

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 79.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH MAY, 1949.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., according to the terms of the Resolution of the 17th March last.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Clark) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Gullett presented a Petition from 100 electors of the Division of Henty, praying that the Communist Party should be banned.
Petition received and read.
3. INDIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES—DECLARATION BY GOVERNMENTS OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the discussions in London by representatives of the Governments of the British Commonwealth upon the constitutional issues arising from India's decision to adopt a republican form of constitution. Mr. Chifley then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—
Indian Constitutional Changes—Declaration by British Commonwealth Governments, London, 26th April, 1949—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.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Aliens Deportation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 21.
Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1949—
No. 25.—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
No. 26.—Hotel, Club, Restaurant and Caterers Employees' Union of New South Wales and Federated Liquor and Allied Trades Employees' Union of Australasia.
Bankruptcy Act—Twentieth Annual Report by Attorney-General, for year ended 31st July, 1948.
Commonwealth Bank Act—Appointment—J. F. Symonds.
Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 20.
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
Attorney-General—R. H. Bird, J. P. Dulihanty.
Defence—E. W. Battersbey, A. P. Crow, A. W. McCasker, R. R. Shearer.
External Affairs—P. G. Law.
Interior—J. Boyle, J. J. S. Clifford, K. R. Morgan, B. C. Perrers, J. M. Stack.
Parliamentary Library—A. T. Dix, D. I. Gilfedder, M. G. Williams.
Post-war Reconstruction—K. H. Herde, J. J. Pratt.
Repatriation—N. U. Dennis.
Trade and Customs—D. D. Simpson-Lee, F. Woodlock.
Treasury—J. T. Bennett, J. F. Deall, C. A. Fletcher, F. J. Mobbs, C. E. H. Rich.
Works and Housing—B. H. Buddle, R. W. Cameron, C. Clarke, J. J. W. Gray, J. H. Raves.

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- Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, Nos. 16, 17, 18.
- Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—
 National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (67).
 National Security (War Damage to Property) Regulations—War Damage Commission—
 Report for period 1st January, 1948, to 30th September, 1948.
 Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, Nos. 14, 15.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
 Defence purposes—
 Garbutt, Queensland.
 Mount Gravatt, Queensland.
 Mount Louisa, Queensland.
 Newington, New South Wales.
 Nowra, New South Wales.
 Port Melbourne, Victoria.
- Department of Civil Aviation purposes—
 Coffs Harbour, New South Wales.
 Craigieburn, Victoria.
 Essendon, Victoria.
 Guildford, Western Australia.
 Mangalore West, Victoria.
 Narromine, New South Wales.
 Port Hedland, Western Australia.
 Townsville, Queensland.
- Department of Commerce and Agriculture purposes—Geraldton, Western Australia.
- Department of the Interior purposes—
 Alice Springs, Northern Territory.
 Carnarvon, Western Australia.
 Kalgoorlie, Western Australia.
- Department of Trade and Customs purposes—Glen Davis, New South Wales.
- Postal purposes—
 Adelaide, South Australia.
 Armidale, New South Wales.
 Auburn, New South Wales.
 Balaklava, South Australia.
 Belmont, Victoria.
 Berri, South Australia.
 Boddington, Western Australia.
 Booval, Queensland.
 Bunbury, Western Australia.
 Capella, Queensland.
 Chelsea, Victoria.
 Childers, Queensland.
 Deniliquin, New South Wales.
 Essendon West, Victoria.
 Footscray, Victoria.
 Hawker, South Australia.
 Hobart, Tasmania.
 Inman Valley, South Australia.
 Ipswich, Queensland.
 Katoomba, New South Wales.
 Kedron, Queensland.
 Keyneton, South Australia.
 Lake Clarendon, Queensland.
 Lutwyche, Queensland.
 Maclean, New South Wales.
 Marleston, South Australia.
 Meadow Flat, New South Wales.
 Mermaid Beach, Queensland.
 Molong, New South Wales.
 Montville, Queensland.
 Morawa, Western Australia.
 Mount Alford, Queensland.
 Mount Compass, South Australia.
 Myponga, South Australia.
 Narrogin, Western Australia.
 Research, Victoria.
 Revesby, New South Wales.
 Rivervale, Western Australia.
 Salisbury, South Australia.
 Scarborough Beach, Western Australia.
 South Kilkerran, South Australia.
 St. Marys, Tasmania.

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- Thirroul, New South Wales.
 Toowoomba, Queensland.
 Traralgon, Victoria.
 Wellington Point, Queensland.
 Werribee, Victoria.
 Wirrulla, South Australia.
 Yealering, Western Australia.
 Repatriation Commission purposes—Hobart, Tasmania.
 Life Insurance Act—Third Annual Report of the Insurance Commissioner, for year ended 31st December, 1948.
 Nationality Act—Return for 1948.
 Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
 Ordinances—
 1948—
 No. 1—Apprentices.
 No. 4—Public Service.
 No. 5—Buildings and Services.
 No. 7—Interpretation.
 No. 10—Marine.
 1949—
 No. 1—Police Arbitral Tribunal.
 No. 2—Crown Lands.
 Regulations—1949—
 No. 1 (Plant Diseases Ordinance).
 No. 2 (Licensing Ordinance).
 No. 3 (Crown Lands Ordinance).
 Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act—Ordinances—1949—
 No. 2—Superannuation.
 No. 3—Explosives (New Guinea).
 Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 19.
 Services Trust Funds Act—Services Canteens Trust Fund—Report for year 1947-48.
 Stevedoring Industry Act—Orders—1949, Nos. 4-8.
 War Service Homes Act—Land acquired at—
 Coorparoo, Queensland.
 Findon West, South Australia.
 Miranda, New South Wales.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were received, and were read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,

Governor-General.

