

1968

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 45

WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 1968

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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 PETITION: Mr Daly presented a petition from certain residents of Australia praying that the Government use its influence to achieve the release of all political prisoners, the holding of free elections and the restoration of all other constitutional and democratic rights in Greece and that the Government take steps to prevent further intimidation of Greek migrants in Australia by representatives of the Greek military dictatorship. Petition received and read.
- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—
Papers: Mr Swartz (Minister for Civil Aviation), by leave, presented the following papers:
 Airport car rental contract—
 Statement, dated 20 May 1968, by the Minister for Civil Aviation announcing that a contract had been awarded to Avis Rent-a-Car System Pty Ltd.
 Tender Schedule No. C2/67/181, inviting tenders.
 Draft authority to carry on a car rental business.
 Questions without notice continued.
- 4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
 Defence Report 1968.
 Referendums, 1967—
 Statistical Returns in relation to the submission to the Electors of Proposed Laws for the Alteration of the Constitution, entitled "Constitution Alteration (Parliament) 1967" and "Constitution Alteration (Aboriginals) 1967" together with Summaries of Constitution Alteration Referendums 1906-1967.
 Statistical Returns showing the voting within each Subdivision in relation to the submission to the Electors of Proposed Laws for the Alteration of the Constitution, entitled "Constitution Alteration (Parliament) 1967" and "Constitution Alteration (Aboriginals) 1967" for the States of—
 New South Wales.
 Victoria.
 Queensland.
 South Australia.
 Western Australia.
 Tasmania.
 Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority—Interim Annual Report, for year 1967-68.
 The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:
 Housing Loans Insurance Act—Housing Loans Insurance Corporation—Fourth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1967-68.

- 5 RAW COTTON BOUNTY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the decision of the Government to continue the raw cotton bounty for a further three years and to phase out the bounty in that period.

Mr Patterson, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

Mr Anthony then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Raw cotton bounty—Ministerial statement, 25 September 1968—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

- 6 PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, pursuant to notice—That government business shall take precedence over general business tomorrow.

Question—put and passed.

- 7 LABORATORY BUILDING, DIVISION OF MINERAL CHEMISTRY, NORTH RYDE, N.S.W.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Kelly (Minister representing the Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1966*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to this House: Laboratory building—Division of Mineral Chemistry, North Ryde, N.S.W.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Nixon (Minister for the Interior): That the House of Representatives approves of the redistribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs F. L. Ley, C. W. Prince and R. F. Mallon, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the said State into Divisions, in their Report laid before the House of Representatives on the 18th day of September, 1968, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the Report, and indicated in the map referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name “Ku-ring-gai” be substituted for “Hornsby” and the name “Grose” be substituted for “Blacktown” and the name “Cook” be substituted for “Kurnell”—

Motion amended by Mr Nixon, by leave, by omitting the name “Ku-ring-gai” and inserting the name “Berowra” in place thereof.

Debate resumed by Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) who moved, as an amendment—That the words “the House of Representatives approves of the redistribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs F. L. Ley, C. W. Prince and R. F. Mallon, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the said State into Divisions, in their Report laid before the House of Representatives on the 18th day of September, 1968, and” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “, since the distribution provides for a greater equality of population in the proposed Divisions than has been allowed to develop in the existing Divisions, the House of Representatives accepts the redistribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs F. L. Ley, C. W. Prince and R. F. Mallon, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the said State into Divisions, in their Report laid before the House of Representatives on the 18th day of September, 1968, but does so with reluctance since the distribution:

- (1) permits a greater inequality of population in the proposed Divisions than has occurred in any previous distribution;
- (2) fails to provide that as nearly as is practicable one man’s vote is to be worth as much as another’s; and
- (3) ignores the Constitution’s plain objective of making equal representation for equal numbers of people the fundamental goal for the House of Representatives, and agrees”.

Ordered—That Mr Whitlam be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Point of order: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) raised a point of order that the amendment was out of order as it would have no different effect than the motion before the House.

Speaker's ruling: Mr Speaker ruled that the amendment was relevant to the motion and was, therefore, in order.

Debate continued.

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

- 9 STATES GRANTS (PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS COLLEGES) BILL 1968: Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the States for the purposes of Building Projects in connexion with Pre-School Teachers Colleges.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 10 STATES GRANTS (SECONDARY SCHOOLS LIBRARIES) BILL 1968: Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the States for Libraries at Secondary Schools and for the acquisition of Library Material and Equipment for use in such Libraries.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 11 JUDICIARY ACT—CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that a committee had been appointed to consider the Judiciary Act and to report to the Government whether any alterations should be made to the Act.

