

1962-63.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 101.

THURSDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 1963.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir John McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Reynolds presented a Petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the Government remove section 127, and the words discriminating against aborigines in section 51, of the Commonwealth Constitution, by the holding of a referendum at an early date.
Petition received.
3. QUESTIONS.—Questions without notice were answered.
4. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Commonwealth Railways—Interim Report for year 1962-63.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to statute—
National Capital Development Commission Act—National Capital Development Commission—
Sixth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1962-63.
5. JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY AND GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS—EXTENDED TIME FOR REPORT.—Mr. Holt (Treasurer) moved, by leave—
 - (1) That the time for bringing up the report of the Joint Select Committee on Parliamentary and Government Publications be extended to the 30th November, 1963.
 - (2) That a Message be sent to the Senate requesting its concurrence.
 Question—put and passed.
6. SELECT COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES OF YIRRKALA ABORIGINES, ARNHAM LAND RESERVE.—Mr. Beazley moved, pursuant to notice—
 - (1) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the grievances of certain aboriginal people of Yirrkala relating to the excision of land from the Aboriginal Reserve in Arnhem Land, contained in their Petition presented and read to the House on the 28th August, 1963.
 - (2) That the Committee consist of seven members, four to be appointed by the Prime Minister and three to be appointed by the Leader of the Opposition.
 - (3) That every appointment of a member of the Committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker.
 - (4) That the Chairman be one of the members appointed by the Prime Minister.
 - (5) That five members of the Committee constitute a quorum.
 - (6) That any member of the Committee have power to add a protest or dissent to the report of the Committee.
 - (7) That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit during any adjournment of the House and to adjourn from place to place.
 - (8) That the Committee report to the House not later than the 12th November, 1963.
 - (9) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.
 Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, Orders of the Day, General Business, were called on in accordance with Standing Order No. 109.

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7. NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, That in view of the increasing pressure of Communist infiltration, subversion and guerilla aggression in South-East Asia, this House is of the opinion that, in order to strengthen the security of Australia, and South-East Asian countries who may desire assistance—
- (i) National Service Training should be introduced on the basis of a minimum of twelve months continuous service, and
 - (ii) if it is considered advisable to establish such National Service Training on a selective basis, then rehabilitation benefits should be granted on similar, but not necessarily the same, lines as in the United States of America—
- Debate resumed.
- The time allotted for precedence to General Business having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr. Jess was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
8. INVESTMENT ALLOWANCE ON PRIMARY PRODUCERS' PLANT AND EQUIPMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Holt (Treasurer), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement outlining the more important details of an investment allowance on new plant and equipment of primary producers, the introduction of which had been announced in the Budget Speech.
- Mr. Pollard, by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
9. CUSTOMS BILL 1963.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Fairhall (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
- Debate adjourned (Mr. Pollard), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
10. EXCISE BILL 1963.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Fairhall (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
- Debate adjourned (Mr. Pollard), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
11. APPROPRIATION BILL 1963–64.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

(In the Committee.)

Second Schedule—

Department of External Affairs, £13,502,000—

Attorney-General's Department, £3,181,000—

Proposed expenditures further debated.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

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

12. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:—
- 12th September, 1963—*Message*—
- No. 158—Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) 1963.
- No. 159—Sales Tax Assessment (No. 5) 1963.
13. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY AND GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS—EXTENDED TIME FOR REPORT.—Mr. Speaker reported Message No. 160, dated 12th September, 1963, from the Senate concurring in the Resolution of the House that the time for bringing up the report of the Joint Select Committee on Parliamentary and Government Publications be extended to the 30th November, 1963.
14. SOCIAL SERVICES BILL 1963.—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 by Mr. Daly who moved, as an amendment, That all words after “ That ” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—“ whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, this House is of the opinion that—
- (1) increases should be made in—
 - (a) child endowment which has remained unchanged for the first child for 13 years and for subsequent children for 15 years;
 - (b) maternity allowances which have remained substantially unchanged for 20 years, and
 - (c) pensioners' funeral benefits which have remained unchanged for 20 years;
 - (2) there should be a standard rate for all pensioners and supplementary assistance for special needs, thus removing the discrimination against married pensioners;
 - (3) other social service payments and qualifications including permissible income should be adjusted to compensate for changes in the cost of living;
 - (4) Australia now lags behind most comparable countries in its expenditure on social welfare, and
 - (5) research and enquiry into social welfare in Australia is inadequate ”.

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Debate continued.

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

15. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Robertson (Minister for Social Services) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

PAPERS.—The following Papers were deemed to have been presented on the 12th September, 1963, pursuant to statute—

Public Service Act—Appointment—Postmaster-General's Department—K. R. Hambrook.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations—1963—

No. 44—Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Enginemen and others.

No. 45—Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Enginemen.

No. 46—North Australian Workers' Union.

No. 47—Plumbers and Gasfitters Employees' Union of Australia.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Allan, Sir Garfield Barwick, Mr. Chaney, Mr. Clay*, Mr. A. D. Fraser, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Kearney*, Mr. McMahon and Mr. Turner.

* On leave.

A. G. TURNER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.