

1945.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 86.

FRIDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
 Defence Act and Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 151.  
 National Security Act—  
     National Security (Medical Co-ordination and Equipment) Regulations—Order—Emergency  
     medical services (Army medical officers).  
     National Security (Shipping Co-ordination) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 103, 105.  
     Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 153.
3. HIGH COMMISSIONER BILL 1945.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *High Commissioner Act* 1909-1940.  
 Question—put and passed.  
 Mr. Chifley then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
 Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
4. SEAT OF GOVERNMENT SUPREME COURT BILL 1945.—Mr. Beasley (Acting Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Seat of Government Supreme Court Act* 1933-1935.  
 Question—put and passed.  
 Mr. Beasley then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
 Mr. Beasley moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
 Mr. Holt 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.
5. EDUCATION BILL 1945.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to establish a Commonwealth Office of Education and a Universities Commission, to provide for the University Training of Discharged Members of the Forces, to provide for Financial Assistance to University Students, and for other purposes.  
 Question—put and passed.  
 Mr. Dedman then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
 Mr. Dedman moved, by leave, 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

28th September, 1945.

6. **BANKRUPTCY 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.

7. **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—BANKRUPTCY 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. 29.*

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 be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Bankruptcy Act 1924-1933*.

Canberra, 21st September, 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.

*(In the Committee.)*Mr. Beasley (Acting Attorney-General) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Bankruptcy Act 1924-1933*.

Question—put and passed.

Resolved on to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

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

8. **BANKRUPTCY 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.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Beasley (Acting Attorney-General), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9. **NATIONAL WELFARE FUND 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. Deputy 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.

10. **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—NATIONAL WELFARE FUND BILL 1945.**—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Barnard:—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 30.*

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 be made for the purposes of amendments to be moved by the Treasurer in a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Welfare Fund Act 1943*, and for other purposes.

Sydney, 24th September, 1945.

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

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

28th September, 1945.

*(In the Committee.)*

Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of amendments to be moved by the Treasurer in a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Welfare Fund Act 1943*, and for other purposes.

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. Lazzarini (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see page 234*), was adopted by the House.

11. NATIONAL WELFARE FUND BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—  
Mr. Barnard left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

*(In the Committee.)*

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

On the motion of Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing), the following amendment was made :—

Page 2, line 10, omit “ and ”.

On the motion of Mr. Lazzarini, the following further amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 2, lines 11–23, omit paragraph (b), insert the following paragraphs :—

“ (b) in the financial year commencing on the first day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six—the sum of Fifty-one million pounds ; and

“ (c) in each financial year thereafter—the amount of the social services contribution (including provisional social services contribution) which becomes payable under the *Social Services Contribution Assessment Act 1945* in that financial year.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 5 to 9 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Lazzarini, the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see page 234*), the Bill was read a third time.

12. SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) 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.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing), the House adopted the Report, and by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13. SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION ASSESSMENT 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.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 5 to 12 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 13, Government Business.
15. WAYS AND MEANS—SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

28th September, 1945.

(In the Committee.)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 12th September, 1945 (see pages 137-8).

Motion agreed to.

Resolution 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.

Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Lazzarini, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Lazzarini and Mr. Chifley do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

16. SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION BILL 1945.—Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to impose a Social Services Contribution*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Lazzarini moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

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

17. FOOD CONSUMPTION LEVELS IN AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM—REPORT OF COMMITTEE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Forde (Acting Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the comparative levels of food consumption in the United Kingdom and Australia, and, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:—

Food Consumption Levels in Australia and the United Kingdom—Report of a Joint Committee of Australian and United Kingdom Officials,  
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.

18. PRISONERS OF WAR—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Minister for the Army), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the number of prisoners of war, members of the Australian Military Forces, so far recovered and the number not yet located.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-two minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Bowden, Mr. Evatt\*, Mr. Guy, Mr. Haylen\*, Mr. Holloway, Mr. James, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lawson\*, Mr. Makin, Mr. Martens, Mr. McEwen, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Menzies, Mr. Mulcahy\*, Mr. Scully\*, Mr. Spender, Sir Frederick Stewart, and Mr. White\*.

\* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.