

1957.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 9.

THURSDAY, 4TH APRIL, 1957.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Meat Export Control Act—Australian Meat Board—Twenty-first Annual Report, for year 1955–56, together with Statement by Minister regarding the operation of the Act.
Superannuation Act—Superannuation Board—Thirty-third Annual Report, for year 1954–55.
3. PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Address in Reply would be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General at Government House at fifteen minutes past five o'clock p.m. on Wednesday next.
Mr. Speaker said he would be glad if the mover and seconder, together with other honorable Members, would accompany him to present the Address.
4. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY—OVERSEAS FREIGHTS AND FARES.—Mr. Pollard having proposed to Mr. Speaker that a definite matter of urgent public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Government to take any action to prevent the recent increases in overseas freights and fares to and from Australia, thus causing serious damage to the national economy, substantial losses to primary producers, exporters, importers and consumers"—
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.
Mr. McEwen (Minister for Trade) moved, That the Business of the Day be called on.
Question—put.
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. McLeay, in the Chair)—

AYES, 60.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Casey	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Killen	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Allan	Mr. Chaney	Mr. Forbes	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Timson
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Turner
Mr. Aston	Mr. Cramer	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Luck	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bate	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Beale	Mr. Davis	Mr. Graham	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bland	Mr. Dean	Mr. Hasluck	Sir P. McBride	
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Downer	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McEwen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Drury	Mr. Howse	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howson	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Buchanan	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Bury	Mr. Failes	Mr. Joske	Mr. Snedden	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairbairn	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr. Stokes	

NOES, 37.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Cope	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Webb
Mr. Bird	Mr. Costa	Mr. Haylen	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Daly	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Stewart

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

5. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON DEFENCE.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, pursuant to notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Prime Minister making a Statement in connexion with Defence.
Question—put and passed.

4th April, 1957.

6. ORDER OF THE DAY NO. 1—SUPPLY [“ GRIEVANCE DAY ”].—It being past fifteen minutes to one o'clock p.m., Order of the Day No. 1 (“ Grievance Day ”—pursuant to Standing Order No. 291) was not called on, and the Committee of Supply was set down for a later hour this day.
7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Casey (Minister for External Affairs), That the Paper [*presented on the 2nd April, 1957*], viz. :—
International Affairs—Ministerial Statement, 2nd April, 1957—
be printed—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr. H. E. Holt—Minister for Labour and National Service), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
8. DEFENCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) made a Ministerial Statement reviewing the overall Government policy on defence, with particular reference to the chances and nature of hostilities, the strategic basis of the defence policy, and the composition and equipment of Australian defence forces. Mr. Menzies then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—
Defence—Ministerial Statement—
and moved, That the Paper be printed.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Calwell), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
9. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment :—
4th April, 1957—*Message*—
No. 8—Trading with the Enemy 1957.
No. 9—Removal of Prisoners (Territories) 1957.
No. 10—Apple and Pear Export Charges 1957 (*without requests*).
No. 11—Cotton Bounty 1957.
No. 12—Lands Acquisition 1957.
10. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Casey (Minister for External Affairs), That the Paper [*presented on the 2nd April, 1957*], viz. :—
International Affairs—Ministerial Statement, 2nd April, 1957—
be printed—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Downer), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
11. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Casey (Minister for External Affairs) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Ordered—That Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until Tuesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Brand, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Chambers*, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falkinder, Mr. A. D. Fraser, Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Jack*, Mr. H. V. Johnson*, Mr. McColm, Mr. McIvor, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Townley, Mr. Watkins and Mr. Wilson.

*On leave.

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