THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 28.

AND VOTES **PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH JULY, 1906.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. MAIL SERVICE TO EUROPE-AGREEMENT WITH SIR JAMES LAING AND SONS, LTD.-The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Chapman:-That this House approves the agreement made and entered into on the 7th day of July, 1906, between the Postmaster-General, in and for the Commonwealth, and Sir James Laing and Sons, Limited, for the carriage of mails between Adelaide and Brindisi-and on the amendment proposed thereto by Mr. Thomas, viz: -That all the words after the word "House" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof-"is of opinion that, in the best interests of the Commonwealth, the Government should purchase and control a fleet of mail steamers capable of maintaining a fortnightly mail service between Australia and Great Britain"-

Debate resumed.

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

House divided—			
Ayes, 40.		Noes, 14.	
Mr. Batchelor,	Mr. Liddell,	Mr. Bamford,	Mr. Ronald,
Sir Langdon	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Culpin,	Mr. David
Bonython,	Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Fisher,	Thomson
Mr. Cameron,	Mr. McCay,	Mr. Hutchison,	Mr. Wilkinson.
Mr. Carpenter,	Mr. McColl,	Mr. Mahon,	
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. McWilliams,	Mr. Maloney,	Tellers.
Mr. Joseph Cook,	Mr. Phillips,	Mr. McDonald,	lewers.
Mr. Crouch,	Sir John Quick,	Mr. O'Malley,	Mr. Frazer,
Mr. Deakin,	Mr. Salmon,	Mr. Poynton,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Skene,		
Sir John Forrest,	Mr. Storrer,		
Mr. Fuller,	Mr. Dugald		
Sir Philip Fysh,	Thomson,		•
Mr. Glynn,	Mr. Watkins,		¢.
Mr. Harper,	Mr. Watson,		
Mr. Higgins,	Mr. Webster,		
Mr. Isaacs,	Mr. Wilks,	•	
Mr. Johnson,	Mr. Wilson.		
Mr. Kelly,			
Mr. Kennedy,	Tellers.	•	
Mr. Knox,	Mr. Mauger,		
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Robinson.		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Thomson,

25th July, 1906.

Mr. Isaacs moved, That the question be amended by the addition of the following words—"with the following modifications:—

Proviso to Clause 3-

Provided that, in the event of the Postmaster-General requiring the "period of transit" on the voyage from Brindisi to Adelaide to be reduced to six hundred and twelve hours, the period of six hundred and twelve hours shall thenceforth be deemed to be the "period of transit" for each voyage from Brindisi to Adelaide, and each such voyage shall be completed within that period.

Proviso to Clause 15-

After the words "with the consent of" insert "or subject to approval by", and after "Parliament" insert "by resolution".

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Wilks moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

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

And then the House, at seventeen minutes to eleven 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. Brown, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Conroy, Mr. G. B. Edwards*, Mr. Groom, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Page, Mr. Reid*, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Spence, and Mr. Willis.

• On leave.

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