

1929.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

No. 37.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1929.

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. PRINTING COMMITTEE—SECOND REPORT.—Mr. Mann, for the Chairman, brought up the Second Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate).

The Report was read by the Clerk, as follows :—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honor to report that they have met in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, recommend that the following be printed :—

Elections and Referendums—Statistical Returns in relation to the Senate Elections, 1928 ; the General Elections for the House of Representatives, 1928 ; the submission to the Electors of a proposed Law for the alteration of the Constitution, entitled " Constitution Alteration (State Debts) 1928 " ; together with Summaries of Elections and Referendums, 1903-1928.

Elections, 1928—

Statistical Returns showing the Voting within each Subdivision in relation to the Senate Election, 1928, and the General Elections for the House of Representatives, 1928, for Victoria.

Statistical Returns showing the Voting within each Subdivision in relation to the General Election for the House of Representatives, 1928, for the Northern Territory.

Nauru—Report to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of Nauru during the year 1928.

New Guinea—Report to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of the Territory of New Guinea from 1st July, 1927, to 30th June, 1928.

Commonwealth and State Ministers—Conference held at Canberra, May, 1929—Proceedings and Decisions.

Power Development in Australia—Report by Alex. J. Gibson, M.E., M.Inst. C.E., M.I.E. Aust. Shipping—Report of the Overseas Shipping Conference convened by the Right Honorable the Prime Minister of Australia.

Soldier Settlement—Report by Mr. Justice Pike on losses due to Soldier Settlement.

South Australia—Report, with Appendices, of the Royal Commission on the Finances of South Australia as affected by Federation.

E. A. MANN,
for Chairman.

Senate Committee Room,
4th September, 1929.

Mr. Mann moved, That the Report be agreed to.
Question—put and passed.

3. MARITIME INDUSTRIES BILL.—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.

F.122.

5th, 6th and 7th September, 1929.

Mr. Hughes addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A—the Right Honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

FRIDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER, 1929.

Debate continued.

Point of Order—Speaker's Ruling.—Attention having been called by an honorable Member to the absence of a quorum, two Points of Order were raised by Mr. Bernard Corser, firstly, that so long as Mr. Speaker was satisfied that there was a quorum within the precincts of the House there was no need to summon Members to the Chamber, and secondly, that Mr. Speaker has the power to decline to count the House.

Mr. Speaker said, with regard to the first Point of Order, that, in view of the fact that the Constitution provides that one-third of the whole number of the Members of the House shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the House for the exercise of its powers, and in view of Standing Orders Nos. 33 and 34, in determining whether a quorum was present, he could take no cognizance of the fact that some Members were within the precincts of the House, but outside the Chamber; one-third of the whole of the Members must be inside the Bar of the House in order to form a quorum.

With regard to the second Point of Order, the Speaker said that the practice of the House was not to again count the House until a reasonable interval of time had elapsed after the previous count, and not to allow a succession of calls for a quorum to obstruct the business of the House. Previous Speakers had laid it down that a quarter of an hour was a reasonable interval.

Debate continued.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1929.

Debate continued.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 34.

Mr. Aubrey Abbott	Mr. Latham
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Bell	Mr. Marks
Mr. Bowden	Mr. McWilliams
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Collins	Mr. Parsons
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Graham Pratten
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Gullett	Mr. White
Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Hurry	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Jackson	

Noes, 30.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Martens
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Price
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Culley	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Forde	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Tully
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Watkins
Mr. James	Mr. West
Mr. Jones	Mr. Yates
Mr. Lacey	
Mr. Lazzarini	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Long	Mr. Fenton
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Makin

And so it was 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.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

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.

4. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

5th, 6th and 7th September, 1929.

5. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY—FUTURE FORM OF GOVERNMENT—PRINTING OF PAPER.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the future control of the Federal Capital Territory, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper—

Federal Capital Territory—Statement of proposed future form of Government—

and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Mr. Theodore 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.

6. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Permanent Court of International Justice—Copy of Optional Clause of Article 36 of Statute, together with list of signatories to Ratification.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determination by the Arbitrator, &c.—No. 19 of 1929—
Association of Draughtsmen, Public Service.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-eight minutes to one o'clock p.m. (Saturday), adjourned until Tuesday three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Killen, Mr. Marr, Mr. Mathews, Mr. McGrath, and Mr. Scullin.

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