; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment, 179; Social Security Contributions, Statutory Maternity Pay and Statutory Sick Pay (Miscellaneous Amendments), 188; Social Security Benefits (Miscellaneous Amendments), 205; Social Security (Contributions and Credits) (Miscellaneous Amendments), 205; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 2), 208; Statutory Sick Pay and Statutory Maternity Pay (Decisions), 212; Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment, 225; Social Security Benefits Up-rating and Miscellaneous Increases, 225; Social Security Benefits Up-rating, 226; Social Security (Overlapping Benefits) Amendment, 226; Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 3), 239; Distrain by Authorised Officers (Fees, Costs and Charges), 244; Distrain by Authorised Officers (Fees, Costs and Charges), 244; Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 3), 249; Social Security Contributions (Decisions and Appeals), 249; Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 4), 268; Social Security (Adjudication) (Amendment), 310; Social Security (Overlapping Benefits) Amendment (No. 2), 324; Social Security (Hospital In-Patients, Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) (Amendment), 327; Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 5), 353; Social Security Amendment (Non-Cash Vouchers), 358; Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2), 359; Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Amendment (No. 2), 372; Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Amendment (No. 3), 372; Social Security Amendment (Educational Maintenance Allowance), 387; Social Fund Winter Fuel Payment Amendment, 426; Social Security Amendment (Students), 435; Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment No. 4) (Northern Ireland), 435; Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment No. 4) (Northern Ireland) Amendment, 435; Income Support (General) and Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment), 435; Social Security Amendment (Sports Awards), 497; Child Benefit (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Amendment, 499; Social Security (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Amendment, 499; Social Security (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Amendment, 499; Social Security (Incapacity Benefit and Jobseeker's Allowance) Amendment, 500; Social Security (Claims and Payments) Amendment, 501; Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 2), 501; Income Support (General) Amendment, 503; Social Security Amendment (Personal Allowances for Children and Young Persons), 503; Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2), 503; Social Security and Child Support (Tax Credits) Consequential Amendments, 504; Tax Credits (Claims and Payments) (Amendment), 504; Tax Credits (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment), 504; Distrain by Authorised Officers (Fees, Costs and Charges), 504; Social Security (Incapacity Benefit and Jobseeker's Allowance) Amendment, 505; Social Security Amendment (Notional Income and Capital), 505; Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment No. 5), 505; Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No. 3), 505; Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment, 506.


INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME 611

**Social Security Administration:**

  Report by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council in accordance with section 171 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 reviewing the prescription of diseases induced by ionising and non-ionising radiation, 162.

  Reports by the Social Security Advisory Committee preceded by a statement by the Secretary of State for Social Security on:- the Social Security (Contributions) Amendment Regulations 1999, 179; the Housing Benefit (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 1999, 495.

**Social Security Executive Agencies:**

**Social Security (Northern Ireland):**
- Regulations: 1999: Tax Credits Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Northern Ireland), 502; Tax Credits Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments), 502; Tax Credits (Claims and Payments) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment), 504; Tax Credits (Decisions and Appeals) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment), 504; Tax Credits (Payments on Account, Overpayments and Recovery) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment), 504.

**Social Services:**

**Social Services (Scotland):**

**Social Services (Training):**

**Special Procedure Orders:**
- Report by the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, under section 3 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945; That Petitions were proper to be received as Petitions of General Objection to the City of Stoke-on-Trent Tunstall Northern By-pass Local Government Act Compulsory Purchase Order 1997, 384. (see also Local Government)

**Sport:**

**Sports Councils:**


**Sports Grounds and Sporting Events:**
- Orders: 1999: Football Spectators (Seating), 426; Safety of Sports Grounds (Designation), 426; Football (Offences) (Designation of Football Matches), 501; Football Spectators (Designation of Football Matches in England and Wales), 501.

**Standards in Public Life:**

**Statistics:**
- Paper: Building trust in statistics, 496.

**Statistics of Trade:**

**Statutory Instruments:**
- Reports to the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker from the Statutory Instruments Reference Committee, That it has been notified that:- the Secretary of State for the Home Department has certified that the printing and sale of copies of the Young Offender Institution (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 729) is unnecessary, having regard to the fact that the instrument came into force, 363; the Secretary of State for Scotland has certified that the printing and sale of copies of the Scottish Local Elections (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 406) is unnecessary, having regard to the fact that the Rules were revoked and later replaced by another instrument before the above had come into effect, 363; the Secretary of State for Scotland has certified that the printing and sale of copies of the Scottish Local Elections (Amendment) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 406) is unnecessary, having regard to the fact that the Rules were revoked by the Scottish Local Elections (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 492) before they came into force, 363. That the Committee is satisfied that the certificates are justified and has taken no further action in the matter.

**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 Instrument came into operation:- Social Security (Contributions) Amendment (No. 5) Regulations 1998 (S.I., 1998, No. 2894), 24; Legal Aid in Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2737), 510; Legal Aid (Mediation in Family Matters) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1999 (S.I., 1999, No. 2738), 510.

**Stephen Lawrence (Macpherson Inquiry):**
- Report of an Inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny: the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, 147; Appendices to the Report, 147; withdrawn, 153; re-laid, 158.

**Succession (Scotland):**
- Order: 1999: Prior Rights of Surviving Spouse (Scotland), 158.
SUPERNUMERARY:
Schemes: 1999: Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment), 491; Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment), 491.

SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1997-98:
Statement of the sums required to be voted in order to make good excesses on certain grants for 1997-98, 153.

SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1998-99:

SUPPLY ESTIMATES, 1999-2000:

SUPPLY ESTIMATES (SCOTLAND), 1999-2000:

SUPREME COURT (NORTHERN IRELAND):
Rules: 1999: Civil Procedure (Amendment), 249; Court Funds (Amendment), 249; Non-Contestable Probate (Amendment), 249.
Rules (Northern Ireland): 1999: Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment), 88; Crown Court (Amendment), 226; Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment No. 2), 473.

SUPREME COURT OF ENGLAND AND WALES:
Draft Orders: 1999: Civil Procedure (Modification of Enactments), 259; Maximum Number of Judges, 337.
Orders: 1999: Non-Contestable Probate Fees, 189; Supreme Court Fees, 189; Supreme Court Fees (Amendment), 504.
Rules: 1999: Crown Court (Miscellaneous Amendments), 175; Election Petition (Amendment), 321; European Parliamentary Election Petition (Amendment), 334; Adoption (Amendment), 353; Crown Court (Amendment), 507; Crown Court (Forms Amendment), 572.

TAXES:
Draft Regulations: 1999: Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider), 473; withdrawal, 510; re-laid, 507.
Order: 1999: Finance Act 1993, Section 86(2), (Fish Quota), 175.

Regulations: 1999: Stamp Duty and Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (Open-ended Investment Companies) (Amendment), 353; Capital Gains Tax (Definition of Permanent Interest Bearing Share), 431; Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (UK Depositary Interest in Foreign Securities), 501; Stamp Duty (Collection and Recovery of Penalties), 502; Stamp Duty (Exempt Instruments) (Amendment), 502; Stamp Duty Reserve Tax (Amendment), 502; Taxes (Interest Rate) (Amendment No. 3), 502.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS:
Licences granted under the Telecommunications Act 1984 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to:- Cignal Global Communications U.K. Limited, 39; Data Marine Systems Limited, 39; EGN BV, 39; Ibercom Limited, 39; International Computers Limited, 39; International Telecommunications Group Inc 38; International Telecom Plc, 39; Internet Network Services Limited, 39; KPN Telecom UK Limited, 39; MLL Telecom Limited, 39; NETs Limited, 39; NorSea Com A/S, 39; PT-1 Communications UK Limited, 39; Qwest Communications International Limited, 39; Storm Telecommunications Limited, 39;TeleOne Limited, 39; Teleport London International Limited, 39; The JNT Association, 39; UTG Communications (Europe) AG, 39; VersaTel Telecom BV, 39; Vielat UK Limited, 39; Witley Communications Limited, 39; Worldport Communications Limited, 39; Alpha Telecom Limited, 373; Axxon Telecom Limited, 373; Belgacom UK Limited, 373; Call-Net (UK) Limited, 373; City Telecom (HK) Limited, 373; Cyberlight Europe Plc, 373; Eurotunnel Telecommunications Limited, 373; Flute Limited, 373; International Optical Network Limited, 373; Japan Telecom UK Limited, 373; Jersey Telecoms, 373; NTT Europe Limited, 373; Zurea Limited, 373; Carrier One Ltd, 522; Farland Services UK Limited, 522; GC Pan European Crossing UK Limited, 522; ICO Services Limited, 522; IFC Global (UK) Ltd, 522; Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC, 522; MTU Inform Europe Limited, 522; PLDiscompass Limited, 522; Swicoom (UK) Limited, 522; Telia2 Communications Services Limited, 522; Telia UK Ltd, 522; USA Global Link (UK) Limited, 522; BSI ACCESS UK Limited, 562; CompleTel UK Limited, 562; Core Telecommunications Limited, 562; Enitel ASA, 562; FaultBasic Limited, 562; G.C. Global Communications Limited, 562; GTS Business Services (UK) Limited, 562; HSC Limited, 562; Level 3 Communications Limited, 562; Pantheon Telecom (UK) Limited, 562; StarGlobal Ltd, 562; Tele2 Sweden Limited, 562; Telecom New Zealand (UK) Licences Limited, 562; Teleport UK Limited (trading as Satellite Media Services), 563; TNI (Telecom) Limited, 563; WinStar Communications Limited, 563; WXNET Limited, 563.

Orders: 1998: Public Telecommunication System Designation in respect of the following companies:- Cignal Global Communications U.K. Limited, 39; Data Marine Systems Limited, 39; EGN BV, 39; Ibercom Limited, 39; International Computers Limited, 39; International Telecommunications Group Inc 38; International Telecom Plc, 39; Internet Network Services Limited, 39; KPN Telecom UK Limited, 39; MLL Telecom Limited, 39; NETs Limited, 39; NorSea Com A/S, 39; PT-1 Communications UK Limited, 39; Qwest Communications International Limited, 39; Storm Telecommunications Limited, 39;TeleOne Limited, 39; Teleport London International Limited, 39; The JNT Association, 39; UTG Communications (Europe) AG, 39; VersaTel Telecom BV, 39; Vielat UK Limited, 39; Witley Communications Limited, 39; Worldport Communications Limited, 39; Alpha Telecom Limited, 373; Axxon Telecom Limited, 373; Belgacom UK Limited, 373; Call-Net (UK) Limited, 373; City Telecom (HK) Limited, 373; Cyberlight Europe Plc, 373; Eurotunnel Telecommunications Limited, 373; Flute Limited, 373; International Optical Network Limited, 373; Japan Telecom UK Limited, 373; Jersey Telecoms, 373; NTT Europe Limited, 373; Zurea Limited, 373; Carrier One Ltd, 522; Farland Services UK Limited, 522; GC Pan European Crossing UK Limited, 522; ICO Services Limited, 522; IFC Global (UK) Ltd, 522; Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC, 522; MTU Inform Europe Limited, 522; PLDiscompass Limited, 522; Swicoom (UK) Limited, 522; Telia2 Communications Services Limited, 522; Telia UK Ltd, 522; USA Global Link (UK) Limited, 522; BSI ACCESS UK Limited, 562; CompleTel UK Limited, 562; Core Telecommunications Limited, 562; Enitel ASA, 562; FaultBasic Limited, 562; G.C. Global Communications Limited, 562; GTS Business Services (UK) Limited, 562; HSC Limited, 562; Level 3 Communications Limited, 562; Pantheon Telecom (UK) Limited, 562; StarGlobal Ltd, 562; Tele2 Sweden Limited, 562; Telecom New Zealand (UK) Licences Limited, 562; Teleport UK Limited (trading as Satellite Media Services), 563; TNI (Telecom) Limited, 563; WinStar Communications Limited, 563; WXNET Limited, 563.
Limited, 38; Witely Communications Limited, 38; Worldport Communications Limited, 38.

Orders: 1999: Public Telecommunication System Designation in respect of the following companies: Alpha Telecom Limited, 372; Axxon Telecom Limited, 372; Belsacomo UK Limited, 372; Call-Net (UK) Limited, 372; City Telecom (HK) Limited, 372; Cyberlight Europe Plc, 372; Eurotunnel Telecommunications Limited, 372; Flute Limited, 372; International Optical Network Limited, 372; Japan Telegraphy UK Limited, 372; Jersey Telecoms, 372; NTT Europe Limited, 372; Zereu Limited, 372; Carrier One Ltd, 521; Farland Services UK Limited, 521; GC Pan European Crossing UK Limited, 521; ICO Services Limited, 521; IFC Global (UK) Ltd, 521; Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC, 521; MTU Inform Europe Limited, 521; PLD Encompass Limited, 521; Swiscom (UK) Limited, 521; Tele2 Communications Services Limited, 521; Tele2 Sweden Ltd, 521; Teila UK Ltd, 521; USA Global Link (UK) Limited, 521; BSI ACCESS UK Limited, 561; Completel UK Limited, 561; Core Telecommunications Limited, 561; Entel ASA, 561; Faultbasecnic Limited, 561; G.C. Global Communications Limited, 562; GTS Business Services (UK) Limited, 562; IBS Limited, 562; Level 3 Communications Limited, 562; Pantheon Telecom (UK) Limited, 562; StarGlobal Ltd, 562; Tele2 Sweden Limited, 562; Telecom New Zealand (UK) Licences Limited, 562; Teleport UK Limited (trading as Satellite Media Services), 562; TNI (Telecom) Limited, 562; WinStar Communications Limited, 562; WXNET Limited, 562.


Regulations: 1999: Telecommunications (Data Protection and Privacy), 485; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (Amendment), 534; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (British Telecommunications plc), 501; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (Cable and Local Delivery Operator Licences), 501; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (Fixed Voice Telephony and International Facilities Operator Licences), 502; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC), 502; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (Mobile Public Telecommunication Operators), 502; Telecommunications (Licence Modifications) (Standard Schedules), 502.


TELEGRAPHS:

Order: 1999: Wireless Telegraphy (Cordless Telephone Apparatus) (Restriction and Marking), 534.


Regulations: 1999: Wireless Telegraphy (Television Licence Fees) (Amendment), 188; Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption), 230; Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges), 396.


TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:


Orders: 1999: Public Interest Disclosure (Prescribed Persons), 359; Redundancy Payments (Continuity of Employment in Local Government, etc.) (Modification), 500.

Regulations: 1999: Agricultural Wages Act 1948 (Amendment), 184; Right to Time Off for Study or Training, 253; Right to Time Off for Study or Training (Scotland), 257; Public Interest Disclosure (Compensation), 359; Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment), 426; Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment), 501; Transfer undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Rent Officer Service), 502; Maternity and Parental Leave etc., 351.

Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 5(4) of the National Minimum Wage Act 1998 on the regulations implementing the national minimum wage, 133.

TERRORISM:


TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING:

Orders: 1999: Planning and Compensation Act 1991 (Amendment of Schedule 18), 188; Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment), 386; Planning and Compensation Act 1991 (Amendment of Schedule 18) (No. 2), 404.


Regulations: 1999: Channel Tunnel Rail Link (Assessment of Environmental Effects), 96; Town and Country Planning (Costs of Inquiries etc.) (Standard Daily Amount), 138; Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales), 138; Planning (Control of Major-Accident Hazards), 253; Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (Amendment), 422; Town and Country Planning (Trees), 431.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND):


TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

Department of Trade and Industry Minute concerning a contingent liability consequent upon an agreement between the Company Law and Investigations Directorate of the Department of Trade and Industry and British Telecommunications PLC concerning access to an automated information service, 49.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:


TRADE UNION AND LABOUR RELATIONS:


Reports: 1998: Certification Officer, 208; Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS), 304.
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

47 & 48 ELIZ. II] 615


TRAINING AND ENTERPRISE COUNCILS:

TRANSPORT:
Statement of Guarantee given by the Treasury in respect of temporary borrowing by the British Waterways Board from the National Westminster Bank plc, 226.
Statements of salaries of members of:- British Railways Board, 34; British Waterways Board, 283.

TRANSPORT (SCOTLAND):

TREASURY:
Treasury Minute concerning government indemnity to cover the personal civil liability of board members of non-departmental public bodies, 30.

TREASURY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

TREASURY SOLICITOR:

TREATY SERIES:
1998:
52. 1996 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, Resolution MSC.57 (67), adopted in accordance with Article VIII of the Convention, 7.
57. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Armenia terminating the Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the Mutual Abolition of Consular Fees on Visas, 7.
58. Agreement concerning Specific Stability Requirements for Ro-Ro Passenger Ships undertaking Regular Scheduled International Voyages between or to or from Designated Ports in North West Europe and the Baltic Sea, 59.

1999:
2. Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Estonia including Protocols with Exchange of Letters, Declarations and Final Act, 74.
3. Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, Meeting within the Council, on the Financing and Administration of Community Aid under the Second Financial Protocol to the Fourth ACP-EC Convention, 85.
4. Agreement between the United Kingdom and the Government of the State of Bahrain concerning Air Services, 96.
7. Agreement between the UK and the Kyrgyz Republic for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 122.
8. Agreement between the UK and the Republic of Moldova for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, 122.
9. Headquarters Agreement between the UK and the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, 137.
10. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the French Republic concerning the European Air Group, 137.
15. Agreement between the UK and the State of Qatar concerning Air Services, 221.
22. Agreement between the UK and the Sultanate of Oman for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Incomes and Capital Gains, with Exchange of Notes, 277.
27. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China concerning Air Services, 309.
29. Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 317.
30. Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 317.
32. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Chile concerning liability for damage during the launch phase of the Fasat-Bravo Satellite, 324.
33. Protocol No. 11 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, restructuring the control machinery established there by, 354.
34. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Peru concerning Certain Commercial Debts (United Kingdom/Peru Debt Agreement No. 4 (1993)), 354.
35. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Peru concerning Certain Commercial Debts (United Kingdom/Peru Debt Agreement No. 5 (1996)), 354.
36. Agreement between the UK and the Government of Japan for Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, with Agreed Minutes, 381.
37. Agreement amending the Fourth ACP-EC Convention of Lomé, with Final Act, 412.
38. First supplementary list of ratifications, accessions, withdrawals, etc., for 1999, 416.
41. Agreement between the UK on behalf of the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Government of the United States of America relating to Investment Incentives, 453.
44. Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Estonia on International Road Transport, 467.
52. Exchange of Notes extending the Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Ecuador for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at Quito on 10th May 1994 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey, 494.
54. Exchange of Notes extending the Agreement between the UK and the Government of the Republic of Romania for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at London on 13th July 1995 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey, 494.

55. Exchange of Notes extending the Agreement between the UK and the Government of Turkmenistan for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at Ashgabat on 9th February 1995 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey, 494.

56. Exchange of Notes extending the Agreement between the UK and His Majesty's Government of Nepal for the Promotion and Protection of Investments signed at Kathmandu on 2nd March 1993 to the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey, 494.

57. Agreement to amend the Agreement of 3 August 1959, as amended by the Agreements of 21st October 1971 and 18th May 1981, to supplement the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces with respect to Foreign Forces stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany, 495.

58. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil concerning the abolition of visas, 495.

59. Second Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 1999, 495.

60. Convention on Temporary Admission with Annexes, 495.

61. 1994 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 495.


63. 1994 Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gas in Bulk, 496.


65. Framework Cooperation Agreement leading ultimately to the Establishment of a Political and Economic Association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Chile, of the other part, with Minutes of Signing and Joint Declarations, 496.

66. Exchange of Notes between the UK and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the Entry and Exit Procedures for Aircraft Crews on Flights between the USSR and the UK, 496.

67. 1997 Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (Resolution MSC. 65 (68)), 496.

68. Protocol relating to an Amendment to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 520.


70. Agreement between the UK and the Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Commission for the Location of Victims' Remains, 573.

71. Amendments to Articles 3.3, 3.4, 4.2, 4.5, 5.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 12 (a) and 13.3 and Schedules I and II effected by Resolution 86/XVIII, to the Agreement establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development, 573.

72. WEU Security Agreement, 573.

TRIBUNALS AND INQUIRIES:

UNITED NATIONS:

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH BILL:
Report by the Attorney General on the United Reformed Church Bill, 277.

