

1968-69

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 98

WEDNESDAY, 13 AUGUST 1969

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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 Calwell presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the House act immediately to assure Wilfred Burchett and his family of their freedom to enter and leave Australia and restore the Australian passport to Wilfred Burchett.
Petition received and read.
 - 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
 - 4 PAPERS: Mr Speaker presented the following paper:
Presiding Officers and Clerks of the Parliaments of Australia, Papua and New Guinea, New Zealand, Fiji, Nauru and Western Samoa—Report of Second Conference, Parliament House, Brisbane, 8 to 10 April 1969.
The following paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Passport application by Mr W. G. Burchett—Copies of letters, dated 13 April and 16 May 1956, from the Minister for Immigration (Mr Holt) to the General Secretary, Australian Council of Civil Liberties (Mr B. Fitzpatrick), and letter, dated 31 March 1967, from Mr W. G. Burchett to the Prime Minister (Mr Holt).
 - 5 ADVANCE TO THE TREASURER 1968-69—STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE: Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Advance to the Treasurer for year 1968-69—Statement of heads of expenditure and the amounts charged thereto pursuant to section 36A of the *Audit Act* 1901-1969.
Ordered—That the statement be taken into consideration in committee of the whole House at the next sitting.
 - 6 EDUCATION—INCREASED COMMONWEALTH ASSISTANCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the Government's proposals to increase assistance for education by making per capita grants to independent schools throughout Australia, reviewing its policy on teacher education and increasing the number of Commonwealth tertiary scholarships, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Education—Increased Commonwealth assistance—Ministerial statement, 13 August 1969.
Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate ensued.
Debate adjourned (Mr Chaney), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 7 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—RESIGNATION OF MEMBER: Mr Speaker informed the House that he had received a letter from Mr O'Connor resigning his seat on the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.
- 8 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT: Mr Chaney (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
Report relating to the proposed construction of a Rehabilitation Centre, Glen Waverley, Vic. (Sixth report of 1969).
Ordered to be printed.
- 9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—DROUGHT MITIGATION: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Patterson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Federal Government throughout its 20 years of office to implement an effective drought mitigation programme to minimise economic losses in established areas which are highly susceptible to devastating droughts".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Patterson addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
- 10 AUGMENTATION OF DARWIN WATER SUPPLY—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: Augmentation of water supply, Darwin.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
- 11 SULPHURIC ACID BOUNTY BILL 1969: Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sulphuric Acid Bounty Act 1954–1966*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Nixon 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.
- 12 PYRITES BOUNTY BILL 1969: Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Pyrites Bounty Act 1960–1965*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Nixon 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.
- 13 CELLULOSE ACETATE FLAKE BOUNTY BILL 1969: Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Cellulose Acetate Flake Bounty Act 1956–1966*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Nixon 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.
- 14 MAPPING SURVEYS BILL 1969: 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 Fairbairn (Minister for National Development), the Bill was read a third time.

15 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE:** Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a motion being moved that the Minister for Air should withdraw his statement that the honourable Member for Reid was asking questions in this House which were led off by the Russian Embassy and should either withdraw or prove it.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

16 **STATEMENT BY MINISTER FOR AIR CONCERNING HONOURABLE MEMBER FOR REID:** Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That the Minister for Air should withdraw his statement that the honourable Member for Reid was asking questions in this House which were led off by the Russian Embassy and should either withdraw or prove it.

Debate ensued.

Point of order: A point of order having been raised by Mr Calwell that the remark of Mr Wentworth (Minister for Social Services) that the Australian Labor Party had acted under the influence of the Russian Communists was offensive and should be withdrawn—

Speaker's ruling: Mr Speaker ruled that remarks which may be undesirable are not unparliamentary when applied to a whole Party where Members cannot be identified.

Dissent from ruling: Mr Whitlam moved—That the ruling be dissented from.

Debate ensued on the motion of dissent.

Question—That the ruling be dissented from—put.

