

1906.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 47.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 28TH AUGUST, 1906.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—Sir John Forrest presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—
Audit Act 1901—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council.—
Financial year 1905-6 (dated 24th August, 1906.)
Mr. Groom presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—
Public Service Act 1902—
Regulations Amended—Nos. 153, 155, 168, 199—Allowances, and Telegraph Messengers
—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 66.
Samuel McHutchison—Recommendation, &c., and approval of his promotion to the
position of clerk in charge, Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney.
3. REFERENDUM (CONSTITUTION ALTERATION) BILL.—Mr. Groom moved, pursuant to notice, That he
have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to the submission to the Electors of proposed
laws for the alteration of the Constitution.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Mr. Groom then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to the submission to the
Electors of proposed laws for the alteration of the Constitution,*" and moved, That it be now read
a first time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day,
Government Business, Nos. 1 to 6 inclusive, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of
the Day No. 7.
5. WAYS AND MEANS.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and
Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald 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.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day,
Government Business, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the
Day No. 4.
7. SPIRITS BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill—Sir
William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had gone through the
Bill and had agreed to the same with amendments.
Ordered—That the consideration of the Report be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

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8. MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—

NORTHCOTE,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 10.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act relating to Meteorological Observations*," 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, 28th August, 1906.

NORTHCOTE,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 11.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act relating to Copyright in Industrial Designs*," 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, 28th August, 1906.

NORTHCOTE,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 12.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Judiciary Act 1903'*," 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, 28th August, 1906.

9. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 1 and 2, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 3.
10. PREFERENTIAL BALLOT BILL.—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—

Mr. Wilks moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—

"it is not expedient to proceed further with this Bill during the present Session for the following reasons :—

- (1) A general election is imminent, and there is consequently not sufficient time for the proper consideration of the measure, or for making the necessary Electoral arrangements if the Bill became law.
- (2) The proposals contained in the Bill are crude and incomplete.
- (3) No provision is made for increasing the total number of votes polled, or for effective voting.
- (4) The question has not been considered by the constituencies."

Debate continued.

Mr. Tudor 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.

11. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir William Lyne moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at thirteen 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. Batchelor, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Conroy, Mr. G. B. Edwards, Mr. Gibb, Mr. Harper, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. Kingston*, Mr. Mahon, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Reid, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. David Thomson, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Willis.

* On leave.

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