

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 132.

THURSDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 1949.

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. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS.—Mr. Rankin (Vice-Chairman) brought up the following Reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works :—
Report relating to the proposed erection of the National Library and Roosevelt Memorial, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.
Report relating to the proposed erection of a Commonwealth Office Building at Hobart, Tasmania.
Severally ordered to be printed.
3. PURCHASE OF DOLLARS FROM INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—
Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House that the International Monetary Fund had agreed to an initial drawing by Australia of 20,000,000 dollars from the Fund which would be used to meet commitments arising from the present restricted dollar import programme.
Mr. Fadden, by leave, also made a Statement in connexion with the matter.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department of Health—A. P. Crawcour, C. E. Eddy, H. R. Peisley, S. O. M. Were.
Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 76.
Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—National Security (Rationing) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 163, 164.
Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 77.
5. PRIMARY SCHOOL AT DARWIN—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1947*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the Committee has duly reported to this House the results of its investigations, namely :—The erection of a Primary School at Darwin.
Question—put and passed.
6. STATES GRANTS (ENCOURAGEMENT OF MEAT PRODUCTION) BILL 1949.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Francis 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.
7. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1949.—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.

20th October, 1949.

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

Mr. Deputy 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, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

8. COMMONWEALTH AID ROADS AND WORKS BILL 1949.—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. Deputy 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, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Ward (Minister for Transport), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 382) the Bill was read a third time.

9. STATES GRANTS (COAL MINING INDUSTRY LONG SERVICE LEAVE) BILL 1949.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), pursuant to leave given on the 19th October, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to make provision for the Grant of Financial Assistance to the States in respect of the cost of Long Service Leave granted under Industrial Awards to Employees in the Coal Mining Industry* ”, 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. Holt 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. COAL EXCISE BILL 1949.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), pursuant to leave given on the 19th October, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act relating to Excise on Coal* ”, 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. Holt 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. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 11, Government Business.

12. WAYS AND MEANS—EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 3).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved—

EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 3).

That the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff* 1921–1948, as proposed to be amended by the Excise Tariff Proposals introduced into the House of Representatives on the seventh day of September, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine, be further amended as hereinafter set out, and that on and after the first day of November, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine, Duties of Excise be collected in pursuance of the *Excise Tariff* 1921–1948 as so amended.

EXCISE DUTIES.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
20. By adding a new item 20 as follows :— “ 20. Coal, not being coal the property of a State, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws per ton	6d.”

20th October, 1949.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehan reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

13. STATES GRANTS BILL (No. 2) 1949.—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. Sheehy 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.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-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. Anthony, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Howse, Mr. James, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Russell, Mr. Scullin and Mr. Watkins.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.