

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 27.

THURSDAY, 10TH MAY, 1945.

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. THE WAR—EQUIPMENT OF AUSTRALIAN TROOPS IN BORNEO—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the alleged inadequacy of equipment supplied to the Ninth Division of the Australian Forces for its operations in Borneo.
 3. UNITED NATIONS' CONFERENCE, SAN FRANCISCO—STATEMENT BY MEMBER.—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, made a Statement with reference to proposals regarding trusteeships of dependent territories made by the Australian delegates at the Conference at San Francisco on World Organization.
Mr. Chifley (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, also made a Statement on the matter.
 4. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Fadden 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 Government's refusal to provide landline facilities required by commercial broadcasting stations for the transmission of independent news services".
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. Fadden moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Ordered—That Mr. Fadden be granted an extension of time.
Ordered—That Mr. Calwell (Minister representing the Postmaster-General) be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Ordered—That Mr. Adermann be granted an extension of time.
Ordered—That Mr. Ward (Minister for Transport) be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
- The debate having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 257B.
5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Black Marketing Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 65.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Commonwealth purposes—Bushmead, Western Australia.
Nationality Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 55.
Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 62.
 6. RE-ESTABLISHMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Ordered—That Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Mr. Hughes 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.

10th May, 1945.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—WOOL USE PROMOTION BILL 1945.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 2.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to make provision for Improving the Production and Increasing the Use of Wool* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Canberra, 10th May, 1945.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

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

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

[*Wool Tax Bill 1945*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 3.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Wool Tax Act 1936 ’* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,
Canberra, 10th May, 1945.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

[*War Expenditure—Joint Committee*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 4.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 6 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith, viz. :—

- (1) That the Senate agrees to the appointment of a Joint Committee to examine current expenditure defrayed out of moneys voted by the Parliament for the Defence Services and other Services directly connected with the war and to report what, if any, economies consistent with the execution of the policy decided on by the Government may be effected therein.
- (2) That Senators Large and Sampson be appointed to serve on such Committee with Members of the House of Representatives.
- (3) That, notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders—
 - (a) the Committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members ; and to refer to any such sub-committees any of the matters which the Committee is empowered to examine ;
 - (b) the Committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament and during the sittings of either House of the Parliament ; and have leave to report from time to time the evidence taken ;
 - (c) the Committee have leave to report from time to time its proceedings, and any member of the Committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report ;
 - (d) three members of the Committee constitute a quorum of the Committee and two members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee ; and
 - (e) the Committee have power, in cases where considerations of National Security preclude the publication of any recommendations and of the arguments on which they are based, or both, to address a memorandum to the Prime Minister for the consideration of the War Cabinet, but on every occasion when the Committee exercises this power, the Committee shall report to the Parliament accordingly.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

Canberra, 10th May, 1945.

[*Social Security—Joint Committee*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 5.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 7 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith, viz. :—

- (1) That the Senate agrees to the appointment of a Joint Committee to inquire into and, from time to time, report upon ways and means of improving social and living conditions in Australia and of rectifying any anomalies in existing legislation.
- (2) That Senators Cooper, Foll and Tangney be appointed to serve on such Committee with Members of the House of Representatives.

10th May, 1945.

(3) That, notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders—

- (a) the Committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members; and to refer to any such sub-committees any of the matters which the Committee is empowered to examine;
- (b) the Committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament and during the sittings of either House of the Parliament and have leave to report from time to time the evidence taken;
- (c) the Committee have leave to report from time to time its proceedings, and any member of the Committee may add a protest or dissent to any report; and
- (d) three members of the Committee constitute a quorum of the Committee and two members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.

The Senate,
Canberra, 10th May, 1945.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five 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. Curtin, Mr. Evatt*, Mr. Forde*, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. McEwen*, Mr. Pollard*, and Mr. Watkins*.

* On leave.

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