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

AYES, 34

Mr Barnard	Mr Costa	Mr Griffiths	Mr Scholes
Mr Bryant	Mr Crean	Mr Hansen	Mr Stewart
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr Cross	Mr Hayden	Mr Uren
Mr Calwell	Mr Curtin	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Daly	Mr Kennedy	Mr Whitlam
Mr Clark	Mr Davies	Mr Luchetti	
Mr Collard	Mr Devine	Mr McIvor	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Everingham	Mr Nicholls	Mr Duthie
Mr Cope	Mr Fulton	Mr Patterson	Mr James

NOES, 69

Mr Anthony	Mr Dobie	Mr Hulme	Mr Nixon
Mr Armstrong	Mr Drury	Mr Hunt	Mr Peacock
Mr Arthur	Mr England	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pearsall
Mr Bonnett	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Jarman	Mr Pettitt
Mr Bosman	Mr Failes	Mr Jess	Mr Robinson
Mr Bowen	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Jessop	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr Fairhall	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr Snedden
Miss Brownbill	Mr Forbes	Mr Katter	Mr Stokes
Mr Buchanan	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Killen	Mr Street
Mr Bury	Mr Freeth	Mr King	Mr Swartz
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Garland	Mr Lee	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Giles	Mr Lucock	Mr Whittorn
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Gorton	Mr Lynch	Mr Wilson
Mr Chaney	Mr Graham	Mr Maisey	
Mr Chipp	Mr Hallett	Mr McEwen	
Mr Cleaver	Mr Holten	Mr McLeay	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Corbett	Mr Howson	Mr McMahan	Mr Fox
Sir J. Cramer	Mr Hughes	Mr Munro	Mr Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

Debate on original question continued.

Mr Fox moved—That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 70

Mr Adermann	Sir J. Cramer	Mr Hughes	Mr Munro
Mr Anthony	Mr Dobie	Mr Hulme	Mr Nixon
Mr Armstrong	Mr Drury	Mr Hunt	Mr Peacock
Mr Arthur	Mr England	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pearsall
Mr Bonnett	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Jarman	Mr Pettitt
Mr Bosman	Mr Failes	Mr Jessop	Mr Robinson
Mr Bowen	Mr Fairbairn	Mr A. T. Jones	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr Fairhall	Mr Katter	Mr Snedden
Miss Brownbill	Mr Forbes	Mr Kelly	Mr Stokes
Mr Buchanan	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Killen	Mr Street
Mr Bury	Mr Freeth	Mr King	Mr Swartz
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Garland	Mr Lee	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Giles	Mr Lucock	Mr Whittorn
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Gorton	Mr Lynch	Mr Wilson
Mr Chaney	Mr Graham	Mr Maisey	
Mr Chipp	Mr Hallett	Mr McEwen	
Mr Cleaver	Mr Holten	Mr McLeay	
Mr Corbett	Mr Howson	Mr McMahan	

Tellers:

Mr Fox
Mr Turnbull

NOES, 34

Mr Barnard	Mr Costa	Mr Griffiths	Mr Scholes
Mr Bryant	Mr Crean	Mr Hansen	Mr Stewart
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr Cross	Mr Hayden	Mr Uren
Mr Calwell	Mr Curtin	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Daly	Mr Kennedy	Mr Whitlam
Mr Clark	Mr Davies	Mr Luchetti	
Mr Collard	Mr Devine	Mr McIvor	
Mr Connor	Mr Everingham	Mr Nicholls	
Mr Cope	Mr Fulton	Mr Patterson	

Tellers:

Mr Duthie
Mr James

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the resumption of the debate be made an order of the day for the next sitting—put and passed.

- 17 CORAL SEA ISLANDS BILL 1969: 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.

- 18 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 13 August 1969, pursuant to statute:

Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 112.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, Nos. 113, 114.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 115.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Barnes, Mr Beazley, Mr Benson, Mr Birrell, Mr Courtney, Mr Gibbs, Mr Harrison, Sir William Haworth, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, Mr Mackay, Mr Minogue, Mr O'Connor, Mr Peters and Mr Turner.

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