

1968-69

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 70

THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 1969

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- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.
  - 2 **ABSENCE OF MR SPEAKER:** The Clerk having informed the House that Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) was unavoidably absent, the Chairman of Committees (Mr Lucock) took the Chair as Acting Speaker, and read Prayers.
  - 3 **DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL (MR L. ESHKOL):** Mr Gorton (Prime Minister) referred with great regret to the death yesterday of the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr Eshkol. Mr Gorton informed the House that Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) would represent the Australian Parliament and the people of Australia at the funeral service for the late Prime Minister. A message of sympathy had been sent to the Acting Prime Minister of Israel extending the condolences of the Government and people of Australia.
  - 4 **PETITIONS:** Mr Howson presented a petition from certain citizens of Victoria praying that this House will pursue a policy to bring about total disarmament and that a substantial portion of the extra money, goods and services derived from such a policy be shared amongst all under-privileged countries.  
Mr Benson presented a petition from certain residents of Victoria praying that the shooting of all kangaroos and the export of kangaroo meat be banned and that a Commonwealth Department be established to conserve wild life on a national basis.  
Mr Robinson presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying for an inquiry into the banana industry.  
Mr Bonnett presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House make legal provision for (1) Aboriginal ownership of existing reserves throughout the Commonwealth, (2) the recognition of Aboriginal ownership of traditional land at present owned and leased by the Crown and (3) the development of mining, pastoral and other enterprises on all Aboriginal land to be subject to the consent of Aboriginal owners and such conditions as their own legal advisers may arrange.  
Petitions severally received and read.
  - 5 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
  - 6 **PAPERS:** The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:  
Postmaster-General's Department—Financial and Statistical Bulletin, for year 1967-68.  
The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:  
River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1967-68.
  - 7 **COLOUR TELEVISION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hulme (Postmaster-General), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that, while the Government had made no decision as to when colour television will be introduced in Australia, it had decided that when it is introduced the PAL (Phase Alternation Line) system would be used.  
Mr Webb, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 8 NATIONAL SERVICE BILL 1969: Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Service Act 1951–1968*. Bill read a first time.

Mr Barnard moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate, by leave, ensued.

It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 109.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for debate:* Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of notice No. 1, general business, being continued until fifteen minutes to three o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

The time allotted for the consideration of the motion 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.

- 9 COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION—FOURTEENTH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE—REPORT OF DELEGATION FROM COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA BRANCH—PAPER NOTED: Sir John Cramer, by leave, presented the following paper:

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—Fourteenth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Nassau, Bahamas, October–November 1968—Report of Delegation from Commonwealth of Australia Branch—  
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE 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.

*Message from the Governor-General:* Mr Acting Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 108, dated 27 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

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*In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Chaney, the following amendment was made: Clause 17, page 7, line 30, after “work” insert “and concerning any other matters related to the work in respect of which the Committee thinks it desirable that the views of the Committee should be reported to the House”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

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The House resumed; Mr Haworth reported accordingly.

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

- 11 EXCISE TARIFF BILL 1969: 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 G. D. Erwin (Minister for Air), the Bill was read a third time.

- 12 SPIRITS BILL 1969: 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—  
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.  
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.  
On the motion of Mr G. D. Erwin (Minister for Air), the Bill was read a third time.
- 13 CURRENCY BILL 1969: 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 Swartz (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.
- 14 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 5, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 15 DEFENCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House): That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 25 February 1969*), viz.:  
Defence—Ministerial statement, 25 February 1969—  
*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr G. D. Erwin moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) speaking without limitation of time.  
Question—put and passed.  
Debate resumed.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Street), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 16 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:  
27 February 1969—Message No. 162—Quarantine 1969.
- 17 ADJOURNMENT: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

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

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Aston, Mr Beazley, Mr Chipp, Mr Gibson, Mr Lee and Mr Lynch.

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