

1968

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 64

THURSDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 1968

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- 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 **PETITION:** Mr Scholes presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House make legal provision for (1) Aboriginal ownership of existing reserves throughout the Commonwealth, (2) the recognition of Aboriginal ownership of traditional land at present owned and leased by the Crown and (3) the development of mining, pastoral and other enterprises on all Aboriginal land to be subject to the consent of Aboriginal owners and such conditions as their own legal advisers may arrange.
Petition received and read.
 - 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 4 **PAPERS:** The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Postmaster-General's Department—Fifty-eighth Annual Report, for year 1967–68.
The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:
Commonwealth Electoral Act—Redistribution of Electoral Divisions, 1968—Report, with Maps, by the Distribution Commissioners for the State of Queensland on the fresh redistribution.
Ordered to be printed.
Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1967–68.
Australian War Memorial Act—Board of Trustees of the Australian War Memorial—Fifth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1967–68.
Honey Industry Act—Australian Honey Board—Fifth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1967–68.
 - 5 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Cleaver (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts: One hundred and second Report—Expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year 1967–68—
and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
Ordered—That the report be printed.
 - 6 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT:** Mr O'Connor (Vice-Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works: Report relating to the proposed construction of hospital complex, Stage 1, Gove, N.T.
Ordered to be printed.

- 7 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS:** Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent government business taking precedence over general business at this sitting.
Question—put and passed.
- 8 **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES:** Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 to 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 9 **PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES BILL 1968:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act relating to Parliamentary Retiring Allowances.
Bill read a first time.
Mr McMahon moved, by leave—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Whitlam—Leader of the Opposition), and, by leave, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 10 **PARLIAMENTARY ALLOWANCES 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—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 84, dated 21 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Snedden (Leader of the House), the Bill was read a third time.
- 11 **MINISTERS OF STATE 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—
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 85, dated 21 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Snedden (Leader of the House), the Bill was read a third time.
- 12 **PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES 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—
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 86, dated 21 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Snedden (Leader of the House), the Bill was read a third time.
- 13 **SUPERANNUATION SCHEME—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the relief to be provided for officers faced with hardship in taking up additional pension entitlements in the later stages of their public service careers, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Commonwealth superannuation scheme—Ministerial statement, 21 November 1968—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 14 **GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING POLICY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement on Government publishing policy, the establishment and functions of an Australian Government Publishing Service and possible changes in the functions of the Printing Committees

of both Houses. Mr McMahon also made reference to the retirement of the Government Printer, Mr A. J. Arthur, O.B.E., and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Government publishing policy—Ministerial statement, 21 November 1968—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

- 15 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), Mr G. D. Erwin and Mr Graham, by leave, made statements relating to the matters referred to in the ministerial statement on Government publishing policy.
- 16 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent general business being considered until five minutes to four o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
- 17 ADULTHOOD BILL 1968: Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to give the rights to marry and to vote at eighteen years of age.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Whitlam moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate, by leave, ensued.
At five minutes to four o'clock p.m., the time allotted for the consideration of general business having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr Peacock was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 CONTINENTAL SHELF (LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES) BILL 1968: Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the Living Natural Resources of the Continental Shelf.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Anthony moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Patterson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 19 FISHERIES BILL 1968: Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend section 4 of the *Fisheries Act 1952–1967*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Anthony moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Patterson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 20 INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION—LIMA CONFERENCE, 1968—REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION—PAPER NOTED: Mr Bridges-Maxwell, by leave, presented the following paper:
Inter-Parliamentary Union—Fifty-sixth Conference, Lima, Peru, September 1968—
Report of the Australian Delegation—
and moved, by leave—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
- 21 COMMONWEALTH SUPERIOR COURT BILL 1968: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to create a Court to be known as the Commonwealth Superior Court and to make provision with respect to the Jurisdiction of, and other matters in relation to, that Court.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Bowen moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Connor), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 22 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY SUPREME COURT BILL 1968: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Act 1933-1966*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Bowen moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Connor), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 23 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 3 and 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 24 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ADVANCEMENT) 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—
 Debate resumed by Mr Patterson who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “while welcoming the provision for financial assistance for Aboriginal advancement, this House is of opinion that the Bill should divulge the terms and conditions agreed upon between the Commonwealth and the States under which the financial assistance is granted and that the Bill should contain power to make regulations providing for the administration and details of the scheme”.
 Debate continued.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Calder), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 25 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
 21 November 1968—Message No. 113—War Service Homes 1968.
- 26 JUDICIARY 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—
 Debate resumed.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.
- 27 PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA BILL (NO. 2) 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—
 Debate resumed.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 87, dated 13 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Barnes (Minister for External Territories), the Bill was read a third time.
- 28 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 6, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 29 INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AGREEMENTS 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—
 Debate resumed.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 88, dated 7 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Freeth (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

30 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—STATES GRANTS (SECONDARY SCHOOLS LIBRARIES) BILL 1968: Mr Speaker reported the receipt of the following message from the Senate:

MR SPEAKER,

Message No. 112

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the 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*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Canberra, 21 November 1968

A. M. McMULLIN,
President

Ordered—That the amendment be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, forthwith.

