

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 154

TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 1972

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- 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:** Mr Enderby presented a petition from certain residents of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the Government will not enact any law that would detract from or hinder the rights of the Aborigines to be on the lawns outside Parliament House, and that the Government instruct its officers not to interfere with the Aborigines peacefully assembled there.
Petition received and read.
Similar petitions were presented by Mr Uren, Mr Everingham, Mr L. R. Johnson, Mr Hurford and Mr McIvor, and were severally received.
Mr L. R. Johnson also presented a petition 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.
Petition received and read.
Mr Solomon presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House will (1) take immediate steps to make emergency finance available to the States for State school education and (2) divert the large sums of public money being spent on private schools to the government school system for which the Government is truly responsible.
Petition received.
 - 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 4 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT:** Mr Kelly (Chairman) brought up the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
Report relating to the proposed construction of a sewerage system at Tennant Creek, N.T. (Fifth report of 1972).
Ordered to be printed.
 - 5 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Uren had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's failure to act to create regional development areas, to arrest the depopulation of the countryside and to slow the growth of our capital cities".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Uren addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
 - 6 **HONEY INDUSTRY BILL 1972:** Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Honey Industry Act 1962-1966*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Sinclair moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Patterson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 7 CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL 1972: The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Bill, as a whole, debated.

Mr J. F. Cairns, who had already spoken twice, again addressed the committee, by leave.

Debate continued.

Mr Kelly, who had already spoken twice, again addressed the committee, by leave. Ordered—That Mr Kelly be granted an extension of time.

Mr Cairns again addressed the committee, by leave.

Debate continued.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Chipp (Minister for Customs and Excise), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 8 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 9 STATES GRANTS (INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS) 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 by Mr Beazley who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof: “the House, while not refusing a second reading to the Bill, is of the opinion that it should provide for the establishment of an Australian Schools Commission to examine and determine the needs of students in government and non-government primary, secondary and technical schools, and recommend grants which the Commonwealth should make to the States to assist in meeting the requirements of all school age children on the basis of needs and priorities”.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Solomon), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 10 ADJOURNMENT: Mr J. M. Fraser (Minister for Education and Science) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at six minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 7 March 1972, pursuant to statute:

Customs Tariff—Order—Less Developed Country—No. 1 (1972).

Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1972, No. 25.

Lands Acquisition Act—Easement acquired for post office purposes—Wigunda, South Australia.

Papua New Guinea Act—Ordinance—1972—No. 12—Workers' Compensation (Commonwealth Employees) 1971.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1972, Nos. 26, 27.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations—
1972—

No. 23—Repatriation Department Medical Officers' Association.

No. 31—Australian Builders Labourers' Federation.

No. 32—Hospital Employees' Federation of Australia.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1972—No. 6—Co-
operative Societies.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except
Mr L. F. Bowen, Mr Bury, Mr Calwell, Mr Cass, Mr Jess, Mr MacKellar and Mr
Morrison.

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