

1961.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 14.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH APRIL, 1961.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. J. R. Fraser presented a Petition from certain citizens of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the Government will take immediate action to defer the implementation of rental increases of Government-owned dwellings in Canberra and conduct an inquiry into Canberra rentals at which evidence may be taken both from individuals and from community organizations.
Petition received.
3. MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Sir Garfield Barwick, Mr. McMahon (Minister for Labour and National Service) would act as Attorney-General and would represent in this House the Minister for National Development.
4. PAPERS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth—
Colombo Plan—Australia's Part—Progress Report to 31st December, 1960.
Postmaster-General's Department—
Fiftieth Annual Report, for year 1959–60.
Financial and Statistical Bulletin, for year 1959–60.
Auditor-General's Report on Post Office Commercial Accounts for year 1959–60.
Mr. Davidson (Postmaster-General), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in connexion with the Report of the Postmaster-General's Department.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1959–60.
5. POST OFFICE—COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS—AD HOC COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY—REPORTS AND ADDENDA—
MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPERS.—Mr. Davidson (Postmaster-General), by command of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth, laid upon the Table the following Papers:—
Reports of the ad hoc Committee of Inquiry into the Commercial Accounts of the Post Office together with an addendum to the Report of the majority of the Committee and comments on the addendum by the minority—
and moved, That the Papers be printed.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
6. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Dean brought up the following Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:—
Report relating to the proposed construction of Commonwealth Offices at Toowoomba, Queensland.
Ordered to be printed.
7. DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1961.—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.
The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

19th April, 1961.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR—DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1961.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth:—

DALLAS BROOKS,
Administrator.

Message No. 3.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1959*.

Canberra, 13th April, 1961.

Ordered—That the Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Cramer (Minister for the Army) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1959*.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Cramer, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

9. DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1961.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

(In the Committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Cramer (Minister for the Army), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10. NATIONAL HEALTH BILL 1961.—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.
The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR—NATIONAL HEALTH BILL 1961.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth:—

DALLAS BROOKS,
Administrator.

Message No. 4.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Health Act 1953–1959*, and for other purposes.

Canberra, 13th April, 1961.

Ordered—That the Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

19th April, 1961.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. D. A. Cameron (Minister for Health) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Health Act 1953-1959*, and for other purposes.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Cameron, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

12. NATIONAL HEALTH BILL 1961.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
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(In the Committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Haworth reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. D. A. Cameron (Minister for Health), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. D. A. Cameron (Minister for Health) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes to ten 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 Sir Garfield Barwick, Mr. Drury, Mr. Fairhall*, Mr. Hamilton and Sir Earle Page.

* On leave.

N. J. PARKES,

Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.