

1945-46.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 102.

THURSDAY, 28TH MARCH, 1946.

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. DEATH OF THE HONORABLE SIR ROBERT BEST.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) informed the House of the death on the 27th March of the Honorable Sir Robert Best, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of the Honorable Sir Robert Wallace Best, K.C.M.G., a former Senator for Victoria and Member for the Division of Kooyong, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service and tenders its deep sympathy to the members of his family in their bereavement.
And Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and other honorable Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—
Question—passed.
3. STEVEDORING INDUSTRY—REPORT OF COMMISSIONER—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) laid upon the Table, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General, the following Paper :—
Stevedoring Industry—Report of Mr. Justice Foster, Commissioner appointed under National Security Regulations—
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.
4. INTERIM AIR FORCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Air), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of developments in the formation of an Interim Air Force, and, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—
Interim Air Force—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.
5. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Anthony 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 serious situation developing in the dairying and cattle raising industries of Queensland and New South Wales by the southward advance of the Buffalo Fly, and the failure of the Government to take steps to deal adequately with the problem ".
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. Anthony moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Ordered—That Mr. Anthony be granted an extension of time.
Ordered—That Mr. Dedman (Minister in Charge of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.

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Closure.—Mr. Sheehan moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. K. E. Beazley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Bryson	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Burke	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Scully
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
Mr. Gaha	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Williams
Mr. Haylen	
Mr. James	
Mr. Johnson	
Mr. Lawson	Mr. Martens
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Sheehan

Tellers:

Noes, 21.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Adermann	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Spender
Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Holt	
Mr. Hutchinson	
Dame Enid Lyons	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Corser
Mr. McEwen	Mr. Guy

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the House do now adjourn—being accordingly put—

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 21.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Adermann	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Spender
Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Holt	
Mr. Hutchinson	
Dame Enid Lyons	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Corser
Mr. McEwen	Mr. Guy

Noes, 38.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. K. E. Beazley	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Makin
Mr. Burke	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Forde	Mr. Scully
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
Mr. Gaha	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Williams
Mr. Haylen	
Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Martens
Mr. Lawson	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—

Commonwealth purposes—East Sale, Victoria.

Postal purposes—Greenvale, Victoria.

Passports Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 183.

7. SUGAR AGREEMENT BILL 1946.—Mr. Dedman (Acting Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve an Agreement made between His Majesty's Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and His Majesty's Government of the State of Queensland, 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. 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.

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8. COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL 1946.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), for Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to make provision for the performance by the next senior Judge of the duties of the Chief Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the event of his absence from office or his inability to perform the duties of his office.

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.

9. JUDICIARY BILL 1946.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), for Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to restore the number of Justices of the High Court to the number of seven.

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.

10. COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC SERVICE BILL 1946.—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.*)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

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

Page 4, line 41, before " in " insert " as a permanent officer ".

Page 5, line 5, omit " (being less than twenty years) ".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

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

11. SUPERANNUATION BILL 1946.—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—

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.

12. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPERANNUATION BILL 1946.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

Governor-General.

Message No. 43.

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 purpose of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Superannuation Act 1922-1945*.

Canberra, 20th March, 1946.

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. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purpose of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Superannuation Act 1922-1945*.

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, by leave, was adopted by the House.

28th March, 1946.

13. SUPERANNUATION BILL 1946.—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. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14. INCOME TAX (WAR-TIME ARRANGEMENTS) BILL 1946.—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—

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.

15. ENTERTAINMENTS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1946.—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—

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.

16. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 5 to 25 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 26, Government Business.

17. WAYS AND MEANS—ENTERTAINMENTS TAX.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 20th March, 1946 (*see page 320*).

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. Dedman do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

18. ENTERTAINMENTS TAX BILL 1946.—Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to repeal section six of the ‘Entertainments Tax Act 1942–1944’*”, 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.

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19. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1946.—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.)

Clauses 1 to 4 agreed to.
Clause 5 debated and agreed to.
Clause 6 agreed to.
Clause 7 debated and agreed to.
Clause 8 debated and agreed to.
Clause 9 debated and agreed to.
Clauses 10 to 17 agreed to.
Clause 18 debated and agreed to.
Clauses 19 to 22 agreed to.
Title 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.

20. WAR-TIME (COMPANY) TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1946.—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.

21. WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL 1946.—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.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.
Clause 3 debated and agreed to
Clauses 4 to 6 agreed to.
Clause 7 debated and agreed to
Clauses 8 and 9 agreed to.
Title 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.

22. NATIONALITY 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. Calwell (Minister for Immigration), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

28th March, 1946.

23. DISCHARGE OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—On the motion of Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, the following Orders of the Day, Government Business, were discharged:—

12. United Nations Organization—First Session of General Assembly—Report of Australian Delegation—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
14. Japanese Atrocities—Report of Australian War Crimes Commission—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
16. Full Employment in Australia—Government Policy—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
17. Cases of Private Wilson, Private Derrick and Sapper Chalmers—Report—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
18. Aircraft Crash, Spring Plains, Victoria—Findings of Air Court of Inquiry—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
19. Additional Financial Assistance to South Australia for Year 1944-45—Report of Commonwealth Grants Commission—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
20. Post-war Wool Realizations—Report of Conference—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
21. Food Consumption Levels in Australia and the United Kingdom—Report of Committee—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
22. Case of Mrs. M. E. Pedvin—Reports of Committee—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
23. Air Attack on Darwin—Report of Commissioner—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
24. The War—Surrender of Japan—Ministerial Statement—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
29. Conditions on Japanese Destroyer *Yoizuki*—Report of Investigating Mission—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.

24. 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 ten 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. J. A. Beasley, Mr. Blain, Mr. Breen, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Clark, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Ward, and Mr. White.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.