

1954-55.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 89.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH OCTOBER, 1955.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Adermann) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Pollard presented a Petition from 1,079 members and supporters of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom praying that earnest consideration be given to a proposal for placing before the United Nations a resolution concerning atomic and nuclear weapons, and that all work cease on further atomic testing.
Petition received and read.
3. EMPLOYMENT OF ABORIGINES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Hasluck (Minister for Territories), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement regarding an allegation of slavery in the employment of aborigines in Australia and informed the House of conditions existing in the Northern Territory.
4. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Tariff Board—Report—Euclid Rear-dump Wagons.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Australian National Airlines Act—Australian National Airlines Commission—Tenth Annual Report and Financial Accounts, for year 1954-55.
Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 68.
Public Service Act—
Appointments—Department—
Attorney-General—D. E. Hall, R. O'Hara, R. J. Warrilow.
Supply—N. K. Hobba.
Works—Z. Lukinovic, T. W. G. Stanley.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 67.
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Ordinance—1955—No. 9—Liquor.
Regulations—1955—No. 11 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).
Tariff Board Act—Tariff Board—Report for year 1954-55, together with Summary of Recommendations.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—A Message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment :—
13th October, 1955—*Message No. 98*—Social Services (No. 2) 1955.
6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That leave of absence for one month be given to the Speaker (Mr. A. G. Cameron) and the honorable Member for Mitchell (Mr. Wheeler) on the ground of ill health, and to the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Casey) on the ground of urgent public business.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

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7. PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY NOT APPROVED—COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS.—
Mr. Keon having proposed to Mr. Deputy Speaker that a definite matter of urgent public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “ The urgent necessity for the Federal Government to take such steps as are necessary for the restoration of the quarterly cost of living adjustments to the basic wage, following the recently announced increases in the cost of living ”—
Mr. Deputy Speaker called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and fewer than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly, the matter was not further proceeded with.
8. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES—ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, ETC., 1955-56.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Estimates, by leave, taken as a whole, and debated.

Mr. Lawson addressing the Committee—

Closure.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The Committee divided (The Temporary Chairman, Mr. Bowden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 49.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Luck	Mr. Robertson
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Dean	Mr. Haworth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. Holt	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Timson
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Howse	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bland	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Brand	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Opperman	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Osborne	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Leslie	Sir E. Page	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Cramer	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Gullett

NOES, 40.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Cope	Mr. E. James	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Costa	Harrison	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Crean	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Ward
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Cremean	Mr. James	Mr. Mullens	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. T. P. Burke	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Peters	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Daly
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Fitzgerald
Mr. Clark		Mr. Makin	Mr. Russell	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Estimates be agreed to—was put accordingly, and passed.

Mr. Kent Hughes (Minister for Works) moved, That the following Resolution be reported to the House—

That, including the sum already voted for such services, there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £101,245,000 for the services of the year 1955-56, for Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, viz. :—

PART 1.—DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES—OTHER THAN BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS AND TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.		£
Parliament	.. .. .	30,000
Prime Minister's Department	.. .. .	986,000
Department of External Affairs	.. .. .	245,000
Department of the Treasury	.. .. .	266,000
Attorney-General's Department	.. .. .	107,000
Department of the Interior	.. .. .	1,409,000
Department of Works	.. .. .	743,000
Department of Civil Aviation	.. .. .	5,119,000
Department of Trade and Customs	.. .. .	144,000
Department of Health	.. .. .	480,000
Department of Repatriation	.. .. .	247,000
Department of Commerce and Agriculture	.. .. .	97,000
Department of Social Services	.. .. .	30,143,000
Department of Shipping and Transport	.. .. .	3,932,000
Department of Territories	.. .. .	1,000
Department of Immigration	.. .. .	296,000
Department of Labour and National Service	.. .. .	44,000
Department of National Development	.. .. .	14,707,000
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	254,000
Australian Atomic Energy Commission	1,416,000
Total PART 1	60,666,000

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PART 2.—BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS.						£
Commonwealth Railways	750,000
Postmaster-General's Department	29,819,000
Broadcasting Services	..	..	..	..	..	1,851,000
Total PART 2	..	..	..	..	..	32,420,000

PART 3.—TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.						£
Northern Territory	..	..	..	..	..	2,640,000
Australian Capital Territory	..	..	..	..	..	5,490,000
Papua and New Guinea	..	..	..	..	..	29,000
Total PART 3	..	..	..	..	..	8,159,000
Total	..	..	..	..	..	101,245,000

Question—put and passed.

Leave to be asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Kent Hughes moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Mr. Kent Hughes, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

9. WAYS AND MEANS—ESTIMATES—ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, ETC., 1955-56.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Kent Hughes (Minister for Works) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year 1955-56, for Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of £68,558,000.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Kent Hughes, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Kent Hughes and Sir Philip McBride do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

10. APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL 1955-56.—Mr. Kent Hughes (Minister for Works) then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for that year*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Kent Hughes moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Kent Hughes, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

11. ROYAL COMMISSION ON ESPIONAGE—REPORT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service), That the Paper [*presented on the 14th September, 1955*], viz. :—

Report of the Royal Commission on Espionage—
be printed—

Suspension of Standing Orders.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, by leave, That Standing Order No. 92 be suspended to enable Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) to speak until 10 p.m.

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Question—put and passed.

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Menzies—Prime Minister), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

12. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Bryson*, Mr. A. G. Cameron*, Mr. Casey*, Mr. Chambers*, Mr. Davies, Mr. Drury, Mr. Duthie, Sir Arthur Fadden, Mr. Joske*, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wheeler* and Mr. Wight.

* On leave.

A. A. TREGEAR,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.