

1968-69

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 74

TUESDAY, 18 MARCH 1969

- 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 PETITION: Mr Duthie presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House give earnest consideration, during Human Rights Year, to the crisis in education in Australia.
Petition received and read.
- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT NEAR PORT HEDLAND, W.A.—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Swartz (Minister for Civil Aviation), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the accident near Port Hedland, W.A., on 31 December 1968 involving Viscount 720 aircraft VH-RMQ operated by MacRobertson Miller Airlines. Mr Swartz informed the House that the accident was being investigated by the Air Safety Investigation Branch of his Department and that he did not consider a Board of Inquiry to be necessary. It had been established that the accident was the result of a metal fatigue crack. Mr Swartz then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Aircraft accident near Port Hedland, W.A.—Ministerial statement, 18 March 1969.
Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Mr C. K. Jones moved, as an amendment—That the following words be added to the motion: " but this House is of the opinion that, on receipt of a report from the Air Safety Investigation Branch, a Board of Accident Inquiry should be appointed to investigate the aircraft accident as was done in relation to previous aircraft accidents at Mackay, Botany Bay and Winton".
Debate continued.
Mr Killen having been called—
Closure moved: Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That the question be now put.
Question—That the question be now put—put.
The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 36

Mr Barnard	Mr Crean	Mr Hayden	Mr Stewart
Mr Birrell	Mr Cross	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr Bryant	Mr Curtin	Mr Luchetti	Mr Webb
Mr Calwell	Mr Daly	Mr McIvor	Mr Whitlam
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Davies	Mr Minogue	
Mr Clark	Mr Devine	Mr Nicholls	
Mr Collard	Mr Everingham	Mr O'Connor	
Mr Connor	Mr Fulton	Mr Patterson	
Mr Cope	Mr Griffiths	Mr Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Courtney	Mr Harrison	Mr Scholes	Mr Duthie
			Mr James

NOES, 68

Mr Allan	Mr Corbett	Mr Howson	Mr Munro
Mr Anthony	Sir J. Cramer	Mr Hughes	Mr Nixon
Mr Armstrong	Mr Dobie	Mr Hulme	Mr Pearsall
Mr Arthur	Mr Drury	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pettitt
Mr Barnes	Mr England	Mr Jarman	Mr Robinson
Mr Bate	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Jess	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bonnett	Mr Failes	Mr Jessop	Mr Snedden
Mr Bosman	Mr Fairbairn	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr Street
Mr Bowen	Mr Forbes	Mr Kelly	Mr Swartz
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr J. M. Fraser	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr Turner
Miss Brownbill	Mr Freeth	Mr Killen	Mr Wentworth
Mr Buchanan	Mr Gibbs	Mr Lee	Mr Wilson
Mr Bury	Mr Gibson	Mr Lynch	
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Giles	Mr Mackay	
Mr Calder	Mr Gorton	Mr Maisey	
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Mr McEwen	
Mr Chaney	Mr Hallett	Mr McLeay	
Mr Chipp	Mr Holten	Mr McMahan	

Tellers:

Mr Fox
Mr Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

Mr Killen moved—That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 70

Mr Allan	Mr Cleaver	Mr Holten	Mr McMahan
Mr Anthony	Mr Corbett	Mr Howson	Mr Munro
Mr Armstrong	Sir J. Cramer	Mr Hughes	Mr Nixon
Mr Arthur	Mr Dobie	Mr Hulme	Mr Pearsall
Mr Barnes	Mr Drury	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pettitt
Mr Bate	Mr England	Mr Jarman	Mr Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Jess	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bosnan	Mr Failes	Mr Jessop	Mr Snedden
Mr Bowen	Mr Fairbairn	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr St John
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr Forbes	Mr Kelly	Mr Street
Miss Brownbill	Mr J. M. Fraser	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr Swartz
Mr Buchanan	Mr Freeth	Mr Killen	Mr Turner
Mr Bury	Mr Gibbs	Mr Lee	Mr Wentworth
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Gibson	Mr Lynch	Mr Wilson
Mr Calder	Mr Giles	Mr Mackay	
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Gorton	Mr Maisey	
Mr Chaney	Mr Graham	Mr McEwen	
Mr Chipp	Mr Hallett	Mr McLeay	

