

1940.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 13.

THURSDAY, 16TH MAY, 1940.

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. PETITION.—Mr. James presented a Petition from certain old-age pensioners and other citizens of the Commonwealth, praying that immediate consideration be given to the question of increasing the present rate of pension from One pound per week to One pound ten shillings per week.  
Petition received and read.
3. SETTLEMENT OF COAL STRIKE—INDUSTRIAL RELATIONSHIPS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the terms of the agreement entered into for the settlement of the dispute existing in the coal-mining industry. Mr. Menzies also referred to the steps which could be taken to preserve industrial relationships during the war.  
Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. James, by leave, also made Statements with reference to the matters.
4. WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Mr. James, by leave, withdrew Notice of Motion No. 1, General Business, standing in his name.
5. WAR WITH GERMANY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the fighting in Belgium, France and Holland, and informed the House of certain recent international events.
6. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Ward 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 failure of the Government to compel compliance by the boot and shoe manufacturers with the conditions of the contracts for the manufacture of boots and shoes for the defence forces, and in relation to the circumstances attending the transfer from Sydney to Melbourne of Senior Examiner S. G. Gill, and the reasons for such transfer".  
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. Ward moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Mr. Ward 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 ensued.  
*Closure.*—Mr. Corser moved, That the question be now put.  
Question—That the question be now put—put.  
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Bell, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 33.

Mr. Anthony	Mr. Nock
Mr. Cameron	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Francis	Mr. Price
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Holt	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Spender
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Jennings	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Lane	Mr. Street
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Thorby
Sir Charles Marr	
Mr. McCall	
Mr. McEwen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Menzies	Mr. Corser
Mr. Nairn	Mr. Gardner

Noes, 28.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Martens
Mr. Beasley	Mr. McHugh
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Clark	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

16th May, 1940.

And the question—That the House do now adjourn—being accordingly put—

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

Ayes, 28.		Noes, 33.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Martens	Mr. Anthony	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Beasley	Mr. McHugh	Mr. Cameron	Mr. Nock
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Collins	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Fadden	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Clark	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Price
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Rosevear	Mr. Francis	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Gregory	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr	Mr. Holt	Mr. Spender
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward	Mr. Hughes	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Hutchinson	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Holloway		Mr. Jennings	Mr. Street
Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Lane	Mr. Thorby
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander	Mr. John Lawson	
Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson	Sir Charles Marr	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. McCall	Mr. Corser
		Mr. McEwen	Mr. Gardner
		Mr. Menzies	

And so it was negatived.

7. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment of G. D. Vines, Department of Civil Aviation.

Nationality Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1940, No. 69.

Supply and Development Acts—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1940, No. 70.

8. COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL BILL 1939.—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—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Lazzarini, viz.:*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—“the Bill be withdrawn pending the calling of a conference between the governments of the Commonwealth and the States with a view to ensuring a uniform practice in respect to enrolment and voting for Commonwealth and State elections”—

Debate resumed.

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

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

Ayes, 32.		Noes, 24.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Nock	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. McHugh
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Price	Mr. Clark	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Francis	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Holt	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Stacey	Mr. Green	Mr. Ward
Mr. Hutchinson	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Jennings	Mr. Street	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lane	Mr. Thorby	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Sir Charles Marr			
Mr. McCall	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. McEwen	Mr. Corser		
Mr. Menzies	Mr. Nairn		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

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

Ayes, 32.		Noes, 25.	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Nock	Mr. Beasley	Mr. McHugh
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Paterson	Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Price	Mr. Clark	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Francis	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Holt	Mr. Spender	Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Stacey	Mr. Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Hutchinson	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Jennings	Mr. Street	Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lane	Mr. Thorby	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Maloney	Mr. George Lawson
Sir Charles Marr		Mr. Martens	
Mr. McCall	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. McEwen	Mr. Corser		
Mr. Menzies	Mr. Nairn		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

16th May, 1940.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3 debated and agreed to.

Clause 4 debated—

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

Page 2, line 5 after “ may,” insert “ on the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 debated and agreed to.

Clause 6 debated—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 29.

Noes, 22.

Mr. Anthony

Mr. Nock

Mr. Beasley

Mr. McHugh

Mr. Cameron

Mr. Paterson

Mr. Blackburn

Mr. Mulcahy

Mr. Fadden

Mr. Price

Mr. Brennan

Mr. Pollard

Mr. Fairbairn

Mr. Prowse

Mr. Clark

Mr. Riordan

Mr. Francis

Mr. Rankin

Mr. Dedman

Mr. Sheehan

Mr. Gregory

Mr. Spender

Mr. Drakeford

Mr. Spurr

Mr. Harrison

Mr. Stacey

Mr. Frost

Mr. Ward

Mr. Holt

Sir Frederick Stewart

Mr. Green

Mr. Watkins

Mr. Hughes

Mr. Street

Mr. Holloway

Tellers:

Mr. Hutchinson

Mr. Thorby

Mr. James

Mr. Gander

Mr. Jennings

Mr. Wilson

Mr. Lazzarini

Mr. George Lawson

Mr. Lane

Mr. John Lawson

Tellers:

Sir Charles Marr

Mr. Corser

Mr. McCall

Mr. Nairn

Mr. McEwen

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 7—

On the motion of Mr. Blackburn, the following amendments were made, after debate :—

Page 2, lines 39–41, omit “, subject to any variation, addition or omission which the Commonwealth Electoral Officer thinks fit to make.”

Page 3, lines 1–8, proposed section seventy-two c, omit the proviso.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 8 to 11 agreed to.

Clause 12 debated and agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Martens reported accordingly.

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

9. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*War Pensions Appropriation Bill 1940*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 2.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for War Pensions* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

J. B. HAYES,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 16th May, 1940.

[*Invalid and Old-age Pensions Appropriation Bill 1940*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 3.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for Invalid and Old-age Pensions* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

J. B. HAYES,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 16th May, 1940.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SUGAR AGREEMENT BILL 1940.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 4.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to approve an Agreement made between His Majesty's Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and His Majesty's Government of the State of Queensland, and for other purposes* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

J. B. HAYES,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 16th May, 1940.

16th May, 1940.

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Mr. Street (Minister for the Army) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message 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.

11. 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 eleven minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until to-morrow 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. Conelan, Sir Henry Gullett, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Jolly, Mr. Makin, Mr. Scully, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. White\*.

\* On leave.

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F. C. GREEN,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*