

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 43

TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST 1970

1 The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Sir William Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: Mr Gorton (Prime Minister) presented a petition from certain residents of the Division of Higgins praying that this House (1) immediately ban the export of products made from kangaroos, (2) strongly urge the State governments to ban the shooting of kangaroos for commercial purposes until the select committee has made its recommendations and (3) add to the Constitution a clause empowering the Commonwealth Government to act to safeguard any species of wildlife that is endangered through any cause.

Petitions from certain residents of Victoria praying that the export of products made from kangaroos be banned and the Commonwealth Government take necessary steps to have all wildlife in Australia brought under its control were presented by Mr Snedden (Minister for Labour and National Service), Mr Fox and Mr L. K. Johnson. Petitions severally received.

Mr Cohen presented a petition from certain citizens of New South Wales praying that this House take immediate steps to increase the base pension rate to 30 per cent of average weekly male earnings.

Petition received and read.

Similar petitions to that presented by Mr Cohen were presented by Mr L. F. Bowen, and by Mr Street, from certain citizens of Victoria, and were severally received.

Mr McIvor presented a petition from certain members of the Footscray sub-branch of the Returned Services League praying that an independent non-parliamentary committee be set up to review the Repatriation and the Repatriation (Special Overseas Service) Acts and that other repatriation benefits be reviewed and increased.

Petition received and read.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WITHDRAWAL OF AUSTRALIAN FORCES FROM VIETNAM AND CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IN INDO-CHINA: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The withdrawal of all Australian forces from Vietnam and international action to end hostilities and undertake rehabilitation in Indo-China".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Barnard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

5 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE: Ordered—that notice No. 1, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.

6 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS Nos. 14 TO 18 (1970): Mr Chipp (Minister for Customs and Excise) moved Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 (1970).

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

7 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Tariff Board—Reports—

- Alloy steel, high carbon steel and electrical steels.
- Breathing appliances and artificial respiration apparatus.
- Calcium carbide.
- Ceramic tableware (New Zealand—Australia Free Trade Agreement).
- Cinematograph projectors.
- Footwear with non-leather uppers, etc.
- Paper clips of base metal (Dumping and Subsidies Act).
- Relays.
- Sorbitol and mannitol.
- Vulcanised rubber sheets, etc.

Severally ordered to be printed.

8 BOOK BOUNTY BILL 1970: 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 51, dated 7 May 1970, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced 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 Chipp (Minister for Customs and Excise), the Bill was read a third time.

9 BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION BILL 1970: 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.

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

10 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1970–71—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “this House condemns this deceptive and negative Budget because it fails to meet the real needs of the Australian people, especially with respect to (a) standards of social service and war pensioners, (b) assistance to school, hospital and urban authorities and (c) restructuring of stricken primary industries and because it introduces and increases taxes and charges of a regressive and inequitable nature”.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Forbes—Minister for Health), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

11 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Forbes (Minister for Health) moved—That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nineteen minutes to eleven 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 25 August 1970, pursuant to statute:

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1970, Nos. 104, 105, 106.

Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1970, No. 107.

Spirits Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1970, No. 103.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Barnes, Mr N. H. Bowen, Mr Buchanan, Mr J. F. Cairns, Mr England, Mr Katter and Mr Nicholls.

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