

1961.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 16.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH APRIL, 1961.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. J. R. Fraser presented a Petition from certain citizens of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the Government will take immediate action to defer the rental increases on Government-owned dwellings in Canberra and immediately promote an inquiry into rentals in relation to costs of living in Canberra and the need for the establishment of a Canberra Basic Wage.
Petition received and read.
3. "C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Holt (Treasurer), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement relating to the action of the Commonwealth Statistician in abandoning the "C" Series Retail Price Index.
Mr. Whitlam, by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
4. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth—
Norfolk Island—Report for year 1958-59.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Wool Research Act—Third Annual Report, for year 1959-60.
5. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY—UNEMPLOYMENT.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that Mr. Barnard had proposed that a definite matter of urgent public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The serious effects of the high level of unemployment throughout Australia".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr. Barnard addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
The discussion, having been continued for two hours, was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 92.
6. INCOME TAX AND SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION ASSESSMENT BILL 1961.—Mr. Holt (Treasurer) moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to Income Tax.
Question—put and passed.
Bill brought up, and read a first time.
Mr. Holt moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
7. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Census and Statistics Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1961, No. 53.
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1961, No. 52.
Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1961, No. 48.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Department of the Interior purposes—Cairns, Queensland.
Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of National Development—D. Dunnet.
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1961—
No. 1—Police Offences.
No. 3—Business Names.
No. 4—Companies.

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8. COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL BILL 1961.—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.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Cope), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Adermann (Minister for Primary Industry) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-six minutes past ten 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 Sir Garfield Barwick, Mr. Bland, Mr. Browne, Mr. Chaney, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Failes, Mr. Fairhall*, Mr. Halbert, Mr. Kearney, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Mackinnon, Sir Earle Page and Mr. Townley.

* On leave.

N. J. PARKES,

Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.