- 12 ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Nixon (Minister for the Interior): That the House of Representatives approves of the redistribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs F. L. Ley, C. W. Prince and R. F. Mallon, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the said State into Divisions, in their Report laid before the House of Representatives on the 18th day of September, 1968, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the Report, and indicated in the map referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name "Berowra" be substituted for "Hornsby" and the name "Grose" be substituted for "Blacktown" and the name "Cook" be substituted for "Kurnell"—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), viz.—*That the words "the House of Representatives approves of the redistribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs F. L. Ley, C. W. Prince and R. F. Mallon, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the said State into Divisions, in their Report laid before the House of Representatives on the 18th day of September, 1968, and" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: " , since the distribution provides for a greater equality of population in the proposed Divisions than has been allowed to develop in the existing Divisions, the House of Representatives accepts the redistribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs F. L. Ley, C. W. Prince and R. F. Mallon, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the

said State into Divisions, in their Report laid before the House of Representatives on the 18th day of September, 1968, but does so with reluctance since the distribution:

- (1) permits a greater inequality of population in the proposed Divisions than has occurred in any previous distribution;
- (2) fails to provide that as nearly as is practicable one man's vote is to be worth as much as another's; and
- (3) ignores the Constitution's plain objective of making equal representation for equal numbers of people the fundamental goal for the House of Representatives, and agrees"—

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)—

AYES, 63

Mr Adermann	Sir J. Cramer	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Peacock
Mr Allan	Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr Pearsall
Mr Armstrong	Mr Drury	Mr Jessop	Mr Pettitt
Mr Arthur	Mr England	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr Robinson
Mr Barnes	Mr Failes	Mr Kelly	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fairbairn	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr Snedden
Mr Bowen	Mr Fairhall	Mr Killen	Mr St. John
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr Forbes	Mr King	Mr Stokes
Miss Brownbill	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Lee	Mr Street
Mr Buchanan	Mr Freeth	Mr Lucock	Mr Swartz
Mr Bury	Mr Gibbs	Mr Lynch	Mr Turner
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Giles	Mr Mackay	Mr Wentworth
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hallett	Mr Maisey	Mr Wilson
Mr Chaney	Mr Haworth	Mr McLeay	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chipp	Mr Hughes	Mr Munro	Mr G. D. Erwin
Mr Corbett	Mr Hulme	Mr Nixon	Mr Turnbull

NOES, 34

Mr Barnard	Mr Courtney	Mr Griffiths	Mr Peters
Mr Beaton	Mr Crean	Mr Hansen	Mr Scholes
Mr Birrell	Mr Cross	Mr Harrison	Mr Stewart
Mr Bryant	Mr Curtin	Mr Hayden	Mr Uren
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr Daly	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Davies	Mr Luchetti	
Mr Connor	Mr Devine	Mr McIvor	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Cope	Mr Everingham	Mr Nicholls	Mr Duthie
Mr Costa	Mr J. R. Fraser	Mr Patterson	Mr James

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr K. M. K. Cairns moved, as an amendment—That the following words be added to the motion: “but regrets that the Report did not have better regard to the trend of population changes in the State, which were not applied in a uniform manner in relation to all the other factors required to be taken into account”.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put.

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

AYES, 37

Mr Barnard	Mr Courtney	Mr Hansen	Mr Stewart
Mr Beaton	Mr Crean	Mr Harrison	Mr St. John
Mr Birrell	Mr Cross	Mr Hayden	Mr Turner
Mr Bryant	Mr Curtin	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr Daly	Mr Luchetti	Mr Webb
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Davies	Mr McIvor	
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Devine	Mr Nicholls	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Everingham	Mr Patterson	Mr Duthie
Mr Cope	Mr J. R. Fraser	Mr Peters	Mr James
Mr Costa	Mr Griffiths	Mr Scholes	

NOES, 59

Mr Adermann	Sir J. Cramer	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Nixon
Mr Allan	Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr Peacock
Mr Armstrong	Mr Drury	Mr Jessop	Mr Pearsall
Mr Arthur	Mr England	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr Pettitt
Mr Barnes	Mr Failes	Mr Kelly	Mr Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fairbairn	Sir W. Kent Hughes	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bowen	Mr Fairhall	Mr Killen	Mr Snedden
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr Forbes	Mr King	Mr Stokes
Miss Brownbill	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Lee	Mr Street
Mr Buchanan	Mr Freeth	Mr Lucock	Mr Swartz
Mr Bury	Mr Giles	Mr Lynch	Mr Wentworth
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hallett	Mr Mackay	Mr Wilson
Mr Chaney	Mr Haworth	Mr Maisey	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chipp	Mr Hughes	Mr McLeay	Mr G. D. Erwin
Mr Corbett	Mr Hulme	Mr Munro	Mr Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the motion, as amended by leave, be agreed to—put and passed.

13 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nine minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until tomorrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 September 1968, pursuant to statute:

Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1968, No. 105.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1968, No. 107.

Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1968, No. 106.

Sulphuric Acid Bounty Act—Return for year 1966-67.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Benson, Mr Collard*, Mr Graham, Mr Hasluck, Mr Holten*, Mr Jess, Mr McEwen and Mr McMahon.

* On leave

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