

1967

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 18

THURSDAY, 13 APRIL 1967

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- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER OF JAMAICA (THE HONOURABLE SIR DONALD B. SANGSTER):** Mr Holt (Prime Minister) referred to the death of the Prime Minister of Jamaica (the Honourable Sir Donald B. Sangster), and moved—That this House records its sincere regret at the death of the Honourable Sir Donald Burns Sangster, K.C.V.O., Prime Minister of Jamaica, places on record its admiration for his devotion to and achievements on behalf of the people of his country, and for his unceasing, helpful and positive interest in Commonwealth affairs, expresses to the people of Jamaica its profound regret at the loss they have suffered, and tenders its deep sympathy to his relatives. And Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr Anthony (Minister for the Interior) having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—
Question—passed.
 - 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 4 **COMPUTING EQUIPMENT FOR BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement with respect to a report in the *Sydney Daily Mirror* of 12 April concerning a recent contract for the supply of additional computing equipment for the Bureau of Census and Statistics.
 - 5 **VISIT TO JAPAN BY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF ECAFE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Hasluck (Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to his recent visit to Japan and to the Twenty-third Session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East held in Tokyo. Mr Hasluck then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Visit to Japan by Minister for External Affairs—Twenty-third Session of ECAFE—
Ministerial statement—
and 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.
 - 6 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICE:** Mr Fairbairn (Minister for National Development) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of notice No. 1, general business, being continued until half-past two o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
 - 7 **DECENTRALISATION—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE:** Mr Beaton moved, pursuant to notice—
That this House notes with grave concern—
(1) The serious social problems confronting country communities as the result of lack of employment opportunities for young men and women leaving school

- (2) That more than one-third of the total population of Australia is centred in Sydney and Melbourne, and recommends to the Government as a matter of extreme urgency in the interest of balanced development and defence that—
- (a) a joint parliamentary committee consisting of Government and Opposition Members from both Houses be appointed to inquire into and report on the best means by which the Commonwealth, by co-operation with the States and local government, may secure more balanced development of population, industry, communications and administration;
 - (b) the committee make recommendations in regard to—
 - (i) those industries which should be established in provincial, country and northern areas;
 - (ii) concessions in individual, company, sales or other taxation to encourage such industries;
 - (iii) other concessions and assistance;
 - (iv) government investment either alone or jointly with private investment to develop or establish such industries;
 - (v) communications, housing, transport, water, power, light and fuel;
 - (vi) the decentralisation of government administration;
 - (vii) education, medical and other facilities in decentralised areas; and
 - (viii) any related matters which in the opinion of the committee will assist in obtaining more balanced developments; and
 - (c) the committee be empowered to call evidence from any person, organisation or authority it sees fit.

Debate ensued.

Suspension of Standing orders—Further extended time for debate: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the time for the consideration of notice No. 1, general business, being further extended until fifteen minutes to three o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

Debate continued.

The time allotted for the consideration of the motion having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr Anthony (Minister for the Interior) was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 8 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE: Ordered—That notice No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 9 NATIONAL LIBRARY BILL 1967: Mr Snedden (Minister for Immigration), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Library Act 1960–1966*. Bill read a first time.
Mr Snedden moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
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.
- 10 AGED PERSONS HOMES BILL 1967: 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.
Debate adjourned (Mr Lynch), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 11 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 8 (1967): Mr Howson (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 8 (1967).
Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 PAPER: The following paper was presented, pursuant to statute:
Tariff Board Act—Special Advisory Authority—Report—Staple fibre, tow, yarns, tyre cord and tyre cord fabric, of certain man-made fibres.
Ordered to be printed.

- 13 AGED PERSONS HOMES BILL 1967: 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.
Debate adjourned (Sir John Cramer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 14 H.M.A.S. *Boonaroo*—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Chipp (Minister for the Navy), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House that H.M.A.S. *Boonaroo* had completed her mission and would not be required for further sailings to Viet Nam at present. She would be decommissioned and handed back to the Australian National Line.
- 15 AGED PERSONS HOMES BILL 1967: 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.
Debate adjourned (Mr Collard), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 16 DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS FUND—QUINQUENNIAL INVESTIGATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr McMahon (Treasurer), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the progress of the quinquennial investigation by the Commonwealth Actuary of the Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Fund as at 30 June 1964 and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Fund—Quinquennial Investigation—Ministerial statement—
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 17 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
13 April 1967—Message—
No. 14—States Grants (Science Laboratories) 1967.
No. 15—States Grants (Advanced Education) (No. 2) 1967.
- 18 AGED PERSONS HOMES BILL 1967: 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 Daly moved the following amendment: Page 2, after paragraph (b) in the definition of "eligible organization" insert "and (ba) a trade union registered under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State,".

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Sinclair (Minister for Social Services), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

19 PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST: Mr Snedden (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Act 1948–1966*, Mr Aston be discharged as a trustee serving on the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust and that Mr G. D. Erwin be appointed a trustee to serve in his place.

Question—put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

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Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

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

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 13 April 1967, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for postal purposes—Mount Benson, South Australia.

Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinance—1967—No. 5—Local Government.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Forbes, Mr Fulton, Mr Killen, Mr Mackay and Mr McEwen.

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