

1946-47.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 108.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 1947.

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. 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. CALL TO SPEAK—STATEMENT BY MEMBER.—Mr. Holt, by leave, made a Statement regarding his desire, at the previous sitting, to speak to the motion for the adjournment of the House.
4. MEMBER NAMED AND SUSPENDED.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Richmond (Mr. Anthony) for disregarding the authority of the Chair.  
Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the honorable Member for Richmond be suspended from the service of the House.  
Question—put.  
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lang
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Langtry
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Clark	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Ward
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Williams
Mr. Haylen	
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. James	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 20.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Howse
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Beale	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Francis	Mr. White
Mr. Gullett	
Mr. Hamilton	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser
Mr. Holt	Mr. McDonald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The honorable Member was, therefore, under Standing Order No. 59, suspended for a week, this being his second occasion of suspension, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

3rd December, 1947.

5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Rankin (Vice-Chairman) brought up the following Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works :—  
Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed erection of Repatriation Administrative Offices, Perth.  
Ordered—That the Report be printed.
6. ANSETT AIRWAYS PTY. LTD.—FARES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Civil Aviation), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of certain facts relating to the fares charged or to be charged by Ansett Airways Pty. Ltd., and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—  
Ansett Airways Pty. Ltd.—Fares—Ministerial Statement—  
and moved, That the Paper be printed.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr. Sheehan 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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Australian National Airlines Act—Second Annual Report, including Financial Accounts, by the Australian National Airlines Commission, for year 1946-47.  
Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—  
National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations—Order—War service land settlement—Queensland (dated 11th November, 1947).  
National Security (Maritime Industry) Regulations—Order—No. 63.  
National Security (Prices) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 3122 (substitute copy), 3164, 3165, 3168-3177, 3183.  
National Security (Rationing) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 149, 150.  
Order—Control of tinplate (No. 2).
8. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.
9. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION BILL 1947.—Mr. Holloway (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve the amended Constitution of the International Labour Organisation.  
Question—put and passed.  
Mr. Holloway 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. Holloway 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 a later hour this day.
10. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—TRIBOPHYSICS LABORATORY, MELBOURNE.  
Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1936*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely :—Erection of Tribophysics Laboratory at Melbourne University, for the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.  
Mr. Lemmon having laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work—  
Question—put and passed.
11. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—ADDITIONS TO TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, HAMILTON, NEW SOUTH WALES.—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1936*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely :—Additions to Telephone Exchange at Hamilton, New South Wales.  
Mr. Lemmon having laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work—  
Question—put and passed.
12. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after Notice of Motion No. 3, General Business.
13. ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGFUL USE OF PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGES BY MEMBER FOR THE NORTHERN TERRITORY—INQUIRY BY COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.—Mr. McEwen moved, pursuant to notice, That the Committee of Privileges be convened to inquire into the allegations made by the honorable Member for Lang as to the wrongful use by the honorable Member for the Northern Territory, whilst a prisoner of war in the hands of the Japanese, of his Parliamentary privileges ; and that, for the purposes of this inquiry, the Committee shall have power to call witnesses on oath and inspect official documents.  
Debate ensued.

3rd December, 1947.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—"the House, having heard statements in relation to certain allegations made against the honorable Member for the Northern Territory, declares its opinion—

(a) that the conduct of the said honorable Member whilst a prisoner of war in the hands of the Japanese was marked by courage and fidelity, and

(b) that the said honorable Member while a prisoner as aforesaid did not wrongfully use his Parliamentary privileges."

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

Ayes, 40.		Noes, 20.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lang	Mr. Abbott	Mr. McBride
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Beale	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Francis	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Gullett	Mr. White
Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Clark	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Holt	Mr. Hamilton
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Howse	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell	Mr. Hughes	
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully		
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Thompson		
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Ward		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins		
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Williams		
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Fuller		
Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan		
Mr. Johnson			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

14. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AIRLINES BILL 1947.—Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Civil Aviation), pursuant to leave given on the 28th November, brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Australian National Airlines Act 1945'", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Drakeford 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.

