

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 87

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 1971

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- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Sir William Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 PETITIONS: Mr FitzPatrick presented a petition from certain citizens of New South Wales praying that this House take immediate steps to increase the base pension rate to 30 per cent of average weekly male earnings.
- Mr Kirwan presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House make legal provision for (1) the allowance of personal education expenses as a taxation deduction, (2) the removal of the present age limit in respect of the deduction for education expenses, (3) an increase in the deduction allowable for tertiary education expenses, (4) an increase in the maintenance allowance for students and (5) the exemption of non-bonded scholarships for part-time students from income tax.
- Mr Bennett presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House give earnest consideration to the crisis in Aboriginal welfare which exists in the South West Land Division of Western Australia.
- Petitions severally received and read.
- A similar petition to that presented by Mr Bennett was presented by Mr Kirwan, and was received.
- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That Mr Gorton (Minister for Defence) be discharged from attendance on the Standing Orders Committee, and that, in his place, Mr McMahon (Prime Minister) be appointed a member of the committee
- Debate ensued.
- Question—put and passed.
- 5 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Dobie (Chairman) brought up the following reports from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:
- One hundred and twenty-fifth Report—Index to the First to the One hundred and fourteenth Reports of the Committee.
- One hundred and twenty-sixth Report—Treasury Minute on the One hundred and seventh Report together with a summary of that report—
- and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the reports.
- Ordered—That the reports be printed.
- 6 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.
- Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

- 7 **CUSTOMS BILL 1971**: 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 Chipp (Minister for Customs and Excise), the Bill was read a third time.
- 8 **NAVAL DEFENCE BILL 1971**: 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 Killen (Minister for the Navy), the Bill was read a third time.
- 9 **SALARIES BILL 1971**: 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 Snedden (Leader of the House), the Bill was read a third time.
- 10 **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 five minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, 30 March, at half-past two o'clock p.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 18 March 1971, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for civil aviation purposes—Sawtell (near), New South Wales.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bate, Mr Beazley, Mr Bonnett, Mr Corbett, Mr Fairbairn, Mr Giles, Mr Gorton and Mr Sherry.

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