UNITED STATES:
1998:
1999:

UNIVERSITIES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE:
Statutes: Cambridge: Trinity College, 24; King's College, 24; the University, 24; Downing, 33; the University, 53; the University, 58; Emmanuel College, 58; the University, 58; the University, 359.
Statutes: Oxford: the University, 33; Exeter College, 33; Magdalen College, 45; Magdalen College, 45; Magdalen College, 45; Magdalen College, 45; Corpus Christi College, 58; St Hugh's College, 58; Magdalen College, 103; the University, 239; Wadham College, 354; St. Hilda's College, 388.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON BILL:
Report by the Attorney General on the University College London Bill, 176.

VALUE ADDED TAX:
Orders: 1999: Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land), 178; Value Added Tax (Finance), 178; Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits), 179; Value Added Tax (Chiropractors), 539; Value Added Tax (Abolition of Zero-Rating for Tax-Free Shops), 369; Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education), 461; Value Added Tax (Refund of Tax), 473; Value Added Tax (Cars) (Amendment), 506; Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) (Amendment), 506; Value Added Tax (Subscriptions to Trade Unions, Professional and Other Public Interest Bodies), 507; Value Added Tax (Supplies of
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME [1998–99]

Goods where Input Tax cannot be recovered, 507; Value Added Tax (Input Tax) (Amendment), 529;
Regulations: 1999: Value Added Tax (Amendment), 155; Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 2), 179;
Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 3), 329; Value Added Tax, 562.

VIDEO RECORDINGS:
- Report and Accounts: 1998: British Board of Film Classification, 339.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR (NORTHERN IRELAND):
- Paper: Building Real Partnership: Compact between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector in Northern Ireland, 49.

WATER:

WATER INDUSTRY:
- Regulations: 1999: Water (Compulsory Works Powers) (Notice), 125; Water Supply (Water Fittings),
263; Water Supply (Water Fittings) (Amendment), 358; Water Supply (Water Quality) (Amendment), 363.

WATER RESOURCES:
- Order: 1999: Water Protection Zone (River Dee Catchment) Designation, 236.
- Regulations: 1999: Water Protection Zone (River Dee Catchment) (Procedural and Other Provisions),
236; Anti-Pollution Works, 249.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:
- Regulations: 1999: Weights and Measures (Prescribed Stamp) (Amendment), 165.

WELSH CHURCH:
- Schemes: 1999: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund), 242; County Council of Flintshire (Welsh Church Act Trust Fund), 309.

WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY:

WELSH LANGUAGE:
- Order: 1999: Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies), 266.

WELSH OFFICE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES:

WILDLIFE:

YOUNG OFFENDER INSTITUTIONS:
- Rules: 1999: Young Offender Institution (Amendment), 188; Young Offender Institution (Amendment) (No. 2), 242.
PART II

II. ADDRESSES:

I. Addresses for Papers:
Addresses for Papers, and Papers presented accordingly:
—Election Expenses, 143.

II. Orders for Papers:
Sessional Returns ordered:
—for Session 1997–98, 16.
Sessional Returns laid upon the Table:

III. PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER OTHER AUTHORITIES:
Presented by Her Majesty’s Command, 5, &c.
—during Adjournment or Prorogation, 30, &c.
Presented, pursuant to Act, 5, &c.
—during Adjournment or Prorogation, 5, &c.
—subject to Affirmative Resolution, 6, &c.
—subject to Negative Resolution, 5, &c.
Presented, pursuant to Statutory Instrument, 7, &c.
Presented, pursuant to Standing Orders:
—relating to Public Business:
(Notification in respect of certain statutory instruments), 24, 510.
(Printing of petitions and ministerial replies), 15, &c.

IV. PAPERS PRESENTED OR LAYED BY VARIOUS PERSONS:
Presented by Minister of the Crown, 5, &c.
Laid upon the Table by the Clerk of the House, 7, &c.
Laid upon the Table by the Speaker, 24, &c.
Presented by the Chairman of Ways and Means, 182.
Presented by the Chairman of Public Accounts Commission, 254, &c.

V. MISCELLANEOUS:
Papers ordered to be printed, 5, &c.
Papers withdrawn, 28, &c.

ADDITIONS:

I. OF THANKS (QUEEN’S SPEECH):

Motion made; Debate stood adjourned (it being Ten o’clock), 4. Resumed and ordered to be adjourned, 6.
13. Resumed and stood adjourned (it being Ten o’clock), 10. Resumed; Amendment negatived on Division;
Debate stood adjourned (it being after Ten o’clock), 14. 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. 17. Queen’s Answer, 32.

II. FOR RETURNS:
[See also ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS I]
Election Expenses, 143.

III. RELATING TO DELEGATED LEGISLATION:
Addresses for Statutory Instruments to be made in the form of drafts, 29, 387.
Queen’s Answers, 54, 442. [See DELEGATED LEGISLATION II.]

IV. MISCELLANEOUS:
Questions for presenting Addresses:
—agreed to, 17.
ADJOURNMENT DEBATES ON SPECIFIED SUBJECTS:

(Other than on Wednesday mornings)

The European Union, 27.

Iraq, 60.

Welsh Affairs, 151.

The Government’s Priorities for Women, Progress on their Delivery, 174.

Kosovo, 238.

Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, 243.

Kosovo (No. 2), 269.

Defence Equipment, 283.

Modernising London’s Health Service, 306.

Kosovo (No. 3), 328.

European Union, 346.

White Paper on Reforming the House of Lords (Cm. 4183), 361.

Deﬁence in the World, 365.

Kosovo (No. 4), 383.

Tourism in the New Millennium, 385.

Innovation and Enterprise, 402.

Armed Forces Personnel, 414.

Drugs, 415.

Policing of London, 452.

Economic Stability and Public Services, 489.

First Report from the Treasury Committee on the Office for National Statistics and Reports from the Select Committee on Public Administration on the Work of the Ombudsman, 492.

Report from the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, 528.

Agriculture, 533.

Future of Broadcasting, 534.

Family-friendly Employment Policies, 553.

ADOPTION (INTERCOUNTRY ASPECTS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 70. Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 261. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 281. C. 283. Transferred to D, 317. Reported, with Amendments, 330. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 387. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 458. (Cited as Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 488.

AGE (PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 228.

AGE LIMITS ON HEALTH CARE BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 131.

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER PLC (GROUP REORGANISATION) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords (suspended from Last Session), 10. Read the first time, 14. Read a second time and committed, 69. Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 549. Lords Message communicating Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 552.

AMENDMENTS TO QUESTIONS:

[For Amendments to Bills, see BILLS, PRIVATE AND BILLS, PUBLIC; See also EUROPEAN COMMUNITY/UNION DOCUMENTS, OPPOSITION, RESOLUTIONS AND ADDRESSES.]

I. AMENDMENTS MADE:

Opposition days:

—to Motions for Resolutions, 35, &c. [See OPPOSITION.]

Other Government Amendments to Opposition Motions, 524.

Private Member’s Motions (debated in Government time):

—(Line of Route), 349.

Government Motions:

—(Travel by Members to National Parliaments and European Union Institutions), 350.

Question for a new Writ, by leaving out all the words after ‘That’ and adding ‘this House do pass to the Orders of the day’ (Question superseded), 243.

II. AMENDMENTS NEGATIVE:

Address of Thanks (Queen’s Speech), 14, 17.

—after Question put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order (Calling of amendments at end of debate), 17.

Bills, Public:

—Reasoned Amendment on Second Reading, 32, &c.

Government Motion (Modernisation of the House of Commons), 343.

Standing Orders, Motions to modify until end of present Session of Parliament:

—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Order, 56.

III. AMENDMENTS WITHDRAWN:

Question on Amendment put forthwith, pursuant to Order, 56.

ANIMAL WELFARE (PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 356.

ATTORNEY GENERAL: See LAW OFFICERS.

BAXI PARTNERSHIP LIMITED TRUSTS BILL [Lords]: To originate in the Lords, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Brought from the Lords; read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 436. Examiner’s Report, no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 475. Read a second time and committed, 512. Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 535. Lords Message communicating Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 538.

ADJOURNMENT DEBATES ON SPECIFIED SUBJECTS:

(After Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Calling of amendments at end of debate), 17.

Addresses to be presented by Privy Counsellors or members of Her Majesty’s Household, 17, &c.

Queen’s Answers to Addresses, 32, &c.
BILLS, PRIVATE:

I. PRIVATE BILLS PROCEEDED UPON, &C.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</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, 10 (Suspended)</td>
<td>Suspended, 549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baxi Partnership Limited Trusts [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 436</td>
<td>Suspended, 535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of London (Ward Elections)</td>
<td>Read the first time, 89</td>
<td>Suspended, 540 (Order for further consideration read and discharged, 542)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Newcastle upon Tyne [Lords]</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Westminster [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 16 (Suspended)</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFC Bank</td>
<td>Read the first time, 89</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial College</td>
<td>Read the first time, 89</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent County Council [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 136</td>
<td>Suspended, 550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London Local Authorities [Lords]</td>
<td>Read the first time, 89</td>
<td>Suspended, 527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medway Council [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 516</td>
<td>Suspended, 550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Salaried Staffs' Association (Amendment of Rules) etc.</td>
<td>Read the first time, 89</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Reformed Church [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 516</td>
<td>Royal Assent, 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College London</td>
<td>Read the first time, 89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. SUSPENDED BILLS:

1. At beginning of Session:

Suspended Lords Bills:
—brought from the Lords, 10, 16.
—certificates of declaration laid, 14, 26.
—Standing Orders of previous Session read, 14, 26.
—read the first time, 14.
—read the first and second time and ordered to be committed, 26.

2. At end of Session:

Orders (which are to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings on Bills:
—Lords Bills in Commons, 527, 535, 549, 550.
—Commons Bills in Commons, 540.
—Commons Bills in Lords, 535.
—Messages to the Lords:
—to acquaint them with Orders made by the Commons, 528 &c.
Messages from the Lords communicating Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings on Bills:
—Lords Bills in Lords, 550.
—Commons Bills in Lords, 532.

Commons concur with Lords Resolutions relating to suspension of Bills, 550, 554.
Messages from the Lords communicating Resolutions similar to Orders made by the Commons relating to suspension of proceedings on Bills originating in the Lords, 532, 538.

Motion relating to suspension of proceedings on Bill; objection taken to further proceeding; Debate to be resumed on a future day, 531. Resumed on a future day (at Seven o'clock); Questions agreed to, 539.

III. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND FIRST READINGS:

Report of lists of Bills to originate in the House of Lords and the House of Commons, 41.
Commons Bills read the first time, 89, &c.
Lords Bills read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 136 &c.

IV. SECOND READINGS AND COMMITTAL:

Days appointed for Second Reading, 104, &c.
Orders for Second Reading read: Bills to be read a second time on future days, 107, &c.
Bills read a second time and committed, 69, &c.
—at Seven o'clock, 145.
—on Division, 145.
Bill read a second time and referred to the Examiners, 104.
Bill committed following Examiner's Report, 151, 370.

V. REPORTS FROM THE EXAMINERS:

Petitions for Bills:
—Standing Orders complied with, 63.
Bills originating in the Lords and referred after First Reading:
—no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 151, &c.
Bill referred after Second Reading:
BILLS, PRIVATE V—continued

VI. REPORTS FROM THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE:

Resolution, That dispensation from provisions of Standing Order (Petitions against private bills) ought to be granted in the case of a late petition against a Bill; Resolution agreed to, 458.

VII. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Bills reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills:

— with Amendments, 185.
— without Amendments, 206.
— with Amendments and an amended Preamble, 206, 238.
— with Amendments, an amended Preamble and an amended Title, 420.

Bills reported from Committees on Opposed Bills:

— with Amendments, 374.
— with Special Report, 374.

Preamble proved, 185, &c.
— as amended, proved, 420.

VIII. CONSIDERATION:

Order for [further] consideration read; Bill to be considered on a future day,
— on a future day (at Seven o'clock), 428.
— further considered on a future day, 458.

Bills considered:
— as amended in the Committee, 209, &c.
— as amended in the Committee, at Seven o'clock, 443.

Further consideration stood adjourned; it being after Ten o'clock, 444.

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>Access to Justice [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 210</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Development Corporation [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 181</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund</td>
<td>Ordered, 44</td>
<td>C. F. (No. 2) Act 1998</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund (No. 2)</td>
<td>Ordered, 217</td>
<td>C. F. Act 1999</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Fund (Appropriation)</td>
<td>Ordered, 434</td>
<td>Appropriation Act 1999</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts (Rights of Third Parties)[Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 370</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Rights Commission [Lords]</td>
<td>Presented, 94</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Relations</td>
<td>Presented, 12</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Parliamentary Elections</td>
<td>Ordered, 204</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Presented, 365</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Standards</td>
<td>Presented, 20</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BILLS, PRIVATE VIII—continued

Order for further consideration read and discharged, 542.

IX. THIRD READINGS:

Bills read the third time and passed:
— Commons Bills, 245, &c.
— Lords Bill, with Amendments, 227.

Queen’s Consent signified on Motion being made for Third Reading, 270.

X. LORDS AMENDMENTS:

Commons Bills agreed to by the Lords:
— without Amendment, 387, 399.

XI. LORDS BILLS:

Bills brought from the Lords, 10, 16.
— suspended Bills, 10, 16.

Lords Bills read the first time and referred to the Examiners, 136, 436, 516.

Lords Bills passed:
— with Amendments, 227.

Lords agree to Commons Amendments, 232.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS:

Opposed private business taken at Seven o’clock:
— Second Reading, 145.
— Consideration, 443.
— Suspension motion, 539.

Return relating to Private Bills and Private Business for Session 1997–98:
— ordered, 16.
— made, 90.
### BILLS, PUBLIC BILL—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>Health [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 243</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Lords</td>
<td>Presented, 81</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration and Asylum</td>
<td>Presented, 116</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>Presented, 14</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains)</td>
<td>Presented, 287</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution Prevention and Control [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 336</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating Valuation</td>
<td>Presented, 10</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic (NHS Charges)</td>
<td>Presented, 12</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Enterprise</td>
<td>Presented, 20</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 101</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credits</td>
<td>Presented, 42</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee Delegation [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 177</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Industry</td>
<td>Presented, 6</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 232</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Government 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>Financial Services and Markets</td>
<td>Presented, 383</td>
<td>Suspended, 563 [pursuant to Order, 518]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland Railways</td>
<td>Presented, 433</td>
<td>Passed, 440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presented, 423</td>
<td>Referred to Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, 455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Offences (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 55</td>
<td>Passed, 156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>Adoption (Intercountry Aspects)</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare)</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company and Business Names (Chambers of Commerce, etc.)</td>
<td>Presented, 71</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 279</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football (Offences and Disorder)</td>
<td>Presented, 69</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland)</td>
<td>Presented, 69</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of Children</td>
<td>Presented, 69</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing)</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>— Act 1999</td>
<td>410</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>Academic and Academic-related Staff Pay and Conditions [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 433</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Environmental Information</td>
<td>Presented, 113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (Prevention of Discrimination)</td>
<td>Ordered, 228</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Limits on Health Care</td>
<td>Ordered, 131</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Welfare (Prohibition of Imports)</td>
<td>Ordered, 356</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bells on Pedal Cycles</td>
<td>Ordered, 331</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 256</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadcasting (Religious Programming)</td>
<td>Ordered, 436</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 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>Building Regulation</td>
<td>Ordered, 528</td>
<td>Second Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions)</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>adjourned, 190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Care</td>
<td>Ordered, 261</td>
<td>Second Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheques (Scotland)</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>adjourned, 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Rights Commissioner</td>
<td>Ordered, 442</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Registration (Access to Records)</td>
<td>Ordered, 523</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Protection (Landfill)</td>
<td>Ordered, 256</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans)</td>
<td>Ordered, 104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concessionary Television Licences for Pensioners</td>
<td>Ordered, 361</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of Fireworks</td>
<td>Ordered, 312</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of Hedgerows in Residential Areas</td>
<td>Ordered, 512</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of Residential Hedgerows</td>
<td>Presented, 186</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Lanes and Villages</td>
<td>Ordered, 316</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown Prerogatives (Parliamentary Control)</td>
<td>Presented, 163</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyclists’ Helmets</td>
<td>Ordered, 538</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Television Broadcasting</td>
<td>Ordered, 274</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rights (International Obligations)</td>
<td>Presented, 464</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty Homes</td>
<td>Ordered, 423</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Conservation (Housing)</td>
<td>Presented, 78</td>
<td>Second Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>Presented, 78</td>
<td>adjourned, 154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Saving Materials (VAT Relief)</td>
<td>Presented, 215</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal Access (Public and Private Buildings)</td>
<td>Ordered, 395</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Common Fisheries Policy (Referendum)</td>
<td>Ordered, 192</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Parliamentary Elections (Gibraltar) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 279</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football Regulator</td>
<td>Ordered, 301</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom of Tax Information</td>
<td>Ordered, 270</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Poverty and Energy Conservation</td>
<td>Presented, 71</td>
<td>Withdrawn, 312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Safety</td>
<td>Ordered, 140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Parlours (Planning) (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 488</td>
<td>Consideration adjourned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fur Farming (Prohibition)</td>
<td>Presented, 69</td>
<td>(on Question, That</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amendment be made),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetically Modified Crops [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 458</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetically Modified Food and Producer Liability</td>
<td>Presented, 399</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hare Coursing</td>
<td>Presented, 159</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care and Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>Second Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedges (Control)</td>
<td>Presented, 71</td>
<td>adjourned, 281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holocaust Remembrance Day</td>
<td>Ordered, 410</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Commons Disqualification (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 379</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insolvency Act 1986 (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 107</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold Reform</td>
<td>Ordered, 210</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing (Young Persons)</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td>Second Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>adjourned, 267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifelong Learning (Participation and Entitlement)</td>
<td>Ordered, 181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Action Against Iraq (Parliamentary Approval)</td>
<td>Presented, 91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Expenditure (Conscientious Objection)</td>
<td>Ordered, 492</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misuse of Drugs (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 144</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Accident Injury Compensation</td>
<td>Ordered, 163</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Retailer (Publication and Display of Ethical</td>
<td>Ordered, 542</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sourcing Policies)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Strategy</td>
<td>Ordered, 563</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Safeguards</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obscenity [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 356</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Food and Farming Targets</td>
<td>Presented, 523</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary Control of the Executive</td>
<td>Ordered, 389</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 233</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Appeals</td>
<td>Presented, 71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty and Social Exclusion (National Strategy)</td>
<td>Ordered, 119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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>Prescription Charges (Hormone Replacement Therapy)</td>
<td>Ordered, 251</td>
<td>Question on Consideration,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention of Delay in Trials</td>
<td>Ordered, 206</td>
<td>That new Clause be read a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Letting Agents (Client Money Segregation)</td>
<td>Ordered, 420</td>
<td>second time, not decided,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prophylactic Mastectomy Registry</td>
<td>Ordered, 94</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public House Names</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycled Content of Newspoint</td>
<td>Presented, 238</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling of Household Waste</td>
<td>Presented, 284</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendum (English Parliament)</td>
<td>Presented, 316</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendums</td>
<td>Presented, 69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation of Operating Department Practitioners</td>
<td>Ordered, 405</td>
<td>Second Reading adjourned,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations on Small Businesses (Reduction)</td>
<td>Ordered, 284</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restraining and Protection Orders</td>
<td>Ordered, 287</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right to Roam</td>
<td>Presented, 69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic (Enforcement Powers) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 452</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic (Use of Mobile Telephones) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 464</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic Regulation (Cycle Parking) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Parks (Trading)</td>
<td>Presented, 365</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Transport</td>
<td>Ordered, 328</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety at Sea</td>
<td>Ordered, 374</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Adjacent Waters Boundaries (Amendment)</td>
<td>Ordered, 458</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Parliamentary Constituencies [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 283</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) (Amendment) [Lords]</td>
<td>Brought from the Lords, 144</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Education in Schools</td>
<td>Ordered, 298</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Offences (Anonymity of Defendants)</td>
<td>Ordered, 245</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streetworks</td>
<td>Presented, 70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Energy Agency</td>
<td>Ordered, 349</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Reduction (Air Quality and Health)</td>
<td>Presented, 383</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport of Farm Animals</td>
<td>Ordered, 116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Antibiotics in Farm Animals</td>
<td>Ordered, 159</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting Times (National Health Service)</td>
<td>Ordered, 346</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warm Homes and Energy Conservation (Fifteen Year Programme)</td>
<td>Presented, 488</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment)</td>
<td>Presented, 233</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with Asbestos</td>
<td>Ordered, 464</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xenotransplantation</td>
<td>Presented, 163</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. INTRODUCTIONS AND FIRST READINGS:

Outlawries Bill read the first time, 2.
Bills presented and read the first time:
—Government Bills, 6, &c.
—Private Members’ Bills, 69, &c.
—Lords Bills read the first time, 101, &c.
Private Members’ Bills ordered, presented and read the first time, 91, &c.
Bills presented under Standing Order (Procedure upon Bills whose main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue), 20.
Bills ordered to be brought in upon:
—Estimates Resolutions, 44, 217, 434, 204.
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, 91, &c.
—and agreed to on Division, 119, &c.