15. EGG EXPORT CONTROL BILL 1947.—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 5, as amended—

Consideration resumed of the further amendment moved by Mr. Anthony, viz. :—That the words "The member appointed to represent the Commonwealth Government shall be Chairman of the Board" (page 2, lines 25 and 26) be omitted with a view to inserting the words "The Chairman of the Board shall be elected by the members of the Board" in place thereof.

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 6 to 8 agreed to.

Clause 9—

Mr. Ryan moved, as an amendment, That sub-clause (8.) be omitted.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 10 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 11 and 12 agreed to.

Clause 13 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 14 to 16 agreed to.

Clause 17 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 18 to 24 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), by leave, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

3rd December, 1947.

16. WAYS AND MEANS—EGG EXPORT CHARGES.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved—

- (1) That, subject to lower rates of charges being prescribed by regulations made, and subject to exemptions allowed under order made, under the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution, charges be imposed at the rates specified in the following Schedule on all eggs (being hen eggs in shell and including the following products of hen eggs, namely, liquid whole egg, liquid egg white, liquid egg yolk, dried whole egg, sugared dried egg and dried egg white) exported from the Commonwealth after a date to be fixed by Proclamation under that Act:—

## THE SCHEDULE.

Kind of Eggs.	Rate of Charge.
	<i>s. d.</i>
Eggs in shell .. .. .	1 3 per 30 dozen eggs
Liquid whole egg .. .. .	.6 per pound
Liquid egg white .. .. .	.6 per pound
Liquid egg yolk .. .. .	.6 per pound
Dried whole egg .. .. .	1.8 per pound
Sugared dried egg .. .. .	1.2 per pound
Dried egg white .. .. .	3.5 per pound

- (2) That the charges imposed in pursuance of this Resolution shall cease to be imposed upon a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution as the date upon which that Act shall cease to be in force.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard, was adopted by the House.

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

17. EGG EXPORT CHARGES BILL 1947.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to impose Charges upon the Export of Eggs*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Clark reported accordingly.

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

18. DEFENCE (TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) 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.

*Distinguished Visitor.*—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Right Reverend Dr. E. S. Woods, Bishop of Lichfield, a Member of the House of Lords, was within the precincts. The distinguished visitor thereupon, with the concurrence of honorable Members, was provided with a seat on the floor of the House.

Debate continued.

3rd December, 1947.

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 9, by leave, taken together.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That the following words be added to sub-clause (2.) of clause 7 :—“ This sub-section shall cease to operate on the thirty-first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Clark, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 21.		Noes, 37.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. McBride	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Beazley	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Menzies	Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Burke	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Turnbull	Mr. Calwell	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Gullett	Mr. White	Mr. Chambers	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Hamilton		Mr. Chifley	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Harrison		Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Howse	Mr. Corser	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Hughes	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Sheehy
		Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Thompson
		Mr. Falstein	Mr. Ward
		Mr. Fraser	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Haylen	
		Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. James	Mr. Fuller
		Mr. Johnson	Mr. Sheehan
		Mr. Lang	

And so it was negatived.

Clauses agreed to.

First Schedule—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Acting Minister for Post-war Reconstruction) the following amendment was made :—

Page 5, omit “ National Security (Salvage) Regulations.”.

Schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Second Schedule agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

19. TREATY OF PEACE (ITALY) 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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

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

20. TREATY OF PEACE (ROUMANIA) BILL 1947.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information) 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. Clark reported accordingly.

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

3rd December, 1947.

21. TREATY OF PEACE (HUNGARY) BILL 1947.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information) 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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was a read a third time.

22. TREATY OF PEACE (FINLAND) BILL 1947.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information) 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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

23. TREATY OF PEACE (BULGARIA) BILL 1947.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information) 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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

24. COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (No. 2) 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— 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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

25. BEER EXCISE BILL (No. 2) 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. 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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

3rd December, 1947.

26. DISTILLATION 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.  
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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

27. SPIRITS 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.  
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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

28. EXCISE 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.  
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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

29. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes to 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. Cameron, Mr. Dedman, Mr. Evatt\*, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Hutchinson, Dame Enid Lyons, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Scullin and Mr. Spender.

\* On leave.

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