

1968

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 15

THURSDAY, 2 MAY 1968

- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 3 **PAPER:** The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:  
 Commonwealth Telegraphs Agreement—Commonwealth Telecommunications Board—Sixteenth General Report and Statement of Accounts for year ended 31 March 1967.
- 4 **MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE:** Messages from the Senate, dated 1 May 1968, were reported—
- (a) acquainting the House that the Senate concurs in the resolution of the House granting the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory power to move from place to place when considering certain matters relating to the desirability of establishing a fruit and vegetable market in the Australian Capital Territory which were referred to the Committee on 13 March 1968—Message No. 3.
- (b) returning the following Bills without amendment:  
 Message—  
 No. 4—Science and Industry Research 1968.  
 No. 5—Native Members of the Forces Benefits 1968.  
 No. 6—Removal of Prisoners (Territories) 1968.  
 No. 7—Northern Territory (Administration) 1968.  
 No. 8—Officers' Rights Declaration 1968.
- 5 **STATES GRANTS (DROUGHT ASSISTANCE) BILL 1968:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia in relation to Loss of Revenue due to the Effects of Drought.  
 Bill read a first time.  
 Mr McMahon moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.  
 Debate adjourned (Mr Beaton), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 6 **STATES GRANTS (DROUGHT REIMBURSEMENT) BILL 1968:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make provision for the Grant of Financial Assistance to the States of Victoria and South Australia for the purpose of meeting the Cost of Measures for Alleviating the Effects of Drought.  
 Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 7 NAVIGATION BILL 1968: Mr Sinclair (Minister for Shipping and Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Navigation Act 1912–1967* for the purpose of giving effect to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 8 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE: Ordered—That notice No. 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 9 GRIEVANCE DEBATE: Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

It being fifteen minutes to one o'clock p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for Grievance debate:* Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), being continued until half-past three o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

It being half-past three o'clock p.m., the debate was interrupted.

*Suspension of standing orders—Further extended time for Grievance debate:* Mr Snedden moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), being further continued until four o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

- 10 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

2 May 1968—Message—

No. 9—Income Tax (International Agreements) 1968.

No. 10—Income Tax Assessment 1968.

- 11 PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA BILL 1968: Mr Barnes (Minister for External Territories), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Papua and New Guinea Act 1949–1966*. Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Whitlam—Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 12 STATES GRANTS (DESERTED WIVES) BILL 1968: Mr Wentworth (Minister for Social Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to certain States in respect of Benefits provided for Deserted Wives, and certain other Women, having the Custody, Care and Control of Children.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 13 POST AND TELEGRAPH BILL 1968: 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 Webb, viz.:* That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “the Bill be withdrawn and that a Joint Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the desirability and practicability of removing the Australian Post Office from the administrative influence of the Public Service Board and of establishing a public corporation to control the business of the Post Office”—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

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Mr Adermann	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Hulme	Mr Munro
Mr Allan	Mr Fairhall	Mr Jarman	Mr Nixon
Mr Anthony	Mr Forbes	Mr Jess	Mr Pettitt
Mr Armstrong	Mr Fox	Mr Jessop	Mr Sinclair
Mr Arthur	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Katter	Mr Snedden
Mr Barnes	Mr Freeth	Mr Kelly	Mr St. John
Mr Bosman	Mr Gibbs	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr Stokes
Miss Brownbill	Mr Gibson	Mr Killen	Mr Street
Mr Buchanan	Mr Giles	Mr King	Mr Swartz
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Mr Lee	Mr Turner
Mr Chipp	Mr Hallett	Mr Lucock	Mr Wentworth
Mr Corbett	Mr Hasluck	Mr Lynch	Mr Whittorn
Sir J. Cramer	Mr Haworth	Mr Mackay	Mr Wilson
Mr Dobie	Mr Holten	Mr Maisey	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Drury	Mr Howson	Mr McLeay	Mr K. M. K. Cairns
Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Hughes	Mr McMahan	Mr Turnbull

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Mr Barnard	Mr Courtney	Mr Hansen	Mr Scholes
Mr Beaton	Mr Crean	Mr Hayden	Mr Stewart
Mr Bryant	Mr Cross	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr Calwell	Mr Curtin	Mr Luchetti	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Daly	Mr McIvor	
Mr Clark	Mr Devine	Mr Minogue	
Mr Collard	Mr Everingham	Mr Nicholls	
Mr Connor	Mr J. R. Fraser	Mr O'Connor	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cope	Mr Fulton	Mr Patterson	Mr Duthie
Mr Costa	Mr Griffiths	Mr Peters	Mr James

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Debate on motion—That the Bill be now read a second time—continued.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

*In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Hulme (Postmaster-General), the following amendment was made: Clause 6, page 3, line 4, after “made”, insert “, not later than a time so agreed or, if no time is so agreed”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hulme, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 DEFENCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Fairhall (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement on Defence, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:  
Defence—Ministerial statement, 2 May 1968.

Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr Snedden moved, by leave—

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Barnard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) speaking without limitation of time.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued.

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

15 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker reported message No. 11, dated 2 May 1968, from the Senate acquainting the House of the discharge of Senator Cotton from the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory.

16 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE: Mr Speaker informed the House that the Leader of the Government in the Senate had appointed Senator Marriott to be a member of the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory.

17 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Kelly (Minister for the Navy) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

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

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PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 2 May 1968, pursuant to statute:

Raw Cotton Bounty Act—Return for year ended 29 February 1968.

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Birrell, Mr Bonnett, Mr Bowen, Mr Bridges-Maxwell, Mr Cleaver, Mr Davies, Mr England, Mr L. H. Irwin, Mr McEwen and Mr Peacock.

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