

1956.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 28.

WEDNESDAY, 9TH MAY, 1956.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Adermann) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Superannuation Act—Superannuation Board—Thirty-second Annual Report, for year 1953–54.
3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved,
That leave of absence for one month be given to the Speaker (Mr. A. G. Cameron), on the ground of ill health.
Question—put and passed.
4. BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION BILL 1956.—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—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Evatt, viz. :—*That all words after “ That ” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—“ owing to the fact that all existing television licences in two States have been granted by the Government to corporations constituting in effect combines of newspaper, radio broadcasting and associated interests which already monopolize to a large extent mass communication of information to the people of Australia, and owing to the danger to the public interest and true freedom of expression being caused by newspaper concerns further extending their control over mass communication including radio broadcasting and television—the Bill should be withdrawn and redrafted so as to include—
 - (A) specific safeguards against detrimental monopoly practices by guaranteeing to the general public and to religious, educational, cultural, political and social organizations opportunities for a fair and just share of ownership or control of broadcasting and television licences and a fair and just use of the facilities of such services;
 - (B) specific provisions to effect the following purposes:—
 - (1) to re-establish and assure the regular functioning of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Broadcasting and Television as guardian of the public interest in those two vital fields;
 - (2) to assure the broadcasting or televising, free of charge, of religious services or subjects on an equitable basis both by the Commission and Commercial Licensees;
 - (3) to ensure that facilities are provided, free of charge, on an equitable and impartial basis for the broadcasting and televising of matters of political or industrial controversy or relating to current policies of national importance;
 - (4) to provide adequate safeguards against the flooding of Australian television programmes with low-grade syndicated overseas productions to the practical exclusion of productions by Australians and for this purpose to guarantee that no less than an average of 55 per cent. of the transmission time of any television station shall be occupied by Australian programmes and that in the calculation of this time no account shall be taken of the time occupied by news and sporting events;
 - (5) to secure that no less than an average of 7½ per cent. of the transmission time of any station broadcasting musical items shall be devoted to the broadcasting of works by Australian composers; and that in the calculation of this time no account shall be taken of the time occupied by news and sporting events;

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- (6) to provide for the inclusion of a representative of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General's Department in the personnel of the Australian Broadcasting Commission and to assure that that Commission shall include a resident of each State ;
- (7) to restrict the initial granting of broadcasting and television licences to three years ; and
- (8) to protect sporting bodies and sport organizations against their fixtures being televised or broadcast without their consent or without fair and adequate remuneration"—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Whitlam addressing the House—

Closure—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 56.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davis	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Dean	Mr. Graham	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Aston	Mr. Downer	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hasluck	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Buchanan	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	
Mr. Casey	Mr. Failes	Mr. Howson	Mr. McMahon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Chaney	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Fox	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden	

NOES, 38.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Haylen	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. James	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Duthie
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Stewart

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 57.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davis	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Dean	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Aston	Mr. Downer	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. H. E. Holt	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Buchanan	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Casey	Mr. Failes	Mr. Howson	Mr. McLeay	
Mr. Chaney	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 38.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Haylen	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. James	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Duthie
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Stewart

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put.

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

AYES, 57.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davis	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Dean	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Aston	Mr. Downer	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. H. E. Holt	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Buchanan	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Casey	Mr. Failes	Mr. Howson	Mr. McLeay	
Mr. Chaney	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull

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NOES, 33.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Haylen	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. James	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Duthie
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Stewart

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.)

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.

5. DECLARATION OF BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION BILL 1956 AS URGENT BILL—LIMITATION OF DEBATE.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) declared that the Broadcasting and Television Bill 1956 was an Urgent Bill—

Question—That the Bill be considered an Urgent Bill—put and passed.

Allotment of Time.—Sir Eric Harrison then moved, That the time allotted in connexion with the Bill be as follows:—

(a) For the Committee stage—

- (i) to the end of clause 6, until 10 p.m. this day.
- (ii) to the end of clause 40, until 12 noon, Thursday, 10th May.
- (iii) to the end of clause 49, until 9.30 p.m., Thursday, 10th May.
- (iv) remainder of Committee stage, until 10.30 p.m., Thursday, 10th May.

(b) For the remaining stages, until 11 p.m., Thursday, 10th May.

Debate ensued.

The time allowed by Standing Order No. 92 for the discussion of the motion having expired—

Question—put.

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

AYES, 53.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Snedden
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Davis	Mr. Fox	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Aston	Mr. Dean	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howson	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Casey	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Chaney	Mr. Failes	Mr. Joske	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 36.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Costa	Mr. James	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bird	Mr. Coutts	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Crean	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Pollard	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Clark	Mr. Haylen	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

6. BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION BILL 1956.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

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

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 to 6, by leave, taken together—

Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) moved the following amendment:—Clause 6, page 3, at the end of proposed section 4, add the following sub-section:—

“(3.) The provisions of this Act conferring powers, functions or duties on the Minister or the Board shall be construed as requiring those authorities to exercise or perform those powers, functions or duties so as to afford to the general public and to religious, educational, cultural, political and social organizations opportunities for a fair and just share of ownership or control of licences and also a fair and just use of the facilities resulting from the holding of licences.”.

Debate ensued.

Limitation of Debate.—At ten o'clock p.m., the Temporary Chairman (Mr. Bowden) having called the attention of the Committee to the fact that the time allotted for the Committee stage to the end of clause 6 had expired—

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put,

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

AYES, 35.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Haylen	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Russell	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Makin	Mr. Ward	Mr. Luchetti
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Galvin	Mr. McIvor		

NOES, 47.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Fox	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Townley
Mr. Aston	Mr. Dean	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. Howson	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Jack	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Drury	Mr. Joske	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Casey	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Pearce	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Chaney	Mr. Failes	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	
Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz	Mr. Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

Further question—That clauses 1 to 6 be agreed to—put.

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

AYES, 47.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davis	Mr. Graham	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Dean	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Townley
Mr. Aston	Mr. Downer	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Howson	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Drury	Mr. Jack	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Casey	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Joske	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Chaney	Mr. Failes	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Pearce	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 35.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Russell	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Duthie
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Galvin	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward	Mr. Luchetti
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Minogue		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clauses 7 to 40, by leave, taken together—

Mr. Evatt moved, That clause 14 be omitted, and the following clause be inserted in place thereof:—

“ 14. Section eight of the Principal Act is amended by omitting sub-section (1.) Composition of Commission.
and inserting in its stead the following sub-section:—
(1.) The Commission shall consist of nine members, at least one of whom shall be a woman and who shall include a resident of each State.’”

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Anthony, Mr. Bland, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Brand, Mr. Brimblecombe, Mr. A. G. Cameron*, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Daly*, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. J. M. Fraser, Mr. E. James Harrison, Mr. Haworth*, Mr. Hulme, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McColm, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Riordan, Mr. Webb and Mr. Wight.

* On leave.

A. A. TREGGAR,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.