

1964-65-66.

 THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

 VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
 OF THE
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

 No. 166.

FRIDAY, 13TH MAY, 1966.

1. The House met, at half-past nine o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir John McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. QUESTIONS.—Questions without notice were asked.
3. PAPER.—The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute—
 Services Trust Funds Act—Services Canteens Trust Fund—Eighteenth Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1965.
4. HOUSING AGREEMENT BILL 1966.—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. Whitlam 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 in any way opposing the passage of this Bill, this House is of opinion that the Bill will not adequately meet the housing needs of the Australian people unless Commonwealth advances are increased at least by amounts equal to those allocated to building societies in the current financial year and the Housing Agreement is also amended to provide that—
 (a) the rate of interest is reduced to that charged under the War Service Homes Act;
 (b) advances are made for the provision of houses for aged and disabled persons and rental rebates are restored to such persons and to others in needy circumstances;
 (c) subsidies are paid to tenants or purchasers who through bereavement or injury become unable to meet a prescribed economic rental or repayment, and
 (d) advances are made for slum clearance, land development and town planning ".
 Debate continued.
 Amendment negatived.
 Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
 The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

 (In the committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Proposed new clause—

Mr. Johnson moved, That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill:—

" 3A.—(1.) The Secretary to the Department of Housing shall, as soon as practicable after each thirtieth day of June, furnish to the Minister, for presentation to each House of the Parliament, a report on the operation of the 1956-1966 Housing Agreement during the year that ended on that date. Annual report.

" (2.) The Minister shall cause a copy of each report of the Secretary to be laid before each House of the Parliament within fifteen sitting days of that House after the receipt of the report by the Minister.

" (3.) The first report under this section shall be furnished as soon as practicable after the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and sixty-six, and shall relate to the period commencing on the date of commencement of this Act and ending on that thirtieth day of June."

Debate ensued.

Proposed new clause negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

 The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Bury (Minister representing the Minister for Housing), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

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5. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:—

13th May, 1966—Message—

- No. 300—Appropriation (No. 3) 1965–66 (*without requests*).
- No. 301—Appropriation (No. 4) 1965–66.
- No. 302—Supply (No. 1) 1966–67 (*without requests*).
- No. 303—Supply (No. 2) 1966–67.
- No. 304—Loan (Defence) 1966.

6. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bury (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Question—put and passed.

7. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Bury (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bury (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Retirement of Mr. W. I. Emerton, Secretary of the Joint House Department.—Mr. Speaker informed the House of the approaching retirement of Mr. W. I. Emerton, Secretary of the Joint House Department, who had entered the service of the Commonwealth in 1917 and had joined the Parliamentary Service in 1927. Mr. Speaker referred to the long and efficient service of Mr. Emerton and extended best wishes to him for a long and happy retirement.

Debate ensued on the motion, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at six minutes past one o'clock p.m., adjourned until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by resolution of the House at this sitting.

PAPER.—The following paper was deemed to have been presented on the 13th May, 1966, pursuant to statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Right acquired for drainage purposes—Wollongong, New South Wales.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Aston, Mr. Bate, Mr. Benson, Mr. Brimblecombe, Mr. Chaney, Mr. Clark, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. Costa, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Duthie, Mr. Failes, Mr. Falkinder, Mr. Fulton, Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Harding, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, Mr. Killen, Mr. Mackay, Mr. McEwen, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Minogue, Mr. Mortimer, Mr. Riordan and Mr. Sexton.

A. G. TURNER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.