

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 70.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH AUGUST, 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. NOTIFICATION OF RETURN TO WRIT (FREMANTLE DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received a notification from the Chief Electoral Officer for the Commonwealth in connexion with the Writ which he had issued on the 18th July last for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Fremantle, in the State of Western Australia, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Right Honorable John Curtin, and that, by the notification, it appeared that Kim Edward Beazley had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.
3. MEMBER SWORN.—Kim Edward Beazley, Esquire, was introduced, and made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
4. THE WAR—SURRENDER OF JAPAN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House formally of the cessation of hostilities with Japan.
5. THE WAR—CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES—MESSAGE FROM AND ADDRESS TO THE KING.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) read to the House the following Message received from His Majesty the King on the occasion of the cessation of hostilities in the Pacific :—

“The surrender of Japan has brought to a victorious end the war which has engaged our full fighting strength all over the world. I send my heartfelt congratulations to the men and women of my navies, armies and air forces throughout the British Commonwealth and Empire. Through the long years of the grim struggle with our enemies in the West and in the East your unflinching resolution and indomitable courage in the face of manifold adversity have earned you the eternal gratitude of your countrymen. Many of your comrades have fallen in the fight. With you I grieve for their loss, for the sufferings of the wounded and for the sorrows of the bereaved. With you I look forward to the safe homecoming of those who have had to endure captivity. By God's mercy the forces of evil have been overthrown. But many tasks remain to be accomplished if the full blessings of peace are to be restored to a suffering world. It is the duty of each one of us to ensure that your comrades have not died in vain and that your own hard won achievements are not lost to the cause of freedom in which you undertook them. On behalf of all my peoples I thank you. God bless you all.

GEORGE R.I.”

Mr. Chifley then moved, That the following Address be forwarded to His Majesty :—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY :

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN :

We, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express to Your Majesty our heartfelt congratulations on the victorious conclusion to the World War.

We rejoice with Your Majesty in the deliverance brought to all the enslaved peoples by the triumph of Your Majesty's forces in conjunction with those of Your Majesty's Allies.

We desire to express the feeling which exists among Your Majesty's Australian subjects that Your Majesty and Your Gracious Consort have by unflinching courage and constancy set an inspiring example during our darkest days, and that your personal exertions, your determination to share the trials of your subjects, and your unflinching sympathy with them in the ordeal they have endured, have contributed to the high national morale which helped to ensure victory.

We devoutly trust that Your Majesty's reign, so many years of which have been darkened by war, may long continue in a world at peace.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Fadden having addressed the House in support thereof—

Question—put and passed.

29th August, 1945.

6. THE WAR—VOTE OF THANKS TO THE FIGHTING SERVICES AND OTHERS.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, by leave—

That the thanks of this House be accorded to the officers, warrant officers, petty officers and men of the Royal Australian Navy, for their heroic services in every theatre of war, for the guardianship of Australia from the attacks of our enemies, for the increasing vigilance in the patrol of many seas, for their courage and skill in convoying their soldier comrades and supplies to operational areas, and for the prestige they have won for their country wherever they have been.

That the thanks of the House be accorded to the officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Australian Military Forces in the field for their courage and efficiency, their endurance in circumstances of unexampled hardship, for their magnificent achievements and for their undaunted spirit which has carried them through years of toil and suffering to complete victory.

That the thanks of this House be accorded to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Australian Air Force for their brilliant daring and conspicuous skill over land and sea, and for their calm courage and devotion to whatever dangerous and vital duties they have been allotted.

That the thanks of this House be offered to the men of the Merchant Navy, who carried out the vital task of keeping open the supply lines, always at great risk and imposing severe tests upon their endurance.

That the thanks of this House be accorded to the women of all the auxiliary services of the three arms of the fighting forces for their devotion and skill and solicitude for the sick and wounded of our sailors, soldiers and airmen.

That this House records its deep appreciation of the devotion and sacrifice of the fathers, mothers, wives and sisters of Australia's sailors, soldiers and airmen.

That this House records its deep appreciation of the efforts, money and gifts from the women, men and children of Australia to mitigate the hardships of Australian fighting men, to alleviate the lot of our prisoners of war and to make more comfortable the sick and wounded.

That the thanks of this House be offered to munitions and war workers generally in secondary and primary industries; to those men of 1914-18 who gave valuable home service in garrison and other work, and to the Volunteer Defence Corps.

That this House acknowledges with deep submission and reverence the heroism of those who have fallen in the service of their country, and tenders its sympathy to their relatives in the hour of their sorrow and their pride.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Fadden having addressed the House in support thereof—

Question—put and passed.

Resolved—That Mr. Speaker forward copies of the foregoing Resolution to the various Ministers of State for communication to the personnel referred to therein.

7. THE WAR—CONGRATULATIONS TO GENERAL MACARTHUR.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That this House offers to the Supreme Commander in the Pacific (General Douglas MacArthur) its warmest congratulations on the success achieved by the Australian and Allied forces under his command, and recalls with deep gratitude his outstanding contribution to the victory in the Pacific and to the defence of Australia during the most critical period of our history.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Fadden having addressed the House in support thereof—

Question—put and passed.

8. THE WAR—SURRENDER OF JAPAN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to Australia's participation in the surrender of Japan and in matters arising therefrom, and, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper—

The War—Surrender of Japan—Ministerial Statement—
and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) 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. TRIBUTES TO LEADERS OF UNITED NATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, referred to the devoted services of the Leaders of the United Nations during the war period. Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. Fadden, by leave, also addressed the House.

10. COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS—AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, informed the House that Mr. Evatt (Minister for External Affairs) would attend, on behalf of Australia, the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers to be held in London in September next.

11. AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, informed the House that, upon the expiration of the extended term for which the Right Honorable S. M. Bruce, C.H., M.C., was appointed as High Commissioner of the Commonwealth in the United Kingdom, Mr. Evatt (Minister for External Affairs) will perform the duties of the office during his stay in London. Afterwards, Mr. Beasley (Minister for Defence) will proceed to London as Resident Minister for Australia for a short period.

29th August, 1945.

12. DEMOBILIZATION OF DEFENCE FORCES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the plans for the demobilization of the Defence Forces, and, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper—

Demobilization of the Australian Defence Forces—
and moved, That the Paper be printed.

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.

13. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Royal Highness the Governor-General were received, and were read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 23.*

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Commonwealth Bank Act 1945* ”“ *Banking Act 1945* ”“ *Superannuation Act 1945* ”“ *War Gratuity Act 1945* ”“ *Drought Relief Act 1945* ”“ *War Pensions Appropriation Act 1945* ”“ *Loan Act 1945* ”“ *Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945* ”

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

Government House,

Canberra, 3rd August, 1945.

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 24.*

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Special Annuity Act 1945* ”“ *Matrimonial Causes Act 1945* ”“ *Wine Overseas Marketing Act 1945* ”“ *Darwin Lands Acquisition Act 1945* ”“ *Science and Industry Research Act 1945* ”“ *Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Act 1945* ”“ *National Debt Sinking Fund Act 1945* ”“ *Life Insurance Act 1945* ”“ *Commonwealth Public Service Act 1945* ”“ *Superannuation Act (No. 2) 1945* ”“ *Australian National Airlines Act 1945* ”

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

Government House,

Canberra, 16th August, 1945.

14. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER.—Mr. Scullin moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Batman (Mr. Brennan), on the ground of ill-health.

Question—put and passed.

15. RECOVERED PRISONERS OF WAR—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Minister for the Army), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing the conditions relating to the publication of the names of recovered prisoners of war.

16. ABSENCE OF SENATOR FRASER—PERFORMANCE OF MINISTERIAL DUTIES.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence of Senator Fraser abroad, Senator Keane would act as Minister for Health and Minister for Social Services.

17. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—

National Security Act—National Security (Supplementary) Regulations—Statement of Australian Banking Statistics for the five quarters ended 30th June, 1945.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Public Service Act—

Appointment—Department of the Interior—A. W. Bazley.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, Nos. 118, 124.

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—

Administrative purposes—Howard Springs near Darwin, Northern Territory.

Commonwealth purposes—

Bankstown, New South Wales.

Bundaberg, Queensland.

Charters Towers, Queensland.

29th August, 1945.

Drouin, Victoria.
 Marrangaroo, New South Wales.
 Nudgee, Queensland.
 Oaklands, South Australia.
 Townsville, Queensland.
 Whyalla, South Australia.

Postal purposes—

Belalie North, South Australia.
 Bordertown, South Australia.
 Croydon, Victoria.
 Deepdene, Victoria.
 Melbourne, Victoria.
 Muswellbrook, New South Wales.
 Stockport, South Australia.

National Security Act—

National Security (Agricultural Aids) Regulations—Order—Hay, straw and chaff (Victoria) (No. 3).

National Security (Capital Issues) Regulations—Order—Exemption.

National Security (Egg Industry) Regulations—Order—No. 12.

National Security (Emergency Control) Regulations—Orders—

Papua and New Guinea (Administration) (No. 5).

Papua and New Guinea (Detention of native personnel).

National Security (Food Control) Regulations—Order—No. 22.

National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—

Control of hydrographical publications—Revocation.

Chronometers and chronometer watches—Revocation.

Prohibited places—Revocation.

Prohibition of acquisition and sale of censored envelopes—Revocation.

Prohibition of non-essential production (No. 18).

Restrictions on new manufactures—Exemption.

Taking possession of land, &c. (16).

Use of land.

National Security (Land Transport) Regulations—Orders—
 No. 21.

Rail travel (Priority booking)—Revocation.

Revocation of certain road transport orders (dated 7th August, 1945).

National Security (Rationing) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 100, 101.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, Nos. 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 131, 132, 133.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, Nos. 126, 127.

Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinance—
 1945—No. 6—Firearms Registration.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
 Ordinance—1945—No. 8—Industrial Board.

Regulations—1945—No. 1 (Meat Ordinance).

18. IMMIGRATION—GOVERNMENT POLICY—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. Calwell (Minister for Immigration), That the Paper [*presented on the 2nd August*], viz. :—

Immigration—Government Policy—Ministerial Statement, 2nd August, 1945—
 be printed—

Debate resumed.

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

Debate continued.

Mr. Martens 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.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes past ten 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. Bowden, Mr. Brennan*, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Haylen, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Lawson, Dame Enid Lyons, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Mulcahy, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Scully*, Mr. Spender, and Mr. White.

* On leave.

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