

MR PRESIDENT: Honourable Members several of our Members have not yet arrived. I propose to await their arrival before I read the Prayer.

MR PRESIDENT: We haven't had the Prayer yet

MR BUFFETT: What does that mean? Are we in Session or are we not in Session?

MR PRESIDENT: There is an order which Standing Orders requires to follow. The first matter that I am required to deal with under the Standing Orders is the Prayer. As I said when I walked in I am awaiting the arrival of Members before I read the Prayer

MR BUFFETT: Then if that be the case what you have tabled at this moment is out of Session?

MR PRESIDENT: The meeting has commenced. As a matter of convenience I have tabled them. I am happy to table them again later if that gives you pleasure

MR BATES: Mr President before we do turn our attention to the serious business ahead I would appreciate a slight indulgence. We do have in our Gallery Mr Max Sheckleton who with his wife Hilary runs a travel agency Centre Voyage in Noumea. I am sure Max is known to some or all of you and is responsible for selling Norfolk to many of our welcome visitors from New Caledonia. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming Max to the Chamber this morning

MR PRESIDENT: I certainly welcome Max. It's nice to see you in Norfolk Island again. Members have still not arrived and I hereby adjourn the House until Wednesday the 26th August 1992 at 10.00 am. I've done so because I have waited for five minutes for the arrival of Mr Robinson and Mr Sanders and I am not satisfied that they will arrive within a reasonable time. I've formed a view that three persons presently in the Chamber have as a matter of law vacated their offices as Members as a result of their employment in the Public Service. Accordingly it is my view that a quorum is not present and I am obliged by Standing Order 35 to take the action which I have taken. I propose to now seek a Declaration from the Supreme Court of Norfolk Island as to the position of the three persons to whom I referred and I hope this could be at hand by the 26th August. If it is received earlier then it will be possible to attempt to meet again prior to the 26th August.

MR BUFFETT: I move a motion of dissent in respect of your...

MR PRESIDENT: The meeting is adjourned Mr Buffett

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