

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 92

WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 1969

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- 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 **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that a party of Members of the House of Assembly for the Territory of Papua and New Guinea was present in the gallery of the House. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a warm welcome.
 - 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 4 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
 - Christmas Island—Report for year 1967-68.
 - Cocos (Keeling) Islands—Report for year 1967-68.
 - Education and the Gross National Product—Paper prepared by Department of Education and Science, 1969.
 - New Guinea—Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on administration of New Guinea for year 1967-68.
 - Norfolk Island—Report for year 1967-68.
 - 5 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT:** Mr Chaney (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
 - Report relating to the proposed augmentation of water supply, Darwin (Fourth report of 1969).Ordered to be printed.
 - 6 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—DECENTRALISATION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** 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, "The Government's delay in planning and implementing measures to promote decentralisation and regional development".
 - The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 - Mr Whitlam addressed the House.
 - Discussion ensued.
 - Discussion concluded.
 - 7 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS—JOINT COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House that the Leader of the Government in the Senate had appointed Senator Sim to be a member of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs.
 - 8 **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES:** Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
 - 9 **STATES GRANTS (SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1969:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of certain sums to the States by way of Special Financial Assistance.
 - Bill read a first time.
 - Mr McMahon moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 - Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 10 BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION BILL (NO. 2) 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.
The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 to 9, by leave, taken together, and agreed to, after debate.
Clauses 10 and 11, by leave, taken together, and agreed to, after debate.
Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hulme (Postmaster-General), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 11 CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (NO. 2) 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.
Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.
- 12 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent order of the day No. 3, government business, being called on.
Question—put and passed.
- 13 EXCISE TARIFF BILL (NO. 2) 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 Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise), the Bill was read a third time.
- 14 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 minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until tomorrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 21 May 1969, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land, etc., acquired for post office purposes—
Gannawarra, Victoria.
Lucindale, South Australia.
Out of Districts, South Australia.
Port Wakefield, South Australia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Benson, Mr Bridges-Maxwell, Mr Calwell, Mr Freeth, Mr Haworth*, Mr Howson, Mr Jess, Mr McEwen, Mr Nicholls and Mr Whittorn.

* On leave

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