THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

REPRESENTATIVES. HOUSE OF

No. 27.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH MARCH, 1947.

- 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. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING .- Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m. Question-put and passed.
- 3. Adjournment-Motion for Purpose of Discussion.—Sir Earle Page 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 necessity for immediate steps to be taken by the Australian Government to call an Imperial Economic Conference on the highest Ministerial, official and technical plane to co-ordinate the views of the various parts of the Empire in order to ensure maintenance of substantial Empire preference for the preservation and progressive development of Australian industries and Australia's effective contribution to the expansion of world trade".

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-

Sir Earle Page moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Ordered—That Sir Earle Page be granted an extension of time.

Debate ensued.

Ordered-That Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction) 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.
- 4. Papers.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Arbitration (Public Service) Act-Determination by the Arbitrator, &c.-1947-No. 11-

Trained Nurses' Guild.

Australian Broadcasting Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1947, No. 17.

Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act-Regulations-Statutory Rules 1947, No. 27.

Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department-Postmaster-General—D. M. Waters.

Supply and Shipping—G. N. Chamberlain, J. Daly, J. C. Dooley, E. McCarthy. Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1947, No. 29. Re-establishment and Employment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1947, No. 20.

- 5. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business.
- 6. Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Bill 1947.—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1946, and for other purposes. Question—put and passed.

Mr. Evatt 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. Evatt 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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7. Stevedoring Industry Bill 1947.—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.

Mr. Haylen 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.

8. Adjournment.—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at four 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. Conelan, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lemmon, Mr. Spender, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Watkins.

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