

1926.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 10.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 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. RETURN TO WRIT (NORTHERN TERRITORY).—The Clerk announced that he had that day received from the Official Secretary to His Excellency the Governor-General the Return to the Writ for the Northern Territory, which had been issued in connexion with the General Election of the House of Representatives, and which, for the Election of a Member for the Northern Territory, was held on 15th December, 1925, and that by the indorsement on the Writ it appeared that Harold George Nelson had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.
3. MEMBER SWORN.—Harold George Nelson, Esquire, made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
4. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Fenton rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The importation of Kerbside Petrol Pumps, and the rise in the price of Petrol".  
Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—  
Mr. Fenton moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and negatived.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NORTHERN TERRITORY (ADMINISTRATION) BILL (1926).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—  

MR. SPEAKER, *Message No. 4.*  
The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1910'*," and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 3rd February, 1926.

Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinance of 1926—No. 4—Lunacy.  
Public Service Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 15, 16.  
Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance of 1926—No. 1—Dogs Registration.
7. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—TELEGRAPH LINES BETWEEN PERTH AND ADELAIDE.—Mr. Gibson (Postmaster-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-21*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for their report, viz.:—Transfer of Postal Department's telegraph lines between Perth and Adelaide to the Transcontinental Railway route.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr. Gibson having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

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8. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT (BONUS SHARES) BILL.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), pursuant to leave given on the 29th January last, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to validate certain Refunds of Income Tax and for other purposes*," and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Mr. Earle Page, by leave, moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Mr. Charlton 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.
9. WAR-TIME PROFITS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1926).—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), pursuant to leave given on the 29th January last, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the War-time Profits Tax Assessment Act 1924 and for other purposes*," and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Mr. Earle Page, by leave, moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Mr. Charlton 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.
10. DRIED FRUITS ADVANCES BILL (1926).—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. 6—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

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(In the Committee.)

Mr. Atkinson (Minister representing the Minister for Markets and Migration) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made, for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Dried Fruits Advances Act 1924*.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Mr. Atkinson 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. Atkinson, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Marr do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Atkinson 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. Atkinson moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Charlton 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.

11. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 2, Government Business, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4.

12. PRECIOUS METALS PROSPECTING BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

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(In the Committee.)

Clause 5 further debated.

On the motion of Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories), the following amendment was made, after debate:—Page 2, line 7, omit "amongst", insert "by".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 6 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Mr. Marr 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.

On the motion of Mr. Marr, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

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13. PETROLEUM 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.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Marr, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Question—put and passed.

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

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—  
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Seabrook, and Mr. Thompson.

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