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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 59.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1906.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Postponement of Business.—Ordered, That the Notice of Motion, Government Business, be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
- 3. Ways and Means.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after midnight-

THURSDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 1906.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald 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. McDonald reported that he had been requested to ask the opinion of Mr. Speaker on a point of order raised in Committee, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the House will, as soon as Mr. Speaker has given his opinion on the question, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

- 4. Point of Order—Amendment involving Taxation.—Mr. McDonald then stated, that in the Committee of Ways and Means he, as Chairman, had decided with regard to an amendment proposed by the honorable Member for Gwydir (Mr. Webster) as follows:—
 - "That the amendment is one that involves additional taxation, and should not in my opinion be introduced by any Member other than a Minister of the Crown.
 - I therefore rule (1) That as the amendment involves additional taxation it cannot be moved by a private Member; (2) That metals are not part of the proposed schedule, therefore it is a new item of taxation. Consequently I rule the amendment out of order."

The Committee had desired that the ruling should be referred to the Speaker for decision.

- Mr. Speaker stated that he supported the ruling of the Chairman that as the amendment involved additional taxation it could not be moved, unless in substitution for some other levies, by a private Member; and secondly, that as metals formed no part of the schedule before the Committee, the amendment could not be moved by a private Member.
- 5. Ways and Means.—The House thereupon again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

 Mr. Speaker again resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had agreed to certain resolutions.

Ordered—That the consideration of the resolutions be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting. Mr. McDonald also acquainted the House that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

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

19th and 20th September, 1906.

6. Message from the Senate—Constitution Alteration (Senate Elections) Bill.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:-

Message No. 15.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "An Act to alter the provisions of the Constitution relating to the election of Senators," and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

> R. C. BAKER, President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 19th September, 1906.

7. Constitution Alteration (Senate Elections) Bill.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message, intituled "A Bill for an Act to alter the provisions of the Constitution relating to the election of Senators," 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 the next sitting.
- 8. Alteration of Time of Next Meeting.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until half-past two o'clock this afternoon. Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
- 9. Adjournment.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at half-past six o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this afternoon at half-past two o'clock.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Brown, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Fuller, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. Gibb, Mr. Kingston*, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. McColl, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Reid, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Spence, and Mr. David Thomson.

* On leave.

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