

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 131

WEDNESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 1971

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

2 PETITIONS: Mr Calwell presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that this House raise to \$10 million Australian aid to refugees now in India from East Pakistan and give support to all efforts to guarantee the fully autonomous development of the people of Bangla Desh.

Petition received and read.

Mr Reid presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House (a) increase monetary aid for the East Pakistani refugees to at least \$5 million immediately, (b) encourage and sponsor teams of volunteers with needed skills and medical supplies and (c) maintain this aid for the period of the crisis.

Mr Armitage and Mr Staley each presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government go beyond the plea of the Prime Minister for magnanimity and compassion in the trial of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on charges of treason and insist on the liberty of this openly and democratically elected leader.

Mr Street, Mr Enderby and Mr Wallis each presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House should (1) increase monetary aid for the refugees in India to at least \$10 million immediately and make provision for a further and extra grant for the victims of the famine in East Pakistan, (2) grant tax deductibility to donations of \$2 and over to Australian voluntary agencies working with the refugee problem and (3) ensure that the Australian Government does all in its power to help bring about a political settlement which would be acceptable to the people of East Pakistan.

Mr Brown presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the Government (1) give immediate aid of at least \$10 million to help relieve the suffering of Pakistani refugees in India, (2) take the necessary diplomatic steps to seek a political solution and (3) urge the United Nations to make a more effective effort to intervene on behalf of these stricken people.

Mr Street, Mr Brown and Mr Staley each presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House (1) increase monetary aid for the Pakistani refugees to at least \$10 million immediately, (2) encourage and sponsor teams of volunteers with needed skills and medical supplies and (3) maintain this aid for as long as the crisis persists.

Mr Reynolds presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government grant income tax deduction for donations over \$2 made towards the relief of overseas disaster areas and that this be effected with haste to ensure the maximum possible aid to those at present in refugee camps and those in danger of famine in East Pakistan.

Mr Enderby also presented a petition from certain residents of the Australian Capital Territory praying that a committee of inquiry, on which are represented the Department of Education and Science, institutions of tertiary education, practising educators, and the Canberra community, be instituted to inquire into the form that an Australian Capital Territory Education Authority should take, the educational principles and philosophy that should underly it, and its mode of operation and administration.

Mr Bennett and Mr Berinson each presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the sales tax and customs duties on all forms of contraceptive devices be removed, and that all contraceptive devices be placed on the National Health Scheme Pharmaceutical Benefits list.

Mr Hayden, Mr Gun and Mr Sherry each presented a petition from certain citizens of the Commonwealth praying that the Federal Government take immediate steps to act on behalf of all Australian people to preserve Lake Pedder in its natural state.

Mr Wallis also presented a petition from certain electors of the Division of Grey praying that the Government re-examine the question of financial assistance for the construction of the Lock-Kimba pipe line in South Australia in order that its completion can be expedited and by doing so alleviate the hardships experienced in the area due to a lack of an available and reticulated water supply.

Petitions severally received.

- 3 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Anthony (Minister for Trade and Industry) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr McMahon (Prime Minister), he would act as Prime Minister.

- 4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

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

Bankruptcy Act—Fourth Annual Report, for year 1970–71.

Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Thirty-eighth Report (1971)

Commonwealth Police Act—Commonwealth Police Force—Report for year 1970–71.

Honey Industry Act—Australian Honey Board—Eighth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1970–71.

- 6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 103: Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved, pursuant to notice—That standing order 103 (eleven o'clock rule) be suspended until the end of this period of sittings.

Debate ensued.

Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition), who had already spoken, again addressed the House, by leave.

The debate having been closed by Mr Swartz having spoken in reply—

Mr Whitlam and Mr Swartz, by leave, again addressed the House.

Mr Whitlam, by leave, further addressed the House.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Acting Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 55

Sir C. Adermann	Sir J. Cramer	Mr Jess	Mr Reid
Mr Anthony	Mr Drury	Mr Katter	Mr Robinson
Mr Barnes	Mr England	Mr Kelly	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bate	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Killen	Mr Snedden
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fairbairn	Mr King	Mr Solomon
Mr N. H. Bowen	Mr J. M. Fraser	Mr Lynch	Mr Staley
Mr Brown	Mr Garland	Mr Mackay	Mr Street
Mr Buchanan	Mr Gorton	Mr MacKellar	Mr Swartz
Mr Bury	Mr Hallett	Mr Maisey	Mr Turner
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Hamer	Mr McLeay	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Howson	Mr Nixon	Mr Whittorn
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hughes	Mr O'Keefe	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chipp	Sir A. Hulme	Mr Peacock	Mr Giles
Mr Corbett	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pettitt	Mr Turnbull

