

1967

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 16

TUESDAY, 11 APRIL 1967

- 1 The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that a delegation from the Parliament of Ceylon, led by the Honourable M. D. H. Jayawardena, M.P., Minister for Health, was present in the gallery of the House. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a warm welcome.
- 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 **VIETNAMESE CHILDREN—HOSPITAL TREATMENT IN AUSTRALIA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hasluck (Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to proposals which had been made for hospital treatment in Australia of Vietnamese children.
- 5 **AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT NEAR WINTON, QUEENSLAND—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Swartz (Minister for Civil Aviation), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that he had received the final report of the technical investigation into the crash of the Ansett-A.N.A. Viscount aircraft which had occurred on 22 September 1966 near Winton, Queensland, and that he had forwarded a copy to Sir John Spicer, Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Industrial Court, who had been appointed Chairman of the Board of Accident Inquiry. The inquiry would open in Brisbane on 26 April. Mr Swartz then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Aircraft Accident near Winton, Queensland—Ministerial statement—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate adjourned (Mr C. K. Jones), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 6 **SOCIAL SERVICES BILL 1967:** 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 Daly 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, the House condemns the Government because it has failed to—
(1) eliminate the injustices of discrimination between the rates of married and single pensioners;
(2) increase adequately all rates of pensions and social service benefits to meet the increased cost of living;
(3) institute a national inquiry into poverty and social welfare in Australia;
(4) carry out its policy of abolishing the means test as promised as long ago as 1949, and

(5) make benefits retrospective to the date of the last elections, 26 November 1966".
Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Allan), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

7 NATIONAL HEALTH BILL 1967: Mr Forbes (Minister for Health), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Health Act 1953–1966* in relation to Pensioners. Bill read a first time.

Mr Forbes moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr J. F. Cairns), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

8 SOCIAL SERVICES BILL 1967: 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Daly, viz.*—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, the House condemns the Government because it has failed to—

- (1) eliminate the injustices of discrimination between the rates of married and single pensioners;
- (2) increase adequately all rates of pensions and social service benefits to meet the increased cost of living;
- (3) institute a national inquiry into poverty and social welfare in Australia;
- (4) carry out its policy of abolishing the means test as promised as long ago as 1949, and
- (5) make benefits retrospective to the date of the last elections, 26 November 1966"—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr Pettitt), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

9 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Minister for Social Services) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twelve minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 April 1967, pursuant to statute:

Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1967, No. 39.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1967, No. 40.

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—

Ordinance—1967—No. 6—Adoption of Children (*in substitution for the paper presented on 4 April 1967*).

Regulations—1967—No. 12 (Adoption of Children Ordinance).

Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinances—1967—

No. 10—National Fitness.

No. 11—Local Government (Wahgi Council Elections).

No. 12—Restaurants (Licensing).

No. 13—South Pacific Games (1969).

No. 14—Inflammable Liquid.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1967, Nos. 37, 38.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations—1967—

No. 66—Amalgamated Engineering Union and others.

No. 69—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 70—Professional Officers' Association Commonwealth Public Service.

- No. 71—North Australian Workers' Union.
No. 72—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.
No. 73—North Australian Workers' Union.
No. 74—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service;
and Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of
Australia.
No. 75—Federated Furnishing Trade Society of Australasia.
No. 77—Amalgamated Engineering Union and others.
No. 78—Federated Liquor and Allied Industries Employees' Union of
Australia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr
Bury, Mr Cross, Mr Fulton, Mr Hayden, Mr Katter, Mr Killen and Mr Opperman.

A. G. TURNER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives