

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 58.

THURSDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1949.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. RETURN OF EVACUATED HALF-CASTE CHILDREN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the return to the Northern Territory and South Australia of half-caste children evacuated during the war years.

3. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Lang rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The urgent necessity for investigation, by a Committee of this House, into the distribution of pro-Communist posters and literature by the Commonwealth Office of Education, in order to determine (a) the responsibility for such anti-Australian propoganda, (b) the channels of distribution, and (c) whether the expenditure thereon is constitutional".

Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—

Mr. Lang moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Mr. McEwen moved, That Mr. Lang be granted an extension of time.

Question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 25.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hutchinson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Lang
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McBride
Mr. Beale	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Spender
Mr. Francis	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Gullett	Mr. White
Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holt	Mr. Corser
Mr. Howse	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Hughes	

Noes, 38.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Chambers	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Clark	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Williams
Mr. Fraser	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Holloway	

And so it was negatived.

Debate ensued.

Mr. McEwen moved, That Mr. Anthony be granted an extension of time.

Question—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Closure.—Mr. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Clark, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 36.		Noes, 25.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hutchinson
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Adermann	Mr. Lang
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Anthony	Mr. McBride
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Beale	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Spender
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Francis	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Gullett	Mr. White
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell	Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Scully	Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Sheehy	Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Howse	Mr. Corser
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Hughes	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Williams		
Mr. Hadley			
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Conelan		
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Fuller		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the House do now adjourn—was put accordingly, and negatived.

4. **POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.**—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after the Notices of Motion, Government Business.
5. **PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA BILL 1949.**—Mr. Chambers (Acting Minister for External Territories) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve the placing of the Territory of New Guinea under the International Trusteeship System, to provide for the Government of the Territory of Papua and the Territory of New Guinea, and for other purposes.
Question—put and passed.
6. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—RE-SUBMISSION OF WORK—BATMAN AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, FLINDERS-LANE, MELBOURNE.**—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1947*, the following proposed work be re-submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely :—The erection of Batman Automatic Telephone Exchange, Flinders-lane, Melbourne.
Mr. Lemmon having laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work—
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
7. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—SEWERAGE INSTALLATION AT ALICE SPRINGS.**—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1947*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely :—Sewerage installation at Alice Springs.
Mr. Lemmon having laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work—
Question—put and passed.
8. **LOSS OF AIRLINER "LUTANA"—REPORT OF AIR COURT OF INQUIRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPERS.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Civil Aviation), That the Papers [*presented on the 24th November, 1948*], viz. :—
Loss of Airliner *Lutana*, 2nd September, 1948—
(1) Report of Air Court of Inquiry, and
(2) Ministerial Statement by the Minister for Civil Aviation regarding the Report—
be printed—
Debate resumed.
Ordered—That Mr. Falstein be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Ordered—That Mr. McEwen be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Mr. Drakeford moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
9. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Holloway (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

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And then the House, at thirteen minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Beazley, Mr. Blain, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Gaha, Mr. James, Dame Enid Lyons, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Scullin and Mr. Ward.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.