Explanatory Notes relating to Bills ordered to be printed:
—Government Bills, 6, &c.
—Private Members’ Bills, 136, &c.

III. SECOND READINGS AND COMMITTAL:

Days appointed for Second Readings:
—(Government Bills), 10, &c.
—(Private Members’ Bills), 69, &c.
—resumption of dropped Order, 267.
Orders for Second Readings on future days read and discharged:
—Bills ordered to be read a second time on other future days, 168, &c.
—Bills withdrawn, 312, 442.
Bills stood referred to Second Reading Committees, pursuant to Standing Order (Law Commission bills), 177, 370.
Motion for Second Reading: Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o’clock on a Friday); Debate ordered to be resumed on a future day, 154, &c.
BILLS, PUBLIC III—continued

Orders read for resuming adjourned Debate on Second Reading: Debate to be resumed on a future day, 238, &c.

Motion for Second Reading: Reasoned Amendment proposed. Debate ordered to be adjourned, 47. Debate resumed; Reasoned Amendment negatived, 50.

Motion for Second Reading: Reasoned Amendment proposed. Debate stood adjourned (at Ten o’clock), 101. Debate resumed; Reasoned Amendment negatived, 105.

Day appointed for resumption of adjourned Debate on Reasoned Amendment on Second Reading, 47, &c.

Motion for Second Reading: Reasoned Amendment negatived on Division, 32, &c.

Motion for Second Reading: Queen’s Consent signified; objection taken to further proceeding 476, 478.

Queen’s Consent signified on Order being read for Second Reading:
—(prerogative), 101, &c.
—(prerogative and interest), 440.
Prince of Wales’s consent signified on Order being read for Second Reading, 101.

Bills read a second time, 21, &c.
—on Division, 21, &c.
—Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Consolidated Fund Bills), 52, 223, 437.
—Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Second reading committees), 370, 418.

Bill referred to specified Selection Committee, with Instruction that Committee should consider the provision of the Bill and report thereon by specified date, 455.

Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House, 21, &c.
—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Commitmial of bills), 105, &c.

Bills stood committed to a Standing Committee, 29, &c.

Specified Clauses of (and Schedules to) a Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House and the remainder of the Bill committed to a Standing Committee, 51, 271.

—after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Commitmial of bills), 271.

Specified Clause of Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House and the remainder of the Bill committed to a Standing Committee, 89.

Bills committed to a Special Standing Committee, 136.

IV. COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:

Order for House to resolve itself into a Committee on a future day, 51, &c.
—again, 82, &c.

House resolves itself into a Committee on a Bill:
—immediately, 323.
—according to Order, 22, &c.
—again, according to Order, 84, &c.

BILLS, PUBLIC IV—continued

—immediately after completion of proceedings on Money resolution, pursuant to Allocation of Time or Programme Order, 22, 439.

Bill stands committed to a Committee of the whole House, pursuant to Allocation of Time or Programme Order, 21, 439.

House resolves itself into a Committee on specified Clauses and Schedules, according to Order, 81.
—again, 84.

Question proposed, That Amendment be made; And it being Ten o’clock Chairman left Chair to report progress, etc., 128; Question again proposed at next sitting, 131.

Amendment made, 316.

Question proposed, That Amendment be made:— Amendment, by leave, withdrawn, 81, &c.

Question, That Amendment be made, negatived on Division, 81, &c.

Question proposed, That Clause be read a second time; And it being Ten o’clock Chairman left Chair to report progress, &c., 164; Question again proposed at next sitting, 164.

Clauses agreed to, 22, &c.
—on Division, 22, &c.

The Chairman, being of opinion that principle of Clause and any matters arising thereon had been adequately discussed in the course of debate on Amendments proposed thereto, put forthwith the Question, pursuant to Standing Order (Debate on clause or schedule standing part), That Clause stand part of the Bill; Question agreed to, 131.

Clauses, as amended, agreed to, 316.

New Clause brought up and read the first time:
—Question proposed, That Clause be read a second time; Clause, by leave, withdrawn, 169, &c.
—Question, That Clause be read a second time, put and negatived, 169. —on Division, 169.

Schedules agreed to, 23, &c.

Chairman leaves Chair at (or after) Ten o’clock to report progress, etc., 82, &c.
—Bill again considered in Committee at future sitting, 84, &c.

To report progress and ask leave to sit again, 82, &c.

Bills to be reported:
—(without Amendment), 23, &c.
—as amended, 316.
—(specified Clause), without Amendment, 120.
—(specified Clauses), without Amendment, 288.
—(specified Clauses and Schedules), without Amendment, 85.

V. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Bills reported from Standing Committees:
—without Amendment, 76, &c.
—with an Amendment, 136.
—with Amendments, 66, &c.
—with Amendments and an amended Title, 319, 405.
—as so far amended (pursuant to Order), 563.
BILLS, PUBLIC V—continued

Progress reported on Bill in Committee of the whole House, 82, &c.
Bills reported from Committee of the whole House:
—without Amendment, 23, &c.
—with an Amendment, 316.
—without Amendment, pursuant to Allocation of Time or Programme Order, 23, 440.
—(specified Clause), without Amendment, 120.
—(specified Clauses), without Amendment, 288.
—(specified Clauses and Schedules), without Amendment, 85.
Bills, except specified Clause or Clauses etc., reported from Standing Committee, with Amendments, 124, 245, 388.
Bill reported from Special Standing Committee, with Amendments, 328.
Bills reported from Second Reading Committees, recommending Second Reading, 209, 405.

VI. Consideration:

Days appointed for consideration of Bills:
—not amended in the Standing Committee, 76, &c.
—as amended in the Standing Committee, 66, &c.
—as amended in the Special Standing Committee, 328.
Days appointed for further consideration of Bills, 229, &c.
Bills considered, according to Order:
—not amended in the Standing Committee, 120, &c. —further considered, 120.
—as amended in the Standing Committee, 87, &c. —further considered, 233, &c.
—not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, 156, 298, 417.
—further considered, 420.
—as amended in the Special Standing Committee, 376. —further considered, 379.
Bill, as amended in Committee of the whole House, considered (immediately after report from the Committee), 316.
Bills to be considered in a certain order, 325.
New Clauses brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill, 156, &c.
New Clauses brought up, read the first time, 87, &c.
—Question proposed, That (new) Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn, 87, &c.
Question put, That (new) Clause be read a second time:
—and negative, on Division, 87, &c.
—and agreed to, on Division, 156, &c.
Amendment proposed to proposed (new) Clause;
Question, That the Amendment be made, negatived, on Division, 325.
(New) Clauses added to the Bill, 156, &c.
Question proposed, That (new) Clause be read a second time:
—Debate stood adjourned (at Ten o'clock), 229, &c.

BILLS, PUBLIC VI—continued

—Question again proposed at same sitting, 229, &c.
—Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings, pursuant to Standing Order (Friday sittings), 339.
Amendments proposed to the Bill, 87, &c.
Question proposed, That Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn, 121, &c.
Question proposed, That Amendment be made; Debate adjourned (it being half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 322, 367, 476.
—Debate ordered to be resumed on future day, 340, &c.
—Debate resumed, 367, &c.
Question put, That Amendment be made:
—and negative, 235, &c.
—and negatived, on Division, 87, &c.
—and agreed to, on Division, 252.
Amendments made to the Bill, 120, &c.
Manuscript Amendment made to the Bill, 120.
New Schedules brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill, 121, &c.
Clauses, Schedule and part of a Schedule transferred to different position in Bill, 393.
Title amended, 393, &c.
No Amendments proposed, or (new) Clauses or Schedules brought up, 156, 298.
Further proceedings stood postponed, it being after Seven o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order (Time for taking private Business), 443. Proceedings resumed, 444.
Further consideration of Bill stood adjourned (at or after Ten o'clock), 120, &c.
—Bill ordered to be further considered at a future sitting, 326, &c.
—Bill again considered (or further considered) at same sitting, 120, &c.
Order, That further consideration of Bill be now adjourned, 229, &c.
—Bill to be further considered at a future sitting, 229, &c.

VII. Third Readings:

Motion for Third Reading: Reasoned Amendment negatived on Division, 211.
Bills read the third time, and passed, 23, &c.
—on Division, 87, &c.
Consolidated Fund Bills read the third time, after Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Consolidated Fund Bills), 52, 224, 437.
Queen's Consent signified, 121, &c.
Prince of Wales's Consent signified, 121.

VIII. Lords Bills:

Bills brought from the Lords:
—and read the first time on the same day, 101, &c.
—and read the first time on a subsequent day, 256, &c.
Lords Bills passed:
BILLS, PUBLIC VIII—continued

—with Amendments, 346, &c.
—(with an Amendment, 145.
—(with Amendments (Title accordingly amended), 346, &c.
—(without Amendment, 444.

Lords agree to Commons Amendments, 448, &c.
—a single Amendment, 146.

Lords agree to a Commons Amendment, with an Amendment, 448.

Lords disagree to Commons Amendments, with Reasons, 448.

Lords Amendment to Commons Amendment and Lords Reasons for disagreeing to Commons Amendments to be considered on a future day, 448.

Lords Reasons and Lords Amendment to Commons Amendment considered; Commons do not insist on their Amendments but make Amendments in lieu; and disagree to Lords Amendment to Commons amendment but make Amendment in lieu, 465.

Lords agree to Commons Amendments in lieu, do not insist on their Amendment to Commons Amendment, and agree to Commons amendment in lieu of that Amendment, 481.

IX. LORDS AMENDMENTS, &c.:

Commons Bills:

Bills agreed to by the Lords:
—without Amendment, 60, &c.
—(with Amendments, 356, &c.
—(with an Amendment, 174.

Days appointed for consideration of Lords Amendments, 356, &c.
—further consideration, 466, &c.

Lords Amendments considered:
—according to Order, 391, &c.
—forthwith, 174.

Lords Amendments agreed to, 466, &c.
—single Lords Amendment agreed to, 174.
—the Commons being willing to waive their privileges, 391, &c.

Lords Amendments disagreed to, 390, &c.
—Amendments made to the Bill in lieu thereof, 545, &c.

Amendments made to words so restored to the Bill after Lords Amendment disagreed to, 544, &c.

Amendments consequential to Lords Amendments agreed to, 556, &c.

Question proposed, That Amendment be made to Lords Amendment:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn, 570.

Question, That Amendment be made to Lords Amendment, put and negatived, 561, &c.
—on Division, 561, &c.

Amendments made to Lords Amendments; and Lords Amendments, so amended, agreed to, 481, &c.

Committees appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords, 391, &c. Reports therefrom, 391, &c. [See COMMITTEES, SELECT V].

BILLS, PUBLIC IX—continued

Further consideration of Lords Amendments stood adjourned:
—(it being at or after Ten o'clock), 466.
—(it being at or after Seven o'clock (on a Thursday)), 551.

Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, 403, &c.
—(but propose Amendment in lieu thereof, 484. To which the Commons agree, 484.
—(and have agreed to Commons Amendments to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendments disagreed to, 554.
—(but propose Amendment in lieu thereof, 554. To which the Commons disagree, 563.
—(and have agreed to Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment, 484, &c.

Lords agree, without Amendment, to Commons Amendments to words restored to the Bill, 554, &c.
—disagree to another Commons Amendment, but propose Amendment in lieu thereof, 554. To which the Commons disagree, 564.

Lords Amendments to Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill disagreed to, 564.

X. QUEEN’S AND PRINCE OF WALES’S CONSENT SIGNIFIED:

Queen’s Consent signified:
—on Second Reading, 101, &c.
—on Third Reading, 121, &c.

Prince of Wales’s Consent signified:
—on Second Reading, 101.
—on Third Reading, 121.

XI. BILLS WHOSE MAIN OBJECT IS TO CREATE A CHARGE ON THE PUBLIC REVENUE:

Scottish Enterprise Bill, 20.

XII. MONEY BILLS:

Bills endorsed with the Speaker’s Certificate as Money Bills under the Parliament Act 1911:
Consolidated Fund Bill, 60.
Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill, 231.
Finance Bill, 428.
Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill, 447.

XIII. SCOTTISH BILLS:

Bills certified by the Speaker as, in her opinion, relating exclusively to Scotland:
Cheques Bill (Scotland), 215.
Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, 191.
Scottish Enterprise Bill, 46.

XIV. BILLS PASSED THROUGH SEVERAL STAGES IN ONE DAY:

Order, That more than one stage of Bill may be taken at one sitting of the House, 410.
BILLS, PUBLIC XIV—continued

Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House; further proceedings stood postponed, pursuant to Order [that day]; Money Resolution; House immediately resolved itself into a Committee, pursuant to such Order; Bill considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 21, 439.

Consolidated Fund Bills read the second and third time, and passed, 52, 223, 437.

Bill considered in Committee of the whole House; reported, with an Amendment; as amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 317.

Bills considered, read the third time and passed, 87, &c.

XV. Allocation of Time and Programme Orders:

Allocation of Time Orders:

Employment Relations Bill, 471. (Supplemental), 482.
Food Standards Bill, 471. (Supplemental), 559.
Greater London Authority Bill (Supplemental), 554.
Health Bill [Lords], 374.
Immigration and Asylum Bill, 374. (Supplemental), 564.
Local Government Bill, 234. (Supplemental), 482.
Welfare Reform and Pensions, 336. (Supplemental), 542.

Programme Orders:

Access to Justice Bill [Lords], 389. (Ways and Means), 389.
Greater London Authority Bill, 73. (No. 2), 295.
Northern Ireland Bill, 437.
Tax Credits Bill, 389.
Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords], 428.
Business Sub-Committee nominated, 83.

Order in which Bills are to be considered contained in Allocation of Time or Programme Orders:

—Consideration, 295, 336.
—Consideration and Third Reading, 389, 428.
—Lords Amendments, 389, 542, 554, 564.

Scope of Orders:

—Second Reading, Committee, Consideration and Third Reading, 20.
—Second Reading, Committee, Consideration, Third Reading and Lords Amendments, 437.
—Committee and Standing Committee, 73.
—Consideration and Third Reading, 233, 295, 336, 375, 389, 428, 469.
—Lords Amendments, 389, 469, 482, 542, 554, 559, 564.
—Proceedings on any further Lords Messages, 482.

BILLS, PUBLIC XV—continued

Speaker puts Questions at specified hours (or after specified periods):

On Second Reading, 21.

Bill stands committed to a Committee of the whole House, pursuant to Order, 21, 439.

Further proceedings on Bill stand postponed (for Money Resolution to be considered), 21, 439.

House resolves itself into Committee of the whole House, immediately after completion of proceedings on Money Resolution, pursuant to Order, 22, 439.

At specified hour Chairman puts Question already proposed from the Chair:

—that Clause be read a second time, 439.

At specified hour Chairman puts Questions necessary for disposal of specified business:

—that Clause be read a second time, 439.
—that Clause stand part of the Bill, 22, &c.
—that Schedule be Schedule to Bill, 23, &c.
—remaining proceedings in Committee, 440.

Chairman leaves Chair at specified hour, to report Bill, 440.

Speaker puts Questions at specified hours (or after specified periods):

On Consideration:

—Questions already proposed from the Chair, 298, &c.
—Questions on Amendments moved by a Minister, 299, &c.
—Questions on all remaining Amendments moved by a Minister, 337.
—Questions required to bring proceedings on Amendments relating to specified Clauses to a conclusion, 430.
—Question on Motion made by a Minister for adding a new Clause, 337, &c.
—remaining Questions necessary to dispose of business required to be concluded at specified hour, 299, &c.
—Questions necessary to bring proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading to a conclusion, 472.

On Third Reading, 440, 472.

On consideration of Lords Amendments:

—that this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment, 557, &c.
—that this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment, 391, &c.
—Amendments made to words restored to the Bill, 544, &c.
—Questions necessary to dispose of business to be taken at specified hour, 544, &c.

XVI. Bills Suspended:

Order, That a Bill shall be reported from Standing Committee, so far as then amended, no later than a specified date, and that on the report of the Bill to the House further proceedings on the Bill shall be suspended until the next Session of Parliament, 518.
**BILLS, PUBLIC—continued**

**XVII. PROCEEDINGS UNDER PARLIAMENT ACTS 1911 AND 1949:**

Speaker certifies that the provisions of section 2 of the Parliament Act 1911, as amended by section 1 of the Parliament Act 1949, have been duly complied with, 76.

**XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS:**

Orders, That, in respect of specified Bills, notices of Amendments 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, 13, &c.

Order, That a future sitting, any Lords Message relating to a specified Bill may be considered, though opposed, at any hour, 434.

Return relating to Public Bills for Session 1997–98:
—ordered, 16.
—made, 90.

**BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL**

[Lord's]: Brought from the Lords, 256. Read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 261.

**BREEDING AND SALE OF DOGS (WELFARE) BILL**

Presented and read the first time, 70. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 190. C. 205. Reported, with Amendment, 273. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 307. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 405. (Cited as Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 410.

**BROADCASTING: DRAFT BROADCASTING (RESTRICTIONS ON THE HOLDING OF LICENCES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1998**

Allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 8. Reported, 16. Approved, 29.


**BROADCASTING (RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMING) BILL**

Ordered, presented and read the first time, 436.

**BUILDING REGULATION BILL**

Ordered, presented and read the first time, 528.

**BUS FUEL DUTY (EXEMPTIONS) BILL**

Presented and read the first time; 70. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o'clock (on a Friday)), 190.

**CANCER CARE BILL**

Ordered, presented and read the first time, 261.

**CARE OF PLACES OF WORSHIP MEASURE**

Laid, 359. To be presented for Royal Assent (Queen’s Consent having been signified), 410. (Cited as Care of Places of Worship Measure 1999) Royal Assent, 410.

**CATHEDRALS MEASURE**

Laid in the last Session of Parliament. To be presented for Royal Assent, 396. (Cited as Cathedrals Measure 1999) Royal Assent, 410.

**CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:**

Leaves Chair at Ten o’clock to report progress, etc., 82, &c.

Being of the opinion that principle of Clause and any matters arising thereon has been adequately discussed in the course of debate on Amendments proposed thereto, puts forthwith the Question, pursuant to Standing Order (Debate on clause or schedule standing part), That the Clause stand part of the Bill; Question agreed to, 131.

**CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS:**

[References to the Chairman of Ways and Means include the First and Second Deputy Chairman unless the context otherwise requires.]

Chairman reports lists of Private Bills to originate in the House of Lords and House of Commons, 41.

Chairman reports Resolution from Standing Orders Committee, 458.

Chairman takes Chair as Deputy Speaker in Speaker’s absence from day’s sitting, pursuant to Standing Order, 413.

Chairman issues Writs during Summer Adjournment on Speaker’s behalf, pursuant to Recess Elections Act 1975, 492.

Chairman’s Reports relating to Provisional Orders (Scotland):
—that Provisional Order should be allowed to proceed, &c., 219, 509.

Chairman’s Reports relating to Special Procedure Orders:
—that Petitions have been certified as Petitions of General Objection against an Order, 384.

**CHAIRMEN’S PANEL:**

Members nominated by the Speaker to be the Chairmen’s Panel during the Session:
—twenty Members, 9; two Members, 12; a Member, 388.
—two Members appointed whom the Speaker is to consult, if practicable, before certifying a Bill to be a Money Bill, 20.

Return relating to Chairmen’s Panel for Session 1997–98:
—ordered, 16.
—made, 90.

**CHIEFS (SCOTLAND) BILL**

Presented and read the first time, 70. Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 186. Certified by the Speaker as relating exclusively to Scotland, 215. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday)), 220.

**CHILDREN’S RIGHTS COMMISSIONER BILL**

Ordered, presented and read the first time, 442.
CHURCH OF ENGLAND:

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>Cathedrals</td>
<td>[in the last Session of Parliament]</td>
<td>[in the last Session of Parliament]</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>—Measure 1999</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care of Places of Worship</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>396*</td>
<td>—Measure 1999</td>
<td>410</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Queen's Consent having been signified.

