

1901.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 45.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH AUGUST, 1901.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.—Mr. Barton moved, by leave, That the following Address to His Majesty the King be agreed to by this House :—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY :

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN—

We, the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, have received with heartfelt sorrow the news of the death of Your August Sister, Her Imperial Majesty The Empress Dowager of Germany and Princess Royal of England.

We are confident that we give expression to the deep sympathy which your subjects throughout this Commonwealth feel for Your Majesty in the great loss which has befallen you, and we assure you that our words accord with the loyal affection for Your Majesty which animates the people of Australia.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Barton moved, That the foregoing Address be presented by Mr. Speaker for the House to His Excellency the Governor-General for transmission to His Majesty through the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

3. PETITIONS.—Mr. Joseph Cook presented a Petition from George Lane, styling himself Chairman of a Meeting of Wesleyan Methodist Ministers of the city and suburbs of Sydney and President of the Wesleyan Conference, in favour of the retention of clauses 54 and 55 of the Post and Telegraph Bill.

Mr. Clarke presented a Petition from certain citizens and residents of the State of New South Wales, praying that the House will be pleased to reject clause 54 of the Post and Telegraph Bill.

Mr. Wilkinson presented a Petition from certain electors, citizens, and residents of Brisbane, in the State of Queensland, praying that the House will be pleased to eliminate clauses 54 and 55 of the Post and Telegraph Bill.

Petitions severally received.

4. PAPER.—Mr. Barton presented—

Correspondence *re* Construction of Railway in South Australia to Western Australian Border.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

5. COST OF AUSTRALIAN AUXILIARY SQUADRÓN.—Mr. Clarke moved, pursuant to notice, That there be laid before this House a Return showing—

1. The prime cost, in detail, of the several cruisers and gunboats which comprise the Australian Auxiliary Squadron.
2. The cost of equipment in each case.
3. The annual cost of maintenance in each case, inclusive of salaries and wages.
4. The amount of subsidy paid by the various States up to date.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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## 6. PAPER.—Mr. Barton presented—

Cost of Australian Auxiliary Squadron—Return to the foregoing Order.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

## 7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Order of the Day No. 1 be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 2.

## 8. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read—Mr. Barton moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Sir William McMillan 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 Wednesday next.

## 9. EXCISE ON BEER BILL.—The Order of the Day for the third reading of this Bill having been read—Mr. Kingston moved, That this Bill be now recommitted to a Committee of the whole House for the reconsideration of clauses 5, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 26, 29, 37, 46, and the Third Schedule.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Chanter reported that the Committee had again considered the portions of the Bill referred to it, and had agreed to the same with further amendments.

Ordered—That the consideration of the further Report be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

## 10. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented by Mr. Barton, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HOPETOUN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 14.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to make provision for the Collection and Payment of the Public Moneys, the Audit of the Public Accounts and the Protection and Recovery of Public Property and for other purposes,*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal assent, His Excellency has, in the name of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,

Melbourne, 7th August, 1901.

## 11. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 4.

## 12. DEFENCE BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time, having been read—

Debate resumed.

Mr. A. C. Groom 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 to-morrow.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at twenty-two minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow 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 Defence (The Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.), Messrs. Ewing, Glynn, W. H. Groom, Macdonald-Paterson, F. E. McLean, Phillips, The Right Honorable G. H. Reid, P.C., Messrs. Sydney Smith, V. L. Solomon, and Willis.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*