

1943-44.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 14.

FRIDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1944.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. NEW GUINEA CAMPAIGN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the receipt of a communiqué issued by General Head-quarters in the South-west Pacific announcing successful operations in New Guinea resulting in the complete occupation of the Huon Peninsula.
3. ORDER OF BUSINESS.—By leave, Order of the Day No. 1, Government Business, was called on.
4. CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION) BILL 1944.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Mr. Evatt was granted an extension of time to conclude his speech.  
Mr. Menzies (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.
5. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Harrison 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 coal crisis".  
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. Harrison moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Ordered—That Mr. Harrison be granted an extension of time.  
Ordered—That Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) be granted an extension of time.  
Debate continued.  
Ordered—That Mr. James be granted extensions of time (2).  
Debate continued.  
The debate having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 257B.
6. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.  
Question—put and passed.
7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at one minute to five o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Beasley, Mr. Blain\*, and Sir Frederick Stewart.

\* On leave.

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