

1905.

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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 53.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH OCTOBER, 1905.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN MAIL CONTRACT.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of the following motion of Mr. Chapman :—
That the House approves of an extension of the arrangements entered into on the 30th October, 1903, by the Commonwealth Government for the carriage of mails between Australia, Fiji, and Canada, by the steamers of the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Line, upon the following terms :—
 - (a) That the period of the contract be further extended from 1st May, 1905, to 31st July, 1906, with a proviso that if neither party gives not less than three months' notice of termination prior to the latter date, the contract shall continue until the 31st July, 1907.
 - (b) That the amount of subsidy payable by the Commonwealth be at the annual rate of £23,863 12s. 3d. for the period from 1st May to 31st July, 1905, and at the annual rate of £26,626 16s. from the 1st August, 1905, the difference between the two amounts being the Commonwealth proportion of a total increase of £6,000 per annum—

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Batchelor reported that the Committee had considered the motion, and had agreed to the same.
On the motion of Mr. Chapman, the House adopted the Report.
3. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business No. 2, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business No. 3.
4. SUPPLY.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Batchelor reported that a quorum of Members was not present in the Committee; whereupon Mr. Speaker counted the House, and a quorum of Members having been obtained, the House again resolved itself into the Committee.
Mr. Speaker again resumed the Chair; Mr. Batchelor reported that the Committee had made progress, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

18th October, 1905.

5. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—
NORTHCOTE, -

Governor-General.

Message No. 15.

A Bill intituled "*An Act relating to Wireless Telegraphy*," 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 Act.

Government House,
Melbourne, 18th October, 1905.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Mr. Conroy, Mr. Fowler*, Mr. Harper, Mr. Kingston, Mr. McColl, Mr. McLean, Mr. Phillips, Sir John Quick*, Mr. Reid, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Skene, and Sir George Turner*.

* On leave.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.