CINEMAS AND FILMS: Draft Films (Modification of the Definition of 'British Film') Order 1999, allocated to Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 446. Reported, 458. Approved, 466.

CITY OF LONDON (WARD ELECTIONS) BILL: To originate in the Commons, 41. Examiners' Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Read the first time, 89. Read a second time and committed (at Seven o'clock), 145. Reported from Opposed Bill Committee, with Amendments and Special Report, 374. As amended, considered (at Seven o'clock); further consideration stood adjourned (it being after Ten o'clock), 443. Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 540. Order for further consideration read and discharged, 542. Lords concur with Commons in their Message relating to suspension of proceedings, 550.

CITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE BILL [Lords]: To originate in the Lords, 41. Examiners' Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Lords communicate Resolution relating to suspension of proceedings, 550. Commons concur, 554.

CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT TUNSTALL NORTHERN BY-PASS LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 1997: Laid, 311. Report by Lord Chairman and Chairman of Ways and Means that they have certified petitions as Petitions of General Objection against Order, 384.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords (suspended from Last Session), 16. Read the first time and second time and ordered to be committed, 26. Reported from Committee on Unopposed Bills, with Amendments, 185. As amended, considered, 209. Read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 227. To which the Lords agree, 232. (Cited as City of Westminster Act 1999) Royal Assent, 238.


CIVIL REGISTRATION (ACCESS TO RECORDS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 523.

CLERKS OF THE HOUSE:

I. CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Journal and Index to be printed under his direction, 2, &c.

Lays papers upon the Table, 7, &c.

II. OTHER CLERKS:

Clerk at the Table informs the House of the Speaker’s absence, pursuant to leave given, 413.

Clerk in Private Bill Office certifies that in respect of suspended Lords Private Bill Agents have deposited declaration, 14, 26.

CLOSURE OF DEBATE:

I. CLOSURE CLAIMED AND QUESTION PUT:

In House:

On Question, That this House do now adjourn:
—agreed to, 60.
—negatived, 238.

Opposition days:
—on Question, That the original words stand part of the Question, 35, &c.
CLOSURE OF DEBATE I—continued

Private Members’ Bills:

On Question, That Bill be now read a second time:—agreed to, 172, &c.

Private Business:

On Question, That Bill be now read a second time:—agreed to, 145.
On Question for Amendment on consideration:—(closure on proposal of Question), 443.
—(closure on putting of Question), 443.

Public Bills:

On Question (after Second Reading), That Bill be referred to a specified Select Committee, 455.
On Question for Amendment on consideration, 392.
On Question, That further consideration be now adjourned, 229, 326.
On Question, That Bill be now read the third time, 206.

II. QUESTIONS NOT DECIDED (FORTY MEMBERS NOT PRESENT):

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>European Parliamentary Elections</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance (specified Clauses)</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>284, 287</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>81, 84</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(specified Clauses and Schedules)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Lords</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>127, 131, 163, 169</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland (location of Victims’ Remains)</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Offences (Amendment) (specified Clause)</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>With an Amendment, 316</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) [Lords]</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMITTEES, JOINT:

I. APPOINTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS:

1. CONSOLIDATION, &c., BILLS:

Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of twelve Lords to join with a Committee of the House as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c. Bills; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman, &c., 356.

2. STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS:

Seven Lords appointed to join with Commons Committee, &c., 16.

Reports from the Joint Committee:

Reports from the Select Committee:
First, 329.

Special Reports:
First, 286.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed:
—Joint Committee, 575.
—Select Committee, 575.

II. OTHER JOINT COMMITTEES:

PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGE:

Select Committee of six Members appointed (in accordance with the Resolution of 9th July 1997) to join with a Committee to be appointed by the Lords, as the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, to revise parliamentary privilege and make recommendations thereon, 10; nominated, 11; Lords appointed, &c., 27; Lords propose time and place of meeting, 29; Commons concur, 29.

Report, 250.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 250.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND MARKETS:

Resolution, That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to report on the consultative document on the draft Financial Services and Markets Bill presented by Her Majesty’s Command on 21st December 1998 and any further draft of the bill which may be laid upon the Table of both Houses by a Minister of the Crown and to report by 30th April 1999, 142. Lords concur, 151-
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.1—continued

ADMINISTRATION:

Reports:
First [Proposal to Re-open the Line of Route during the Summer Adjournment], 272.
Second [Record Copies of Acts], 377.
Memorandum reported, 118.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

CATERING:

Members discharged; others added, 30, 47, 418.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

INFORMATION:

Member discharged and another added, 47.
Reports:
First [Supply of Members’ Information Technology, Equipment, Software and Associated Services], 31.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

2. Select Committees related to Government Departments:

AGRICULTURE:

Members discharged; others added, 418, 536.
Reports:
Second [CAP Reform: Rural Development], 68.
Third [The UK Pig Industry], 93.
Fourth [The UK Pig Industry: The Government’s Response], 250.
Fifth [Badgers and Bovine Tuberculosis], 272.
Sixth [Genetically Modified Organisms], 364.
Seventh [Outcome of the CAP Reform Negotiations], 394.
Eighth [Sea Fishing], 491.
Ninth [MAFF/Intervention Board Departmental Report 1999], 526.

Special Reports:
Second [The Committee’s Work, Session 1997-98], 185.
Fifth [Government Response to Fifth Report], 412.
Sixth [Government Response to Seventh Report], 510.
Seventh [Government Response to Eighth Report], 526.

COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 26, &c.
Memoranda reported, 9, &c.

CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT:

Member discharged; another added, 536.

Reports:
First [The Heritage Lottery Fund], 100.
Second [The Preservation of HMS Cavalier], 100.
Third [Back to the Dome], 240.
Fourth [Staging International Sporting Events], 321.
Fifth [The Performing Rights Society and the Abolition of the Classical Music Subsidy], 475.
Sixth [The Department of Culture, Media and Sport and its Quangos], 475.

Special Reports:
First [Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on The Future of News at Ten], 100.
Second [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on The Eyre Review and the Royal Opera House], 100.
Third [BBC Response to Eighth Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on Report and Accounts of the BBC for 1997-98], 126.
Fourth [Government and Heritage Lottery Fund Responses to First Report], 267.
Sixth [Government Response to Sixth Report], 552.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 12, &c. Part thereof, 171.
Memoranda reported, 240.

DEFENCE:

Member discharged; another added, 102.

Reports:
First [The Strategic Defence Review: Territorial Army Restructuring], 97.
Second [The Appointment of the New Head of Defence Export Services], 237.
### Committees, Select 1.2—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>[Security of Supply and the Future of Royal Ordnance Factory Bishopton], 355.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth</td>
<td>[The Reserves Call Out Order 1999 and Progress of Territorial Army Restructuring], 526.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh</td>
<td>[The Strategic Defence Review: Defence Medical Services], 526.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninth</td>
<td>[Defence Research], 548.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Reports:**

- Fifth [Committees’ Inquiry into the 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports on Strategic Control], 378.*

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

- Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 19, &c. Taken concurrently with three other Committees, 548.
- Memoranda reported, 548.

### Education and Employment:

Members discharged; others added, 30, 244, 371, 536.

**Reports:**

- First [Active Labour Market Policies and their Delivery: Lessons from Australia], 83.
- Second [Part-time Working], 231.
- Third [Highly Able Children], 273.
- Fourth [The Work of OFSTED], 360.
- Fifth [Role of School Governors], 441.
- Sixth [The ONE Service Pilots], 463.
- Seventh [The Performance and Future Role of the Employment Service], 463.
- Eighth [Access for All!: A Survey of Post-16 Participation], 541.
- Ninth [Opportunities for Disabled People], 568.

**Special Reports:**


### Committees, Select 1.2—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>[Government Response to Third Report], 408.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth</td>
<td>[Government Response to Sixth Report], 526.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

- Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 19, &c. Taken before Sub-Committee, 9, &c.
- Concurrent meeting between Employment Sub-Committee and Social Security Committee, 311, &c.
- Memoranda reported, 162, &c.

### Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs:

Member discharged; another added, 14, 419.

**Reports:**

- First [Railway Safety], 9.
- Second [Millennium Compliance of the Transport Industry], 59.
- Third [Future of National Air Traffic Services], 75.
- Fourth [The Countryside Agency], 86.
- Fifth [Regional Eurostar Services], 87.
- Sixth [Maritime and Coastguard Agency], 123.
- Seventh [Meeting with European Commission Officials to discuss Air Transport], 150.
- Eighth [Local Government Finance], 237.
- Ninth [Integrated Transport White Paper], 255.
- Tenth [Regional Development Agencies], 318.
- Eleventh [Reducing the Environmental Impact of Consumer Products], 335.
- Twelfth [Future of UK Shipping Industry], 355.
- Thirteenth [The Operation of the Landfill Tax], 427.
- Fourteenth [Aviation Safety], 447.
- Sixteenth [Multilateral Environmental Agreement], 468.
- Seventeenth [Housing: PPG3], 468.
- Eighteenth [Tendered Bus Services], 491.
- Nineteenth [Young and Newly Qualified Drivers: Standards and Training], 531.
- Twentieth [Town and Country Parks], 531.
- Twenty-first [Railways Bill], 552.

**Special Reports:**

- First [Health & Safety Commission and Executive Response to First Report], 237.
- Fourth [Government Response to Third Report], 491.
- Fifth [Government Response to Tenth Report], 531.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.2—continued

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 41, &c. Taken before Sub-Committee, 9, &c. Memoranda to be printed, 83, &c.
Memoranda laid before Sub-Committee to be printed, 348.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:
Members discharged; others added, 89, 224, 419, 536.

Reports:
First [Foreign Policy and Human Rights], 46.
Second [Sierra Leone], 110.
Third [European Union Enlargement], 172.
Fourth [Gibraltar], 366.
Fifth [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Resources], 394.
Sixth [South Caucasus and Central Asia], 463.
Seventh [Kosovo: Interim Report], 463.

Special Reports:
First [Premature Disclosure of the Committee’s Report on Sierra Leone], 162.
Second [Premature Disclosure of First and Third Reports of Session 1998-99], 250.
Third [Committees’ Inquiry into the 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports on Strategic Export Control], 378.*

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 19, &c. Part thereof, 60, &c. Taken concurrently with three other Committees, 548. Memoranda reported, 46, &c.

HEALTH:
Members discharged; others added, 102, 419.

Reports:
First [Relationship between Health and Social Services], 28.
Second [Primary Care Groups], 77.
Third [Future NHS Staffing Requirements], 126.
Fourth [The Long Term Care of the Elderly], 281.
Fifth [The Regulation of Private and other Independent Healthcare], 436.
Sixth [Procedures related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care], 533.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 12, &c. Memorandum to be printed, 413. Memoranda reported, 28, &c.

HOME AFFAIRS:
Members discharged; others added, 102, 484.

COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.2—continued

Motion, That a Member be discharged and another added, opposed, 456.

Reports:
First [The Work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission], 231.
Second [Freemasonry in Public Life], 335.
Third [Accountability of the Security Service], 373.
Fourth [Police Training and Recruitment], 404.
Fifth [Drugs and Prisons], 568.

Special Reports:

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 34, &c. Memoranda reported, 335, &c.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
Members discharged; others added, 102, 537.

Reports:
First [The Future of the EC Development Budget], 88.
Third [Kosovo], 315.
Fourth [Debt Relief and the Cologne 98 Summit], 365.
Fifth [The Department for International Development: Departmental Report 1999], 463.
Sixth [Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Reconstruction], 510.
Seventh [Women and Development], 568.

Special Reports:
Second [Committee’s Inquiry into the 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports on Strategic Export Control], 378.*
Third [Government Response to Second Report], 408.
Fourth [Government Response to Third Report], 491.
Fifth [Government Response to Fifth Report], 517.
Sixth [Government Response to Sixth Report], 517.
*Joint inquiry with Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade and Industry Committees.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.2—continued

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 12, &c. Part of, 442. Taken concurrently with three other Committees, 548.
Memoranda to be printed, 106. Memoranda reported, 301.

NORTHERN IRELAND AFFAIRS:

Member discharged; another added, 371.

Reports:
First [Public Expenditure in Northern Ireland: Special Educational Needs], 168.
Third [Impact in Northern Ireland of Cross-Border Road Fuel Price Differentials], 468.

Special Reports:
Fifth [Responses to Fourth Report], 515.
Sixth [Responses to Second Report], 573.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 9, &c. Appendices thereto, 185.
Memoranda reported, 185.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

Member discharged; another added, 14, 419.

Reports:
First [Scientific Advisory system: Genetically Modified Foods], 318.
Second [The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts], 428.
Third [The Scientific Advisory System: Mobile Phones and Health], 511.
Fourth [The Regulation of the Biotechnology Industry], 531.

Special Reports:
First [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on Science and the Comprehensive Spending Review], 124.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.

COMMITTEES, SELECT 1.2—continued

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 9, &c.
Memoranda reported, 318, &c.

SCOTTISH AFFAIRS:

Member discharged; another added, 537.

Reports:
First [Inward/Outward Investment in Scotland], 402.
Second [Tourism in Scotland], 469.

Special Reports:
Second [Committee Membership], 255.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 9, &c.

SOCIAL SECURITY:

Members discharged; others added, 90, 102, 484.

Reports:
First [Tax and Benefits: Implementation of Tax Credits], 9.
Second [Family Credit Fraud], 110.
Third [Disability Living Allowance], 110.
Fourth [Child Benefit], 168.
Fifth [Pensions on Divorce: Parts III and IV of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill], 176.
Seventh [The ONE Service Pilots], 463.
Eighth [The Modernisation of Social Security Appeals], 515.
Ninth [Social Security Implications of Parental Leave], 515.
Tenth [The 1999 Child Support White Paper], 549.

Special Reports:
First [Government Response to Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 1997-98, on Pensions on Divorce], 75.
Second [Government Response to First Report], 90.
Fourth [Government Response to Sixth Report], 491.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 26, &c. Concurrent meeting with Employment-Sub-Committee of Education and Employment Committee, 311, &c.
Memoranda reported, 9, &c.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Part of Minutes of Evidence taken in previous Session of Parliament to be printed, 413.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

Member discharged; another added, 419.

Reports:
First [Vehicle Pricing], 26.
Second [Strategic Export Controls], 26.
Third [Multilateral Agreement on Investment], 54.
Fourth [Draft Limited Liability Partnership Bill], 124.
Fifth [Telephone Numbering], 124.
Sixth [Ethical Trading], 180.
Seventh [“Building Confidence in Electronic Commerce”: the Government’s Proposals], 315.
Eighth [Trade Marks, Fakes and Consumers], 409.
Ninth [The Impact on Industry of the Climate Change Levy], 452.
Tenth [Electronic Commerce], 452.
Eleventh [The Horizon Project for Automated Payment of Benefits through Post Offices], 511.
Twelfth [The 1999 Post Office White Paper], 511.
Thirteenth [Small Business and Enterprise], 511.
Fourteenth [Draft Electronic Communications Bill], 527.

Special Reports:
First [The Future of the Post Office: Conduct of Inquiry], 54.
Second [Government Observations on the Twelfth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98, on Industrial and Trade Relations with Central Europe], 106.
Seventh [Government Observations on Sixth Report], 375.
Ninth [Committees’ Inquiry into the 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports on Strategic Export Control], 378.*
Twelfth [Responses from the Government and the Office of Telecommunications to Tenth Report], 515.
*Joint inquiry with Defence, Foreign Affairs and International Development Committees.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575

COMMITTEES, SELECT I.2—continued

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 19, &c. Taken concurrently with three other Committees, 548.

Memoranda reported, 452.

TREASURY:

Member discharged; another added, 14, 419.

Reports:
First [The Office for National Statistics], 54.
Second [The World Economy and the Pre-Budget Report], 68.
Third [Financial Services Regulation], 106.
Fourth [The 1999 Budget], 251.
Fifth [The Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England: Confirmation Hearings], 346.
Sixth [Inland Revenue], 348.
Seventh [Public Service Agreements], 409.
Eighth [The Monetary Policy Committee – Two Years On], 464.
Ninth [Demutualisation], 475.
Tenth [Valuation Office Agency], 527.

Special Reports:
First [The Mis-selling of Personal Pensions: Responses by the Government and the Financial Services Authority to the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 1997–98], 68.
Second [Responses by the Government and the Bank of England to First Report], 143.
Fourth [Government Response to Third Report], 231.
Sixth [Government Response to Sixth Report], 464.
Seventh [Government Response to Seventh Report], 527.
Eighth [Responses by Government and Bank of England to Eighth Report], 527.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 12, &c.
Taken before Sub-Committee, 12, &c.
Memoranda reported, 106, &c.

WELSH AFFAIRS:

Member discharged; another added, 80.

Reports:
First [The Closure of the Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum], 135.
Second [Broadcasting in Wales and the National Assembly], 286.
Third [Childcare in Wales], 348.
### COMMITTEES, SELECT L.2—continued

Fourth [Health Issues in Wales], 409.
Fifth [Paediatric Cardiac Services in Wales], 409
Sixth [Denbighshire County Council’s Funding Crisis], 469.

**Special Reports:**

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 16, &c. Appendices thereto, 135.
Memoranda reported, 135, &c.

#### 3. Other Committees under Public Business Standing Orders:

**Broadcasting:**
- Member discharged; another added, 407.
- Minutes of evidence on particular days to be printed, 413, &c.
- Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

**Deregulation:**
- Members discharged; others added, 220, 268, 416, 418.

(i) **Reports:**
- First [Draft Deregulation (Pipe-Lines) Order 1999], 34.
- Second [Draft Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1999], 68.
- Fourth [Draft Deregulation (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999 and Draft Deregulation (Casinos) order 1999], 441.

(ii) **Special Reports:**
- First [The Future of the Deregulation Procedure], 272.

(iii) **Resolutions reported:**

(a) **in respect of proposals for Orders:**
- That draft Order in same terms as proposals should be laid:
  - Deregulation (New Year Licensing) Order 1999.
  - Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999.

(b) **in respect of draft Orders:**
- Draft Deregulation (Pipe-Lines) Order 1999 [Order should be approved]*, 32.

### COMMITTEES, SELECT L.3—continued

- Draft Deregulation (Weights and Measures) Order 1999 [Order should be approved]*, 66.
- Draft Deregulation (Millennium Licensing) Order 1999 [Order should be approved]*, 436.
- Draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order 1999 [Order should be approved]*, 436.

* Resolution come to without a Division.

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 208, &c.

**Environmental Audit:**
- Member added, 77.

**Reports:**
- First [Multilateral Agreement on Investment], 88.
- Second [Climate Change: Government Response and Follow-up], 118.
- Third [The Comprehensive Spending Review and Public Service Agreements], 126.
- Sixth [The Greening Government Initiative 1999], 408.
- Seventh [Energy Efficiency], 463.
- Eighth [The Budget 1999], 463.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 19, &c.
Memoranda reported, 517.

**European Scrutiny:**
- Members discharged; others added, 44, 63, 484.

**Reports:**

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 26, &c.

So much of Order as relates to printing of minutes of evidence, read and discharged, 301.

**Finance and Services:**
- Member discharged; another added, 414.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
COMMITTEES, SELECT I.3—continued

Liaison:

Member discharged; another added, 383.

Recommendations relating to consideration of Estimates, reported in previous Session, agreed with, 27.

Recommendations relating to consideration of Estimates agreed with, 407.

Speaker appoints specified Wednesdays as days for adjournment debates on select committee reports chosen by Liaison Committee, 31, 100.

—subjects chosen by Committee reported, 98, 151, 290, 398.

Minutes of Proceedings on specified days to be printed, 315, 574.

Public Accounts:

Members discharged; others added, 67, 365, 416, 516, 547.

Reports:


Second [NHS (Scotland) Summarised Accounts 1996–97], 50.

Third [Obtaining a Benefit for Electricity Customers from the Flotation of the National Grid], 50.

Fourth [HM Treasury: Treasury Controls], 81.

Fifth [Department of Trade and Industry: The Sale of British Energy], 123.

Sixth [Excess Votes], 130.

Seventh [The Forensic Science Service], 205.

Eighth [Ministry of Defence: Sales of the Royal Dockyards], 205.

Ninth [Inland Revenue Special Compliance Office: Prevention of Corruption], 214.

Tenth [Ministry of Defence: Identifying and Selling Surplus Property], 214.

Eleventh [Northern Ireland Health and Personal Social Services: Controls to Prevent and Detect Fraud in Family Practitioner Service Payments], 265.

