

1940-41.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 20.

THURSDAY, 27TH MARCH, 1941.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable W. M. Nairn) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—
Audit Act—Finance—Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for year 1939-40,
accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.
Ordered to be printed.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Postal purposes—Cronulla, New South Wales.
3. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Fadden (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—CHILD ENDOWMENT BILL 1941.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

GOWRIE,

Governor-General.

Message No. 22.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment of Endowments, in respect of certain Children, at the rate of Five shillings per week for each Child.

Canberra, 26th March, 1941.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment of Endowments, in respect of certain Children, at the rate of Five shillings per week for each Child.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Badman reported accordingly.

Mr. Holt moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

Ordered—That Mr. Holt and Sir Frederick Stewart do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Holt 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. Holt moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) 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.

27th March, 1941.

5. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening Business be postponed until after Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 3, Government Business.
6. WAYS AND MEANS—PAY-ROLL TAX.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Anthony (Assistant Minister) moved—

1. That a tax at the rate of Two pounds ten shillings per centum be imposed on all wages paid or payable by any employer in respect of any period of time occurring after the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-one.
2. That the tax be paid by the employer who pays or is liable to pay the wages.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Guy reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

7. PAY-ROLL TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1941.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Anthony (Assistant Minister) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time. Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) 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. APPLE AND PEAR MARKETING BOARD—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Pollard moved, pursuant to notice—

- (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon—
 - (a) the administration and financial operations of the Apple and Pear Marketing Board ; and
 - (b) the adequacy of the existing National Security (Apple and Pear Acquisition) Regulations for the carrying out of the proper functions of the Board.
- (2) That four 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 move from place to place, and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament.
- (4) That a Message be sent to the Senate requesting its concurrence, and asking that four Members of the Senate be appointed to serve upon the said Committee.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Perkins 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.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Anthony (Assistant Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Ordered—That Mr. Johnson be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. James be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eleven minutes to six o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Blain, Mr. Coles*, Mr. Forde, Sir Charles Marr, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Menzies, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Riordan, Mr. White, and Mr. Wilson.

* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.