Tellers:

Mr Fox
Mr Turnbull

NOES, 34

Mr Barnard	Mr Courtney	Mr Hayden	Mr Scholes
Mr Birrell	Mr Crean	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Stewart
Mr Bryant	Mr Cross	Mr Luchetti	Mr Uren
Mr Calwell	Mr Curtin	Mr McIvor	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Daly	Mr Minogue	Mr Whitlam
Mr Clark	Mr Everingham	Mr Nicholls	
Mr Collard	Mr Fulton	Mr O'Connor	
Mr Connor	Mr Griffiths	Mr Patterson	
Mr Cope	Mr Harrison	Mr Peters	

Tellers:

Mr Duthie
Mr James

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 NEW AND PERMANENT PARLIAMENT HOUSE—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House that the Prime Minister had appointed Mr Fox to be a member of the Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House in the place of Mr Nixon (Minister for the Interior).

- 6 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:
14 March 1969—Message No. 110—Quarantine 1969.
- 7 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE NORTHERN TERRITORY—PRESENTATION OF BOOKENDS: Mr Speaker informed the House that, on 18 February, a delegation from the Commonwealth Parliament led by the President of the Senate attended the Opening of the Legislative Council for the Northern Territory and presented a pair of bookends for the Table of the Council. The following resolution was agreed to unanimously by the Council on the occasion of the presentation:
“We, the Members of the Legislative Council for the Northern Territory, in Council assembled, express our thanks to the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia for the beautiful and functional gift of bookends which they have this day presented to the Council.
The presence of your Delegation at the opening of this re-constituted Council and the gift which we have received are accepted as marks of esteem and of the continuing regard of the parent legislature for the welfare of our humble institution.
We reciprocate your warm greetings and expressions of goodwill and look to the continuation of the friendly association that has always existed between our respective Houses.”.
- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS RELATING TO RESIGNATION OF MR G. C. HOFFMANN: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “Statements by Ministers on matters relating to the resignation of Mr G. C. Hoffmann”.
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Whitlam addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
- 9 INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT BILL 1969: Mr McEwen (Minister for Trade and Industry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to approve the Ratification by Australia of the International Sugar Agreement.
Bill read a first time.
Mr McEwen moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Patterson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 10 HOME CARE PROGRAMME FOR THE AGED—COMMONWEALTH OFFER TO STATES—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 Forbes (Minister for Health)—
That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 26 February 1969*), viz.:
Home care programme for the aged—Commonwealth offer to States—Ministerial statement, 26 February 1969—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr Cope), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 11 ADJOURNMENT: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.
And then the House, at twenty-four minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.
-

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 18 March 1969, pursuant to statute:

- Explosives Act—Explosives Regulations—Orders—Berthing of a vessel (2).
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
 - Post office purposes—Ulladulla, New South Wales.
 - War Service Homes purposes—Murrurundi, New South Wales.
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
 - Boundaries Ordinance 1968, together with statement of reasons for withholding assent to the Ordinance.
 - Crown Lands Ordinance—Statement of reasons by Minister for revocation of reserve in the Northern Territory at Tennant Creek—Lot 327.
 - Rates (Freehold Lands) Ordinance 1967, together with statement of reasons for withholding assent to the Ordinance.
- Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinances—1969—
 - No. 4—Papua and New Guinea Retirement Benefits (Amendment) 1968.
 - No. 5—Superannuation (Papua and New Guinea) (Amendment) 1968.
 - No. 6—Superannuation (Pensions Increases) (Amendment) 1968.
 - No. 7—Wills, Probate and Administration (Rates of Succession Duty) 1968.
 - No. 8—Adoption of Children 1968.
- Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, Nos. 26, 27.
- Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 25.
- Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations—1969—
 - No. 20—Non-Official Postmasters' Association of Australia.
 - No. 21—Civil Aviation Employees' Association of Australia.
 - No. 24—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
 - No. 25—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.
 - No. 26—Hospital Employees' Federation of Australia.
 - No. 27—Amalgamated Engineering Union and others.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Beaton, Mr Beazley, Mr Fairhall, Mr J. R. Fraser and Mr Haworth.

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