

1968

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 31

THURSDAY, 15 AUGUST 1968

- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **PETITIONS:** Petitions from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House will make a survey of the full requirements of pensioners of all types and adopt a policy for the progressive liberalisation of the means test resulting in its removal within three years were presented by Mr Corbett and Mr K. M. K. Cairns.  
 Petitions severally received.  
 Mr McLeay presented a petition from certain electors of the Commonwealth praying that this House take any action necessary to ensure that the Government does not implement the Resolution of the United Nations Security Council imposing economic sanctions upon the Government and people of Rhodesia.  
 Petition received and read.  
 A similar petition was presented by Miss Brownbill, and was received.  
 Mr James presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House take any action necessary to assist a campaign for a lasting peaceful settlement in Vietnam.  
 Petition received and read.
- 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 **ASIAN AND PACIFIC COUNCIL—THIRD MINISTERIAL MEETING—PAPERS AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hasluck (Minister for External Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:  
 Asian and Pacific Council—Third Ministerial Meeting, Canberra, 30 July–1 August 1968—  
     Joint Communique.  
     Agreement establishing a Cultural and Social Centre for the Asian and Pacific Region, dated 1 August 1968—  
 and, by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the papers.
- 5 **IMMIGRATION PROGRAMME FOR 1968–69—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Snedden (Minister for Immigration), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the immigration programme planned by the Government for the current financial year. Mr C. R. Cameron, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.
- 6 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WATERS OF GULF OF CARPENTARIA AND GREAT BARRIER REEF:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Patterson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Government to initiate action to police, control and conserve the resources of the waters of the Gulf of Carpentaria and the Great Barrier Reef".  
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
 Mr Patterson addressed the House.  
 Discussion ensued.  
 Discussion concluded.

- 7 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NOS. 13 TO 16 (1968): Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 13, 14, 15 and 16 (1968).

Debate adjourned (Mr Patterson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 8 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Tariff Board—Reports—

Bean seed (*Phaseolus vulgaris*).

Chemical industry—Support values review.

Tariff Board Act—Special Advisory Authority—Report—

Twine, cordage, ropes and cables falling within paragraph 59.04.99 of the *Customs Tariff* 1966–1967.

Severally ordered to be printed.

The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:

Tariff Board Act—Special Advisory Authority—Report—Disposable hypodermic needles.

Ordered to be printed.

- 9 DISCHARGE OF TARIFF PROPOSALS: Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved, by leave—That Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 (1968), constituting part of order of the day No. 28, government business, be discharged.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE SITE: Mr Gorton (Prime Minister) moved, by leave—That this House is of the opinion that the new and permanent Parliament House should be situated on the lakeside site.

Debate ensued.

Mr Bryant moved, as an amendment—That the words “the lakeside site” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “Capital Hill”.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Turnbull), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 11 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House that the Leader of the Government in the Senate had appointed Senator Buttfield to be a member of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs.

- 12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Nixon (Minister for the Interior) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

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

---

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 15 August 1968:

By Command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Treaties—Text of—

- (1) World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations 1967, adopted 22 May 1967.
- (2) Agreement between Australia and the Organisations participating in the technical assistance sector of the United Nations Development Programme concerning technical assistance for projects to be carried out in the Territory of Papua and the Trust Territory of New Guinea, signed 21 May 1968.
- (3) Cultural Agreement between Australia and Indonesia, signed 14 June 1968.
- (4) Agreement between Australia and Singapore concerning the provision of treatment in Singapore hospitals for Asian residents of Christmas Island, signed 27 June 1968.

- (5) Exchange of Notes dated 12 July 1968 between Australia and the United States of America constituting an amendment to the Agreement of 9 May 1963 relating to the establishment of a United States Naval Communication Station in Australia.
- (6) Convention on the International Hydrographic Organisation, signed 3 May 1967.

Pursuant to statute:

Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinances—1968—

No. 33—Public Service (Papua and New Guinea) (No. 2) 1967.

No. 34—Liquor (Licensing).

No. 35—Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary.

No. 36—Ordinances Revision.

---

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Benson\*, Mr Bridges-Maxwell, Mr Cleaver, Mr Collard, Mr Holten, Mr Jarman, Mr Luchetti, Mr Mackay, Mr McEwen, Mr Minogue, Mr Robinson and Mr St. John.

\* On leave

---

A. G. TURNER,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives