

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 118.

TUESDAY, 17TH MARCH, 1931.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. DEATH OF SENATOR CHAPMAN.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That this House expresses its deep regret at the death of Senator John Hedley Chapman, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its profound sympathy to his widow and family in their bereavement.
And Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Earle Page having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—
Question—passed.
Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to Mrs. Chapman the foregoing Resolution, together with a copy of the speeches delivered thereon.
3. SUSPENSION OF SITTING AS MARK OF RESPECT.—As a mark of respect to the memory of the late honorable Senator, the sitting was thereupon suspended until four o'clock p.m.
4. RESUMPTION OF SITTING.—At four o'clock p.m. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.
5. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) 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 deliberate adoption by the Government of a financial policy described by the Prime Minister in a cable to the then Acting Treasurer as unsound and desperate, and the acceptance by the Government of political directions for appointments to the High Court, notwithstanding the declaration of the Prime Minister and the Attorney-General that such appointments would strike fatally at the authority of the Court".
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. Latham moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, and the Orders of the Day were called on.
6. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable Questions upon Notice to be answered and Notices of Motion to be considered.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
7. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WHEAT BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—
ISAAC A. ISAACS,
Governor-General. *Message No. 65.*
In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of a Bounty on the Production of Wheat, for the making of Loans to necessitous Wheat-growers, and for other purposes.
Government House,
Canberra, 13th March, 1931.
Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.
8. THE LATE DAME NELLIE MELBA.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received from Mr. George Armstrong, son of the late Dame Nellie Melba, a letter thanking the House for its resolution of sympathy.
9. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Electoral Act—Reports, with Maps, by the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing into Electoral Divisions the States of—
New South Wales.
Queensland.

10. **OBJECTION TO SPEAKER'S RULING.**—Mr. Latham moved, pursuant to notice—That the Ruling of the honorable the Speaker—that he is at liberty to leave the Chair at any time during a sitting without leave of the House or the passing of any motion—be disagreed with.
Debate ensued.
Point of Order—Speaker's Ruling.—A Point of Order having been raised by Mr. Latham as to whether it was in order for the honorable the Speaker to address the House from the Chair instead of from the floor of the House, Mr. Speaker ruled that it was in order for the Speaker to deliver his remarks from the Chair.
Debate continued.
Question—put and negatived.
11. **OBJECTION TO SPEAKER'S RULING.**—Mr. Gullett, by leave, withdrew Notice of Motion No. 2 standing in his name with reference to a Ruling of Mr. Speaker.
12. **CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL (1931).**—Mr. Brennan (Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1930*, and for other purposes.
Question—put and passed.
13. **FIDUCIARY NOTES BILL.**—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to the Issue of a Fiduciary Currency.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Theodore 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. Theodore moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Theodore 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.
Mr. Latham 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. **GOLD BOUNTY BILL (1931).**—Mr. Forde (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Gold Bounty Act 1930*.
Question—put and passed.
15. **DISTILLATION BILL (1931).**—Mr. Forde (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Distillation Act 1901–1925*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Forde 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—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
16. **WINE EXPORT BOUNTY BILL (1931).**—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. 64—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Forde (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Wine Export Bounty Act 1930*.
Question—put and passed.
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

Mr. Forde moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.
Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Forde, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Forde and Mr. Albert Green do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Forde 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—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

17. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eight minutes past ten 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. Bell, Mr. Josiah Francis, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hunter, Mr. James, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Marks, Mr. Mathews, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Price, Mr. Edward Riley, and Mr. Thompson.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk-Assistant, House of Representatives.