

DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE
PAPER NO. 2188
DATE 20/10/1963
PRESENTED BY *R. J. Fisher*
R. J. Fisher
Clerk of the Senate

1962 - 63.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

R E P O R T

from the

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE

on

PARLIAMENTARY AND GOVERNMENT

PUBLICATIONS

(being a Report that the Committee have been unable to
complete their Inquiry)

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Personnel of the Committee.

G.D. Erwin, Esq., M.P., Chairman

F.E. Stewart, Esq., M.P., Vice-Chairman

Senator M.F. Breen, O.B.E.

Senator J.E. Marriott

Senator L.K. Murphy, Q.C.

Senator J.P. Toohey

L.R. Johnson, Esq., M.P.

R.S. King, Esq., M.P.

K.C. Wilson, Esq., M.P.

Report from the Joint Select Committee
on Parliamentary and Government
Publications.

1. On the 5th December, 1962, your Committee was appointed, by resolution of both Houses of the Parliament, to inquire into and to report on the printing, publication and distribution of Parliamentary Papers and all Government publications. The terms of the motion appointing the Committee required it to report by the 30th September, 1963.
2. On the 12th September, 1963, both Houses resolved, at the request of your Committee, that the time for bringing up the Committee's report be extended until the 30th November, 1963.
3. Your Committee has held 21 public meetings - in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney - at which it has heard evidence from 54 witnesses representing parliamentary and government departments, the Government Printing Office, statutory authorities, libraries, law booksellers, employers in the commercial printing trade and others. In addition, your Committee has had the benefit of receiving many thoughtful written submissions from State and parliamentary librarians, universities and private persons.
4. The terms of reference of your Committee are broad in their scope and, of necessity, the Committee's inquiry has ranged over a large and quite diverse number of matters connected with the Commonwealth's publications.
5. In view of the impending dissolution of the House of Representatives prior to the 30th November, your Committee finds that it is unable to complete its report. It recommends, therefore, that the Committee be reconstituted in the new Parliament with power to consider and make use of the records of your present Committee in order to conclude and to report on the work done during the present Session.

J. Green
for