

1943-44.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 16.

THURSDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1944.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRECEDENCE TO WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION.**—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended as would prevent the Notice of Motion No. 1 (Want of Confidence in the Government) taking precedence of all other Business until disposed of.
Question—put and passed.
3. **WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT.**—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, pursuant to notice, That this House strongly disapproves of the statements made by the Honorable the Minister for Transport and External Territories on Thursday, 10th February, 1944, gravely reflecting upon the policy and administration of Great Britain, and offensive to others of the United Nations; and is of opinion that the continued occupancy of a seat in the Cabinet by a Member guilty of such statements (disavowed by the Right Honorable the Prime Minister), not only constitutes a grave departure from the established principles of responsible government but also brings discredit upon Australia.

Debate ensued.

Closure.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the question be now put.*Point of Order.*—Mr. Cameron raised a Point of Order as to whether the Prime Minister, having already spoken, was in order in moving the Closure.*Speaker's Ruling.*—Mr. Speaker ruled that the Prime Minister was in order.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

Ayes, 44.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Breen	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chambers	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Scully
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fuller	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Gaha	Mr. Williams
Mr. Hadley	
Mr. Haylen	
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. James	

*Tellers:*Mr. Martens
Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 25.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Anthony	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Coles	Mr. Spender
Mr. Fadden	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Francis	Mr. White
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Holt	
Mr. Hughes	
Mr. Hutchinson	
Dame Enid Lyons	Mr. Corser
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy

*Tellers:*Mr. Corser
Mr. Guy

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 24.		Noes, 44.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Breen	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Menzies	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Bowden	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Burke	Mr. Makin
Mr. Coles	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Spender	Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Harrison	Mr. White	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Holt		Mr. Curtin	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Hughes	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Corser	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
Dame Enid Lyons	Mr. Guy	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scullin
		Mr. Evatt	Mr. Scully
		Mr. Falstein	Mr. Sheehy
		Mr. Fraser	Mr. Smith
		Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
		Mr. Fuller	Mr. Watkins
		Mr. Gaha	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Hadley	
		Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. Martens
		Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

4. INCOME TAX ON CURRENT INCOME—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), Chairman, brought up the Report from the Joint Committee on Income Tax on Current Income.
5. OBJECTION TO SPEAKER'S RULING.—Mr. Spender moved, pursuant to notice, That the Ruling of the Speaker given on a point of Privilege sought to be raised by the honorable Member for Warringham be disagreed with.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.
6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 - Elections and Referendums—Statistical Returns in relation to the Senate Elections, and the General Elections for the House of Representatives, 1943; Detailed Return in relation to the Election for the House of Representatives, 1943, for the Northern Territory; together with Summaries of Elections and Referendums, 1903–1943.
 - Elections, 1943—
 - Statistical Returns showing the voting within each Subdivision in relation to the Senate Election and the General Elections for the House of Representatives, 1943, viz. :—
 - New South Wales.
 - Queensland.
 - South Australia.
 - Tasmania.
 - Victoria.
 - Western Australia.
 - National Security Act—
 - National Security (Agricultural Aids) Regulations—Notice—Returns of stocks of bran, pollard and ground or crushed wheat.
 - National Security (Food Control) Regulations—Direction under Citrus fruits order (dated 25th January, 1944).
 Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
- The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 - Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1944—
 - No. 3—Commonwealth Storemen and Packers' Union and Commonwealth Naval Storehousemen's Association.
 - No. 4—Commonwealth Temporary Clerks' Association and Arms, Explosives and Munition Workers' Federation of Australia.
 - No. 5—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
 - No. 6—Commonwealth Telephone Officers' Association.
 - Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1944, No. 11.
 - Lands Acquisition Act and National Security (Supplementary) Regulations—Orders—Land acquired for Commonwealth purposes—
 - Pymont, New South Wales.
 - Swan Hill, Victoria.
 - Tocumwal, New South Wales.

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National Security Act—

National Security (Agricultural Aids) Regulations—Order— Feeding meals (Restriction of manufacture).

National Security (Army Inventions) Regulations—Order—Inventions and designs.

National Security (General) Regulations—

Orders—

Control of—

Building materials (No. 2).

Essential materials (No. 5).

Footwear (Styles and quality) (No. 3).

Manufacture of gas producers (No. 2).

Spark plugs (No. 2).

Defence impressment.

Fishing gear (Estimates and returns).

Fishing industry secondary operatives (Registration).

Heating and cooking appliances (Retail sales) (No. 3).

Prohibited place.

Prohibition of non-essential production (No. 15).

Protected areas.

Radio broadcast receivers.

Taking possession of land, &c. (97).

Rules—

National Security (Compensation Boards).

National Security (Representation before Compensation Boards)—Revocation.

National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (334).

National Security (Man Power) Regulations—Orders—Protected undertakings (66).

National Security (Maritime Industry) Regulations—Order—No. 45.

National Security (Prisoners of War) Regulations—Rules—Camp.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Ordinances—1944—

No. 2—Trespass on Commonwealth Lands.

No. 3—Traffic.

No. 4—Protection of Lands.

Women's Employment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1943, No. 309.

7. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after Notices of Motion Nos. 3 to 5, Government Business.
8. COAL PRODUCTION (WAR-TIME) BILL 1944.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to secure increased Production of Coal, and to provide for Distribution of Coal, in the interests of the Defence of the Commonwealth and the effectual Prosecution of the present War, and for other purposes.
Question—put and passed.
9. INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL 1944.—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1908-1943*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Evatt 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.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
10. WIDOWS' PENSIONS BILL 1944.—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Widows' Pensions Act 1942-1943*.
Question—put and passed.
11. REVIEW OF THE WAR—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), That the Paper [*presented on the 9th February*], viz. :—
Review of the War—Ministerial Statement, 9th February, 1944—
be printed—
Debate resumed.
Ordered—That Sir Earle Page be granted extensions of time (2).
Debate continued.
Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Air) 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.
12. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes past ten 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. Beasley, Mr. Blain*, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Forde.

* On leave.

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