

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 182

WEDNESDAY, 16 AUGUST 1972

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

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following honourable Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Lynch (Minister for Labour and National Service), Mr Jenkins, Mr Morrison, Mr Patterson and Mr Reid—from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that Australia's official development assistance in 1972-73 be increased to at least \$240 million, and that Australia's aid and trade policies be reviewed to benefit developing countries.

Mr Lynch, Mr Calwell, Mr Foster, Mr Gorton, Mr Gun, Mr Jacobi, Mr McIvor and Mr Wallis—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government will immediately enact legislation providing for a base pension rate of 30 per cent of average weekly male earnings and other health and social service changes and initiate a public inquiry into Australia's social welfare structure.

Mr Forbes (Minister for Immigration)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House take strong measures to force the French Government to halt the nuclear tests in the Pacific region and also ban the supply of uranium by Australia to France.

Mr Lucock—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House will take immediate steps to call a halt to the closing of post offices and the reorganisation of the Post Office and initiate a joint parliamentary inquiry into the Postmaster-General's Department.

Mr Sherry and Mr Solomon—from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House will, in regard to the use of Commonwealth funds to aid church schools, restore to the Australian people true religious freedom which can exist only when Church and State are legally separated both in form and substance.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 ADVANCE TO THE TREASURER 1971-72—STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE: Mr Snedden (Treasurer), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Advance to the Treasurer for year 1971-72—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.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies Act—Council of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1971-72.

Post and Telegraph Act—Postmaster-General—Annual Statement: Post Office Prospects and Capital Programme 1972-73.

- 6 DEFENCE—FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMME—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Fairbairn (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the Government's five-year defence programme, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
- Defence—Five-year programme—Ministerial statement, 16 August 1972.
- Mr Chipp (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
- 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.
- 7 RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT—BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT, 16 AUGUST 1972—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Howson (Minister for the Environment, Aborigines and the Arts), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
- National Radiation Advisory Committee—Report, dated July 1972, on the biological aspects of fallout in Australia from French nuclear weapons explosions in the Pacific, June–August, 1971.
- Mr Howson, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
- Radioactive fallout—Biological aspects—Report of National Radiation Advisory Committee, dated July 1972—Ministerial statement, 16 August 1972.
- Mr Chipp (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.
- Debate ensued.
- Mr N. H. Bowen (Minister for Foreign Affairs), who had already spoken, again addressed the House, by leave.
- Debate continued.
- Debate adjourned (Sir Winton Turnbull), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 8 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS: Mr Kelly (Chairman) brought up the following reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
- Report relating to the proposed extension of 17/35 runway, taxiways and aprons at Canberra (Fairbairn) Airport (Ninth report of 1972).
- Report relating to proposed extensions to film studios at Lindfield, N.S.W. (Tenth report of 1972).
- Report relating to the proposed erection of a communications tower at Black Mountain, A.C.T. (Eleventh report of 1972).
- Report relating to the proposed construction of Tiwi and Wanguri schools at Darwin (Twelfth report of 1972).
- Report relating to the proposed construction of Casuarina Hospital at Darwin (Thirteenth report of 1972).
- Report relating to the proposed construction of a Royal Australian Army Service Corps Centre at Puckapunyal, Vic. (Fourteenth report of 1972).
- Report relating to the proposed construction of a Commonwealth Centre (phase 1) at Melbourne (Fifteenth report of 1972).
- Report relating to the proposed construction of a post office and administrative building at Bathurst, N.S.W. (Sixteenth report of 1972).
- Severally ordered to be printed.
- 9 STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr J. F. Cairns, by leave, made a statement relating to his attitude to nuclear weapons testing.
- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—UNEMPLOYMENT—GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr C. R. Cameron had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The complacent attitude of the Government towards the serious and deep-seated nature of unemployment".
- The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
- Mr Cameron addressed the House.
- Discussion ensued.
- Discussion concluded.

- 11 VICTORIA GRANT (MILLEWA PIPELINES) BILL 1972: Sir Reginald Swartz (Minister for National Development), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the State of Victoria in connexion with the Construction of Pipelines and of certain Associated Works in the Millewa area in that State.
Bill read a first time.
Sir Reginald Swartz moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Hayden), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 PAPUA NEW GUINEA BILL 1972: Mr Peacock (Minister for External Territories), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to Remove the Limit on the Number of Offices of Minister of the House of Assembly for Papua New Guinea.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Peacock moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Hayden), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 NEW GUINEA TIMBER AGREEMENT ACT (REPEAL) BILL 1972: Mr Peacock (Minister for External Territories), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal the *New Guinea Timber Agreement Act 1952–1953*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Peacock moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Hayden), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 14 STATES GRANTS BILL (No. 2) 1972: Mr Garland (Minister assisting the Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the Grant of Financial Assistance to the States.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 15 STATES GRANTS (CAPITAL ASSISTANCE) BILL (No. 3) 1972: Mr Garland (Minister assisting the Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant Financial Assistance to the States in connexion with Expenditure of a Capital Nature and to Authorize the Borrowing of Certain Moneys by the Commonwealth.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garland moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 16 AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS BOUNTY BILL 1972: 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: Message No. 243, dated 24 May 1972, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced 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 Chipp (Minister for Customs and Excise), the Bill was read a third time.
- 17 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTION) BILL 1972: 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: Message No. 244, dated 10 May 1972, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced 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 Garland (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

- 18 CONSULAR PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, CUSTOMS TARIFF (No. 3), EXCISE TARIFF (No. 2), INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT (No. 4), PAY-ROLL TAX (TERRITORIES) ASSESSMENT, SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS), AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY STAMP DUTY AND DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES BILLS 1972: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bills be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—Bills together read a second time.

Leave granted for third readings to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr N. H. Bowen (Minister for Foreign Affairs), the Bills were together read a third time.

- 19 LIGHTHOUSES BILL 1972: 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 Nixon (Minister for Shipping and Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

- 20 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Chipp (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at thirteen minutes past eleven 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 16 August 1972, pursuant to statute:

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1972—

No. 26—Building.

No. 27—Electricity.

No. 28—Milk Authority (No. 2).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Birrell, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr A. D. Fraser and Mr Whittorn.

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