

1940-41-42-43.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 142.

THURSDAY, 24TH JUNE, 1943.

1. The House met, at four o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. James (Vice-Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works) brought up the following Report from the Committee :—
Report relating to Newnes and Baerami Shale Oil Proposals.
Ordered to be printed.
3. ALLEGED MISSING DOCUMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to an allegation that an important document relating to defence plans was missing from the official files.
Mr. Ward (Minister for Labour and National Service), and Mr. Fadden (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made Statements with reference to the matter.
Mr. Spender asked leave to make a Statement in connexion with the matter. Objection being raised, leave not granted.
4. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Spender 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, "Statements made by the Prime Minister and the Minister for Labour and National Service in relation to an alleged missing document".
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. Spender moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put.
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 28.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Beck	Mr. Menzies
Sir George Bell	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Collins	Mr. Price
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Francis	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Spender
Mr. Holt	Mr. Spooner
Mr. Hughes	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Hutchinson	
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. McCall	Mr. Marwick
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Stacey

Noes, 29.

Mr. Baker	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Makin
Mr. Breen	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Clark	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Coles	Mr. Scully
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Ward
Mr. Drakeford	
Mr. Forde	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Frost	Mr. Conelan
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Martens
Mr. James	

And so it was negatived.

5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Nationality Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1943, No. 158.
Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1943, No. 161.

F.6316.

24th June, 1943.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 1942-43.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

GOWRIE,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 109.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Additional Estimates of Expenditure for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 21st June, 1943.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That the Message, together with the accompanying Estimates, be referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

Debate ensued.

Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Speaker ruled that the Right Honorable Member for Cowper (Sir Earle Page) would not be in order in anticipating discussion on a motion notice of which had been given during the present Sitting.

Dissent from Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Cameron handed in, in writing, the following objection to the Ruling :—That the Ruling of the honorable the Speaker—that on the motion that the Message be referred to the Committee of Supply it was not in order to debate certain charges against the Minister for Labour and National Service—be disagreed with.

The debate thereon was forthwith adjourned to the next day of sitting.

Debate on original motion continued.

Question—put and passed.

7. SUPPLY—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 1942-43.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That the following additional sum be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1942-43 for the services hereunder specified, viz. :—

PART I.—DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES—OTHER THAN BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS AND TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

VII.—DEFENCE AND WAR (1939-42) SERVICES—

	£
To be allocated to particular services by Supplementary Appropriation ..	119,500,000
UNDER CONTROL OF DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY AND DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS.	
Division No. 133A.—Price Stabilization Subsidies	500,000
	120,000,000
<i>Leses</i> amount chargeable to Loan Fund	100,000,000
	20,000,000

Debate ensued.

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.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twelve minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Anthony, Mr. Badman, Mr. Blain*, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Corser, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Guy, Mr. Johnson, Sir Charles Marr, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Riordan, Mr. Watkins, Mr. White*, and Mr. Wilson.

* On leave.

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