In the committee

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE

After clause 4 insert the following new clause:—

"4A. The Minister shall cause a statement to be laid before each House of the Parliament as soon as practicable after the end of each year during the period to which this Act applies describing the arrangements in accordance with which payments under this Act have been authorized in that year and stating, in respect of each State—

Annual
statement by
Minister.

(a) in relation to secondary schools not being secondary schools conducted by the State—

- (i) the total amount paid to the State under this Act in that year; and
- (ii) the names of the secondary schools in respect of which approvals for the application of moneys included in that amount have been given, and the amount approved for expenditure in respect of each such school; and

(b) in relation to secondary schools conducted by the State—

- (i) the total amount paid to the State under this Act in that year; and
- (ii) the names of the secondary schools in respect of which the State has, during that year, applied amounts paid to the State under this Act."

On the motion of Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), the amendment was agreed to, after debate.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr J. M. Fraser, the House adopted the report.

31 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ADVANCEMENT) 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 Patterson, viz.*—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: "while welcoming the provision for financial assistance for Aboriginal advancement, this House is of opinion that the Bill should divulge the terms and conditions agreed upon between the Commonwealth and the States under which the financial assistance is granted and that the Bill should contain power to make regulations providing for the administration and details of the scheme"—

Debate resumed.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 1968

Debate continued.

Mr Everingham was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed. Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

32 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—PARLIAMENTARY ALLOWANCES BILL 1968: Mr Speaker reported the receipt of the following message from the Senate:

MR SPEAKER,

Message No. 117

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to Parliamentary Allowances*", and requests the House to amend the Bill as set forth in the annexed Schedule.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 22 November 1968 a.m.

Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 89, dated 21 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purpose of amendments to be made upon Request by the Senate to a Bill for an Act relating to Parliamentary Allowances.

Ordered—That the amendments requested by the Senate be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, forthwith.

In the committee

SCHEDULE OF REQUESTS BY THE SENATE FOR AMENDMENTS

No. 1—Page 2, after clause 4, add the following new clause:—

"5. After section 8 of the *Parliamentary Allowances Act* 1952–1966 the following section is inserted:—

"8A. There is payable to the leader in the Senate of the second non-Government recognised political party in the Senate an allowance at the rate of One thousand dollars a year, and a further allowance, in respect of the expenses of discharging the duties of his office, at the rate of Five hundred dollars a year."

Allowance to leader of second non-Government party in Senate.

No. 2—The Schedule, Section 4, leave out "Two thousand six hundred and fifty", insert "Two thousand eight hundred".

On the motion of Mr Snedden (Leader of the House), requested amendment No. 1 was made.

Requested amendment No. 2—

Mr Snedden moved—That the requested amendment be not made.

Mr Buchanan addressing the committee—

Closure: Mr Snedden moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the requested amendment be not made—was put accordingly, and passed.

Resolutions to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Drury reported accordingly.

Mr Snedden moved—That the report be adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed,

- 33 STATES GRANTS (ABORIGINAL ADVANCEMENT) 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 Patterson, viz.—* That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “while welcoming the provision for financial assistance for Aboriginal advancement, this House is of opinion that the Bill should divulge the terms and conditions agreed upon between the Commonwealth and the States under which the financial assistance is granted and that the Bill should contain power to make regulations providing for the administration and details of the scheme”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 90, dated 14 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drury reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Wentworth (Minister in charge of Aboriginal Affairs), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 34 ABORIGINAL ENTERPRISES (ASSISTANCE) 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—

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

Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 91, dated 14 November 1968, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drury reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Wentworth (Minister in charge of Aboriginal Affairs), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

Suspension of sitting: At two minutes to two o'clock a.m., Mr Speaker left the Chair.
Resumption of sitting: At nineteen minutes to three o'clock a.m., Mr Speaker resumed the Chair.

35 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—PARLIAMENTARY ALLOWANCES BILL 1968: Mr Speaker reported the receipt of the following message from the Senate:

MR SPEAKER,

Message No. 120

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to Parliamentary Allowances*", and acquaints the House that the Senate does not press Request No. 2 with which the House of Representatives has not complied.

The Senate has agreed to the Bill returned herewith as amended by the House of Representatives at the request of the Senate.

The Senate,
Canberra, 22 November 1968 a.m.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President

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

21 November 1968—Message—

No. 114—Railway Agreement (New South Wales and South Australia) 1968.

No. 115—Commonwealth Employees' Compensation 1968.

No. 116—Seamen's Compensation 1968.

22 November 1968 a.m.—Message—

No. 118—Ministers of State 1968.

No. 119—Parliamentary Retiring Allowances 1968.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen minutes to three o'clock in the morning, adjourned until Tuesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beaton, Mr Beazley, Mr Bosman, Mr Chaney, Sir John Cramer, Mr Daly, Mr Fulton, Mr Gibson, Mr Howson, Mr Jessop, Mr Luchetti and Mr Webb.

N. J. PARKES,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives