

1937-38-39.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 95.

THURSDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1939.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. J. Bell) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Nutrition—Final Report of Advisory Council, with Appendices.  
Ordered to lie on the Table.  
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1939, No. 44.
3. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 70.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Standing Order No. 70 (eleven o'clock rule) be suspended for the remainder of this week.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.
4. NATIONAL INSURANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—JOINT COMMITTEE.—Sir Frederick Stewart (Minister for Social Services) moved, pursuant to notice—
  - (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed—
    - (a) to examine the *National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938* and consider what amendments (if any) should be made to that Act, in relation to—
      - (i) the benefits to be provided ;
      - (ii) the persons to be insured for each benefit ;
      - (iii) the scope of medical and pharmaceutical services and arrangements for their provision ;
      - (iv) the administration of Health Insurance benefits ; and
      - (v) the extent to which the Insurance should be compulsory or voluntary for any class of persons in respect of any benefits,
 and to report accordingly ;
    - (b) to consider the subject of Unemployment Insurance, the recommendations which on 27th February, 1937, were submitted to the Prime Minister by Mr. G. H. Ince on that subject, the system of Unemployment Insurance operating in Queensland, and the principles appropriate to a scheme of Unemployment Insurance for the Commonwealth, and to report accordingly ; and
    - (c) to ascertain and advise on the anticipated cost of any suggested amendments to the scheme embodied in the *National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938* and of any other proposals upon which the Committee may report.
  - (2) That five Members of the House of Representatives be appointed to serve on such Committee.
  - (3) That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament, to move from place to place, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken by such Committee.
  - (4) That the Committee, during its deliberations on the subjects specified in paragraph 1 (a) of this motion, associate with its members eight persons to be appointed by the Minister for Social Services, three of whom shall represent the British Medical Association, two of whom shall represent Pharmaceutical Chemists and Dispensaries, and the remainder (two of whom shall represent Friendly Societies and one of whom shall represent Trade Unions) shall be persons experienced in the provision and administration of medical services.
  - (5) That the Committee associate with its members the Members of the National Insurance Commission and the Commonwealth Actuary and that the Committee confer with representatives of such organizations as would, if the *National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938* were in operation, be concerned in the administration of Health Insurance as provided in that Act.
  - (6) That the Committee report by the 30th September, 1939.
  - (7) That a message be sent to the Senate requesting its concurrence and asking that three Members of the Senate be appointed to serve on such Committee.

Debate ensued.

Sir Earle Page 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 a later hour this day.

8th June, 1939.

5. NATIONAL HEALTH AND PENSIONS INSURANCE BILL 1939.—Sir Frederick Stewart (Minister for Social Services) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to annul certain Proclamations made under the *National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938*, and under certain Acts with which that Act is incorporated.

Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That all words after "to" (second occurring) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"repeal the *National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938*".

Mr. Forde addressing the House and not having concluded his speech—the House ordered that the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the Orders of the Day were called on, in accordance with Standing Order No. 119.

6. NATIONAL REGISTRATION BILL 1939.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

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. Forde moved, as an amendment, That the words "on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent" (page 1, lines 5-6) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words "after the people have been consulted" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

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

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

Ayes, 29.		Noes, 23.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Casey	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Collins	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Corser	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Francis	Mr. Spender	Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Gregory	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Street	Mr. Green	
Mr. Holt	Mr. White	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Wilson	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hutchinson		Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jennings	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Jolly			
Mr. Lane	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 30.		Noes, 23.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McCall	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Casey	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Collins	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Corser	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Francis	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Harrison	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Green	
Mr. Holt	Mr. Street	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hughes	Mr. White	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jennings	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Jolly			
Mr. Lane	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 5—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

8th June, 1939.

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

Ayes, 28.		Noes, 23.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Collins	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Corser	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Francis	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Spender	Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Harrison	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holt	Mr. Street	Mr. Green	
Mr. Hughes	Mr. White	Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. James	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jennings		Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Maloney	
Mr. Lane	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. McCall	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 6 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 7 and 8 agreed to.

Clause 9 debated—

On the motion of Mr. Street (Minister for Defence), the following amendment was made :—

Page 3, line 4, after " delegate " insert " to any officer ".

Debate continued.

Question—That the clause, as amended, be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 30.		Noes, 24.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Casey	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Corser	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Francis	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Holt	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Hughes	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Street	Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Jennings	Mr. White	Mr. James	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jolly	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Lane		Mr. Maloney	
Mr. John Lawson	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. McCall	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. McEwen	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 10—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 29.		Noes, 22.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McCall	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Casey	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Collins	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Corser	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Francis	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Harrison	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holt	Mr. Street	Mr. James	Mr. Gander
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Hutchinson		Mr. Maloney	
Mr. Jennings	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Jolly	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. Lane	Mr. Nock		
Mr. John Lawson			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 11 debated and omitted.

Clause 12—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

8th June, 1939.

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

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 24.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Casey	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Collins	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Corser	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Francis	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Harrison	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holt	Mr. Street	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hughes	Mr. White	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jennings		Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Jolly			
Mr. Lane	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. McCall	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 13—

On the motion of Mr. Street, the following amendment was made, after debate:—

Page 3, line 40, omit "or the regulations".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 14—

Mr. Street moved, That the clause be postponed until after Clause 19.

Question—put.

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

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 24.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Casey	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Collins	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Corser	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Francis	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Harrison	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holt	Mr. Street	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hughes	Mr. White	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jennings		Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Lane			
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. McCall	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 15—

On the motion of Mr. Street, the following amendment was made:—

Page 4, lines 8-9, omit "or the regulations".

Question—That the clause, as amended, be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 24.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Casey	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Collins	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Corser	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Francis	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Harrison	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holt	Mr. Street	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hughes	Mr. White	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. Jennings		Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Lane			
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Gardner		
Mr. McCall	Mr. Nock		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

*8th and 9th June, 1939.*

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Clause 16 debated—

Mr. Nairn moved, as an amendment, That after " years " (page 4, line 12) the words " and a census of property " be inserted.

Mr. Pollard addressing the Committee and having been repeatedly called to order for irrelevance, the Chairman directed the honorable Member to discontinue his speech, and the honorable Member for Ballarat so requiring—

Question—That the honorable Member for Ballarat be further heard—put and passed.

Debate continued.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

**FRIDAY, 9TH JUNE, 1939.**

Debate continued.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Street (Minister for Defence) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eleven minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Badman, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Blain, Mr. Fadden, Sir Charles Marr, Mr. McHugh, Mr. Price, Mr. Scully, Mr. Stacey, and Mr. Thorby.

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F. C. GREEN,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*