

1958.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 34.

THURSDAY, 21ST AUGUST, 1958.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Kearney presented a Petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House will give immediate consideration to the matter of increasing the rate of pension to at least 50 per cent. of the basic wage and liberalizing certain other social service benefits.  
Petition received and read.
3. NATIVE FATALITIES IN NEW BRITAIN—COMMISSION OF INQUIRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Hasluck (Minister for Territories), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the circumstances of the deaths of two native villagers and the wounding of one at Navuneram, New Britain, on the 4th August.  
Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
4. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Public Service Act—Appointment—Repatriation Department—H. N. Paine.
5. SUPERANNUATION BILL 1958.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Superannuation Act 1922-1957*, and for purposes connected therewith.  
Question—put and passed.  
Sir Arthur Fadden then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Sir Arthur Fadden moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate adjourned (Mr. Evatt—Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
6. DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1958.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1948-1957*, and for purposes connected therewith.  
Question—put and passed.  
Sir Arthur Fadden then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Sir Arthur Fadden moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate adjourned (Mr. Evatt—Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
7. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITAL, HOBART.—  
Mr. Fairhall (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913-1953*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely:—  
Construction of Extensions to the Repatriation General Hospital at Hobart, Tasmania.  
Mr. Fairhall laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work.  
Question—put and passed.
8. CHRISTMAS ISLAND BILL 1958.—Mr. Hasluck (Minister for Territories) moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Acceptance of Christmas Island as a Territory under the Authority of the Commonwealth and to provide for the Government of that Territory.  
Question—put and passed.  
Mr. Hasluck then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Mr. Hasluck moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate adjourned (Mr. C. R. Cameron), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

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9. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1, Government Business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

10. SUPPLY—BUDGET DEBATE.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the question, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division No. 1—Senate—namely—

Salaries and allowances .. .. . £27,450

be agreed to, and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), viz.:—  
That the first item be reduced by £1.

Mr. C. R. Cameron rising to address the Committee—

Closure.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the item proposed to be reduced be so reduced—being accordingly put—

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 36.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Galvin	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Webb
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Cope	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bird	Mr. Costa	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Coutts	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Pollard	
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Curtin	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Riordan	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Daly	Mr. Kearney	Mr. Stewart	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Clarey	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Makin	Mr. Ward	Mr. Luchetti

NOES, 57.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Chaney	Mr. Forbes	Mr. Killen	Mr. Stokes
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Swartz
Mr. J. D. Anthony	Mr. Cramer	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Turner
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davis	Mr. Graham	Mr. Luck	Mr. Wentworth
Sir G. Barwick	Mr. Dean	Mr. Haworth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. H. E. Holt	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drury	Mr. Howse	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howson	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Osborne	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. Pearce	
Mr. Bury	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Opperman
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

General debate concluded.

First item agreed to.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

11. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without requests:—

21st August, 1958—*Message*—

No. 42—Customs Tariff (No. 3) 1958.

No. 43—Customs Tariff (Canadian Preference) (No. 2) 1958.

No. 44—Customs Tariff (New Zealand Preference) (No. 2) 1958.

No. 45—Customs Tariff (Papua and New Guinea Preference) 1958.

12. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Regulations—1958—No. 8 (Nurses and Midwives Registration Ordinance).

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-seven minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until Tuesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Bland, Mr. Calwell, Mr. Casey, Mr. Crean, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Freeth, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. James, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Mackinnon, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Minogue, Mr. Morgan, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Russell, Mr. Timson and Mr. Watkins.

A. A. TREGEAR,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives.