

1944.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 7.

THURSDAY, 31ST AUGUST, 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. TIME OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.
Question—put and passed.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Censorship—Postal, Telegraphic and Telephonic—Report of Commissioner appointed under the National Security (Inquiries) Regulations.
Hannan, A. J., Crown Solicitor of the State of South Australia—Allegations of official interception of letters and listening-in to telephone conversations—Report of Commissioner appointed under the National Security (Inquiries) Regulations.
Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
4. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRECEDENCE TO WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing 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.
5. HIGH COMMISSIONER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, informed the House that the Rt. Hon. S. M. Bruce, C.H., M.C., had been re-appointed as High Commissioner of the Commonwealth in the United Kingdom for a period of one year from the 7th October. Mr. Curtin announced that Mr. Bruce would continue to act as the Australian Accredited Representative on the Imperial War Cabinet, and as His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for the Commonwealth of Australia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
6. WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, pursuant to notice, That the Government's failure to maintain adequate supplies of coal impairs the national war effort; seriously dislocates employment, production and transport; imposes unnecessary hardships upon the community; and deserves the censure of this House.
Debate ensued.
Ordered—That Mr. Beasley (Minister for Supply and Shipping) be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Ordered—That Mr. James be granted extensions of time (2).
Debate continued.
Ordered—That Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) be granted extensions of time (2).
Debate continued.
Ordered—That Mr. Morgan be granted an extension of time.
Mr. Morgan was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Foide (Minister for the Army) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at six minutes past 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. Blain, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Coles, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Guy, Mr. Lazzarini, Dame Enid Lyons, and Mr. Scully.

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

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