

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 167

THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 1972

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

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following honourable Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), Mr Hallett, Mr Hansen, Mr MacKellar and Mr Pettitt—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House will take immediate steps to call a halt to the closing of post offices and the reorganisation of the Post Office and initiate a joint parliamentary inquiry into the Postmaster-General's Department.

Mr Jacobi, Mr L. R. Johnson, Mr Kirwan, Mr Klugman and Mr Morrison—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 Uren—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.

Mr Enderby—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 Armitage and Mr Klugman—from certain residents of the western suburbs in the Sydney metropolitan area and surrounding districts praying that this House take appropriate steps to ensure that the Government does not proceed with the proposal to site the second twenty-four hour international airport for Sydney at Richmond or anywhere else in the far western suburbs of the metropolitan area.

Mr Enderby—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.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND—OFFICIAL VISIT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr McMahan (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Right Honourable J. R. Marshall had accepted the Australian Government's invitation to make an official visit to Australia in June 1972.

Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 5 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
 19 April 1972—Message—
 No. 287—Social Services (No. 2) 1972 [No. 2].
 No. 288—Repatriation 1972.
 No. 289—Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances 1972.
- 6 ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING: Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved—
 That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.
 Question—put and passed.
- 7 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Daly (Deputy Chairman) brought up the following report from the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory:
 Report on the forty-ninth series of variations of the plan of lay-out of the City of Canberra and its environs—
 and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
 Ordered—That the report be printed.
- 8 RACIAL PREJUDICE AND VIOLENCE: Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved, pursuant to notice—That the Government should take effective legislative and administrative action to counter racial prejudice and violence.
 Debate ensued.
 It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 109.
 Ordered—That the time for the discussion of notice No. 1 be extended until fifteen minutes to one o'clock p.m.
 Debate continued.
 The time allotted for precedence to general business having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr Klugman was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 9 PAPER: Mr J. F. Cairns, by leave, presented the following paper:
 Publication entitled "This is Artukovic".
- 10 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS: Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved, pursuant to notice—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Fairbairn (Minister for Defence) making a ministerial statement relating to the invasion of South Vietnam by North Vietnam and its security implications for Australia.
 Question—put and passed.
- 11 VIETNAM—INVASION OF THE SOUTH—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED: Mr Fairbairn (Minister for Defence) made a ministerial statement relating to the invasion of South Vietnam by North Vietnam and its security implications for Australia, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
 Vietnam—Invasion of the South—Ministerial statement, 20 April 1972.
 Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Swartz moved, by leave—
 That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) speaking for a period not exceeding 20 minutes.
 Question—put and passed.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—That the House take note of the paper—put and passed.

- 12 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—CANBERRA (FAIRBAIRN) AIRPORT—EXTENSION OF RUNWAY: 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*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report: Extension of the 17/35 runway, taxiways and aprons at Canberra (Fairbairn) Airport.
Mr Chipp presented a plan in connection with the proposed work.
Question—put and passed.
- 13 MINISTERIAL HOUSE IN CANBERRA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Hunt (Minister for the Interior), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to a house built for him by the Government in the Canberra suburb of Campbell and the decision to dispose of the house by public sale.
- 14 PAPUA NEW GUINEA LOAN (ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK) 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. 212, dated 22 March 1972, 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 Garland (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.
- 15 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
20 April 1972—Message No. 290—Public Service Arbitration 1972.
- 16 RURAL RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Garland (Minister for Supply)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 12 April 1972*), viz.:
Rural Reconstruction Scheme—Ministerial statement, 12 April 1972—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr Corbett), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 17 NAVIGATION 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 by Mr Jones who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill this House condemns the Government for having failed to amend the Navigation Act to comply with International Labour Organization and Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization Conventions, modern shipping practice, and effective safety operations, as promised by the Minister for Shipping and Transport in August 1967, and for failing to introduce a Bill to provide for an Australian Register of Shipping”.
Debate continued.
Debate adjourned (Mr Bennett), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Nixon (Minister for Shipping and Transport) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
And then the House, at ten minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until Wednesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.
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PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 20 April 1972, pursuant to statute:

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1972, No. 44.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1972, No. 47.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr Barnes, Mr Birrell, Mr Brown, Mr Bury*, Mr Cohen, Mr Davies, Mr G. D. Erwin, Mr Giles, Sir Alan Hulme, Mr Kennedy, Mr Peacock, Mr Pettitt, Mr Robinson and Mr Snedden.

* On leave

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