

1945.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 7.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH MARCH, 1945.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DEATH OF MAJOR-GENERAL G. A. VASEY AND MAJOR-GENERAL R. M. DOWNES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, announced with deep regret the death of Major-General G. A. Vasey, and Major-General R. M. Downes, and other Service personnel in an aircraft accident. Mr. Curtin paid a tribute to the gallant and distinguished service of Major-General Vasey and Major-General Downes and expressed sympathy with the relatives of those who lost their lives.  
Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. Fadden supported the remarks of the Prime Minister and joined in the expression of sympathy.
3. ABSENCE OF MR. MAKIN—PERFORMANCE OF MINISTERIAL DUTIES.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) informed the House that during the absence, owing to an accident, of Mr. Makin, Senator Cameron would act as Minister for the Navy, Minister for Munitions, and Minister for Aircraft Production, and that Mr. Beasley (Vice-President of the Executive Council) would represent those Departments in the House of Representatives.
4. CASE OF MRS. M. E. PEDVIN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing that the members of the Committee to inquire into the circumstances surrounding the issue of a notice to quit premises to Mrs. M. E. Pedvin, of Griffith, Australian Capital Territory, would be Mr. Beasley (Vice-President of the Executive Council), Senator Finlay, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Pollard and Mr. White.
5. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General—  
War Gratuity—Report of the Committee of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives appointed to inquire into and report on methods of recognition of the services of the Fighting Forces.  
Ordered to lie on the Table.  
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Australian Broadcasting Act—Twelfth Annual Report and Balance-sheet of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, for year 1943-44.  
Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 23.  
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Twentieth Report on the Commonwealth Public Service by Board of Commissioners, dated 3rd February, 1945.  
Defence Act and Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 22.  
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Commonwealth purposes—  
Perth, Western Australia.  
Sydney, New South Wales.  
National Security Act—  
National Security (General) Regulations—  
Orders—  
Control of overseas postal communications (Prisoners of war).  
Taking possession of land, &c. (68).  
Use of land (6).  
Order by State Premier—South Australia (No. 2 of 1945).  
National Security (Supplementary) Regulations—Order by State Premier—Queensland (dated 5th February, 1945).  
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, Nos. 24, 25.  
Taxation—Twenty-fifth Report of Commissioner, dated 1st November, 1944, together with Statistical Appendices.

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6. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Royal Highness the Governor-General be agreed to :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, to extend to Your Royal Highness a welcome to Australia, and to thank Your Royal Highness for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Ordered—That Mr. Breen be granted an extension of time.

Ordered—That Mr. Francis be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. Anthony be granted extensions of time (2).

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. Gaha be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Mr. Fadden 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.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Ordered—That Mr. Harrison be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. Guy be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Blain, Mr. Clark, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Makin, Mr. Martens, Mr. Rankin, Sir Frederick Stewart, and Mr. Watkins.

F. C. GREEN,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*