

1968

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 42

WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 1968

- 1 The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 PETITIONS: Mr Hayden 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.
Mr Hayden also presented a petition from certain electors of the Commonwealth praying that the Government press for (1) the complete cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam and (2) discussion amongst all parties to the conflict, including the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam.
Petition received.
Petitions from certain residents of Australia praying that this House take suitable action to bring our sons home now before another boy is killed in Vietnam and to bring this senseless war to an end were presented by Mr J. F. Cairns and Mr Hayden.
Petitions severally received and read.
Similar petitions were presented by Mr Uren, Mr C. R. Cameron and Mr Bryant, and were severally received.
- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 PAPERS: The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Commonwealth Railways—Financial statements for year 1967–68.
The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:
Gold-Mining Industry Assistance Act—Fourteenth Annual Statement concerning the operation of Act and payment of subsidy, for year 1967–68.
Repatriation Act—War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunals Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4—Reports for year 1967–68.
Science and Industry Endowment Act—Report by Auditor-General on accounts of Science and Industry Endowment Fund, for year 1967–68.
Social Services Act—Director-General of Social Services—Twenty-seventh Annual Report, for year 1967–68.
States Grants (Teachers Colleges) Act—Annual Statement of payments under the Act, for year 1967–68.
- 5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—F-111 AIRCRAFT: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The evasive answers and inadequate information given to the House by the Minister for Defence concerning the F-111 aircraft".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Barnard addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.

- 6 ENGINEERING SERVICES TO NEIGHBOURHOOD UNIT No. 3, CASUARINA DISTRICT, DARWIN—
APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Kelly (Minister representing the Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1966*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to this House: Provision of engineering services to Neighbourhood Unit No. 3, Casuarina District, Darwin.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 7 POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL 1968: 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.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Hulme (Postmaster-General), the Bill was read a third time.

- 8 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 9 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1968–69: 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—

Proposed expenditure—Department of External Territories, \$90,510,000—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.

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

Redistribution of Electoral Divisions, 1968—

New South Wales—Statement by Distribution Commissioner F. L. Ley showing reasons for dissent from proposals relating to the Divisions of Lyne and New England.

Queensland—Statement by Distribution Commissioner I. F. Weise showing reasons for dissent from the proposals relating to the Divisions of Capricornia, Darling Downs, Dawson, Fisher, Kennedy, Maranoa and Wide Bay.

Severally ordered to be printed.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Electoral Act—Redistribution of Electoral Divisions, 1968—

Reports, with Maps, by the Distribution Commissioners (Volumes I) for the States of—

New South Wales.

Victoria.

Queensland.

South Australia.

Western Australia.

Tasmania.

Suggestions, comments or objections lodged with the Distribution Commissioners (Volumes II) for the States of—

New South Wales.

Victoria.

Queensland.

South Australia.

Western Australia.

Tasmania.

Ordered—That the Reports and Maps be printed.

- 11 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1968–69: The House, according to order, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Second Schedule—

Proposed expenditure—Department of External Territories, \$90,510,000—further debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditure—Department of Education and Science, \$96,529,000—debated.

The committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 1968

Debate continued.

Proposed expenditure agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr Drury reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen minutes to one o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 18 September 1968, pursuant to statute:

Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinances—1968—

No. 39—Dangerous Drugs (Extension of Definition).

No. 40—Public Service Board.

No. 41—I.D.A. (Agricultural Development) Credit Agreement.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Allan, Mr Beaton, Mr Benson, Mr Bridges-Maxwell*, Mr Collard*, Mr Fulton, Mr Graham, Mr Holten*, Mr Luchetti*, Mr McEwen, Mr McMahan and Mr O'Connor.

* On leave

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