Twelfth [OFFER: Improving Energy Efficiency Financed by a Charge on Customers], 265.

Thirteenth [The Final Accounts of Chessington Computer Centre, Recruitment and Assessment Services and the Occupational Health and Safety Agency], 265.

Fourteenth [Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions: Grants to Voluntary Bodies], 265.

Fifteenth [HM Customs and Excise: The Prevention of Drug Smuggling], 311.

Sixteenth [National Savings: Developments in Financial Reporting], 345.

Seventeenth [Ministry of Defence: Major Equipment Storage], 346.


Nineteenth [BBC World Service], 373.

Twentieth [Handgun Surrender and Compensation], 388.

Twenty-first [Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils: 1997–98 Accounts (CCLRC)], 388.

Twenty-second [Delays to the new National Insurance Recording System], 398.

Twenty-third [Getting Better Value for Money from the Private Finance Initiative], 398.

Twenty-fourth [DETR: The Flotation of Railtrack], 413.

Twenty-fifth [MAFF: Arable Area Payments Scheme], 420.

Twenty-sixth [Overseas Operations, Governance and Management at Southampton Institute], 420.

Twenty-seventh [HM Customs and Excise: The Red Channel], 420.

Twenty-eighth [Cost Over-runs, Funding Problems and Delays on Guy’s Hospital Phase III Development], 420.


Thirtieth [How the Utility Regulators are addressing the Year 2000 Problems in the Utilities], 428.

Thirty-first [DETR and The Welsh Office: Sale of Residual loans to Housing Associations], 428.

Thirty-second [Ministry of Defence: Modifying Defence Equipment], 487.

Thirty-third [Managing Sickness Absence in the Prison Service], 487.

Thirty-fourth [BSE: The Cost of a Crisis], 487.


Thirty-sixth [The Millennium Threat], 487.

Thirty-seventh [Investigations of Alleged Irregularities at Halton College], 487.

Thirty-eighth [Inheritance Tax: A Progress Report], 487.

Thirty-ninth [The NHS in Scotland: Making the Most of the Estate and Other Issues], 487.

Fortieth [Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions: The Sale of Railfreight Distribution], 538.

Forty-first [The PRIME Project: The Transfer of the Department of Social Security Estate to the Private Sector], 538.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 9, &c.

Memoranda reported, 81, &c.

Resolution relating to specified Reports from the Committee, 76.

Public Administration:

Members discharged; others added, 73, 303, 365, 416.

Reports:


COMMITTEES, SELECT—continued

Third [Freedom of Information Draft Bill], 510.
Fourth [Ministerial Accountability and Parliamentary Questions], 511.
Fifth [Freedom of Information: The Home Office Response], 569.
Sixth [Quangos], 569.

Special Reports:
Fourth [Government Response to First Report], 511.
Fifth [Government Response to Third Report], 527.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 19, &c.
Memoranda to be printed, 569. Memoranda reported, 510, &c.

STANDARDS AND PRIVILEGES:

Members discharged; others added, 82, 547.

Reports:
First [Advocacy and Declaration], 135.
Second [Complaints against Mr Geoffrey Robinson], 162.
Third [Complaints against Mr Francis Maude], 180.
Fourth [Complaint against Sir Edward Heath], 231.
Fifth [Complaint against Mr Geoffrey Robinson (No. 2)], 250.
Sixth [Complaint against Mr Edward Leigh], 261.
Seventh [Complaint against Mrs Teresa Gorman], 335.
Eighth [Premature Disclosure of Reports of the Foreign Affairs Committee], 409.
Ninth [Complaints against Mr Peter Mandelson], 413.
Tenth [Unauthorised Receipt of a Draft Report of the Social Security Committee], 467.
Twelfth [Remunerated Employment as a Member of another Elected Body], 569.
Thirteenth [Complaint against Dr Marjorie Mowlam], 569.
Fourteenth [Complaint against Dr Jack Cunningham], 569.

Part of Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 335.
Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 575.

COMMITTEES, SELECT—continued

II. APPOINTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PRIVATE BUSINESS:

SELECTION:

Member discharged; another added, 27.
Resolutions reported:
—relating to changes in the composition of Standing Committees, 19.
—relating to the tabling of Motions to alter the membership of Select Committees, 20.
Reports relating to:
—appointment of Two Members to be consulted, &c., by the Speaker on Money Bills, 20.
—designation of Standing Committee C as the Standing Committee on which Government Bills are not to have precedence, 20.
—nomination of the Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel), 39.
—nomination of Provisional Orders (Scotland) (Panel), 39.
—nomination of the Standing Orders Committee, 39.
—nomination of Members to serve on Standing Committees:
—European Standing Committees A and B, 62.
—European Standing Committee C, 123.
—Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 8, &c.
—Standing Committees on Bills, 40, &c.
—Second Reading Committee, 184.
—Discharge of Members of Standing Committees and appointment of others, 11, &c.
Orders, in the name of the Chairman or a Member of the Committee, on the Committee’s behalf, relating to discharge of members of Select Committees and appointment of others, 14, &c.

STANDING ORDERS:

Nominated by Committee of Selection, 39.
Resolution, That dispensation from provisions of Standing Order (Petitions against private bills) ought to be granted in case of late Petition against Bill, 458.

UNOPPOSED BILLS:

Panel of Members appointed by the Committee of Selection, 39.
Bills reported from Unopposed Bills Committee, 185, 206 (2), 238, 420.

III. OTHER COMMITTEES:

FOOD STANDARDS:

Committee appointed and nominated (thirteen Members); power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom, to appoint specialist advisers, and to communicate to any select committee of either House
COMMITTEES, SELECT III—continued

their evidence and any other documents relating to matters of common interest, 114. Five to be the Quorum, 125.

Instruction, That the Committee shall report by a specified date, 114.

Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 150, &c.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.

MODERNISATION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Members discharged; others added, 102, 268.

Reports:

First [The Parliamentary Calendar: Initial Proposals], 26.
Second [Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall], 237.
Third [Thursday Sittings], 447.

Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 98, &c.

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>Employment Relations</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Lords</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration and Asylum</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credits</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare Reform and Pensions</td>
<td>546, 564</td>
<td>547, 566</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Miscellaneous:

Chairman appointed by Order, 391, &c.

V. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Numbers of Members appointed:

Five (Committee to draw up Reasons), 391
Thirteen (Committee on Food Standards), 114.

2. Quorum appointed:

Three:
—Committee to draw up Reasons, 391.

COMMITTEES, SELECT III—continued

Memoranda reported, 19.

PROCEDURE:

Members discharged; others added, 117, 268.

Reports:

First [Procedural Consequences of Devolution: Interim Report], 75.
Third [Names Added to Early Day Motions], 355.
Fourth [The Procedural Consequences of Devolution], 335.

Fifth [Ministerial Statements on Fridays], 398.
Sixth [Procedure for Debate on the Government’s Expenditure Plans], 463.

Special Reports:


Minutes of Proceedings to be printed, 574.
Minutes of Evidence on particular days to be printed, 93, &c.

Memoranda reported, 19, &c.

Five:
—Committee on Food Standards, 125.
Standing Order (Select Committees related to government departments) modified for remainder of present Session of Parliament to reduce quorum of committees or sub-committees meeting concurrently to two, 352.

3. Powers or leave given:

To send for person, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom, to appoint specialist advisers, and to communicate to any select committee of either House their evidence and any other documents relating to matters of common interest, 114.
COMMITTEES, SELECT V—continued

4. Instructions:
   To report by a specified date, 114.
   To consider the provisions of a Government Bill and to report by a specified date, 455.

5. Nomination and discharge of Members:
   Members discharged; others added, 14, &c.
   Motion, to discharge Member and add another, opposed, 456.
   Select Committee nominated, 114.
   Resolution reported by Committee of Selection relating to Motions to alter the membership of Select Committees, 20.

6. Reports:
   [For Reports from Select Committees, see alphabetical entries relating to Committees above.]
   Government replies, &c., to Reports:
      —published by Her Majesty’s Command, 9, &c.
      —published as Special Reports from Committees, 19, &c.
   Evidence, &c., reported:

COMMITTEES, SELECT V.6—continued

Minutes of Evidence taken:
—on a particular day, 9, &c.
—before Sub-Committee, 9, &c.

Minutes of Evidence ordered to be printed, 9, &c.
Part thereof, 60, &c.

Minutes of Evidence of concurrent meeting of a committee and a sub-committee of another committee reported and ordered to be printed, 311.
—of concurrent meetings of four committees reported and ordered to be printed, 378.
So much of Order as relates to printing of Minutes of Evidence, read and discharged, 301.
Report, Minutes of Evidence, &c., printed pursuant to Standing Order (Select Committees (adjournment of the House)), 360, &c.

7. Returns:
   Return relating to Select Committees for Session 1997–98:
      —ordered, 16.
      —made, 90.

COMMITTEES, STANDING:

I. 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>Access to Justice [Lords]</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>E, 277</td>
<td>With Amendments and amended Long Title, 319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Development Corporation [Lords]</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>D, 363</td>
<td>With Amendments, 388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) [Lords]</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>D, 426</td>
<td>With Amendments, 448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Rights Commission [Lords]</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>F, 283</td>
<td>With Amendments, 336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Relations</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>E, 122</td>
<td>With Amendments, 227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance (except specified Clauses)</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>D, 281. Transferred to B, 283</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services and Markets</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>A, 412</td>
<td>As so far amended (pursuant to Order), 563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Standards</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>B, 397</td>
<td>With Amendments, 448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater London Authority (except specified Clauses and Schedules) [Lords]</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>A, 59</td>
<td>With Amendments, 245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health [Lords]</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>A, 263</td>
<td>With Amendments and changed long title, 346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>B, 75</td>
<td>With Amendments, 151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution Prevention and Control [Lords]</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>A, 363</td>
<td>With Amendments, 388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating (Valuation)</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>A, 74</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic (NHS Charges)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>B, 40</td>
<td>With Amendments, 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Enterprise</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>First Scottish, 96</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Offences (Amendment) (except specified Clause) [Lords]</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>E, 97</td>
<td>With Amendments, 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) [Lords]</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>D, 122</td>
<td>With an Amendment, 136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credits</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>D, 96</td>
<td>With Amendments, 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee Delegation</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>F, 382</td>
<td>With Amendments, 389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Industry</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>A, 39</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare Reform and Pensions</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>D, 147</td>
<td>With Amendments, 284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence [Lords]</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>B, 283. Transferred to E, 334</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With Amendments and amended Long Title, 405</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>Adoption (Intercountry Aspects)</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>C, 283. Transferred to D, 317</td>
<td>With Amendments, 330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare)</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>C, 205</td>
<td>With Amendments, 273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce, Etc.)</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>C, 158. Transferred to B, 162</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football (Offences and Disorder)</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>C, 283. Transferred to D, 289</td>
<td>With Amendments, 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fur Farming (Prohibition)</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>C, 189. Transferred to B, 208</td>
<td>With Amendments, 261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland)</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Second Scottish, 205</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of Children</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>C, 158</td>
<td>With Amendments, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendums</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>C, 239</td>
<td>With Amendments, 319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing)</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>C, 189</td>
<td>Without Amendment, 261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Second Reading Committees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Referred or stood referred</th>
<th>Report recommending second reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) [Lords]</td>
<td>370*</td>
<td>404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee Delegation [Lords]</td>
<td>177*</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Bill stood referred to Second Reading Committee, pursuant to Standing Order (Law Commission bills).

IV. Special Standing Committees:

1. Bills committed to Special Standing Committees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Committed</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigration and Asylum</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>With Amendments, 328</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Miscellaneous

Standing Order (Special Standing Committees) to have effect with modifications in relation to a specified Bill, 137.

V. Scottish Grand Committee:

1. Orders Relating to Sittings of the Committee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Order</th>
<th>Date of sitting</th>
<th>Place (if in Scotland)</th>
<th>Nature of business, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th December, 37</td>
<td>Monday 18th January</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Substantive Motion for adjournment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 1st February</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Substantive Motion for adjournment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 8th March</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Substantive Motion for adjournment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 22nd March</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Substantive Motion for adjournment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th January, 67</td>
<td>Monday 1st February [Order varying provision]</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>To take Questions for oral answer (added)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th March, 186</td>
<td>Monday 22nd March [Order varying period of notice of motions for adjournment]</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMITTEES, STANDING V—continued

2. Other Orders:

Minutes of proceedings to be printed, 570.

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>Transport Policy in Wales</td>
<td>104 [to meet at Aberaeron on Monday 22nd February between specified times]</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Miscellaneous:

Two additional Members nominated by Committee of Selection, 25.
Committee to meet at specified times on specified day, 13, 104.

VII. NORTHERN IRELAND GRAND COMMITTEE:

1. Matters and Instruments referred:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Matter or Instrument</th>
<th>Referred</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Spending Review in Northern Ireland Discussion Paper entitled “Putting it Right—the case for change in Northern Ireland’s hospital service”</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order 1999</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of the Criminal Justice System in Northern Ireland</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>361</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>393</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Miscellaneous:

Days appointed for meetings of Committee, 23. Order varied, 346.
Twenty-four additional Members nominated, 25.
Orders relating to particular sittings, 30, 207, 361. Order and Standing Order varied, 77.
Minutes of proceedings ordered to be printed, 42, &c.

VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION:

Instruments referred to Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 8, &c.
Instruments allocated by the Speaker to particular Standing Committee, 8, &c.
Instruments referred to Standing Committees, 16, &c.
COMMITTEES, STANDING—continued

IX. EUROPEAN STANDING COMMITTEES:
[For later proceedings, see EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DOCUMENTS II.]

1. Documents, &c., and Resolutions reported, &c. following references to Standing Committees in previous Session:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Document, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Reference to Committee</th>
<th>Document &amp; Resolution Reported, &amp;c.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No. 8582/97, relating to air transport competition rules</td>
<td>A, 12 Nov. 1997</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No. 6793/97, relating to taxation of energy products</td>
<td>B, 17 Dec. 1997</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Documents, &c. referred to European Standing Committees in current Session:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Document, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Reference to Committee</th>
<th>Document &amp; Resolution Reported, &amp;c.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No.6378/98, relating to the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms</td>
<td>A, 40</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum by MAFF, relating to fisheries: TACs and quotas for 1999</td>
<td>A, 40</td>
<td>Document de-referred, 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No. 6985/98, relating to the welfare of laying hens</td>
<td>A, 86</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No. 10786/98, relating to VAT fraud in intra-Community trade</td>
<td>B, 86</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No.14031/98, relating to the Independent Fraud Office</td>
<td>B, 86</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.J. No. C349, relating to the Court of Auditors Annual Report for 1997</td>
<td>B, 97</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum by MAFF, relating to Agenda 2000: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy</td>
<td>A, 123</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C.D. No. 11034/97, relating to end of life vehicles</td>
<td>C, 150</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum by DTI, relating to reform of the Structural Funds</td>
<td>C, 185</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum by DTI, relating to Agenda 2000: Cohesion Fund Amendment</td>
<td>C, 185</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No. 5480/99, relating to the European Regional Development Fund</td>
<td>C, 185</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No. 5263/99, relating to assistance to NIS and Mongolia</td>
<td>B, 214</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. Nos. 12756/97 and 12791/98, relating to incineration of hazardous and non-hazardous waste</td>
<td>A, 355</td>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No 8329/00 relating to financial services</td>
<td>B, 397</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No. Com (99) 200, relating to the 2000 Preliminary Draft Budget</td>
<td>B, 412</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No. 13526/99, and two Unnumbered Explanatory Memoranda by DTI, relating to sectors and activities excluded from the Working Time Directive</td>
<td>C, 412</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. Nos. 6615/98, 8781/98 and 8484/1/99, relating to taxation and financial services</td>
<td>B, 514</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### COMMITTEES, STANDING IX.2—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Document, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Reference to Committee</th>
<th>Document &amp; Resolution Reported, &amp;c.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No. 8723/99, relating to harmonisation of copyright</td>
<td>C, 517</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.D. No. 10948/99, relating to state aid to the coal industry</td>
<td>C, 548</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Miscellaneous:

Reports by Committee of Selection, nominating Members of European Standing Committees A and B, 62, C, 123.

Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committees A, B and C to be printed, 570.

X. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Chairman of Standing Committees:

Members appointed Chairmen by the Speaker:

—of Standing Committees on Bills, 40, &c.
—of Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 8, &c.
—of European Standing Committees, 189, &c.
—several Chairmen, 281, 289.
—additional Chairmen, 189, &c.

2. Members of Standing Committees:

Members nominated by Committee of Selection to serve on Standing Committees:

—Standing Committees on Bills, 40, &c.
—Second Reading Committees, 184.
—Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 8, &c.
—European Standing Committees, 62, 123.

Members discharged and others appointed in substitution, 18, &c.

Resolution reported by Committee of Selection relating to changes in membership of Standing Committees on Bills, 19.

3. Sittings:

Leave given to Standing Committees on Bills to sit twice on first day of meeting, 73, &c.

Order, That notwithstanding Sessional Order relating to Meetings of Standing Committees, Standing Committee on a Bill may meet at any hour, 282.

4. Instructions:

To report a Bill to the House, so far as then amended, by a specified date (as part of a Suspension Order), 518.

5. Business Sub-Committees:

Members nominated by Speaker:

—Greater London Authority Bill (except specified Clauses and Schedules), 83.

7. Returns:

Returns relating to Grand Committees for Session 1997–98:

—ordered, 16.
—made, 90.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION (LANDFILL) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 256.


COMMUNITY PROTECTION (LANDFILL) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 256.
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME [1998–99]

Computer Millennium Non-Compliance (Contingency Plans) Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 104.

Concessionary Television Licences for Pensioners Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 361.

Consolidated Fund Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 44. Read the second and third time, and passed, 52. Speaker’s Certificate, 60. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 60. (Cited as Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Act 1998) Royal Assent, 60.

Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 217. Read the second and third time, and passed, 437. Speaker’s Certificate, 447. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 448. (Cited as Consolidated Fund Act 1999) Royal Assent, 450.

Draft National Assembly for Wales (Disqualification) Order 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 133. Reported, 140. Approved, 164.
Draft National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 133. Reported, 140. Approved, 165.
Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999, allocated to Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 134. Reported, 144. Approved, 164.
Draft Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 148. Reported, 156. Approved, 165.
Draft Scottish Parliament (First Ordinary General Election and First Meeting) Order 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 148. Reported, 156. Approved, 165.


Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed; stood referred to a Second Reading Committee, pursuant to Standing Order (Law Commission Bills), 370. Report recommending Second Reading, 404. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 418. D, 426. Reported, without Amendment, 448. Not amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 535. To which the Lords agree, 570. (Cited as Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 576.

Control of Fireworks Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 312.

Control of Hedgerows in Residential Areas Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 512

Control of Residential Hedgerows Bill: Presented and read the first time, 186. Withdrawn, 442.

Country Land and Villages Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 316.

Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Bill: [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 279. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment, 323. Read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 476. (Cited as Criminal Cases Review (Insanity) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 488.


Crown Prerogatives (Parliamentary Control) Bill: Presented and read the first time, 163. Motion for Second Reading: Queen’s Consent (Prerogative) signified; objection taken to further proceeding, 476.


Cyclists’ Helmets Bill: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 538.

Data Protection: Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Straw relating to the Salary of the Data Protection Registrar, allocated to Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation [pursuant to Order, 450]. 467. Reported, 481. Approved, 489.

DEBATE—continued

4. Bills, Public:

Reasoned Amendment on Second Reading:
—ordered to be adjourned, 47.
—stood adjourned (it being Ten o’clock), 101.
—resumed at subsequent sitting, 50 &c.

Second Reading of new Clause on consideration:
—stood adjourned (at Ten o’clock), 229, &c.
—stood adjourned (at specified hour, pursuant to Allocation of Time Orders), 377.
—resumed at same sitting, 229.
—resumed at a future sitting, 376, 379.

Second Readings of Private Members’ Bills:
—stood adjourned, 154, &c.
—resumed, and stood adjourned, 367.
—again resumed, and stood adjourned, 476.

Consideration:
—on Question, That an Amendment be made, stood adjourned (it being half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday)), 322, 367.
—on Question, That Clause be read a second time (it being Ten o’clock), 325; resumed at same sitting, 326.

Lords amendments:
—on Question, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment, stood adjourned (at Ten o’clock); resumed at same sitting, 570.

5. Ways and Means:

Motion relating to Amendment of the Law:
—ordered to be adjourned, 177.
—resumed at subsequent sitting and stood adjourned, 182, 186.
—resumed at a subsequent sitting, 192.