NOES, 48

Mr Armitage	Mr Daly	Mr Hurford	Mr Reynolds
Mr Beazley	Mr Davies	Mr Jenkins	Mr Scholes
Mr Bennett	Mr Enderby	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Sherry
Mr Berinson	Mr Everingham	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Stewart
Mr Birrell	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Jones	Mr Uren
Mr L. F. Bowen	Mr Foster	Mr Kennedy	Mr Wallis
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr A. D. Fraser	Mr Keogh	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Fulton	Mr Kirwan	
Mr Cohen	Mr Garrick	Mr Klugman	
Mr Collard	Mr Grassby	Mr Martin	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Griffiths	Mr McIvor	
Mr Cope	Mr Gun	Mr Morrison	Mr Duthie
Mr Crean	Mr Hayden	Mr Patterson	Mr James

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- 7 STUART AND BARKLY HIGHWAYS, N.T.—THREE YEAR IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Garland (Minister for Supply), for Mr Chipp (Minister representing the Minister for Works), moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, 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 Parliament: Three year improvement and maintenance programme—Stuart and Barkly Highways, N.T.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 BANKS (SHAREHOLDINGS) 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 Peacock (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

- 9 WESTERN AUSTRALIA (SOUTH-WEST REGION WATER SUPPLIES) AGREEMENT 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 157, dated 8 September 1971, 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 Peacock (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

- 10 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 3 to 6, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 11 PAY-ROLL TAX (STATE TAXATION OF COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES) 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 Peacock (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

- 12 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 8 and 9, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 13 RAILWAY AGREEMENT (TASMANIA) 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 158, dated 26 October 1971, 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 Nixon (Minister for Shipping and Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 EAST PAKISTANI REFUGEES—EMERGENCY RELIEF AID—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT, 27 OCTOBER 1971—PAPER NOTED: Mr N. H. Bowen (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's decision to make a grant of additional financial aid to East Pakistani refugees, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

East Pakistani refugees—Emergency relief aid—Ministerial statement, 27 October 1971.

Mr Swartz (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Mr Beazley moved, as an amendment—That the following words be added to the motion: “but the House is of the opinion that the situation in West Bengal and East Pakistan is such that the level of Australian aid should be raised to the equivalent of at least one dollar for each person in Australia”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put.

The House divided (the Acting Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 46

Mr Armitage	Mr Cope	Mr Jacobi	Mr Reid
Mr Barnard	Mr Crean	Mr Jenkins	Mr Reynolds
Mr Beazley	Mr Daly	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Scholes
Mr Bennett	Mr Davies	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Sherry
Mr Berinson	Mr Enderby	Mr Jones	Mr Stewart
Mr Birrell	Mr Everingham	Mr Kennedy	Mr Uren
Mr L. F. Bowen	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keogh	Mr Wallis
Mr J. F. Cairns	Mr Foster	Mr Kirwan	Mr Webb
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Garrick	Mr Klugman	
Mr Cohen	Mr Grassby	Mr Martin	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Collard	Mr Gun	Mr Morrison	Mr Duthie
Mr Connor	Mr Hurford	Mr Patterson	Mr James

NOES, 50

Sir C. Adermann	Sir J. Cramer	Mr L. H. Irwin	Mr Pettitt
Mr Barnes	Mr Drury	Mr Katter	Mr Robinson
Mr Bate	Mr England	Mr Kelly	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bonnett	Mr G. D. Erwin	Mr Killen	Mr Snedden
Mr N. H. Bowen	Mr Fairbairn	Mr King	Mr Solomon
Mr Brown	Mr Garland	Mr Lynch	Mr Staley
Mr Buchanan	Mr Gorton	Mr Mackay	Mr Street
Mr Bury	Mr Graham	Mr MacKellar	Mr Swartz
Mr K. M. K. Cairns	Mr Hallett	Mr Maisey	Mr Wentworth
Mr Calder	Mr Hamer	Mr McLeay	
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Holten	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Chipp	Mr Howson	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Giles
Mr Corbett	Mr Hughes	Mr Peacock	Mr Turnbull

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the House take note of the paper—put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 28 OCTOBER 1971

Debate continued.

Mr Grassby rising to address the House—

Closure: Mr Wentworth (Minister for Social Services) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the House do now adjourn—was put accordingly, and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 27 October 1971, pursuant to statute:

Papua and New Guinea Act—Ordinances—1971—

No. 65—Cities.

No. 66—Public Museums and Art Galleries (Amendment).

No. 67—Stamp Duties (Amendment and Validation).

No. 68—Institute of Human Biology (Amendment).

No. 69—Child Welfare (Amendment).

No. 83—Ordinances Interpretation (Local Government Service).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Sir William Aston, Mr Bryant, Mr Cross, Mr Forbes, Mr Fox, Mr Hansen, Mr Hunt, Mr Jarman, Mr Keating, Mr Lloyd, Mr Luchetti*, Mr McMahon and Mr Nicholls.

* On leave

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