

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 155

WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH 1972

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 Uren presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government will immediately enact legislation providing for a base pension rate of 30 per cent of average weekly male earnings and other health and social service changes and initiate a public inquiry into Australia's social welfare structure.

Mr FitzPatrick presented a petition from certain citizens of New South Wales praying that this House will give urgent consideration to improving the educational opportunities of children living in isolated areas through the granting of certain financial aid, taxation concessions, accommodation and travelling allowances.

Petitions severally received.

Mr Enderby presented a petition from certain residents of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the Government will not enact any law that would detract from or hinder the rights of the Aborigines to be on the lawns outside Parliament House, and that the Government instruct its officers not to interfere with the Aborigines peacefully assembled there.

Petition received and read.

Similar petitions to that presented by Mr Enderby were presented by Mr Duthie and Mr Scholes, and were severally received.

Mr FitzPatrick also presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House will (1) take immediate steps to make emergency finance available to the States for State school education and (2) divert the large sums of public money being spent on private schools to the government school system for which the Government is truly responsible.

Petition received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr McMahon (Prime Minister), by leave, presented the following paper:

Letter, dated 23 February 1972, from Mr P. D. Day, Acting Director of the New South Wales Department of Decentralisation and Development, to Mr D. J. Munro, Chairman of the Commonwealth/State Officials' Committee on Decentralisation, relating to a report of the Commonwealth/State Officials' Committee on Decentralisation.

Questions without notice continued.

- 4 ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr N. H. Bowen (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
 Australia-Japan Agreement for co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy—Signed at Canberra, 21 February 1972.
- Mr Bowen, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the Agreement, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
 Atomic Energy Agreement with Japan—Ministerial statement, 8 March 1972.
- Mr K. M. K. Cairns (Minister for Housing) moved—That the House take note of the papers.
 Debate ensued.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Stewart), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOVERNMENT'S EMPLOYMENT TRAINING SCHEMES: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Gun had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Government's employment training schemes and the Government's failure generally to deal with the problems of redundancy".
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Gun addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 6 SEWERAGE SYSTEM AT KATHERINE, N.T.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Chipp (Minister representing the Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Construction of a sewerage system at Katherine, N.T.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.
- 7 CENTRAL HOSPITAL SERVICES COMPLEX, CANBERRA—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Chipp (Minister representing the Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Construction of a central hospital services complex—Stage 1—Canberra.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr Hayden addressing the House and having been repeatedly called to order for irrelevance, the Deputy Speaker directed the honourable Member to discontinue his speech, and the honourable Member so requiring—
 Question—That the honourable Member for Oxley be further heard—put and passed.
 Ordered—That Mr Hayden be granted an extension of time.
 Debate continued.
 Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.
- 8 CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (No. 2) 1972: Mr Chipp (Minister for Customs and Excise) presented a Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Chipp moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Hayden), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 9 PUBLIC SERVICE BILL 1972: 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 Swartz (Leader of the House), the Bill was read a third time.
- 10 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 11 LOAN (AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD) BILL 1972: 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 Corbett), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 12 SUPERANNUATION FUND—NINTH QUINQUENNIAL INVESTIGATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Snedden (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the Ninth Quinquennial Investigation of the Superannuation Fund, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:
Superannuation Fund—Ninth Quinquennial Investigation, as at 30 June 1967—
Report by the Superannuation Board.
Report presented to the Board by the Commonwealth Actuary.
Ministerial statement, 8 March 1972.
Mr Chipp (Deputy Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.
Debate ensued.
Debate adjourned (Mr Giles), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 STATES GRANTS BILL 1972: Mr Snedden (Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants Act (No. 2) 1971*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Snedden 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.
- 14 STATES GRANTS (CAPITAL ASSISTANCE) BILL (No. 2) 1972: Mr Snedden (Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Capital Assistance) Act 1971*, as amended by the *States Grants (Capital Assistance) Act 1972*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Snedden 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.
- 15 LOAN (AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD) BILL 1972: 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: Message No. 198, dated 1 March 1972, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue and moneys for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Mackay (Minister for the Navy), the Bill was read a third time.

16 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Chipp (Deputy Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nine 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 L. F. Bowen, Mr Bury, Mr Calwell, Mr Cass, Mr MacKellar, Mr Morrison and Mr Whittorn.

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