

1967

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 35

TUESDAY, 22 AUGUST 1967

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- 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 **CAPRICORNIA ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT:** Mr Speaker informed the House that it was his intention to issue a writ tomorrow for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Capricornia, in the State of Queensland, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr George Henry Gray. The dates in connection with the election would be fixed as follows:

Date of nomination	..	Friday, 8 September 1967.
Date of polling	..	Saturday, 30 September 1967.
Date of return of writ	..	On or before Friday, 3 November 1967.
 - 3 **PETITIONS:** Mr Calder presented a petition from certain residents and electors of the Alice Springs district of the Northern Territory praying that Parliament give consideration to having section 128 of the Constitution amended as provided for by that section to the intent that electors resident in the Northern Territory may vote on questions put forward in a referendum to amend the Constitution.
 Petition received and read.
 Petitions from certain electors of the Commonwealth praying that the Government implement Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by providing increased social service and housing benefits for the aged, the invalid, the widowed and their dependants were presented by Mr Minogue and Mr Bridges-Maxwell.
 Mr Pettitt presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Government set one per cent of the gross national product as a target for the annual allocation of aid to the developing countries.
 Petitions severally received.
 - 4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 5 **PAPER:** The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:
 Dried Fruits Export Control Act—Dried Fruits Control Board—Forty-second Annual Report, for year 1965–66, together with Statement by Minister regarding the operation of the Act.
 - 6 **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEBATE—REMARKS BY PRIME MINISTER RELATING TO HONOURABLE MEMBER FOR YARRA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Holt (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to certain remarks relating to the honourable Member for Yarra (Mr J. F. Cairns) which he had made in the debate on International Affairs on Thursday last and to the subsequent statement made in the House by Mr Cairns with reference to those remarks.
 Mr Cairns, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.
 - 7 **STATEMENT BY MEMBER—LEAVE TO MAKE NOT GRANTED:** Mr Wentworth asked leave to make a statement.
 Objection being raised, leave not granted.

8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—COSTS OF IMPORTED DEFENCE EQUIPMENT: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's maladministration in relation to the costs of imported defence equipment".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Barnard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

9 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE: Ordered—That notice No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

10 INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT, 17 AUGUST 1967—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr Hasluck (Minister for External Affairs): That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 17 August*), viz:

International Affairs—Ministerial statement, 17 August 1967—

Debate resumed.

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

11 PAPER: Mr Speaker presented, pursuant to statute:

Reserve Bank Act—Reserve Bank of Australia—Report and financial statements, together with Auditor-General's Reports thereon, for year 1966–67.

12 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1967–68—BUDGET DEBATE: 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 Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) who moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: "this House condemns the Budget because—

(1) it places defence costs on those least able to pay them;

(2) it fails to curb administrative waste and extravagance;

(3) it defers and retrenches development projects; and

(4) it allows social service and war pensioners to fall still further behind their fellow citizens".

Debate continued.

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

13 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Howson (Minister for Air) moved—That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

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

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 22 August 1967, pursuant to statute:

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1967, No. 109.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Calwell*, Mr C. R. Cameron*, Sir John Cramer, Mr Daly, Mr Failes, Mr Gibbs*, Mr Jess, Mr C. K. Jones*, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes*, Mr McEwen and Mr Whittorn*.

* On leave.

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