

1953.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 12.

TUESDAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 1953.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable A. G. Cameron) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. URANIUM IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Beale (Minister for Supply), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the conditions covering the prospecting for and mining of uranium-bearing ores in the Northern Territory.
3. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—War Gratuity Act—Report of the Central War Gratuity Board on the administration of the Act. Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Australian Imperial Force Canteens Funds Act—Annual Report by the Trustees for year 1952-53.
Commonwealth Railways Act—Annual Report for year 1952-53.
Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
Defence Production—V. B. Mursell.
Repatriation—R. S. Flynn.
Public Service Arbitration Act—Determinations—1953—
No. 78—Commonwealth Telegraph Traffic and Supervisory Officers' Association.
No. 79—Hospital Employees' Federation of Australasia.
4. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Bland (Chairman) brought up the following Report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:—
Ninth Report—"Stephan" Pre-fabricated Buildings; together with Treasury Minutes on the First and Third Reports of the Committee; and Statement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Members of the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
5. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY.—WAR SERVICE HOMES.—Mr. Pollard having proposed to Mr. Speaker that a definite matter of urgent public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The administration of the War Service Homes Division and the failure of the Government to provide the Division with sufficient finance to meet the home requirements of eligible approved applicants for homes"—
Mr. Speaker called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
Mr. Pollard addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Several Members rising to address the House—
Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the Business of the Day be called on.
Question—put.
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. A. G. Cameron, in the Chair)—

AYES, 51.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Downer	Mr. Eric J. Harrison	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Luck	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Holt	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bland	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wight
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brown	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Kekwick	Mr. Opperman	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Corser	Mr. Francis	Mr. Kent Hughes	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Davis	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Dean	Mr. Grayden		Mr. Timson	Mr. Gullett

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NOES, 40.

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Costa	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Andrews	Mr. Crean	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Mullens	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bird	Mr. Creamean	Mr. Galvin	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Davies	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Pollard	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Daly
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Keon	Mr. Russell	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Stewart	
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Ewert	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Thompson	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

6. DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Clause 1—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1953.—
Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General:—

W. J. SLIM,

Governor-General.

Message No. 4.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1948-1952*.

Canberra, 18th November, 1953.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. Francis (Minister for the Army) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1948-1952*.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Francis, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

8. DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Francis (Minister for the Army), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9. NEW GUINEA TIMBER AGREEMENT BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.

Question—put.

The House divided (The Deputy Speaker; Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 48.

Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. Grayden	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Timson
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Eric J. Harrison	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Brimblecombe	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Holt	Mr. Luck	Mr. Turner
Mr. Brown	Mr. Failes	Mr. Howse	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Wight
Mr. Corser	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Jack	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Joske	Mr. McLeay	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Davis	Mr. Francis	Mr. Kekwick	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Dean	Mr. Graham		Sir E. Page	Mr. Gullett

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NOES, 39.

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Ewert	Mr. Keon	Mr. Russell
Mr. Andrews	Mr. Costa	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Bird	Mr. Crean	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Thompson
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Cremean	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Galvin	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Davies	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Daly
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Hasluck (Minister for Territories), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 16) the Bill was read a third time.

10. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed until after Orders of the Day Nos. 4 to 7, Government Business.

11. COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Kent Hughes (Minister for the Interior), the House adopted the Report.

Mr. Kent Hughes moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a third time.

12. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA (VALIDATION OF APPOINTMENTS) BILL 1953.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 5.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to remove Doubts as to the Validity of the Appointments of the Chief Judge and other Judges of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea and of certain Officers of the Public Service of that Territory* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 1st December, 1953.

Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

13. NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Holt (Minister for Immigration), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14. ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE VETERANS' RESIDENCES BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

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Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. McMahon (Minister for Air), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15. WOOL STORES BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

16. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WOOL STORES BILL 1953.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General :—

W. J. SLIM,

Governor-General.

Message No. 5.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to certain Wool Stores.

Canberra, 1st December, 1953.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Sir Earle Page (Minister for Health) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to certain Wool Stores.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Earle Page, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

17. WOOL STORES BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 to 6 agreed to.

Clause 7 debated—

Mr. Keon addressing the Committee and having been repeatedly called to order for irrelevance, the Chairman directed the honorable Member to discontinue his speech.

Mr. Daly moved, That the honorable Member be further heard.

Question—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 33.

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Costa	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Andrews	Mr. Crean	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Creamean	Mr. Fuller	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Ward
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Peters	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Daly
Mr. Clark	Mr. Ewert	Mr. Keon	Mr. Russell	Mr. Sheehan

NOES, 53.

Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. Eric J. Harrison	Mr. Luck	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bland	Mr. Drury	Mr. Holt	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bostock	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Brown	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Mr. Opperman	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Kekwick	Mr. Osborne	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Corser	Mr. Francis	Mr. Kent Hughes	Sir E. Page	Mr. Gullett
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	
Mr. Davis	Mr. Grayden	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Timson	
Mr. Dean			Mr. Townley	

And so it was negatived.

Clause further debated and agreed to.

Clause 8 debated and agreed to.

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Clause 9 agreed to.
 Clause 10 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 11 to 15 agreed to.
 Schedule agreed to.
 Preamble agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Sir Earle Page (Minister for Health), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

18. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Duthie rising to address the House—

Closure.—Mr. Eric J. Harrison moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. A. G. Cameron, in the Chair)—

AYES, 48.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Eric J. Harrison	Mr. Luck	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bostock	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McColm	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McLeay	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Mr. McMahon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Corser	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Kekwick	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Francis	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Davis	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Timson	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Dean	Mr. Grayden	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Townley	
Mr. Downer	Mr. Gullett		Mr. Turnbull	

NOES, 37.

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Clark	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Andrews	Mr. Costa	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bird	Mr. Crean	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Mullens	Mr. Watkins
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Cremean	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Ewert	Mr. Keon	Mr. Russell	Mr. Daly
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the House do now adjourn—was put accordingly, and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-two minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Anthony, Mr. Beazley, Mr. Berry, Mr. Bruce, Mr. T. P. Burke, Mr. Casey, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Freeth, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. E. James Harrison, Mr. Haworth, Mr. Haylen, Mr. James, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lawson, Sir Philip McBride, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Pearce, Mr. Swartz, Mr. Wentworth and Mr. Whitlam.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.