

1903.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 68.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1903.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented by Sir George Turner, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

TENNYSON,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 24.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and four,*" 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 and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,

Melbourne, 29th September, 1903.

3. RESIGNATION OF MEMBER (THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR EDMUND BARTON), AND PROPOSAL NOT TO ISSUE WRIT.—Mr. Speaker made the following statement to the House :—

I wish to inform the House that I have this day received the resignation by the Right Honorable Sir Edmund Barton of his seat for the electoral division of Hunter.

I find that—

1. If a writ were issued forthwith, and the shortest reasonable periods allowed between the issue of the writ and the nominations, and between the nominations and the polling, it is almost certain that the Session would have been concluded and the dissolution have become imminent before the new Member could have been elected.

2. The franchise at such election would be quite unlike that under which the election following the dissolution would be held.

3. Considerable expense would be caused to the Commonwealth, and trouble to the electors of the division, with no appreciable advantage to either.

Therefore I do not, as at present advised, propose to issue a writ under existing circumstances.

4. APPROPRIATION BILL 1903-4.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read—Sir George Turner moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

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 gone through the Bill and agreed to the same without amendment.

On the motion of Sir George Turner, the House adopted the Report.

Ordered—That the third reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

30th September, 1903.

5. APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL 1903-4.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read—Sir George Turner moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

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 gone through the Bill and agreed to the same without amendment.

On the motion of Sir George Turner, the House adopted the Report.

Ordered—That the third reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

6. SUPPLY RESOLUTIONS.—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND BUILDINGS (1901-2 AND 1902-3).—The Order of the Day for the consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply having been read—the said resolutions were read, and are as follow :—

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1901-2.

Resolved—That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1901-2 for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

	£
i. The Parliament	39
iv. The Department of Home Affairs ...	527
v. The Department of the Treasury ...	102
vi. The Department of Trade and Customs ... °	848
vii. The Department of Defence	90
viii. The Postmaster-General's Department ...	4,263

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ARREARS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1901.

Resolved—That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the period ended 30th June, 1901, for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

	£
ii. The Department of External Affairs ...	44
vi. The Department of Trade and Customs ...	16
vii. The Department of Defence ...	804
viii. The Postmaster-General's Department ...	235

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1902-3.

Resolved—That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1902-3 for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

	£
i. The Parliament	931
ii. The Department of External Affairs ...	1,336
iii. The Attorney-General's Department ...	41
iv. The Department of Home Affairs... ..	7,824
v. The Department of the Treasury ...	865
Refunds of Revenue	644
vi. The Department of Trade and Customs ...	15,502
vii. The Department of Defence	13,951
viii. The Postmaster-General's Department ...	51,346

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ARREARS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1902.

Resolved—That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the period ended 30th June, 1902, viz. :—

	£
ii. The Department of External Affairs ...	2,125
iv. The Department of Home Affairs ...	2,558
v. The Department of the Treasury ...	315
vi. The Department of Trade and Customs ...	27
vii. The Department of Defence	10,109
viii. The Postmaster-General's Department ...	423

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, AND BUILDINGS, 1901-2.

Resolved—That the following further sum be granted to His Majesty for the several services hereunder specified for the year 1901-2, viz. :—

	£
Additions, New Works, and Buildings ...	1,004

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, AND BUILDINGS, 1902-3.

Resolved—That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty for the several services hereunder specified for the year 1902-3, viz. :—

	£
Additions, New Works, and Buildings ...	2,635

And the said resolutions were adopted by the House.

30th September, 1903.

7. **WAYS AND MEANS.**—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Chanter reported that the Committee had agreed to certain resolutions.

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

8. **PATENTS BILL.**—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House having been read—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 made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—FEDERAL CAPITAL SITE.—CONFERENCE TO SELECT.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 23.

The Senate having considered Message No. 21 of the House of Representatives, requesting concurrence in certain resolutions transmitted therewith, in regard to the procedure for the selection of a Federal Capital Site, acquaints the House of Representatives that the Senate does not concur in such resolutions.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 30th September, 1903.

R. C. BAKER,
President.

10. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Mr. Bamford, Mr. Conroy, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Harper, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. McColl, Sir Malcolm McEacharn, Mr. F. E. McLean, Sir William McMillan, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Reid, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Sydney Smith, and Mr. Thomas.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.