

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 108

THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 1969

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- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Mr Lucock) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 PETITION: Mr Arthur presented a petition from certain electors of the Commonwealth praying that adequate refund for physiotherapy treatment ordered by a registered medical practitioner may be included in the Commonwealth benefits scheme in like manner to other medical benefits.
Petition received and read.
 - 3 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Gorton (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the forthcoming absence abroad of Mr Freeth (Minister for External Affairs), Mr Fairhall (Minister for Defence) would act as Minister for External Affairs.
 - 4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
 - 5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Australian Parliamentary Mission—Report of visit to Canada of mission led by the Honourable P. J. Nixon, M.P., Minister for the Interior, 8 to 25 June 1969.
Defence Report 1969.
Department of Supply—Report for year 1968-69.
Housing Loans Insurance Corporation—Interim Report, for year 1968-69.
The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:
Overseas Telecommunications Act—Overseas Telecommunications Commission (Australia)—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year ended 31 March 1969.
 - 6 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 construction and extension of stores buildings at St Mary's, Botany and Waterloo, N.S.W. (Tenth report of 1969).
Ordered to be printed.
 - 7 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES: Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
 - 8 LOAN (SWISS FRANCS) 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 Bury (Minister for Labour and National Service), the Bill was read a third time.

- 9 **LOAN (CANADIAN DOLLARS) 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 Bury (Minister for Labour and National Service), the Bill was read a third time.
- 10 **TASMANIA GRANT (CRESSY-LONGFORD IRRIGATION WORKS) 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.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Acting Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 156, dated 9 September 1969, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Fairbairn (Minister for National Development), the Bill was read a third time.
- 11 **APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1969–70:** 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 National Development, \$39,839,000—further debated.

Limitation of debate: At fifteen minutes to three o'clock p.m., the Deputy Chairman (Sir William Haworth) having called the attention of the committee to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditure had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditure be agreed to—put and passed.

Proposed expenditure—Postmaster-General's Department, \$57,657,000—debated.

Limitation of debate: At fifteen minutes to five o'clock p.m., the Deputy Chairman (Mr Clark) having called the attention of the committee to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditure had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditure be agreed to—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Mr Clark reported accordingly.

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

- 12 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS:** Mr Chaney (Chairman) brought up the following reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
Report relating to the proposed construction of new pathology block and associated works at Repatriation General Hospital, Heidelberg, Vic. (Eleventh report of 1969).
Report relating to the proposed development of No. 1 Stores Depot, R.A.A.F. Base at Tottenham, Vic. (Twelfth report of 1969).
Severally ordered to be printed.
- 13 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORKS—HIGH SCHOOLS, CASUARINA (DARWIN) AND ALICE SPRINGS, N.T.—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Chaney (Chairman), by leave, made a statement relating to the reference to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works of the proposal to build high schools at Casuarina (Darwin) and at Alice Springs.
Mr Patterson and Mr Calder, by leave, also made statements with reference to the matter.

- 14 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1969-70: 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 expenditures—Defence Services—
 Department of Defence, \$23,524,000—
 Department of the Navy, \$226,044,100—
 Department of the Army, \$397,619,000—
 Department of Air, \$281,289,000—
 Department of Supply, \$94,527,000—
 General Services, \$3,399,900—

together debated.

Limitation of debate: At one minute past eleven o'clock p.m., the Deputy Chairman (Mr Drury) having called the attention of the committee to the fact that the time allotted for the proposed expenditures had expired—

Question—That the proposed expenditures be agreed to—put and passed.

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.

- 15 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ADVANCEMENT) BILL 1969: Mr Wentworth (Minister in charge of Aboriginal Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the States in connexion with the Welfare and Advancement of the Aboriginal People of Australia.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 16 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ADVANCEMENT) BILL (NO. 2) 1969: Mr Wentworth (Minister in charge of Aboriginal Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend section 4 of the *States Grants (Aboriginal Advancement) Act 1968*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 17 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1969-70: 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 expenditures—
 Prime Minister's Department, \$41,506,000—
 Department of the Cabinet Office, \$242,000—
 together debated.

The committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

FRIDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 1969

Debate continued.

Proposed expenditures agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Sir William Haworth reported accordingly.

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

18 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-seven minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 11 September 1969, pursuant to statute:

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Variation of plan of lay-out of City of Canberra and its environs, dated 10 September 1969.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Aston, Mr Benson, Mr Birrell, Mr J. F. Cairns, Mr Courtney, Mr Duthie, Mr Harrison, Mr Jess, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, Mr O'Connor, Mr Peters, Mr St. John, Mr Stokes, Mr Swartz and Mr Turner.

N. J. PARKES,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives