

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

No. 110

TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 1969

1 The House met, at two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: Mr J. R. Fraser presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying for the immediate release of Gordon Riesenlieter and all those imprisoned as a result of individual conscience, and the immediate repeal of the National Service Act.

Petition received and read.

Mr Dobie presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House take immediate steps to abolish the means test for all people who have reached retiring age or who otherwise qualify for social service benefits or pensions.

Petition received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: Mr Speaker presented, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Commonwealth Banking Corporation, Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia, Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia, Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia—Reports and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Reports thereon, for year 1968-69.

The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Air Navigation Act—Minister for Civil Aviation—Ninth Annual Report, for year 1968-69.

Commonwealth Railways Act—Commonwealth Railways Commissioner—Financial statements for year 1968-69.

Fishing Industry Act—Thirteenth Annual Report, for year 1968-69.

Services Trust Funds Act—Services Canteens Trust Fund—Twenty-first Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1968.

Social Services Act—Director-General of Social Services—Twenty-eighth Annual Report, for year 1968-69.

5 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

12 September 1969—Message No. 157—

Pyrites Bounty 1969.

Sulphuric Acid Bounty 1969.

Cellulose Acetate Flake Bounty 1969.

Sulphate of Ammonia Bounty 1969.

Phosphate Fertilizers Bounty 1969.

Urea Bounty 1969.

Aged Persons Homes 1969.

6 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Chaney (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to the proposed establishment of central laundry and sterilizing services at Canberra Hospital (Thirteenth report of 1969)—

and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

7 MELBOURNE (TULLAMARINE) AIRPORT—CUSTOMS BUILDING AND INCINERATOR—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 works which were referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to this House: Melbourne (Tullamarine) Airport—Construction of Customs Building and Incinerator.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

8 AIR NAVIGATION (CHARGES) 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.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 and 2, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr C. K. Jones moved the following amendment: Page 2, sub-clause (1.), paragraph (a), after sub-paragraph (1A.) proposed to be inserted in paragraph 7 of the First Schedule to the Principal Act insert the following sub-paragraph:

“(1B.) A charge imposed by the preceding sub-paragraphs shall be increased by five hundred per cent in respect of pure jet-powered aircraft taking-off or landing at Kingsford-Smith (Sydney), Essendon, Tullamarine, Brisbane, and Adelaide between the hours of 11 p.m. on any day and 6 a.m. on the following day.”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 27

Mr Bryant	Mr Curtin	Mr Hayden	Mr Scholes
Mr Calwell	Mr Daly	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Stewart
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Davies	Mr Luchetti	Mr Uren
Mr Clark	Mr Everingham	Mr McIvor	Mr Whitlam
Mr Cope	Mr Fulton	Mr Minogue	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Costa	Mr Griffiths	Mr Nicholls	Mr Duthie
Mr Crean	Mr Hansen	Mr Patterson	Mr James

NOES, 66

Mr Adermann	Mr Cleaver	Mr Holten	Mr Munro
Mr Anthony	Mr Corbett	Mr Howson	Mr Nixon
Mr Armstrong	Sir J. Cramer	Mr Hughes	Mr Peacock
Mr Arthur	Mr Dobie	Mr Hulme	Mr Pearsall
Mr Barnes	Mr Drury	Mr Hunt	Mr Pettitt
Mr Bate	Mr England	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Jarman	Mr Snedden
Mr Bosman	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Katter	Mr Stokes
Mr Bowen	Mr Fairhall	Mr Kelly	Mr Street
Mr Bridges-Maxwell	Mr Forbes	Mr Killen	Mr Swartz
Miss Brownbill	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Lee	Mr Wentworth
Mr Buchanan	Mr Gibbs	Mr Lynch	Mr Whittorn
Mr Bury	Mr Gibson	Mr Mackay	Mr Wilson
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Giles	Mr Maisey	
Mr Calder	Mr Graham	Mr McEwen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chaney	Mr Hallett	Mr McLeay	Mr Fox
Mr Chipp	Sir W. Haworth	Mr McMahon	Mr Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Swartz (Minister for Civil Aviation), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 9 SOCIAL SERVICES 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—

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Wentworth (Minister for Social Services) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Daly speaking without limitation of time.

Question—put and passed.

Debate resumed by Mr Daly who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill, the House condemns the Government because it has failed to—

- (a) increase adequately rates of all pensions and social service benefits to meet the increased cost of living;
- (b) investigate and deal with the real areas of need and poverty;
- (c) provide an equitable and just basis for regular review of social service benefits to maintain their purchasing power;
- (d) eliminate injustices of discrimination between pensioners and the sick and the needy;
- (e) provide ‘fringe benefits’ for all pensioners;
- (f) give effect to the 1949 election policy of the Liberal-Country Party to abolish the means test; and
- (g) make benefits retrospective to 1 July 1969”.

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

- 10 DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS FUND—DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the proposed distribution by the Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board of surplus assets to eligible pensioners and contributors.

Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr Stokes, by leave, also made statements with reference to the matter.

- 11 OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Gorton (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to overseas investment in Australia.

Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), Mr McMahon (Treasurer) and Mr Crean, by leave, also made statements with reference to the matter.

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

16 September 1969—Message—

No. 232—Loan (Swiss Francs) 1969.

No. 233—Loan (Canadian Dollars) 1969.

No. 234—Tasmania Grant (Cressy-Longford Irrigation Works) 1969.

- 13 FISHING INDUSTRY RESEARCH BILL 1969: Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to establish a Fishing Industry Research Trust Account, and for purposes connected therewith.

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.

- 14 AIRLINE EQUIPMENT (LOAN GUARANTEE) BILL 1969: Mr Swartz (Minister for Civil Aviation), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the provision of certain Equipment for a Domestic Airline.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 15 LOANS (AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AIRLINES COMMISSION) BILL 1969: Mr Swartz (Minister assisting the Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to authorize the Raising and Expenditure of a certain sum of Money to be made available to the Australian National Airlines Commission, and for purposes connected therewith.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 16 NORTHERN TERRITORY (ADMINISTRATION) BILL 1969: Mr Nixon (Minister for the Interior), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Northern Territory (Administration) Act* 1910–1968 in connexion with the Aborigines Benefits Trust Fund.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 17 STATES GRANTS (ADVANCED EDUCATION) BILL 1969: Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the grant of Financial Assistance to the States in connexion with Advanced Education.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 18 STATES GRANTS (INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS) BILL 1969: Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the States in relation to Independent Schools.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Fraser 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.

- 19 SOCIAL SERVICES 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Daly, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill, the House condemns the Government because it has failed to—*

- (a) increase adequately rates of all pensions and social service benefits to meet the increased cost of living;
- (b) investigate and deal with the real areas of need and poverty;
- (c) provide an equitable and just basis for regular review of social service benefits to maintain their purchasing power;
- (d) eliminate injustices of discrimination between pensioners and the sick and the needy;
- (e) provide ‘fringe benefits’ for all pensioners;
- (f) give effect to the 1949 election policy of the Liberal-Country Party to abolish the means test; and
- (g) make benefits retrospective to 1 July 1969”—

Debate resumed.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

WEDNESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 1969

Debate continued.

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

20 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Wentworth (Minister for Social Services) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 16 September 1969, pursuant to statute:

Currency Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 137.

Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, Nos. 139, 140.

Extradition (Commonwealth Countries) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 135.

Extradition (Foreign States) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 136.

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for post office purposes—

Dorrigo (near), New South Wales.

Rylstone, New South Wales.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, No. 138.

Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinance—1969—No. 59—Evidence (Land Titles).

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1969, Nos. 141, 142.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Birrell, Mr J. F. Cairns, Mr Collard, Mr Courtney, Mr Cross, Mr Failes, Mr Freeth, Mr Garland, Mr Harrison, Mr Jess, Mr A. T. Jones, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, Mr O'Connor, Mr Peters, Mr St. John, Mr Turner and Mr Webb.

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