

1926-27-28.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

No. 199.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 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. WEST SYDNEY ELECTORAL DIVISION.—PROPOSAL NOT TO ISSUE WRIT.—Mr. Speaker made the following statement to the House :—
As honorable Members are aware, a vacancy has occurred in the representation of the Electoral Division of West Sydney. It has been announced in this House that a dissolution of the House will be sought at an early date with a view to the holding of the General Election on Saturday, 17th November next.
I have made careful inquiry and I find that if a Writ were issued 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 concluded and the dissolution of the House have taken place before the date of polling.
Therefore, I do not at present propose to issue a Writ, under existing circumstances, for the vacant Division.
3. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—REPORTS.—Mr. Robert Cook, for the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, brought up the following Reports from the Committee :—
Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed establishment of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Cairns, Queensland.
Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed establishment of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at City West (Melbourne), and conversion of South Melbourne Automatic Exchange to Six-Figure Working.
Severally ordered to be printed.
4. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Australian Imperial Force Canteens Funds Act—Eighth Annual Report by the Trustees, 1st July, 1927, to 30th June, 1928 (including the Sir Samuel McCaughey Bequest for the Technical Education of Soldiers' Children).
Ordered to be printed.
5. LAND TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1928).—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.
Clause 3 debated and agreed to.
Clause 4 agreed to.
Title agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed : Mr. Hurry reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

12th September, 1928.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NEW GUINEA BILL (1928).—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 150.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ New Guinea Act 1920-1926’*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 12th September, 1928.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—BANKRUPTCY BILL (1928).—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 151.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Bankruptcy Act 1924-1927’*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 12th September, 1928.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL (1928).—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 152.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend sections four, thirty-one, forty-five and forty-seven of the ‘ Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1908-1926’*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 12th September, 1928.

9. SUPPLY [BUDGET DEBATE].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the question (see page 628), That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—The Parliament—namely—

The President £1,300

be agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Duncan-Hughes reported accordingly.

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

10. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SEAT OF GOVERNMENT RAILWAY BILL.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 153.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act relating to the Seat of Government Railway*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 12th September, 1928.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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.

11. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Tasmania Grant Bill* (1928)]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 154.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the purpose of Financial Assistance to the State of Tasmania*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 12th September, 1928.

12th September, 1928.

[*Loan Bill (No. 2) (1928)*]

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 155.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the Raising and Expending of certain Sums of Money*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 12th September, 1928.

12. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Tariff Board—Report and Recommendation—Sewing Threads and Sewing Cottons.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-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. Blakeley, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Forde, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Grosvenor Francis, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Ley, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Marks, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Thomas Paterson, Mr. Prowse, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Theodore, Mr. Watt, and Mr. Yates.

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