

1944.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 31.

FRIDAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 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. DEATH OF MR. G. A. FRANCIS.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House of the death, on the 30th November, of Mr. G. A. Francis, and moved, That this House expresses its sincere regret at the death of Mr. Grosvenor Arundell Francis, a former Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of Kennedy, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service and tenders its deep sympathy to his widow and the members of his family in their bereavement. And Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and other honorable members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—  
Question—passed.
3. PRIVILEGE—CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS.—Mr. Anthony raised a question of Privilege that documents circulated by the Government during a debate became the property of Members, and moved, That the Keast-Hey report circulated during the debate on the Aluminium Industry Bill is now a public document, and, therefore, should be made freely available to all Members.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and negatived.
4. PROPOSED MOTION OF PRIVILEGE.—Mr. Cameron sought to raise a question of Privilege with reference to the distribution of copies of the Jensen report on the wool industry.  
*Speaker's Ruling.*—Mr. Speaker ruled that a motion of Privilege could not be moved at this stage as the matter was not one suddenly arising.
5. SURPLUS AIR CREWS—AIR TRAINING CORPS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Lazzarini (Acting Minister for Air), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to surplus air crew personnel in the Royal Australian Air Force and to the future activities of the Air Training Corps.
6. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Cameron 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 action of the Government in supplying to Members of the Parliamentary Labour Party copies of the Jensen report on the wool industry and the Government's refusal to supply copies to Opposition Members and the unfairness of this action and its effects on the wool industry".  
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. Cameron moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and negatived.
7. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Postal purposes—Glen Davis, New South Wales.  
National Security Act—  
National Security (Aliens Control) Regulations—Order—Aliens (Queensland curfew).  
National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—  
Control of—  
Essential materials (No. 10).  
Footwear (Styles and quality) (No. 5).

1st December, 1944.

8. REVIEW OF THE WAR AND AUSTRALIA'S WAR EFFORT—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. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), That the Paper [*presented on the 15th November*], viz. :—
- Review of the War and Australia's War Effort—Ministerial Statement—  
be printed—  
Debate resumed.  
Mr. Sheehy 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.
9. NATIONAL DEBT COMMISSION—TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), That the Paper [*presented on the 19th September*], viz. :—
- National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—Twenty-first Annual Report, for year 1943-44—  
be printed—  
Question—put and passed.
10. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Commonwealth Railways Act—By-law No. 84.
11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY BILL 1944.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 23.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to approve and give effect to an Agreement made between the Commonwealth and the State of Tasmania with respect to the Production, for the purposes of Defence, of Ingot Aluminium, and for other purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,

Canberra, 1st December, 1944.

GORDON BROWN,

President.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

*(In the Committee.)*

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendment, which is as follows :—

## SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE.

Page 3, clause 9, line 24, after "Parliament" add "of the Commonwealth and by resolution passed by both Houses of the Parliament of the State of Tasmania".

On the motion of Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), the Amendment was agreed to.  
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Martens reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the House adopted the Report.

12. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Wine Export Bounty Bill 1944*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 24.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Wine Export Bounty Act 1939-1940'*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,

Canberra, 1st December, 1944.

GORDON BROWN,

President.

[*Financial Agreement Bill 1944*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 25.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to approve an Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia of the First Part, and the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania of the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Parts respectively, and for other purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,

Canberra, 1st December, 1944.

GORDON BROWN,

President.

1st December, 1944.

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13. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.  
Question—put and passed.
14. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.  
Question—put and passed.
15. ADJOURNMENT—COUNT-OUT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Ordered—That Mr. White be granted an extension of time.  
Mr. Hadley called the attention of Mr. Speaker to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present. The Bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time, Mr. Speaker thereupon, at twenty-eight minutes to five o'clock p.m., adjourned the House until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by Resolution of the House at this sitting.
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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Abbott, Mr. Beasley, Mr. Blain\*, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Coles, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Guy, Mr. James, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Lawson, Dame Enid Lyons, Mr. Mountjoy, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Rankin, Sir Frederick Stewart, and Mr. Wilson.

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\* On leave.

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

1944-45.

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## MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE ADMINISTRATOR.

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The following Messages from His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth were received after the adjournment of the House on the 1st December, 1944.

### ASSENT TO BILLS.

W. DUGAN,

*Administrator.*

*Message No. 18.*

A Proposed Law intituled "*Commonwealth Observatory Fund Act 1944*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Administrator for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Law.

Government House,

Canberra, 7th December, 1944.

W. DUGAN,

*Administrator.*

*Message No. 19.*

Proposed Laws intituled :—

*"United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Act 1944"*

*"States Grants (Drought Relief) Act 1944"*

*"Aluminium Industry Act 1944"*

*"Wine Export Bounty Act 1944"*

*"Financial Agreement Act 1944"*

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Administrator for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Government House,

Canberra, 7th December, 1944.

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