

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 58.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH JULY, 1945.

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. FAULTY FOOTWEAR—PROSECUTIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Beasley (Acting Attorney-General), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to prosecutions against manufacturers of faulty footwear.
3. RAIL TRAVEL BETWEEN WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND EASTERN STATES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Ward (Minister for Transport), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing that an additional train each way would be provided each week between Western Australia and the Eastern States.
4. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AIRLINES BILL 1945.—Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Civil Aviation) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment and Operation of National Airline Services by the Commonwealth and for other purposes.
Question—put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 2, Government Business.
6. DARWIN LANDS ACQUISITION BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Lazzarini (Minister representing the Minister for the Interior) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Harrison 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. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 1, 3 and 4 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 5, Government Business.
8. PAPUA-NEW GUINEA PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Ward (Minister for External Territories) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. White 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. LIFE INSURANCE BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 138 agreed to.

Clause 139—

On the motion of Mr. Anthony, the following amendments were made, after debate:—

Page 52, line 12, omit " and ".

Page 52, after paragraph (c) insert the following:—“; and (d) the making of inspections of the postal voters' roll and the taking of copies of, or extracts from, the roll, on and after the close of nominations and before the close of the voting in any such election, by any person nominated for election as a director of the company;”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 140 to 142 agreed to.

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Clause 143—

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That after " renders " (page 53, line 2) the words " accounts and balance-sheets " be inserted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Debate continued.

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That the words " to the Commissioner " (page 53, line 8) be omitted with a view to inserting the words " such additional information in such form as the Commissioner approves in respect of its life insurance business in Australia, together with " in place thereof.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 144 to 149 agreed to.

New Clauses—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information), the following new clause was inserted in the Bill :—

" 101A. Where in pursuance of any provision of this Division a policy owner is entitled to receive, or a company is required to grant, a paid-up policy and there is any debt owing to the company under or secured by the policy, the company may elect—

Treatment of debts on grant of paid-up policies.

- (a) to treat the debt so owing as a debt secured by the paid-up policy, and thereupon the paid-up policy shall be a security for the debt so owing ; or
- (b) in the ascertainment of the amount of the paid-up policy, to reduce the amount by taking into account, upon a basis approved by the Commissioner, the debt so owing to the company, and thereupon the debt shall cease to be owing to the company."

On the motion of Mr. White, the following further new clause was inserted in the Bill, after debate :—

" 119A. Any term or condition of a policy issued after the commencement of this Act which limits, to an amount less than the sum insured, the amount payable under the policy in the event of the death of the life insured occurring on war service, shall not have any force or effect, unless the person who effected the policy agreed in writing to the insertion in the policy of that term or condition."

Condition as to war risk void.

*Schedules—**First Schedule—*

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That after " Liabilities " (page 59, Note 3) the words " and Shareholders Capital and Reserves " be inserted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Schedule agreed to.

Remaining Schedules agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, by leave, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10. WAR GRATUITY 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.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WAR GRATUITY BILL 1945.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 13.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to the payment of War Gratuity to members of the Defence Force in respect of War Service.

Canberra, 26th June, 1945.

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.

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(In the Committee.)

Mr. Frost (Minister for Repatriation) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to the payment of War Gratuity to members of the Defence Force in respect of War Service.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Frost, by leave, was adopted by the House.

12. WAR GRATUITY BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 3 to 12 agreed to.

Clause 13 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 14 and 15 agreed to.

Clause 16 debated—

Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (c) be omitted.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 17 to 20 agreed to.

Clause 21—

Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That after paragraph (e) the following paragraph be inserted :—

“(f) a member who desires to establish or re-establish himself in civil life and who is entitled to receive the benefits provided in Division 3, Part VI., of the *Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945*,”.

Debate ensued.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at three 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. Breen, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Curtin*, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Lemmon, Mr. McDonald, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Scully, and Mr. Watkins.

* On leave.

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