6. Opposition Days:

Question proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question:
—stood adjourned, 400.

II. Miscellaneous:

Debates stood adjourned, it being:
—Ten o’clock, 10 &c.
—Seven o’clock (on a Thursday), 400.
—Half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday), 154, &c.
—a specified hour (pursuant to Allocation of Time Order), 377.

Debates ordered to be adjourned, 4 &c.
Debates ordered to be resumed on a future day, 10, &c.
Debates to be resumed on a future day, 4 &c.
Debate (on Estimates) concluded, 42, 433.

DEFENCE—continued


DEFENCE—continued


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>Broadcasting</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>29, 247</td>
<td>125 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinemas and Film</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>224, 235, 377, 380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Aviation</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>252 (2), 425</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>300, 455</td>
<td>489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>98 (2)</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>282</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>165 (6)</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting Out</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>400, 418</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countryside Agency</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>132</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Injuries Compensation</td>
<td>Draft of Alterations to Scheme</td>
<td>280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Law (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs and Excise</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>410</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Protection</td>
<td>Motion treated as Instrument, pursuant to Order, 450</td>
<td>489</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>333, 334, 370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deregulation: (Pipe-lines) (Weights and Measures) (Millennium Licensing) (Casinos)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>460</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment and Training</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>460</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Communities</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>72 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Law</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>109 (2), 157, 333 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>235 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Trading Funds</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>536</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>29, 157, 224</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Organisation and Development</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Brokers Registration Council</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>317</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Immunities and Privileges</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>536</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid and Advice</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>137, 235, 455, 456 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>57 (2), 224 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>559</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance Reports</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>111 (3)</td>
<td>146, 157, 169, 207, 247, 271 (3), 333, 357, 472, 484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance Order (Scotland)</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>124 (3)</td>
<td>207, 247 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance Report (Scotland)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Finance Reports</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>124 (3)</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### DELEGATED LEGISLATION, &c. 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>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>248, 484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>29, 36 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>111, 206, 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>37, 247, 371 (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prisons</td>
<td>Draft Orders of Council</td>
<td>132, 211</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professions Supplementary to Medicine</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>266, 292</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating and Valuation</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>247, 280, 489</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of the People</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>224, 235, 251, 333 (2), 567 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>276</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>98 (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court of England and Wales</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>558, 169, 170, 558</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>Draft Order</td>
<td>246, 333</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms and Conditions of Employment</td>
<td>Draft Regulations</td>
<td>63 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town and Country Planning (Scotland)</td>
<td>Draft Orders</td>
<td>29, 251 (2), 418, 536, 567</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Added Tax</td>
<td>Orders</td>
<td>29, 387</td>
<td>54,442</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### II. ADDRESSES FOR STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS TO BE MADE:

<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>29, 387</td>
<td>54, 442</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### III. QUESTIONS, THAT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS BE REVOKED, NEGATIVED:

#### Regulations:

Income Tax, 156.

### IV. STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS REFERRED TO STANDING COMMITTEES ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description of Instrument</th>
<th>Referred</th>
<th>Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Precautions</td>
<td>Draft Code of Practice Regulations</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### DELEGATED LEGISLATION, &c. IV—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject:</th>
<th>Description of Instrument:</th>
<th>Referred:</th>
<th>Reported:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hallmark</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlord and Tenant</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Aid and Advice (Scotland)</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicines</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Code of Practice</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Health Service</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Health Service (Scotland)</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Added Tax</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### V. MISCELLANEOUS:

Delegated legislation allocated by the Speaker to particular Standing Committees, 8, &c.

Delegated legislation referred to Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation, 47, &c.

Delegated legislation reported from Standing Committees, 16, &c.

Delegated legislation approved, 29, &c.

—after Question put:

—forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), 29, &c.

—forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Consideration of draft deregulation orders), 82, &c.

—at Seven o’clock (several Questions successively), pursuant to Order, 111.

—at three hours, pursuant to Order, 387.

Order, providing that if a Statutory Instrument relating to a specified subject be laid before the House on a specified day, a Minister of the Crown may, notwithstanding the practice of the House, make without notice a Motion for the approval of the said Instrument, 172.

Order, that if a specified Motion shall be treated as if it related to an Instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) in respect of which notice has been given that the Instrument be approved, 172.

Return relating to Delegated Legislation and Deregulation Orders for Session 1997–98:

—ordered, 16.

—made, 90.

Deregulation: Draft Orders approved, 82, &c.

[For subjects see Table in Delegated Legislation I.]

Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 233. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 279. F, 283. Reported, with Amendments, 336. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 410. To which the Lords agree, 454. (Cited as Disability Rights Commission Act 1999) Royal Assent, 488.

Money Resolution, 279.

DIVISIONS:

It appearing on the report of a Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Speaker declared that the Question was not decided in the Affirmative, 269.

It appearing on the report of a Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood out until the next sitting of the House, 340.

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, 433, &c.

Ecclesiastical Committee: See Church of England.


Education (Infant Class Sizes) (Grant) Regulations 1999, referred to Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 132. Sixth, 149. Reported, 176.


ELECTIONS:

I. WRITS ISSUED:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For what place</th>
<th>In the room of</th>
<th>On what account</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leeds, Central, 330</td>
<td>Rt hon Derek John Fatchett</td>
<td>Deceased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddisbury, 409</td>
<td>Rt hon Sir Alastair Robertson Goodlad</td>
<td>Chiltern Hundreds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wigan, 492*</td>
<td>Roger Stott, Esquire</td>
<td>Deceased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton South, 492*</td>
<td>Rt hon George Robertson</td>
<td>Called up to the House of Peers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kensington and Chelsea, 542</td>
<td>Rt hon Alan Kenneth McKenzie Clark</td>
<td>Deceased</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Issued by Chairman of Ways and Means during the Summer Adjournment on behalf of the Speaker, pursuant to the Recess Elections Act 1975.

II. MOTION FOR WRIT:

Motion for a new Writ; and the Motion being opposed, further proceeding stood postponed, 243. Resumed; Question amended by leaving out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and adding the words 'this House do pass to the Orders of the day'; and, as amended, agreed to (Question superseded), 243.

III. MISCELLANEOUS:

Sessional Order relating to double returns, 1.
Sessional Resolution relating to voting by Peers, 1.
Sessional Resolution relating to bribery, 1.
Writs issued during Adjournment, 592.


EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 94. Motion for Second Reading: Reasoned Amendment negatived; read a second time and stood commited to a Standing Committee, 117. E, 122. Reported, with Amendments, 227. As amended, considered; further consideration ordered to be adjourned, 246. Further considered; read the third time, and passed, 251. Agree to by the Lords, with Amendments, 448. Lords Amendments considered, some agreed to, one disagreed to; further proceedings stood adjourned (at Ten o’clock), 466. Lords Amendments further
EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BILL—continued
considered [ allotted day ]; Lords Amendments agreed to, one with an Amendment; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons; Reasons reported and agreed to, 482. Lords do not insist on their Amendment to which Commons have disagreed, but propose Amendment in lieu thereof; and agree to Commons Amendment to Lords Amendment, 484. Lords Message considered; Lords Amendment in lieu agreed to, 484. (Cited as Employment Relations Act 1999) Royal Assent, 488.

Allocation of Time Order, 471. (Supplemental), 482. Money Resolution, 117.

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS (INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 464.

EMPTY HOMES BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 423.

ENERGY CONSERVATION (HOUSING) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 78. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half past Two o’clock (on a Friday)), 294.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY BILL: Presented and read the first time, 78. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half past Two o’clock (on a Friday)), 154.

ENERGY SAVING MATERIALS (VAT RELIEF) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 215.

EQUAL ACCESS (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BUILDINGS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the third time, 395.

ESTIMATES:

1. REPORTS FROM LIAISON COMMITTEE:

   Relating to consideration of Estimates pursuant to Standing Order (Liaison Committee), 398.
     — Reports agreed with, 407.
     — Report made in previous Session agreed with, 27.

II. MISCELLANEOUS:

Bills ordered on Estimates Resolutions, 44, 217, 434.

III. PROCEEDINGS PERSUANT 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 Ten o’clock</th>
<th>Sum granted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Vote on Account, 1999–2000 (Class IV, Vote 1), in so far as it relates to prison sentences and alternatives to prison sentences</td>
<td>Debate concluded, 42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>£2,299,414,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vote on Account, 1999–2000 (Class IV, Vote 2), in so far as it relates to prison sentences and alternatives to prison sentences</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>£766,651,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vote on Account, 1999–2000 (Class I, Vote 1), in so far as it relates to New Deal pathfinders and pathways into work for lone parents</td>
<td>Proceedings interrupted, 43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>£6,826,077,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vote on Account, 1999–2000 (Class I, Vote 3), in so far as it relates to New Deal pathfinders and pathways into work for loan parents</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>£782,937,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vote on Account, 1999–2000 (Class XII)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>£22,716,706,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Estimates, 1999–2000 (Class I, Vote 4)</td>
<td>Debate concluded, 433</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>£59,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimates, 1999–2000 (Class III) insofar as it relates to transport policy</td>
<td>Proceedings interrupted, 433</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>£25,917,026,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ESTIMATES—continued

### 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>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimates and Supplementary Estimates, 1999–2000</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>£2,946,254,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th August 1999</td>
<td>Estimates and Supplementary Estimates, 1999–2000</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>£97,900,070,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EUROPEAN COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (REFERENDUM)

**Bill:** Ordered, presented and read the first time, 192.

### EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DOCUMENTS/
EUROPEAN UNION DOCUMENTS:

[For European Standing Committees, see COMMITTEES, STANDING IX.]

I. Questions for Resolutions Agreed to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries: Total Allowable Catches and Quotas 1999, 51</td>
<td>Amendment negatived</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Questions for Resolutions Put Forthwith, Pursuant to Standing Order (European Standing Committees), and Agreed To:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Report from European Standing Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agrimoney Arrangements following the Introduction of the Euro, 17</td>
<td>A [Previous Session]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC Development Aid to South Africa (1986–1996), 17</td>
<td>B [Previous Session]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, 132</td>
<td>A, 127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial management and fraud against the EU Budget, 157</td>
<td>A, 181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment of End of Life Vehicles, 181</td>
<td>A, 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Infrastructure Charging, 207</td>
<td>C, 228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare of Laying Hens, 224</td>
<td>A, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reform of the Structural and Cohesion Funds, 233</td>
<td>A, 274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate Release into the Environment of Genetically Modified Organisms, 246</td>
<td>B, 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Transport Competition Rules, 280</td>
<td>A, 361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance to Newly Independent States and Mongolia, 357</td>
<td>A, 379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incineration of Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste, 387</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME [1998–99]

ECEU DOCUMENTS II—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Report from European Standing Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Draft Budget of European Communities for 2000 and Inter-Institutional Agreement on Budgetary Discipline and Procedure, 430</td>
<td>B, 423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal to Extend the Working Time Directive to Extended Sectors, 460</td>
<td>C, 454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmonisation of Copyright and Electronic Commerce in the Single Market, 536</td>
<td>C, 528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation of Energy Products, 536</td>
<td>B, 528</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. MISCELLANEOUS:

Return relating to European Legislation, &c., for Session 1997–98:
—ordered, 16.
—made, 90.


EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 12. Read a second time; committed to a Committee of the whole House; considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed, 21. The Speaker’s Certificate under the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949, 76. [See BILLS, PUBLIC, XVII.] (Cited as European Parliamentary Elections Act 1999) Royal Assent, 76.

Allocation of Time Order, 20.
Money Resolution, 22.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (GIBRALTAR) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 279. Read the first time, 316.

EXAMINERS:

I. BILLS REFERRED TO THE EXAMINERS:

Private Bills:

Referred after Second Reading, 104.
Brought from the Lords and referred after First Reading, 136, &c.

II. REPORTS FROM THE EXAMINERS:

Private Bills:

In the case of Petitions for Bills:
—Standing Orders complied with, 63.
In the case of Lords Bills referred after First Reading:
—No Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable thereto, 151.
In the case of Bills referred after Second Reading:
—Standing Orders not previously inquired into complied with, 124, 151, 370.


Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 212. Reported, 222. Approved, 235.

INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

47 & 48 ELIZ. II]


GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed.

47. 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, 50. Allocated (except specified Clauses and Schedules) To Standing Committee A. 59. Specified Clauses and Schedules considered in Committee; progress reported, 82. Again considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment, 85. Bill, except specified Clauses and Schedules, reported from Standing Committee, with Amendments, 245. Not amended in the Committee and as amended in the Standing Committee, considered (2nd allotted day), 298. Again considered [2nd allotted day]; Motion for Third Reading; Queen’s Consent signified; read the third time, and passed, 303. Agree to by the Lords, with Amendments, 357. Lords Amendments considered; some agreed to (some with special entries); others disagreed to; further consideration stood adjourned (at Seven o'clock (on a Thursday)). 551. Lords Amendments further considered; some agreed to (some with special entries); some amended and agreed to; some consequential Amendments agreed to; one Amendment disagreed to. Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, 558. Reasons reported and agreed to, 559. Lords do not insist on certain of their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed; do not insist on a further such Amendment and agree to a Commons Amendment in lieu thereof; agree to Commons Amendments to their remaining Amendments; and agree to Commons consequential Amendments, 569. (Cited as Greater London Authority Act 1999) Royal Assent, 576.

Order, That when the provisions of the Bill considered, respectively, by the Committee of the whole House and by 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, 51. Programme Order, 73. Business Sub-Committee nominated, 83. Programme (No. 2) Order, 295. Supplemental Allocation of Time, 554. Money Resolution, 51. (No. 2), 550. Ways and Means Resolution, 51. (No. 2), 551.


HARE COURSING BILL: Presented and read the first time, 159.

HEALTH BILL [Lords]—continued

Money Resolution, 256. Ways and Means Resolution, 257.

HEALTH CARE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY BILL: Presented and read the first time, 70. Motion for Second Reading; Debate stood adjourned (at half-past Two o’clock on a Friday)), 281.

HEDGES (CONTROL) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 71.

HFC BANK BILL: To originate in the Commons, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Read the first time, 89. Read a second time and referred to the Examiners, 104. Examiners’ Report, Standing Orders not previously inquired into complied with; Bill committed, 124. Reported from Committee on Unopposed Bills, with Amendments and Preamble amended, 238. As amended, considered, 269. Read the third time, and passed, 284. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 399. (Cited as HFC Bank Act 1999) Royal Assent, 410.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 410.

HOUSE:

I. HOUSE ADJOURN

House resolves to adjourn now, 4, &c.

House adjourned by the Speaker without Question put, Motion for the Adjournment having been made:
—at or after Ten o’clock, 11, &c.
—at or after Seven o’clock (on a Thursday), pursuant to Sessional Order, 170, &c.
—at or after half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday), 386, &c.

House adjourns:
—till to-morrow, 4, &c.
—till this day, 23, &c.
—from Friday till Monday, 13, &c.
—from Thursday till Monday, 27, &c.

[See also III. PERIODIC ADJOURNMENTS below.]

II. MOTIONS FOR THE ADJOURNMENT GENERALLY:

Lapse:
—at Ten o’clock, 4, &c.
—at Two o’clock (on a Wednesday), 6 &c.
—at Seven o’clock (on a Thursday, pursuant to Sessional Order), 77, &c.
—at half-past Two o’clock (on a Friday), 385.

Withdrawn, 174.

Negatived following closure, 60.

Motions for the Adjournment on specified subjects, 27, &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, 33, 101, 191, 276, 297, 416.
—Resolution amended, 341.
Christmas Adjournment: House adjourns from Thursday 17th December to Monday 11th January, 61.
February Adjournment: House adjourns from Tuesday 16th February to Monday 22nd February, 133.
Easter Adjournment: House adjourns from Wednesday 31st March to Tuesday 13th April, 253.
May Adjournment: House adjourns from Friday 30th April to Tuesday 4th May, 297.
Whitsun Adjournment: House adjourns from Wednesday 26th May to Tuesday 8th June, 353.
Summer Adjournment: House adjourns from Tuesday 27th July to Tuesday 19th October, 489.

IV. Sittings of the House:

House meets:
—at twenty-five minutes past Eleven o'clock (Queen's Speech), I.
—half-past Eleven o'clock (Prorogation), 574.
—half-past Two o'clock, 10, &c.
—half-past Nine o'clock (on a Wednesday), 6, &c.
—half-past Nine o'clock (on a Friday), 12, &c.
—half-past Eleven o'clock (on a Thursday, pursuant to Sessional Order), 77 &c.
House resolves not to sit on ten specified Fridays, 11.
Order, That at this day's sitting —
(i) the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords shall have been received; and
(ii) if the House has completed its consideration of any Messages received from the Lords and the Lords have adjourned their sitting, the Speaker shall adjourn the House without Question put, 575.
Order, That at a future sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until she shall have notified Royal Assent, 33, 191, 297, 416, 434, 481.
—Order amended (to change specified date), 341.
Order, That at a future sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any message from the Lords, relating to a specified Bill, has been received, 534.
—Sitting accordingly suspended until Message received, 537.

V. Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall:

Order, That in the next Session of Parliament the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to specified modifications relating to sittings in Westminster Hall, 343.
Order, That there shall be no sittings in Westminster Hall under the terms of the Order [343] until a specified date, 519.

VI. Business of the House:

[For Orders relating to proceedings on Bills, See BILLS, PUBLIC, XV.]

HOUSE VI—continued

1. Orders relating to precedence of business:

Order modifying Standing Order (Arrangement of public business) for the Session so as to provide for Private Members' Bills to have precedence on thirteen Fridays, and specifying those Fridays, &c., 11.
Order, That at a future sitting part of a Standing Order (Consideration of estimates) shall not apply, insolar as a specified Motion shall stand as first business, 430.

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:
—Government Bills, 120 &c.
—Lords Amendments, 570.
—Consideration of any Messages from the Lords relating to a specified Bill, 570.
—Government Motion referring Bill to a Select Committee, 455.
—Government Motions relating to Business of the House, 570.
[Agreed to at a previous Sitting (in a wider Motion):] Until any hour:
—Government Motions, 52.
—any Lords Message relating to a specified Bill, 434.
Motion may be entered upon and proceeded with, though opposed, after Ten o'clock: 347, &c.
Motion for the adjournment of the House in the name of the Prime Minister may be proceeded with, though opposed, after half-past two o'clock (on a Friday) (for up to five hours from commencement of proceedings), 434.

3. Orders providing for Questions to be put at a specified hour or at the end of a specified period:

[See also 4 below for such orders in relation to Delegated Legislation and European Community/Union Documents]

Government Motions:

That, at a future sitting, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on specified Motions:
—not later than one and a half hours after commencement (Financial Assistance to Opposition Parties), 347.
—not later than two hours after commencement (Line of Route), 347.
—not later than three hours after commencement (Sittings of the House in Westminster Hall), 341.
—not later than Seven o'clock, 44.
—at Eight o'clock, or four hours after commencement, whichever is later (Motions relating to Modernisation of the House, Sittings of the House and Standing Committees), 52.
—not later than Ten o'clock (seven Motions relating to practice and procedure of the House), 516.
Questions including Questions on any Amendments which she may have selected, which may be moved at specified hour, 52, &c.

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, European Community/Union Documents, or other proceedings pursuant to Act:

That, at a future sitting, the Speaker shall put the Questions on Specified Motions not later than at a specified hour:

—one and a half hours after the start of proceedings on the first of several Motions, 114.
—three hours after the start of proceedings, 385.
—Four o’clock, 101, &c.
—Seven o’clock, 89, &c.
—Ten o’clock, 44.
—half-past Eleven o’clock, or one and a half hours after commencement, whichever is earlier, 152.

5. Order providing for proceedings on a specified Motion to continue for a specified period:

—up to five hours (Motion for Adjournment in name of Prime Minister), 434.

6. Orders disapplying Standing Order:

—(Proceedings under an Act or on European Union Documents), 44.
—(Wednesday sittings), part of, 102.

7. Miscellaneous:

Orders providing that if a Statutory Instrument relating to a specified subject be laid before the House on a specified day, a Minister of the Crown may, notwithstanding the practice of the House, make without notice a Motion for the approval of the said Instrument, 172, 414.

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, 575.

Return relating to Business of the House for Session 1997–98:

—ordered, 16.
—made, 90.

