

1960.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 3.

THURSDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1960.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Atomic Energy Act—Australian Atomic Energy Commission—Seventh Annual Report and financial accounts, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1958–59.
Public Service Act—Appointments—Department of Works—J. S. Andrews, B. A. Chadwick, M. P. Fanning, R. H. Grattan, F. C. Hackett-Jones, B. W. Harrison, G. J. MacDonald.
3. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Bland (Chairman) brought up the following Report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:—
Forty-sixth Report—Outstanding Claims, Sections 36 (2.) and 51 (f) of the *Audit Act* 1901–1959.
Ordered to be printed.
4. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—DISCHARGE OF MEMBER.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Bland be discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
5. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10 IN RELATION TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Holt (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That the operation of Standing Order No. 10 be suspended in relation to Government Business.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
6. ROMA-STREET MAIL EXCHANGE, BRISBANE—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Freeth (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act* 1913–1953, 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, namely:—Construction of Roma-street Mail Exchange at Brisbane, Queensland.
Question—put and passed.
7. EDISON TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, BRISBANE—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Freeth (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act* 1913–1953, 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, namely:—Construction of Edison Telephone Exchange at Brisbane, Queensland.
Question—put and passed.

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8. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—*And on the Amendment moved by Mr. Calwell, viz.:*—That the following words be added to the Address:—“but desire to advise Your Excellency that the Government no longer possesses the confidence of the Parliament and of the Nation because of—

- (1) Its failure to halt inflation with its adverse effects on wage and salary earners, on pensioners, on persons on fixed incomes, on primary producers and on home builders, particularly those with young families;
- (2) Its action in lifting import restrictions with its accompanying threat to the employment of thousands of Australians and the security of Australian enterprises; and
- (3) Its decision to ask the Arbitration Commission to reject the current application of the trade union movement for an increase in the basic wage”—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of Standing Orders.—Mr. Holt. (Treasurer) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) speaking for a period not exceeding 30 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Johnson), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Osborne (Minister for Air) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nineteen minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Bird, Mr. C. R. Cameron, Mr. Clarey*, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Fairbairn, Mr. A. D. Fraser, Mr. Holten and Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes.

* On leave.

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