

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 1926.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. EDEN-MONARO ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT.—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he proposed to issue a Writ, on Monday next, for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Eden-Monaro, in the State of New South Wales, in the place of the Honorable Sir Austin Chapman, deceased. The dates in connexion with the Election would be fixed as follows :—

Date of Issue of Writ	...	...	Monday, 25th January, 1926.
Date of Nomination	...	...	Wednesday, 10th February, 1926.
Date of Polling	...	...	Saturday, 6th March, 1926.
Date for Return of Writ	...	...	On or before Tuesday, 23rd March, 1926.
3. DAYS AND HOURS OF MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, unless otherwise ordered, this House shall meet for the dispatch of business at three o'clock on each Wednesday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock on each Thursday afternoon, and at eleven o'clock on each Friday morning.
Question—put and passed.
4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—DRIED FRUITS ADVANCES BILL (1926).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

STONEHAVEN,
Governor-General.

Message No. 6.

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Dried Fruits Advances Act 1924*.

Federal Government House,
Melbourne, 15th January, 1926.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at a later hour this day.

5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 - Canberra—Memorandum (dated 21st December, 1925) by the Chairman, Federal Capital Commission, on the subject of the Transfer to Canberra.
 - Port Augusta—Oodnadatta Railway to Alice Springs—Plans, books of reference, estimates, and other information in connexion with the proposed Railway Extension.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

20th January, 1926.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

- Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1925, No. 219.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at Trentham, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
- Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance No. 1 of 1926—Auctioneers.
- Northern Territory Representation Act and Commonwealth Electoral Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 5.
- Quarantine Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 2.

6. RAILWAYS (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) AGREEMENT BILL.—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve an Agreement made between His Majesty's Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and His Majesty's Government of the State of South Australia.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Hill then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
7. OODNADATTA TO ALICE SPRINGS RAILWAY BILL.—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Extension of the Port Augusta Railway by the Construction of a Railway to Alice Springs.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Hill then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
8. CRIMES BILL (1926).—Mr. Latham (Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Crimes Act* 1914–1915.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
9. WESTERN AUSTRALIA GRANT BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 5—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the purposes of Financial Assistance to the State of Western Australia.
Question—put and passed.
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

- Mr. Earle Page moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.
Question—put and passed.
The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Earle Page, was adopted by the House.
Ordered—That Mr. Earle Page and Mr. Latham do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.
Mr. Earle Page then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Earle Page moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Albert Green moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
10. PRECIOUS METALS PROSPECTING BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—
Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed. Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 debated and agreed to.

Clause 2—

Mr. Blakeley moved, as an amendment, That the words "and precious gems" be inserted after the word "metals" in line 7.

20th January, 1926.

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

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 20.		Noes, 42.	
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. McGrath	Mr. Aubrey Abbott	Mr. Latham
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Ley
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Edward Riley	Mr. Bruce	Mr. Lister
Mr. Coleman	Mr. E. C. Riley	Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Forde	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Mann
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Marks
Mr. Lambert	Mr. West	Mr. Corser	Mr. Marr
Mr. Lazzarini		Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Nott
Mr. Mahony	<i>Tellers :</i>	Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Makin	Mr. Fenton	Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Parsons
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Yates	Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Thomas Paterson
		Mr. Gardner	Mr. Pratten
		Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Prowse
		Mr. Gibson	Sir Granville Ryrie
		Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Seabrook
		Mr. Gregory	Mr. Stewart
		Mr. Gullett	Mr. Thompson
		Mr. Hill	Mr. William Watson
		Sir Neville Howse	
		Mr. Hurry	<i>Tellers :</i>
		Mr. Jackson	Mr. Hunter
		Mr. Killen	Mr. Manning

And so it was negatived

Clause agreed to.

Clause 3 debated and agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Clause 5 debated.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA BOUNTIES BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

STONEHAVEN,
Governor-General.

Message No. 7.

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment of Bounties on certain goods the produce or manufacture of the Territory of Papua and on certain goods the produce or manufacture of the Territory of New Guinea.

Government House,
Melbourne, 20th January, 1926.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

12. RAILWAYS (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) AGREEMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time. Mr. Lacey moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
13. OODNADATTA TO ALICE SPRINGS RAILWAY BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time. Mr. Yates moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bell, Mr. Bowden, and Mr. Watt.

WALTER A. GALE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.