Return relating to Sittings of the House for Session 1997–98:

—ordered, 16.
—made, 90.
INCOME TAX—continued

Corporation Tax (Instalment Payments) Regulations 1998, Motion for revocation; Question negatived, 156.

Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Kuwait) Order 1999, allocated to Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 334. Reported, 378. Humble Address, seeking Order to be made in form of draft, 387. Queen’s Answer, 442.

INSTRUCTIONS:

I. To Reasons Committees:
To withdraw immediately, 391, &c.

II. To Select Committees:

To report by a specified date, 114.
To consider the provisions of a Government Bill referred to it and to report by a specified date, 455.

III. To Joint Committees (agreed concurrently with the Lords):

To report by a specified date, 142, 155, 341, 342, 356.
To report by a further specified date on specified parts of a draft bill in relation to the European Convention on Human Rights, 284. Lords concurred, 287.

IV. To Standing Committees:

To report a Bill to the House, so far as then amended, by a specified date (as part of a Suspension Order), 518.


Draft International Copper Study Group (Legal Capacities) Order 1999, allocated to Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 427. Reported, 448. Approved, 455.


INTERNATIONAL IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES—continued


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, 2.

The Speaker directs that Her Majesty’s Speech be entered in the Journal, 2.

Letter from Crown Court Judge to the Speaker ordered to be entered in the Journal, 222.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL BILL [Lords]: To originate in the Lords, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Lords communicate Resolution relating to suspension of proceedings, 550. Commons concurred, 554.


LAW OFFICERS:

Speaker informs House that she has asked Attorney General, on behalf of the House, to seek declaration from High Court on construction of Representation of the People Act 1983 [see MEMBERS III], 269. Speaker reports Court ruling, 294.

LEASEHOLD REFORM BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 210.

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE: Draft Legal Aid (Prescribed Panels) Regulations 1998, allocated to Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 86. Reported, 94. Approved, 98.


Criminal Legal Aid (Fixed Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, referred to Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 208. Third, 237. Reported, 245.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE—continued


Local Government Finance (Scotland): Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 1999, approved, 125.


Special Grant Report (Scotland): Grant in Aid of Expenditure on Rail Services in the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Area, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 236. Reported, 243. Approved, 247.


Special Grant Report (Wales) 1999, approved, 124.

Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 1999: Special Grant for Asylum Seekers, allocated to Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 167. Reported, 176. Approved, 207.
LONDON LOCAL AUTHORITIES BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, read the first time, and referred to the Examiners, 136. Examiner’s Report, no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 151. Read a second time, and committed, 168. Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 527. Lords Message communicating Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 532.

Report from the Standing Orders Committee, That it had resolved, That a dispensation from the provisions of Standing Order (Petitions against private bills) ought to be granted in the case of the late Petition against the Bill; Resolution agreed to, 458.


MEDOWAY COUNCIL BILL [Lords]: To originate in the Lords, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Lords communicate Resolution relating to suspension of proceedings, 550. Commons concur, 554.

MEMBERS:

I. MEMBERS SWORN OR MADE AFFIRMATION:

   Hilary James Benn, Esquire, Member for Leeds Central (made affirmation), 370.
   Stephen Rothwell O’Brian, Esquire, Member for Eddisbury (sworn), 481.
   Bill Tynan, Esquire, Member for Hamilton South (sworn), 492.
   Neil Turner, Esquire, Member for Wigan (made affirmation), 492.

II. DEATHS OF MEMBERS:

   The Speaker informs the House of the deaths of Members:
   — Fatchett, Right honourable Derek John (Leeds Central), 310.
   — Stott, Roger, Esquire (Wigan), 492.
   — Clark, Right honourable Alan Kenneth McKenzie (Kensington and Chelsea), 492.

III. MEMBER CONVICTED OF CORRUPT PRACTICE; CONVICTION LATER OVER TurnED ON APPEAL:

   Speaker informs House that she has received letter from Crown Court Judge informing her that Member for Newark has been convicted of corrupt practice; letter ordered to be entered in the Journal; Speaker informs House that, under terms of Representation of the People Act 1983, seat for constituency of Newark is vacated, 222.

   Speaker informs the House that Court of Appeal has quashed conviction, and that she has asked the Attorney General, on behalf of House, to seek declaration from High Court on construction of Representation of the People Act 1983 as to whether seat remains vacant, 269.

   Speaker informs the House that Member for Newark has resumed seat, following High Court ruling that she is entitled to do so, 294.

IV. DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS:

   Speaker lays notification of disqualification of a Member:
   — Goodlad, Right honourable Sir Alastair Robertson (Edisbury) (Chiltern Hundreds), 403.

V. MEMBERS SUSPENDED:

   Mr Ernie Ross, Member for Dundee West, suspended for ten sitting days, 433.
   Mr Don Touhig, Member for Islwyn, suspended for three sitting days, 516.
   Kali Mountford, Member for Colne Valley, suspended for five sitting days, 516.

VI. MEMBERS’ SALARIES, PENSIONS, ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES:

   1. Resolutions relating to Members’ Salaries, Pensions, Allowances and Expenses:

      Office costs etc. Allowance, 10. (No. 2), 221.
      Travel by Members to National Parliaments and European Union Institutions (original Question amended), 349.

   2. Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund:

      Member appointed a Managing Trustee, in the room of another Member, 352.

MENTAL HEALTH: Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice, referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 82. First, 86. Reported, 91.

Mental Health Amendment (Scotland) Bill: Presented and read the first time, 69. Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 181. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 190. Certified by the Speaker as relating exclusively to Scotland, 191. Allocated to Second Scottish Standing Committee, 205. Reported, without Amendment, 330. Not amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 476. Agreed to by the Lords, 570. (Cited as Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 576.

MESSAGES:

I. FROM HER MAJESTY:

   At the opening of the Session, 1.
MESSAGES—continued

II. FROM THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS:

To hear a commission from Her Majesty for giving the Royal Assent to Acts and for proroguing Parliament, 575.

III. FROM THE LORDS:

1. Bills, Private:

That they have passed a Bill, to which they desire the concurrence of the Commons, 10, &c.
That they have agreed to Commons Bills:
—without Amendment, 387, &c.
—without Amendment, to Commons Amendments to a Lords Bill, 232, &c.
That they have come to Resolutions relating to Bills originating in the Commons in the present Session, that the Promoters have leave to suspend proceedings, &c., 550.
That they have come to Resolutions relating to Bills originating in the Lords in the present Session, that the Promoters have leave to suspend proceedings, &c., which have been suspended by the Commons, 532, 538, 552, 553.
That they concur with the Commons in their Messages relating to Bills originating in the Commons in the present Session which have been suspended by the Commons, 550.

2. Bills, Public:

That they have agreed to Bills originating in the Commons:
—without Amendment, 60, &c.
—with Amendments, 448, &c.
— with an Amendment, 174.
That they have passed a Bill, to which they desire the concurrence of the Commons, 101, &c.
That they have agreed, without Amendment, to Commons Amendments to Lords Bills, 383, &c. —to a single Commons Amendment, 146.
That they do not insist on Amendments disagreed to by the Commons, 403, &c.
That they have agreed to certain Commons Amendments; have agreed to another, with an Amendment; and disagree to others with Reasons, 448.
That they have agreed to Commons Amendments in lieu of Commons Amendments to which the Lords have disagreed; do not insist on their Amendment to a further Commons Amendment; and have agreed to a Commons Amendment in lieu thereof, 481.
That they do not insist on an Amendment to which Commons have disagreed, but propose Amendment in lieu thereof; and have agreed to Commons Amendment to remaining Lords Amendment, 484.
That they do not insist on certain of their Amendments to which Commons have disagreed, and agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by the Commons in lieu of their Amendments disagreed to; they do not insist on another Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed, but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof; they do not insist on their remaining Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed; they agree, without Amendment, to certain Amendments made by the Commons to the words restored to the Bill; they disagree to another Amendment made by the Commons, but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, and agree to the remaining Amendment made by the Commons, with Amendments to the words restored to the Bill, 554.
That they do not insist on certain of their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed; do not insist on a further such Amendment and agree to a Commons Amendment in lieu thereof; agree to Commons Amendments to their remaining Amendments; and agree to Commons consequential Amendments, 569.
That they do not insist on their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed, and agree to Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill, 570.
That they do not insist on their Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed, and agree to Commons Amendment to their remaining Amendment, 570.

3. Committees, Joint:

That they have appointed a Committee to join with a Committee of the Commons as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, and proposing time of meeting, 16.
Lords appointed to serve on Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, etc., 27. Lords propose time and place of meeting, 29.
Lords concur with Commons that it is expedient to appoint a Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets, 151. Lords have appointed a Committee, and propose time and place of meeting, 159. Lords concur with Commons Instruction to Committee, 287.
Lords concur with Commons that it is expedient to appoint a Joint Committee to consider the draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill, and that the Committee should report by a specified date, 342.
—Lords appointed to serve on said Committee, &c., 356.
That they have appointed a Committee to join with a Committee of the Commons as the joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills; that they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman, &c., 356

4. Resolutions:

That they have come to a Resolution [relating to the printing of record copies of Acts on archive paper instead of vellum], to which they desire the concurrence of the Commons, 492.

IV. TO THE LORDS:

1. Bills, Public:

To communicate Reasons for disagreeing to Lords Amendments, 391, &c.
MESSAGES IV—continued

2. Bills, Private:

To acquaint their Lordships:
— that the Commons have made certain Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings on Private Bills originating in the Lords in the present Session, &c., 528, &c.
— that the Commons have made certain Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings on Bills which originated in the Commons in the present Session [upon consideration of a Message from the Lords], 535, &c.

3. Committees, Joint:

Appointment of Joint Committee on Parliamentary Privilege, 10. Commons concur with Lords as to time and place of meeting, 29.
That it is expedient to appoint Joint Committee on Financial Services and Markets, 142. Select Committee of eight Members appointed and instructed to report by specified date, 155. Commons concur with Lords as to time and place of meeting, 159. Instruction to report by further specified date on specified parts of the draft bill in respect of the European Convention on Human Rights, 284.
That it is expedient to appoint a Joint Committee on the Draft Local Government (Organisation and Standards) Bill, Committee to report by a specified date, 341. Select Committee of eight Members appointed and instructed to report by a specified date, 352. Commons concur with Lords as to time and place of meeting, 361.

4. Miscellaneous:

COMMONS do not concur with the Lords in their Resolution relating to record copies of Acts of Parliament, 536.

MILITARY POLICE: Sessional Order, 1.

MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ (PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 91.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE (CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 492.

MISUSE OF DRUGS (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 144.

MODERNISATION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS: Resolutions, 55, 342.

MOTOR ACCIDENT INJURY COMPENSATION BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 163.

MULTIPLE RETAILER: (PUBLICATION AND DISPLAY OF ETHICAL SOURCING POLICIES) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 542.


National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1999, referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 450. Fifth, 467. Reported, 488.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND): National Health Service (General Medical Services) Amendment (No.3) Regulations 1999, referred to Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 450. Fifth, 467. Reported, 488.


NATIONAL SCIENCE STRATEGY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 563.

NEWARK WRIT: Question superseded, 243.


Draft Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, allocated to Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 25. Reported, 42. Approved, 47.

Draft Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, allocated to Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 97. Reported, 111. Approved 113.


NORTHERN IRELAND—continued


Draft Appropriation (No.2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, approved, 387.


Draft Northern Ireland Act Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1999, allocated to Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 446. Reported, 469. Approved, 484.


NORTHERN IRELAND BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 433. Motion for Second Reading; Queen’s Consent signified; 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, 440.

Programme Order, 437.

Money Resolution, 439.

Amendments, &c., may be tabled before Second Reading, 434.

Order, That, at a future sitting, any Lords Message relating to the Bill may be considered, though opposed, at any hour, 434.

NORTHERN IRELAND (LOCATION OF VICTIMS’ REMAINS) BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 287. Read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, 310. Considered in Committee; reported, with an Amendment; as amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 317. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment; 342. (Cited as Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 348.

NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 70. Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 172.

OBSCENITY BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 356.

OFFICE COSTS ETC. ALLOWANCES: Resolution, 10. (No. 2), 221.

OPPOSITION

1. 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</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Decommissioning and the Release of Prisoners</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Tax Harmonisation</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rationing in the NHS</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pensioners and Dividend Tax Credits</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Terrorist mutilations in Northern Ireland</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>London Underground</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>The Government’s Record on Pensions</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Planning and the Green Belt</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Conduct of Ministers and Sierra Leone</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burdens on Schools</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Reduction in the Strength of the Police</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Government’s Roads Policies</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## OPPOSITION I—continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question amended and agreed to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Taxation of the Road Haulage Industry</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The State of British Livestock Farming</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Government Policy on Housing and the Green Belt</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Job Losses, the State of Industry and the New Deal</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>The Government’s Pensions Policy</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implications of Scottish and Welsh Devolution for the Westminster Parliament</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Fraud in the European Union Budget Conditions of Service of NHS Personnel</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th (1st part)</td>
<td>Proportional Representation</td>
<td>396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Delays in the Issue of Passports</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Planning and Transport Congestion</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Dairy Industry</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choice and Diversity in Education</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Impact of the Government’s Policies on the Motorist</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Future of Post Offices</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Health Care Provision in the United Kingdom</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Government’s Proposed Energy Tax Planning, Greenfields and Brownfields</td>
<td>539</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</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Government Information Role of the UK in Europe</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Council Tax Increases Europe, America and the World Trade Organisation</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>American Food Exports and European Trade Policy</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Parliamentary Democracy Government’s Policy for Widows</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food and Supermarkets</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Food and Farming</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transport Safety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Food and Farming</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transport Safety</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OPPOSITION—continued

III. PROCEEDINGS ON OPPOSITION DAYS:

Question, That the original words stand part of the Question, negatived on Division, 35, &c.

Question, That the proposed words be there added, put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Questions and amendments), and agreed to, 78, &c.

—on Division, 35, &c.

The Speaker forthwith declared the main Question, as amended, to be agreed to, 35, &c.

Debate adjourned on Question, That the original words stand part of the Question (it being Seven o’clock (on a Thursday)), 400.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS:

Order applying Standing Order (Questions on amendments) to specified proceedings as if specified days were opposition days, 520.

Motions proceeded with accordingly:
—Police Numbers, Asylum Seekers, Immigration Control and the Government’s Handling of Revelations Relating to Cold War Spies, 523.
—State of the National Health Service, 524.

OPPOSITION PARTIES (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE):
Resolution, 350.

ORGANIC FOOD AND FARMING TARGETS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 523.

OUTLAWRIES BILL: Read the first time, 2.

PARLIAMENT:

Opened by Her Majesty, 1.
Prorogued, 578.


PARLIAMENTARY CONTRIBUTORY PENSION FUND: Order appointing a Member as a Managing Trustee, in the room of another Member, 352.

PARLIAMENTARY CONTROL OF THE EXECUTIVE BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 389. Motion for Second Reading; Queen’s Consent (Prerogative) signified; objection taken to further proceeding, 478.


PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 233.

PETITIONS, PUBLIC:
Presented, 172, &c.
Presented and read, 18, &c.
Ministerial replies laid upon the Table, pursuant to Standing Order (Printing of petitions and of ministerial replies), 15, &c.

PLANNING APPEALS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 71.


Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice No. 5) Order 1998, allocated to Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 86. Reported, 93. Approved, 98.


POLICE NUMBERS, ASYLUM SEEKERS, IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND THE GOVERNMENT’S HANDLING OF REVELATIONS RELATING TO COLD WAR SPIES: Resolution, 524.

POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 336. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 357. A, 363. Reported, with Amendments, 388. As amended, considered; long title amended; Motion for Third Reading; Queen’s Consent signified; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 443. To which the Lords agree, 481. (Cited as Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999) Royal Assent, 488.

Money Resolution, 357. Ways and Means Resolution, 357.

POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION (NATIONAL STRATEGY) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 119.

PRESCRIPTION CHARGES (HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 251.


PREVENTION OF DELAY IN TRIALS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 206.

PRINCE OF WALES:
Prince of Wales, having been informed of the purport of a Bill, has consented to place his interest, so far as it is affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill, 101, 121.


INDEX to the TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH VOLUME

PROCEEDINGS OR BUSINESS: V—continued

Motion relating to suspension of proceedings on a private Bill, 532.
Motion for a new Writ, 243.


PROPERTY LETTING AGENTS (CLIENT MONEY SEGREGATION) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 420.

PROPHylACTIC MASTECTOMY REGISTRY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 94.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN BILL: Presented and read the first time, 69. Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 136. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 154. C, 158. Reported, with Amendments, 232. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 294. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 417. (Cited as the Protection of Children Act 1999) Royal Assent, 450.

Money Resolution, 174.

PROVISIONAL ORDERS (SCOTLAND):
Report from Committee of Selection, That it has appointed fifteen Members to act as Commissioners under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, 39.
Reports by the Lord Chairman and the Chairman of Ways and Means under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, That they are of opinion the Provisional Order should be allowed to proceed, &c., 219, 509.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: Resolution, 76.
PUBLIC HOUSE NAMES BILL: Presented and read the first time, 70.

QUEEN:
[For Queen’s Answers to Addresses, see Addresses.]

I. QUEEN’S SPEECHES:
Queen’s Speech at opening of Session reported by the Speaker and ordered to be entered in the Journal, 2, &c. Queen’s Speech on Prorogation delivered to both Houses by Lord High Chancellor, 576.

II. QUEEN’S CONSENT:
Her Majesty, being informed of the purport of a Bill, has consented to place her prerogative and interest, so
QUEEN II—continued

far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

—Government Bill, on Second Reading, 101, 439.
Her Majesty, being informed of the purport of a Bill, gives Her Consent, so far as Her Majesty’s [prerogative and] interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit, in respect of:

—Government Bill, on Third Reading 121, 146, 303 (prerogative and interest), 338, 393, 443.
—Private Members Bill, on Second Reading, 476 (prerogative only), 478 (prerogative only).
—Private Bill, on Third Reading, 270.

Her Majesty, being informed of the purport of a Church of England Measure, has consented to place her prerogative and interest, so far as it is concerned on behalf of the Crown and the Duchy of Lancaster, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Measure, 396.

III. ROYAL ABSENT GIVEN:

To Acts:
—by notification, 60, 151, 238, 348, 409, 450, 488.
—by Lords Commissioners authorised by virtue of Her Majesty’s Commission, 576.

To an Act, under provisions of Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949, 76.

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS: Resolution, 519.

RAILTRACK (WATERLEY STATION) ORDER: Report by the Chairman and the Chairman of Ways and Means under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, That Provisional Order should be allowed to proceed, &c., 219.

RAILWAYS BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 423, Motion Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; read a second time; referred to Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee, with Instruction that the Committee shall consider the provisions of the Bill and report thereon by specified date, 455.

RATING (VALUATION) BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 10. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 63. A, 74, Reported, without Amendment, 81. Not amended, considered; Motion for Third Reading; Queen’s Consent signified; read the third time, and passed, 146. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 342. (Cited as Rating (Valuation) Act 1999) Royal Assent, 348.

Money Resolution, 63. Ways and Means Resolution, 63.


Draft Railways (Rateable Values) (Amendment) Order 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 166. Reported, 206, Approved, 211.

RECORD COPIES OF ACTS: Question negatived, 536.

RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE BILL: Presented and read the first time, 284.

RECYCLED CONTENT OF NEWSPRINT BILL: Presented and read the first time, 238.

REFERENDUM (ENGLISH PARLIAMENT) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 316.

REFERENDUMS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 69. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 220. C, 239. Reported, with Amendments, 319. As amended, considered; Question, That a new Clause be read a second time, not decided (fewer than forty Members having taken part in the Division); business under consideration consequently stood over until next sitting of the House, 340.

Money Resolution, 300.

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES ACT 1998: Speaker appoints Member to Advisory Committee on the Registration of Political Parties, established under section 10 of the Act (in place of another Member), 442.

REGULATING OF OPERATING DEPARTMENT PRACTITIONERS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 405.

REGULATIONS ON SMALL BUSINESSES (REDUCTION) BILL: Ordered, Presented and read the first time, 284.


RESOLUTIONS:

[For Resolutions for Addresses, see ADDRESSES; for Estimates Resolutions, see ESTIMATES; for Resolutions relating to European Community/Union Documents, see EUROPEAN COMMUNITY/UNION DOCUMENTS; for Resolutions relating to Business, Sittings and Adjournment of the House, see HOUSE]; for Resolutions relating to Members’ pensions, salaries, &c., see MEMBERS; for Resolutions come to on Opposition days, see OPPOSITION; for Resolutions relating to Statutory Instruments, &c., see STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS, &c.; for Ways and Means Resolutions, see WAYS AND MEANS.]

