

1940-41.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 32.

THURSDAY, 26TH JUNE, 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. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—MINISTERS OF STATE BILL 1941.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 57.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for " *An Act to amend the ' Ministers of State Act 1935-1938 '* ", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

J. B. HAYES,  
President.

The Senate,

Canberra, 25th June, 1941.

3. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.  
Question—put and passed.

4. SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1941-42.—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—  
Debate resumed.

Ordered—That Mr. Ward be granted extensions of time (2).

Mr. Johnson 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.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

GOWRIE,

*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 33.*

A Proposed Law intituled " *Ministers of State Act 1941* " as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Law.

Government House,

Canberra, 26th June, 1941.

6. CREATION OF DEPARTMENTS, APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL MINISTERS AND MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) announced that at a meeting of the Federal Executive Council this day approval had been given for the creation of the following new Departments of State :—

The Department of Aircraft Production ;

The Department of Transport ;

The Department of War Organization of Industry ;

The Department of Home Security ; and

The Department of External Territories ;

and that, consequent on the *Ministers of State Act 1941*, Mr. Spooner, Mr. Abbott and Mr. McDonald had been included in the Cabinet.

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Mr. Menzies also announced the following changes in the Ministry:—Senator McLeay had relinquished the offices of Postmaster-General and Minister for Repatriation, and had been appointed Minister for Supply and Development in the place of Senator McBride, who would continue to be Minister for Munitions; Senator Collett had been appointed Minister for Repatriation and would administer War Service Homes, and Mr. Collins had become Postmaster-General. The new Departments would be administered as follows:—

Aircraft Production	..	..	..	..	..	Senator Leckie
Transport	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. Anthony
War Organization of Industry	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. Spooner
Home Security	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. Abbott
External Territories	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. McDonald.

Mr. Menzies informed the House that the Minister for the Interior would be assisted by the Minister for External Territories, the Minister for Munitions by the Minister for Aircraft Production, the Treasurer and the Minister for Commerce by the Minister for Transport, the Minister for Defence Co-ordination and the Minister for the Army by the Minister for Home Security, and the Minister for Supply and Development by the Postmaster-General.

Mr. Menzies indicated that the Minister for Supply and Development, the Minister for Munitions, and the Minister for Aircraft Production would be represented in the House of Representatives by Mr. Spender, and the Minister for Repatriation by Mr. Holt.

7. SUPPLY BILL (No. 1)1941-42.—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—

Debate resumed.

Question—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.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Fadden (Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 131) the Bill was read a third time.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Earle Page (Minister for Commerce) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen 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 Sir George Bell, Mr. Blain, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Makin, Mr. Martens, and Mr. White.

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