

1937-38-39.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 114.

TUESDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 1939.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. J. Bell) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ECONOMIC CABINET—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the appointment of Sir Ernest Fisk as Secretary of the Economic Cabinet and Director of Economic Co-ordination.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 - Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1939—
 - No. 25—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
 - No. 26—Federated Public Service Assistants' Association of Australia; and Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 - No. 27—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 - Audit Act—Transfers of amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial year 1938-39.
 - Customs Act—Regulations, &c.—Statutory Rules 1939, Nos. 92, 101.
 - Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Defence purposes—Bullsbrook, Western Australia.
 - National Security Act—
 - National Security (Prices) Regulations—Order No. 31.
 - Regulations Amended, &c.—Statutory Rules 1939, Nos. 148, 150, 152.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 1 and 3 be postponed until after Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 4, Government Business.
5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE WHEAT INDUSTRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), That the Paper [*presented on the 15th instant*], viz.:—
 - Financial Assistance to the Wheat Industry—Ministerial Statement—
 - be printed—
 - Debate resumed.
 - Mr. Forde 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. Forde continuing to address the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the further time allowed—
 - Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.
 - Debate continued.
 - Mr. Gregory moved, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"the report be referred back to the Right Honorable the Prime Minister with the request that provision should be made by the Government for a guaranteed minimum payment of 3s. 6d. per bushel f.o.b. on wheat acquired by the Government in the No. 2 Pool".
 - Debate continued.
 - Sir Henry Gullett 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.

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6. PRIVILEGE.—Mr. Cameron referred to a paragraph in the *Tweed Daily*, Murwillumbah, of Saturday, 18th November, in which an officer of the Department of Information is reported as publicly criticizing a speech made in the House of Representatives by the honorable Member for Barker. Mr. Cameron then raised a question of Privilege as to officers of the Department of Information being allowed to criticize publicly speeches delivered in the House.

Other honorable Members addressed themselves to the question raised.

7. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE WHEAT INDUSTRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), That the Paper [*presented on the 15th instant*], viz. :—

Financial Assistance to the Wheat Industry—Ministerial Statement—

be printed—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Gregory, viz. :—*That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"the report be referred back to the Right Honorable the Prime Minister with the request that provision should be made by the Government for a guaranteed minimum payment of 3s. 6d. per bushel f.o.b. on wheat acquired by the Government in the No. 2 Pool"—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Scully 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.

Debate continued.

Mr. McHugh 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. Nock 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.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at four 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. Blain, Mr. Casey, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Fairbairn, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Maloney, Sir Charles Marr, Sir Earle Page, and Mr. Ward.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.