I. QUESTIONS AGREED TO:

Data Protection (Question put forthwith, pursuant to Order), 489.
European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, Section 5 (Question put forthwith, pursuant to Order), 333.
Line of Route (original Question amended), 349.
Modernisation of the House of Commons (Questions put at specified hour, pursuant to Order), 55, 342.
Office Costs Etc. Allowances (No. 2), 221.
Opposition Parties (Financial Assistance), 350.
Procedural Consequences of Devolution, 516.
RESOLUTIONS I—continued

Police Numbers, Asylum Seekers, Immigration Control and the Government’s Handling of Revelations Relating to Cold War Spies (Original Question amended), 524.

Public Accounts (Private Member’s Resolution debated in Government time), 76.

Questions to Ministers, 519.

Section 155 of the Finance Act 1998, 36.

Standards and Privileges, 433, 516.

State of the National Health Service (Original Question amended), 524.

Travel by Members to National Parliaments and European Union Institutions (Original Question amended), 349.

II. QUESTIONS NEGATIVED:

Record Copies of Acts, 536.

III. QUESTIONS SUPERSeded:

Newark Writ, 243.

IV. RESOLUTIONS RESCINDED:

Travel by Members to European Community Institutions [6th December 1991], 349.

V. MONEY RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolutions authorising expenditure in connection with Government Bills, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

Access to Justice Bill [Lords], 262.*

Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill [Lords], 342.*

Disability Rights Commission Bill [Lords], 279.*

Employment Relations Bill, 117.*

European Parliamentary Elections Bill, 22.*

Finance Bill, 204, 417.

Food Standards Bill, 387.*

Financial Services and Markets Bill, 403.*

Greater London Authority Bill, 51.* (No. 2), 550.

Health Bill [Lords], 256.*

Immigration and Asylum Bill, 137.*

Local Government Bill, 67.* (No. 2), 228.

Northern Ireland, 439.*

Northern Ireland (Location of Victims’ Remains) Bill, 310.*

Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords], 357.*

Rating (Valuation) Bill, 63.*

Road Traffic (NHS Charges) Bill, 32.*

Scottish Enterprise Bill, 88.*

Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions etc.) Bill [Lords], 113.*

Tax Credits Bill, 91.* (No.2), 210.

Water Industry Bill, 29.*

Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, 141.* (No.2), 262.

Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill [Lords], 265.*

* Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills).

2. Resolutions authorising expenditure in connection with Private Members’ Bills, Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified:

Football (Offences and Disorder) Bill, 292.

Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill, 224.

Protection of Children Bill, 174.

Referendums Bill, 300.

Road Traffic (Vehicle Testing) Bill, 224.

VI. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTIONS:

Resolutions in connection with the Budget, 177, 192–204.

Resolutions in connection with Bills, 51, &c.

[See WAYS AND MEANS.]

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS:

Questions put forthwith under Standing Order (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), 22, &c.

ROAD TRAFFIC (ENFORCEMENT POWERS) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 452. Read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 454.

ROAD TRAFFIC (NHS CHARGES) BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 454.

ROAD TRAFFIC (REORGANISATION OF THAMES VALLEY POLICE) BILL: Read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 54.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1999, ALLOCATED TO SEVENTH STANDING COMMITTEE ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION, 264. REPORTED, 274. APPROVED, 280.

ROAD TRAFFIC (VEHICLE TESTING) BILL: Read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 45.
ROAD TRAFFIC (USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES) BILL: Brought from the Lords, 464.


Money Resolution, 224.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION (CYCLE PARKING) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 330. Read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 342.

ROYAL PARKS (TRADING) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 365.

RURAL TRANSPORT BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 328.

SAFETY AT SEA BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 374.

SCHOOL STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK: Draft Code of Practice on School Admissions, allocated to Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 278.

SCOTTISH ADJACENT WATERS BOUNDARIES (AMENDMENT) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 458.

SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE 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; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 20. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 87. First Scottish, 96. Reported, without Amendment, 107. Not amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 156. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 279. (Cited as Scottish Enterprise Act 1999) Royal Assent, 348.

Certified by the Speaker as, in her opinion, relating exclusively to Scotland, 46. Money Resolution, 88.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, 283.

SEA FISHERIES (SHELLFISH) (AMENDMENT) BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords, and read the first time, 144.


SERGEANT AT ARMS:
To communicate Sessional Order to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, &c., 2.
Speaker informs House that she has received a letter from Mr Peter Jennings, CVO, Sergeant at Arms, intimating his wish to retire, 423.

SEX EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 298.

SEXUAL OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 55. Read a second time, and committed in part to a Committee of the whole House and in part to a Standing Committee, 89. Allocated (except specified Clause), E. 97. Specified Clause considered in Committee; reported, without Amendment, 120. Bill (except specified Clause) reported from Standing Committee E, with Amendments, 124. Not amended in Committee, and as amended in the Standing Committee, considered; read the third time, and passed, 156. 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 shall be proceeded with as if the Bill had been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee, 89.

SEXUAL OFFENCES (ANONYMITY OF DEFENDANTS) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 245.

SOCIAL SECURITY: Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 1998, referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 47. Sixth, 59. Reported, 69.
Draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating (No.2) Order 1999, approved, 98.
SPEAKER III—continued

Reports from the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, 63, &c.
Certificates of declaration relating to suspended or revived Lords Private Bills, 14, 26.

IV. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:
Nominates Chairmen’s Panel, 9, 12, 388.
Appoints Chairmen of Standing Committees, 8, &c. [See COMMITTEES, STANDING X.1]
Nominates Business Sub-Committee, 83. [See COMMITTEES, STANDING, X.5]
Appoints a Member for duration of Parliament to Advisory Committee on the Registration of Political Parties (in place of another Member), 442.

V. CERTIFICATES AND ALLOCATIONS:
Makes allocations to Standing Committees:
—Bills, 39, &c.
—Delegated Legislation, 8, &c.
Certifies Bills, as in her opinion, relating exclusively to Scotland, 46, &c. [See BILLS, PUBLIC XIII]
Certifies Bills as Money Bills under Parliament Act 1911, 60, 231, 428, 447. [See BILLS, PUBLIC XII]
Certifies a Bill under provisions of Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949, as to compliance with the provisions of the said Acts, 76. [See BILLS, PUBLIC, XVII]

VI. PUTS QUESTIONS FORTHWITH:
1. Pursuant to Standing Orders:
(Amendment on second or third reading), 32, &c.
(Calling of amendments at end of debate), 17.
Committal of Bills:
—That a Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House, 105, &c.
—That a Bill be committed to a Special Standing Committee, 136.
(Consideration of draft deregulation orders), 82, &c.
(Consolidated Fund Bills):
—Question for second and third reading, 52, 223, 457.
(Exempted business):
—Questions put at Ten o’clock, 120, &c.
(European Standing Committees), 17, &c.
(House not to sit on certain Fridays), 11.
(Liaison Committee), 27.
(Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), 29, &c.
(Northern Ireland Grand Committee), 23.
SPEAKER VI.—continued

(Periodic adjournments), 33, &c.
(Questions on amendments), 35, &c.
(Second Reading Committees):
---Second Reading of Bill, 370, 418.
(Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation):
---Question, That instrument be approved, 29, &c.
(Ways and Means Motions), 192, &c.

2. Pursuant to Orders:

Financial documents treated as if they were instruments subject to the provisions of Standing Order (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), 333.
Motion treated as if it related to an instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), 489.

VII. PUTS QUESTIONS AT SPECIFIED TIMES OR AFTER SPECIFIED PERIODS:

1. Pursuant to Standing Orders:

(Committal of bills), after brief explanatory statements, 271.
(Consideration of estimates):
---deferred Questions, at Ten o’clock, 43, 434.
(Questions on voting of estimates, &c.):
---at Ten o’clock, 44, 434.
---after Seven o’clock (pursuant to Sessional Order), 217.
(Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills):
---after three-quarters of an hour, 262, 417.
(Motions for leave to bring in Bills and nomination of Select Committees at commencement of public business):
---after brief explanatory statements, 91, &c.

2. Pursuant to Business of the House Orders:

On Motions for approval of Delegated Legislation:
---at Seven o’clock (several Questions successively), 111.
---after three hours, 387.
On Motions for approval of European Union Documents:
---at Ten o’clock, 52.
On Motions relating to Modernisation of the House of Commons:
---after three hours, 343.
---after four hours, 55.

3. Pursuant to Allocation of Time and Programme Orders:

[See Bills, Public XV.]

VIII. OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPEAKER:

Directs that Queen’s Speech be entered in the Journal, 2.

SPEAKER VIII.—continued

Adjoins House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, 11, &c.
Resumes Chair on conclusion of proceedings in Committee of the whole House, 23, &c.
Interrupts proceedings at Eleven o’clock on a Friday, 154, &c. [See PROCEEDINGS OR BUSINESS.]
Declares Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to, pursuant to Standing Order (Questions on amendments), 35, &c.
Appoints certain Wednesdays for debates on Select Committee Reports chosen by Liaison Committee, 31, 100.
Declines to propose Question, pursuant to Standing Order (Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House), 241.
Orders, That Speaker shall not adjourn House until she shall have notified Royal Assent, 33, &c.
--- Order amended, 341.
Interrupts debates on Estimates, 43, 443.
Suspends sitting, pursuant to Order, 537.
Declares that, it appearing on the report of a Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Question was not decided in the Affirmative, 269.
Declares that, it appearing on the report of a Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part, the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next sitting of the House, 340.
Declares that (in a Division) the Ayes had it, there being no Tellers for the Noes, 433, &c.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS:

Members appointed whom the Speaker is to consult, if practicable, before certifying a Bill to be a Money Bill, 20.
Orders, That the Speaker do issue her Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out new writs for the electing of Members, 330, 409.
Speaker given leave of absence on specified day (to attend opening of Scottish Parliament), 396. Speaker absent, pursuant to leave given, 413.

SPECIAL PROCEDURE ORDERS:

Order laid, 311.*
Report by Lord Chairman and Chairman of Ways and Means that they have certified petitions as Petitions of General Objection against Order, 384.*
*City of Stoke-on-Trent Tunstall Northern By-pass Local Government Act Compulsory Purchase Order 1997.

STANDARDS AND PRIVILEGES: Resolutions, 433, 516.

STANDING ORDERS AND SESSIONAL ORDERS:

I. STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS:

1. Standing Orders amended:

(Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee)), 519.
STANDING ORDERS AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—continued

(Select committees related to government departments), 519.
(Attendance of law officers and ministers in standing committees), 520.
(Committee on Standards and Privileges), 520.

2. Miscellaneous:

Standing Orders, as amended, to be printed, 60.

II. SESSIONAL ORDERS RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS:

Orders, that with effect from a specified date until the end of the present Session of Parliament, the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to modifications relating to:

—Thursday sittings, 55.
—Meetings of Standing Committees, 56.
—Select Committees related to government Departments, 352.

Orders, that in the next Session of Parliament the Standing Orders and practice of the House shall have effect subject to modifications relating to:

—Sittings in Westminster Hall, 343.
—Thursday sittings, 518.
—Meetings of Standing Committees, 519.

STATE OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE: Resolution, 524.

STREETWORKS BILL: Presented and read the first time, 70.


SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AGENCY BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 349.

TAX CREDITS BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 42. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 91. D. 96. Reported, with Amendments, 124. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, 210. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 356. Lords Amendments considered, some disagreed to; Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, 391. Reasons reported and agreed to, 391. Lords do not insist on Amendments disagreed to, 403. (Cited as Tax Credits Act 1999) Royal Assent, 410. Programme Order, 389. Money Resolution, 91. (No. 2), 210.

TAXES: Draft Tax Credits (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999, allocated to Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 530. Reported, 542. Approved, 558.


TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT—continued


Draft Unfair Dismissal and Statement of Reasons for Dismissal (Variation of Qualifying Period) Order 1999, allocated to Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 305. Reported, 319. Approved, 333.


TRAFFIC REDUCTION (AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 383.

TRANSPORT OF FARM ANIMALS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 116.

TRANSPORT SALARIED STAFFS’ ASSOCIATION (AMENDMENT OF RULES) BILL (Changed from Transport Salaried Staff’s Association (Amendment of Rules) etc. Bill): To originate in the Commons, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Read the first time, 89. Read a second time and referred to the Examiners, 104. Examiners’ Report, Standing Orders not previously inquired into complied with; Bill committed, 370. Reported from Committee on Unopposed Bills, with Amendments and Title and Preamble amended, 420. As amended, considered, 458. Read the third time, and passed, 481. Lords message communicating Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 532. Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 535

TRANSPORT SALARIED STAFFS’ ASSOCIATION (AMENDMENT OF RULES) ETC. BILL: See Transport Salaried Staffs’ Association (Amendment of Rules) Bill.

TRAVEL BY MEMBERS TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS: Resolution of 6th December 1991 rescinded, 349.

TRAVEL BY MEMBERS TO NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY AND EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS: Resolution, 349.
VALUE ADDED TAX—continued


Value Added Tax (Sport, Sports Competitions and Physical Education) Order 1999, allocated to First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 514. Reported, 523. Approved, 536.


VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS:

Sessional Order for printing, 2.

The Stationery Office Limited licensed to print, 10.

WAITING TIMES (NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE) BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 346.

WARM HOMES AND ENERGY CONSERVATION (FIFTEEN YEAR PROGRAMME) BILL: Presented and read the first time, 488.

WATER INDUSTRY BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 6. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 29. A, 39. Reported, without Amendment, 76. Not amended, considered; Motion for Third Reading; Queen’s Consent and Prince of Wales’s Consent signified; read the third time, and passed, 121. Agreed to by the Lords, without Amendment, 399. (Cited as Water Industry Act 1999) Royal Assent, 410.

Money Resolution, 29.

WAYS AND MEANS:

I. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Question put forthwith, pursuant to S.O. and agreed to</th>
<th>Other proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sparkling cider (rate of duty)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil duties (rates and rebates)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocarbon oil duties (drawback)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRUSTEE DELEGATION BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read for the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed; stood committed to a Second Reading Committee, pursuant to Standing Order (Law Commission Bills), 177. Report recommending Second Reading, 209. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee. 370. F, 382. Reported, without Amendment, 389. Not amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, without Amendment, 444. (Cited as Trustee Delegation Act 1999) Royal Assent, 450.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH BILL [Lords]: To originate in the Lords, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Brought from the Lords, read the first time, and referred to the Examiners, 516. Examiners’ Report, no Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable, 533. Orders (to be Standing Orders) relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 550. Lords Message communicating Resolutions relating to suspension of proceedings, &c., 553.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON BILL: To originate in the Commons, 41. Examiners’ Report, in case of Petition for Bill, Standing Orders complied with, 63. Read the first time, 89. Read a second time, and referred to the Examiners, 104. Examiners’ Report, Standing Orders not previously inquired into complied with; Bill committed, 151. Reported from Committee on Unopposed Bills, with Amendments and Preamble amended, 206. As amended, considered, 227. Read the third time, and passed, 245. Agreed to by the Lords, without amendment, 387. (Cited as University College London Act 1999) Royal Assent, 410.

USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN FARM ANIMALS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 159.


Value Added Tax (Finance) Order 1999, allocated to Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 214. Reported, 238. Approved, 251.

## WAYS AND MEANS 1.1—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>Tobacco products duty (rates)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool Betting duty (rate)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>193</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle excise duty (increase in general rate)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>194</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle excise duty (splitting of general rate)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>194</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle excise duty (rates for goods vehicles etc.)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>194</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawback of excise duty on goods shipped as stores etc</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (gold)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (bad debt relief: assignment)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (bad debt relief: regulations)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>197</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (groups of companies)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>197</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (repayment supplement)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>197</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (meaning of “business”)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>197</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax (starting rate)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>198</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax (charge and rates for 1999–2000)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax (personal allowances for those aged 65 or more)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>198</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax operative date of indexation for PAYE</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>198</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rates of capital gains tax</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>199</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax (charge and rate for financial year 2000)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>199</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief for interest payments (limit for 1999–2000)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on loans for life annuities (withdrawal of relief)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>199</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cars available for private use</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax treatment of reverse premiums etc.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational training relief</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlements</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise investment scheme</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture capital trusts</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court common investment funds</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted securities etc.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (value shifting)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains (concessions that defer a charge)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension sharing</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased life annuities</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra-statutory arrangements for insurance groups</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd’s</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance pricing agreements</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### INDEX to the Two Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Volume [1998–99]

<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>Controlled foreign companies</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group relief (consequential provision)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inheritance tax (gifts)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamp duty (conveyances and transfers on sale)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring fence profits</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum revenue tax (allowable expenditure)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum revenue tax (assessments)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landfill tax</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance premium tax (standard rate)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>Agreed to on Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief from tax (incidental and consequential charges)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Allowances (first year allowances)</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil taxation (anti-avoidance)</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chargeable gains: absolute entitlement to settled property</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods for sale on board ships or aircraft</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Works of art, antiques, etc.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>417</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value added tax (preparations etc. of meat, yeast or egg)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>417</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted securities etc.</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Resolutions relating to other Bills:

Access to Justice Bill [Lords], 391.
Financial Services and Markets, 403.*
Food Standards, 434.
Greater London Authority Bill, 51.* (No. 2), 551.
Health Bill [Lords], 257.*
Pollution Prevention and Control Bill [Lords], 357.*
Rating (Valuation) Bill, 63.*
Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc) Bill [Lords], 113.*
Welfare Reform and Pensions Bill, 141.*
*Question put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order.

II. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Resolutions under Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968:
   — having provisional statutory effect, 177.
   — having statutory effect, 192, &c.

2. Procedure Resolutions:
   — Procedure (VAT Liabilities of Government Departments), 203.
   — Procedure (Future Taxation), 203.

3. Bill ordered:

Upon Ways and Means Resolutions and upon Resolution relating to Procedures (Future Taxation), 204.

WELFARE reform and PENSIONS BILL: Presented and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 119. Motion for Second Reading; Reasoned Amendment negatived; read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 141. D, 147. Reported, with Amendments, 284. As amended, considered; further consideration ordered to be adjourned, 326. Again considered [allotted day]; Motion for Third Reading; Queen’s Consent signified; read the third time, and passed, 338. Agreed to by the Lords, with Amendments, 532. Lords Amendments considered; some agreed to (some with special entries); others disagreed to; others disagreed to and Amendments made in lieu; others disagreed to and Amendments made to the words restored to the Bill;
WELFARE REFORM AND PENSIONS BILL—continued

Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, 544. Reasons reported and agreed to, 547. Lords do not insist on certain of their Amendments and agree to Commons Amendments in lieu; do not insist on another Amendment but propose an Amendment in lieu; do not insist on remaining Amendments to which Commons have disagreed; agree to certain Commons Amendments to words restored to the Bill; disagree to another Commons Amendment, with Amendments to words restored to the Bill, 554. Lords Amendment in lieu of Lords Amendment disagreed to; Commons insist on Amendment and disagree to Lords Amendment in lieu; and Lords Amendments to Commons Amendments to words restored to the Bill disagreed to, 563. Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, 564. Reasons reported and agreed to, 566. Lords do not insist on their Amendments to which Commons have disagreed; and agree to remaining Commons Amendment to words restored to the Bill, 570. (Cited as Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999) Royal Assent, 576.

Allocation of Time Order, 336. (Supplemental), 542.

Money Resolution, 141. (No. 2), 262.

Ways and Means Resolution, 141.

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE (AMENDMENT) BILL:
Presented and read the first time, 233.

WITNESSES:
Sessional Resolution relating to tampering with witnesses, 1.
Sessional Resolution relating to false evidence, 1.

WORK WITH ASBESTOS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 464.

XENOTRANSPLANTATION BILL: Presented and read the first time, 163.

YOUTH JUSTICE AND CRIMINAL EVIDENCE BILL [Lords]: Brought from the Lords and read the first time; Explanatory Notes ordered to be printed, 232. Read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee, 265. B, 283. Transferred to E, 334. Reported, with Amendments and amended long title, 405. As amended, considered; read the third time, and passed, with Amendments, 430. To which the Lords agree, 481. (Cited as Youth Justice and Criminal Justice Act 1999) Royal Assent, 488.

Programme Order, 428.
Money Resolution, 265.