

1926-27-28.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

No. 157.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 22ND MARCH, 1928.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—REPORT.—Mr. E. C. Riley, for the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Report from the Committee :—  
Transport Facilities within the Federal Capital Territory.  
Ordered to be printed.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1928, No. 23.  
Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1928, No. 25.  
Papua Act—Ordinance of 1928—No. 1—Native Labour.
4. SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended as will enable the Notice of Motion No. 4, General Business, to take precedence for this day.  
Question—put and passed.
5. ABRAHAMS BROTHERS—INCOME TAX EVASIONS.—Mr. Brennan moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the action of the Government in regard to certain notorious income tax evasions known as "the Abrahams cases", the history of which discloses improper and unprecedented bargaining on the part of the Government with self-confessed malefactors, and grave failure to safeguard the revenues of the Commonwealth, is repugnant to right practice and out of harmony with correct and settled principles governing the administration of the criminal law.  
Mr. Brennan not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A—the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.  
Debate continued.  
Mr. Latham (Attorney-General) addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A—the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.  
Debate continued.  
Question—That the motion be agreed to—put.  
The House divided—

Ayes, 15.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Forde	
Mr. Albert Green	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Makin
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. McGrath	

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Mr. Aubrey Abbott	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Hurry
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Bell	Mr. Killen
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Latham
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Ley
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Lister
Mr. Corser	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Marks
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Parsons
Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Gullett	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hill	Mr. Hunter
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Manning

And so it was negatived.

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6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (1927).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 116.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act relating to Duties of Customs,*” and requests the House to amend the Bill as set forth in the annexed Schedule.

JOHN NEWLANDS,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 22nd March, 1928.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-seven minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—  
Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini,  
Mr. Mann, Mr. Marr, Mr. Pratten, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watt, and Mr. West.

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E. W. PARKES,  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*