

1968-69

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 79

THURSDAY, 27 MARCH 1969

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- 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:** Miss Brownbill 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.
Mr Bryant presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House should respond to the plea for an early repeal of the National Service Act, and the immediate release of any young men who are now in prison as a result of their conscientious refusal to comply with the Act.
Petition received and read.
A similar petition was presented by Mr J. F. Cairns, and was received.
Mr Lee presented a petition 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.
Mr J. F. Cairns also presented a petition from Lillian Verna Louisa Pedlar, an elector of the Commonwealth, praying that all Parliamentarians, the United Nations Organization and others be urged to plead, on behalf of all humanity, for the impartial outlawing of war.
Petitions severally received and read.
 - 3 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Gorton (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the forthcoming respective absences abroad of Mr Lynch (Minister for the Army), Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) and himself, Mr Forbes (Minister for Health) would act as Minister for the Army, Mr Snedden (Minister for Immigration) would act as Attorney-General, and Mr McEwen (Minister for Trade and Industry) would act as Prime Minister.
 - 4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 5 **TAXATION AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE ON AIRLINE PROFITS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Swartz (Minister assisting the Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to a taxation agreement with France, which had been signed in Canberra this morning, relating to airline profits.
 - 6 **COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Snedden (Minister for Immigration), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that joint action had been taken by the Commonwealth and the States to establish a committee charged with the responsibility of examining qualifications obtained in overseas countries and comparing them with Australian standards, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Committee on overseas professional qualifications—Ministerial statement, 27 March 1969.

Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate ensued.

Mr Snedden, by leave, made a statement with reference to arrangements made for making the ministerial statement.

Debate continued.

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

- 7 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 15 April, at half-past two o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.

- 8 GRIEVANCE DEBATE: Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for Grievance debate: Mr Barnes (Minister for External Territories) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), being continued until half-past three o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

Suspension of standing orders—Further extended time for Grievance debate: Mr Kelly (Minister for the Navy) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), being further continued until fifteen minutes to four o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

At fifteen minutes to four o'clock p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

- 9 EXCISE TARIFF PROPOSALS No. 1 (1969): Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry) moved Excise Tariff Proposals No. 1 (1969).

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

- 10 MERINO EXPORT EMBARGO—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 20 March 1969*), viz.:

Merino export embargo—Ministerial statement, 20 March 1969—

Debate resumed.

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

- 11 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

27 March 1969—Message—

No. 165—Universities (Financial Assistance) 1969.

No. 166—Excise Tariff 1969 (*without requests*).

No. 167—Spirits 1969.

No. 168—Currency 1969.

No. 169—Loan (Supplementary Borrowing) 1969.

- 12 **PRINTING COMMITTEE—SEVENTH REPORT:** Mr Graham (Chairman) brought up the Seventh Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate). The report is as follows:

SEVENTH REPORT

The Printing Committee has the honour to report that it has met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Petitions and Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, recommends that the following be printed:

- Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—Fourteenth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Nassau, Bahamas, October–November 1968—Report of Delegation from Commonwealth of Australia Branch.
- Dairy Produce Export Control Act—Australian Dairy Produce Board—Forty-third Annual Report, for year 1967–68.
- Health Insurance—Report of the Commonwealth Committee of Enquiry—March 1969.
- International Monetary Agreements Act—Annual Report on operations of the Act, and insofar as they relate to Australia, of the International Monetary Fund Agreement and the International Bank Agreement, for year 1967–68.
- Navigation Act—Report by the Minister of cases in which the power of the Governor-General has been exercised under section 422A of the Act during 1968.
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
 - Boundaries Ordinance 1968, together with statement of reasons for withholding assent to the Ordinance.
 - Rates (Freehold Lands) Ordinance 1967, together with statement of reasons for withholding assent to the Ordinance.
- Paris Peace Talks—
 - Statement by the Government of the United States of America.
 - Statement by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.
- Postmaster-General's Department—Financial and Statistical Bulletin, for year 1967–68.
- River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1967–68.
- Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Act—Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residence Trust Fund—Third Annual Report, for year 1967–68, together with the Auditor-General's Report.
- War Service Homes Act—Supplemental Agreement, made 4 March 1969, between the Director of War Service Homes and the State of Western Australia.

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B. W. GRAHAM,
Chairman

Mr Graham moved, by leave—That the report be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

- 13 **RAW COTTON BOUNTY 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.
Mr Patterson was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 14 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Swartz (Minister assisting the Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of action taken by the Government in regard to Australia's participation in the second exercise to replenish the resources of the International Development Association, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

International Development Association—Ministerial statement, 27 March 1969—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

- 15 RAW COTTON BOUNTY 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 by Mr Patterson who moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: "the Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide—

- (a) for the payment of a bounty of four million dollars on total production of raw cotton for the year commencing on the first day of March, One thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine;
- (b) for an immediate review of the economic position of the raw cotton industry with the object of providing adequate financial assistance to those areas which are still in need of a bounty, and which have not yet had time to become established viable economic units, such as the Ord River and the Queensland irrigation areas; and
- (c) that special financial payments to assist the developing areas to become established viable economic units be implemented within section 96 of the Constitution".

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

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Mr Allan	Sir J. Cramer	Mr Howson	Mr Peacock
Mr Anthony	Mr Dobie	Mr Hughes	Mr Pearsall
Mr Arthur	Mr Drury	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pettitt
Mr Bonnett	Mr England	Mr Jarman	Mr Stokes
Miss Brownbill	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Jessop	Mr Street
Mr Buchanan	Mr Failes	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr Swartz
Mr Bury	Mr Fairbairn	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr Turner
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Fairhall	Mr Killen	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Forbes	Mr King	Mr Whittorn
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Lee	
Mr Chaney	Mr Gibbs	Mr Mackay	
Mr Chipp	Mr Graham	Mr Maisey	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cleaver	Mr Hallett	Mr McLeay	Mr Fox
Mr Corbett	Mr Holten	Mr Munro	Mr Turnbull

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Mr Barnard	Mr Cope	Mr Harrison	Mr Peters
Mr Beazley	Mr Costa	Mr Hayden	Mr Scholes
Mr Birrell	Mr Crean	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Stewart
Mr Bryant	Mr Cross	Mr McIvor	Mr Uren
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr Curtin	Mr Minogue	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Daly	Mr Nicholls	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Collard	Mr Fulton	Mr O'Connor	Mr Duthie
Mr Connor	Mr Griffiths	Mr Patterson	Mr James

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Mr Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 114, dated 19 March 1969, 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.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

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

The House resumed; Mr Drury reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 16 AID TO INDONESIA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED: Mr Gorton (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to certain increases which the Government had decided to make in aid granted to Indonesia, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Aid to Indonesia—Ministerial statement, 27 March 1969—

and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 17 RAW COTTON BOUNTY BILL 1969: The House, according to order, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Bill, as a whole, agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 18 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 19 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—

Debate resumed.

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

- 20 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 six minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, 15 April, at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Beaton, Mr Bridges-Maxwell, Mr Davies, Mr Devine, Mr Everingham, Mr J. R. Fraser, Mr Gibson, Mr Giles, Mr Hansen, Mr Haworth, Mr Jess, Mr Nixon and Mr St. John.

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