

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 114

WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 1971

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- 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 COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION—DELEGATION FROM SABAH: Mr Speaker informed the House that four members of a delegation from the Sabah Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association were present in the gallery of the House. On behalf of the House and the Commonwealth of Australia Branch of the Association, Mr Speaker extended to members of the delegation a very cordial welcome.
 - 3 PETITIONS: Mr Bury presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the sales tax and customs duties on all forms of contraceptive devices be removed, and that all contraceptive devices be placed on the National Health Scheme Pharmaceutical Benefits list.

Mr Mackay (Minister for the Navy) and Mr Bury presented petitions from certain electors of Australia praying that the Government revise its interpretation of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 relating to chemical agents of warfare, and declare that it regards all chemical substances employed for their toxic effects on man, animals or plants, as being included in the prohibitions laid down by that Protocol.

Mr Mackay presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that (1) the management of Australia's wildlife be controlled by the Commonwealth Government and sufficient wardens be appointed to enforce the laws, (2) the shooting of kangaroos for commercial purposes be stopped immediately, (3) the export of all kangaroo products from Australia be banned and (4) the Commonwealth Government also establish large national parks of good quality land as major tourist attractions.

Petitions severally received.

Mr Enderby presented a petition from certain residents of the Australian Capital Territory praying that a Committee of Inquiry, on which are represented the Department of Education and Science, institutions of tertiary education, practising educators, and the Canberra community, be instituted to inquire into the form that an Australian Capital Territory Education Authority should take, the educational principles and philosophy that should underly it, and its mode of operation and administration.

Petition received and read.

A similar petition to that presented by Mr Enderby was presented by Mr Klugman, and was received.

Mr Jacobi presented a petition from certain electors of the Division of Hawker praying that section twenty-six of the National Service Act be repealed.

Petition received.

Mr Enderby presented a petition from certain citizens of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the words "or for preventing conception" be deleted from sub-section (1.) of section 46 of the A.C.T. Pharmacy Ordinance.

Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House make legal provision for (1) the allowance of personal education expenses as a taxation deduction, (2) the removal of the present age limit in respect of the deduction for education expenses, (3) an increase in the deduction allowable for tertiary education expenses, (4) an increase in the maintenance allowance for students and (5) the exemption of non-bonded scholarships for part-time students from income tax.

Petitions severally received and read.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 PAPERS: The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

War Service Homes—Interim Report of Director, for year 1970–71.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Defence Act—Royal Military College of Australia—Report for period 1 February 1970 to 31 January 1971.

Marginal Dairy Farms Agreements Act—Copy of Agreement made on 1 June 1971 between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of New South Wales in relation to the Marginal Dairy Farms Reconstruction Scheme.

6 AUSTRALIAN FILM INDUSTRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Howson (Minister for the Environment, Aborigines and the Arts), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the development of a national film and television training school through an interim council and other assistance to the Australian film industry.

7 POST AND TELEGRAPH BILL 1971—Sir Alan Hulme (Postmaster-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Post and Telegraph Act 1901–1970* and certain Regulations under that Act.

Bill read a first time.

Sir Alan Hulme 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.

8 POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL 1971: Sir Alan Hulme (Postmaster-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902–1970*.

Bill read a first time.

Sir Alan Hulme 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.

9 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS: Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved, pursuant to notice—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent government business taking precedence of general business on each sitting day until the Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 1971–72 has passed all stages in the House.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1971-72—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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “the House condemns the Budget because (a) it breaks the Prime Minister’s pledge to Parliament on taking office to bring into effect for 1971-72 a fundamental review of social services and of methods for adjusting them, (b) it contains no proposals to balance the finances and functions of the Commonwealth, the States and local government and (c) it produces no programmes for high national objectives of social welfare, economic strength and national security”—

Debate resumed.

Ordered—That Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

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

- 11 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE: Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That Mr Dobie and Mr Robinson be discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, and that, in their places, Mr L. H. Irwin and Mr Pettitt be appointed members of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

- 12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fifteen minutes past eleven o’clock p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at half-past ten o’clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr J. F. Cairns, Mr Calwell, Mr Cass, Mr Jenkins, Mr L. R. Johnson, Mr King, Mr Luchetti, Mr Lucock, Mr McLeay, Mr Solomon, Mr Wallis and Mr Whittorn.

J. A. PETTIFER,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives