

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 195.

TUESDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 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. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Commonwealth and State Ministers—Record of Proceedings of Conference held in Melbourne, 10th to 14th August, and 1st to 12th September, 1931.  
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.  
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
  - Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determination by the Arbitrator, &c.—No. 25 of 1931—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
  - Navigation Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1931, No. 121.
  - Norfolk Island Act—Ordinances of 1931—
    - No. 2—Marriage.
    - No. 3—Education.
    - No. 4—Partition.
    - No. 5—Trustees.
    - No. 6—Importation of Plants.
    - No. 7—Police.
    - No. 8—Registration of Dentists.
    - No. 9—Companies.
3. DEBT CONVERSION AGREEMENT BILL (No. 2) (1931).—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve an Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia of the First Part and the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania of the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Parts respectively.  
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 asked leave to move, That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.  
Objection being raised, leave not granted.  
*Suspension of Standing Orders.*—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the Treasurer to move that the second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.  
Question—put.

13th October, 1931.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 45.		Noes, 4.
Mr. Bell	Mr. Marr	Mr. Beasley
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Martens	Mr. James
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Maxwell	
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. McNeill	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Gabb
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Nairn	
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Parkhill	
Mr. Culley	Mr. Thomas Paterson	
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Prowse	
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Edward Riley	
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. Forde	Mr. Rowe	
Mr. Frost	Mr. Scullin	
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Theodore	
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Tully	
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Watkins	
Mr. Guy	Mr. White	
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Yates	
Mr. Jones		
Mr. Keane	<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Lewis	Mr. Bayley	
Mr. Lyons	Mr. E. C. Riley	
Mr. Mackay		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative by an absolute majority of the Members of the House.

Mr. Theodore moved, That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

Question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 46.		Noes, 4.
Mr. Bell	Mr. Marr	Mr. Beasley
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Martens	Mr. James
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Maxwell	
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. McGrath	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Chifley	Mr. McNeill	Mr. Gabb
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Morgan	
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Nairn	
Mr. Culley	Mr. Parkhill	
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Thomas Paterson	
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Prowse	
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Edward Riley	
Mr. Forde	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. Frost	Mr. Rowe	
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Scullin	
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Theodore	
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Tully	
Mr. Guy	Mr. Watkins	
Mr. Holloway	Mr. White	
Mr. Jones	Mr. Yates	
Mr. Keane		
Mr. Lewis	<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Lyons	Mr. Bayley	
Mr. Mackay	Mr. E. C. Riley	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

4. COMMONWEALTH DEBT CONVERSION BILL (No. 2) (1931).—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act for carrying out and giving effect to an Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia of the First Part and the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania of the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Parts respectively, relating to the Conversion of the Internal Public Debts of the Commonwealth and the States, and for other purposes.

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.

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

13th October, 1931.

5. DEBT CONVERSION AGREEMENT BILL (No. 2) (1931).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Mr. Theodore addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—  
Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.  
Mr. Lyons 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. COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS BILL (1931).—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Committee of Public Accounts Act 1913–1920*.  
Question—put and passed.  
Mr. Scullin 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, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
7. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE BILL (1931).—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913–1921*.  
Question—put and passed.  
Mr. Scullin 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, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
8. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Report of the Repatriation Commission for the year ended 30th June, 1931.  
Ordered to be printed.
9. COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS BILL (1931).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr. Parkhill moved, as an amendment, That all words after " be " be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—" withdrawn and that another Bill be introduced to provide for the abolition of the Committee ".  
Debate continued.  
Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.  
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 38.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Chifley	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Culley	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Forde	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Frost	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Tully
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Yates
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Jones	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lewis	Mr. Guy
Mr. Lyons	Mr. E. C. Riley

Noes, 8.

Mr. Beasley  
Mr. Bell  
Mr. Gabb  
Mr. James  
Mr. Marr  
Mr. White

*Tellers:*

Mr. Parkhill  
Mr. Ward

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

Mr. Gabb moved, as an amendment, That the word " seven " (page 1, line 14) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the word " five " in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

13th October, 1931.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. McGrath, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 36.		Noes, 14.
Mr. Anstey	Mr. Makin	Mr. Beasley
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Martens	Mr. Bell
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Bernard Corser
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. McNeill	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Gabb
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Morgan	Mr. James
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Lyons
Mr. Culley	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Marr
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Rowe	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Forde	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Frost	Mr. Theodore	Mr. Ward
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Tully	
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Watkins	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Yates	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Guy		Mr. White
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Keane	Mr. Bayley	
Mr. Lewis	Mr. E. C. Riley	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 3 debated and agreed to.

*New clauses—*

On the motion of Mr. Scullin, the following new clause was inserted in the Bill:—

1A. This Act shall commence upon a date to be fixed by Proclamation. Commencement.

On the motion of Mr. Beasley, the following new clause was inserted in the Bill:—

2A. After section two A of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:—

“2AB. No Minister of State shall be a member of the Committee. No President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, or Chairman of Committees of either House of Parliament shall be a member of the Committee.” Ministers  
not to be  
members.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. McGrath reported accordingly.

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

10. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE BILL (1931).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Parkhill moved, as an amendment, That all the words after “be” be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—“withdrawn and that another Bill be introduced to provide for the abolition of the Committee”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 38.		Noes, 9.
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Lewis	Mr. Beasley
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Bell
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Martens	Mr. Gabb
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. James
Mr. Coleman	Mr. McGrath	Mr. Lyons
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. McNeill	Mr. Marr
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. White
Mr. Culley	Mr. Morgan	
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Nairn	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Ward
Mr. Forde	Mr. Edward Riley	
Mr. Frost	Mr. Rowe	
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Scullin	
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Theodore	
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Tully	
Mr. Guy		
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Jones	Mr. Bayley	
Mr. Keane	Mr. E. C. Riley	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

13th October, 1931.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

Mr. Gabb moved, as an amendment, That the word "seven" (page 1, line 14) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the word "five" in place thereof.

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. McGrath, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 15.	
<p>Mr. Blakeley Mr. Brennan Mr. Chifley Mr. Coleman Mr. Crouch Mr. Culley Mr. Cunningham Mr. Cusack Mr. Forde Mr. Frost Mr. Gardner Mr. Albert Green Mr. Gregory Mr. Guy Mr. Holloway Mr. Jones Mr. Lewis</p>	<p>Mr. Makin Mr. Martens Mr. Maxwell Mr. McNeill Mr. Parker Moloney Mr. Morgan Mr. Thomas Paterson Mr. Prowse Mr. Rowe Mr. Scullin Mr. Theodore Mr. Tully</p>	<p>Mr. Beasley Mr. Bell Mr. Malcolm Cameron Mr. Bernard Corser Mr. Fenton Mr. Gabb Mr. James Mr. Lyons Mr. Mackay</p>	<p>Mr. Marr Mr. Parkhill Mr. Edward Riley Mr. Ward</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Tellers:</i></p> <p>Mr. Nairn Mr. White</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Tellers:</i></p> <p>Mr. Bayley Mr. E. C. Riley</p>			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to.

*New clause—*

On the motion of Mr. Bayley the following new clause was inserted in the Bill, after debate:—

3A. Section fifteen of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by inserting in sub-section (1.) after the word "except" (second occurring) the letter "(a)"; and

(b) by inserting in sub-section (1.) after the word "Act" the words "; and (b) works exempted by resolution passed by both Houses of the Parliament from the operation of the Act,".

Conditions precedent to commencing public works.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. McGrath reported accordingly.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nine minutes 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. Donald Cameron, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Josiah Francis\*, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Gullett, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lacey\*, Mr. Latham, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Long, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Marks, Mr. Mathews\*, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Price, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Thompson.

\* On leave.

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