

1948.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 6.

THURSDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER, 1948.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Clark) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—Mr. Deputy Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Bank Act—Balance-sheets of Commonwealth Bank and Commonwealth Savings Bank as at 30th June, 1948; together with Auditor-General's reports thereon.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of the Interior—E. L. Sim.
3. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Lang, viz.:*—That the following words be added to the Address:—

“and to inform Your Excellency that because the Communist Party, as an agency of a foreign power, admits it owes no allegiance to the Commonwealth of Australia, and because its avowed objective is the overthrow of constitutional government in Australia, with force if necessary, this House is of the opinion that your advisers should be asked to take the following action to deal with the grave emergency rapidly developing within the nation to threaten its security:—

- (a) The Communist Party and its auxiliaries should be declared illegal organizations and necessary legislation should be submitted to this Parliament to deal with them as treasonable agencies;
- (b) No Communist should be employed by the Commonwealth in any position involving the security of this country;
- (c) The appointments of all Communists on Government boards and agencies should be terminated immediately;
- (d) All newspaper and newsprint licences of the Communist Party and its auxiliaries should be withdrawn, and the despatch of its publications through the Post Office should be prohibited;
- (e) All premises occupied by Communist organizations (including Marx House, Sydney) should be declared illegal premises, and all telephone facilities should be withdrawn by the Postmaster-General;
- (f) Legislation based on the New South Wales Consorting Act should be introduced, making it illegal for members of the Communist Party to consort together;
- (g) That the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act should be amended to make it an offence for any registered trade union to pay any of its funds into any Communist Party organization”—

Debate resumed.

F.4574.

9th September, 1948.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put.
The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Clark, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 20.		Noes, 29.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Lang	Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McBride	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Bowden	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Burke	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Calwell	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Turnbull	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Fadden	Mr. White	Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Falkinder		Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scully
Mr. Gullett	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Corser	Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Harrison	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Gaha	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Hadley	
		Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. Fuller
		Mr. Johnson	Mr. Sheehan
		Mr. Langtry	

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the proposed Address in Reply be agreed to—put and passed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker informed the House that he would ascertain when it would be convenient for His Excellency the Governor-General to receive the Address in Reply, and honorable Members would be notified accordingly.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-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. Beale, Mr. Beazley, Mr. Blain, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Francis, Mr. Holt, Mr. Howse, Mr. James, Dame Enid Lyons, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Menzies, Mr. Mulcahy, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Russell, Mr. Scullin, Mr. Sheehy, Mr. Spender and Mr. Ward.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.