

1901.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 39.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 26TH JULY, 1901.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Hume Cook presented a Petition from John Robertson, of Moonee Ponds, praying that the House would take into consideration the matter of gold monometallic legal tender and its errors.
Petition received and read.
3. NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND PRODUCTIVE INDUSTRIES.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That, in the opinion of this House, a National Department of Agriculture and Productive Industries, on the same lines as that of the United States of America, ought to be organized and maintained in connexion with the Government of the Commonwealth—having been read—
Debate resumed.
Mr. Skene moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Friday, 9th August next.
4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. MACDONALD-PATERSON).—Mr. Chapman moved, pursuant to notice, That leave of absence for one fortnight be granted to the honorable Member for Brisbane (Mr. Macdonald-Paterson), on the ground of ill health.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
5. KANAKAS IN QUEENSLAND, AND CRIMES COMMITTED BY THEM.—Mr. Piesse moved, pursuant to notice, That there be laid before this House a Return showing—
 1. The number of crimes committed by kanakas in Queensland during the last ten years; serious offences to be placed in a separate class and the name of each such offence given; also a statement of the percentage which each class of such crimes bears to the number of kanakas in Queensland. The same information for male adults of white race in Queensland.
 2. The number of serious crimes during the same period the perpetrators of which have remained undiscovered.
 3. The number of kanakas resident in Queensland who have continuously resided there for more than six years.
 Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
6. COINAGE COMMITTEE—ATTENDANCE OF SENATOR AS WITNESS.—Mr. G. B. Edwards moved, pursuant to notice, That a Message be sent to the Senate requesting that leave be given to Senator J. T. Walker to attend and be examined by the Select Committee on Coinage appointed by this House.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

26th July, 1901.

7. ABORIGINES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA—ROYAL COMMISSION.—Mr. Mahon moved, pursuant to notice, That, with a view to determine the expediency or otherwise of amending section 51, sub-section (26), of the Constitution Act by the omission of the words "other than the aboriginal races of any State," it is, in the opinion of this House, desirable that a Royal Commission should be appointed to investigate and report—

1. On the condition of the aboriginal inhabitants of Western Australia north of the 30th parallel of latitude.
2. On the system by which aboriginal natives are assigned and indentured to white employers.
3. On the administration of justice in the lower courts of Western Australia in so far as the aboriginal inhabitants of that State are or have been affected thereby.

That the foregoing resolution be conveyed by Address to His Excellency the Governor-General.

Ordered—That the debate be adjourned until Friday, 6th September next.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Barton moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—The Attorney-General (The Honorable Alfred Deakin), The Minister of Home Affairs (The Honorable Sir William Lyne, K.C.M.G.), The Minister of Defence (The Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.), Mr. Batchelor The Right Honorable Sir Edward Braddon, P.C., Messrs. Brown, Cameron, Conroy, Ewing Fisher, Harper, Isaacs, Kennedy, Knox, Macdonald-Paterson, McCay, McColl, Sir William McMillan, Messrs. Phillips, Ronald, Bruce Smith, V. L. Solomon, Spence, and Watkins.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.