Message No. 34.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Shipping Act 1949* ”

“ *Seamen's Compensation Act 1949* ”

“ *Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1949* ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Government House,

Canberra, 25th March, 1949.

W. J. McKELL,

Governor-General.

Message No. 35.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Papua and New Guinea Act 1949* ”

“ *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1949* ”

“ *Northern Territory Representation Act 1949* ”

“ *Australian Capital Territory Representation Act 1949* ”

“ *Science and Industry Research Act 1949* ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Government House,

Canberra, 25th March, 1949.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES AND ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND SERVICES, 1948-49.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and were read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,

Governor-General.

Message No. 36.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Additional Estimates of Expenditure for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 18th May, 1949.

18th May, 1949.

W. J. McKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 37.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Additional Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 18th May, 1949.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and, together with the accompanying Estimates, to be referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

7. SUPPLY—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES AND ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND SERVICES, 1948–49.—
The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved the following two motions :—

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES, 1948–49.

That the following additional sum be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1948–49 for the services hereunder specified, viz. :—

PART I.—DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES—OTHER THAN BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS
AND TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Defence and Post-war (1939–45) Charges—		£	£
Defence and Service Departments	.. .. .	4,000,000	
Subsidies	.. .. .	5,700,000	
General Charges	.. .. .	3,000,000	
		12,700,000	
Less amounts provided under Votes which will remain Unexpended at close of year		4,200,000	
Miscellaneous Services	.. .. .		8,500,000
War (1914–18) Services	.. .. .		2,700,000
			400,000
Total Part I.	.. .. .		11,600,000

PART 2.—BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS.

Postmaster-General's Department	.. .. .		5,300,000
Total Part 2	.. .. .		5,300,000
Total	.. .. .		16,900,000

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND SERVICES, 1948–49.

That the following additional sum be granted to His Majesty for the service of the year 1948–49, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, as specified hereunder, viz. :—

PART I.—DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES—OTHER THAN BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS
AND TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

		£
Department of Civil Aviation	.. .. .	500,000
Department of Shipping and Fuel	.. .. .	700,000
Department of External Territories	.. .. .	1,724,000
Department of Immigration	.. .. .	1,000,000
Defence Services	.. .. .	1,800,000
Total Part I.	.. .. .	5,724,000

PART II.—BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS.

Postmaster-General's Department	.. .. .	300,000
Total Part II.	.. .. .	300,000
Total	.. .. .	6,024,000

Question—That the motions be agreed to—put and passed.
Resolutions to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

18th May, 1949.

Mr. Chifley 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 Resolutions reported from the Committee were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Chifley, were adopted by the House.

8. WAYS AND MEANS—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES AND ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND SERVICES, 1948-49.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved the following two motions:—

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES, 1948-49.

That, towards making good the Additional Supply granted to His Majesty for the service of the year 1948-49, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £16,900,000.

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND SERVICES, 1948-49.

That, towards making good the Additional Supply granted to His Majesty for the service of the year 1948-49, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £6,024,000.

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

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

The House resumed; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee. The Resolutions reported from the Committee were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Chifley, were adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Chifley and Mr. Dedman do prepare and bring in Bills to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

9. APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2) 1948-49.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply an additional sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine, and to appropriate that sum*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. Spender 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.

10. APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL (No. 2) 1948-49.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) also brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply an additional sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure and to appropriate that sum*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. Spender 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.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1949-50.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Deputy Speaker:—

W. J. MCKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 38.

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 grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty.

Canberra, 18th May, 1949.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

12. SUPPLY—SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1949-50.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That there be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the service of the year 1949-50 a sum not exceeding £71,558,000.

Question—put and passed.

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

18th May, 1949.

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

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

13. WAYS AND MEANS—SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1949–50.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the service of the year 1949–50, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £71,553,000.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

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

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

14. SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1949–50.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. Spender 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. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLY (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL (No. 1) 1949–50.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. MCKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 39.

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 grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure.

Canberra, 18th May, 1949.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

16. SUPPLY—SUPPLY (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL (No. 1) 1949–50.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That there be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the service of the year 1949–50, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, a sum not exceeding £13,694,000.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

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

18th May, 1949.

17. WAYS AND MEANS—SUPPLY (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL (No. 1) 1949–50.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure for the year 1949–50, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £13,694,000.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee. The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Chifley, was adopted by the House.

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

18. SUPPLY (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL (No. 1) 1949–50.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. Spender 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.

19. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WAR PENSIONS APPROPRIATION BILL 1949.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 40.

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 grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for War Pensions.

Canberra, 18th May, 1949.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of Revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for War Pensions.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

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

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, 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.

20. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4, Government Business.

18th May, 1949.

21. REVIEW OF AUSTRALIA'S MANUFACTURING ECONOMY—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction), That the Paper [*presented on the 24th November, 1948*], viz. :—

Brief review of Australia's manufacturing economy in the post-war period—
be printed—

Debate resumed.

Ordered—That Mr. Holt be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Mr. Anthony 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.

22. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at four minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Beale, Mr. Blain, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Gaha, Mr. James, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Scullin and Mr. Ward.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.