

1954.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 23.

THURSDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1954.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable A. G. Cameron) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—South East Asia Collective Defence Treaty (signed at Manila, 8th September, 1954).
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Postal purposes at Corio, Victoria.
Public Service Act—Appointment—Postmaster-General's Department—K. L. Briggs.
3. *Hansard*—SELECT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Wentworth moved, pursuant to notice—
 - (1) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the proper preparation, production and distribution of the *Hansard* of this House, the facilities necessary therefor, and matters connected therewith.
 - (2) That the Committee consist of Mr. Speaker, the Mover, and seven other Members to be appointed by the House; five to form a quorum.
 - (3) That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament, to adjourn from place to place, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken.
 - (4) That the Committee report to the House on the 28th October, 1954.
 Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
4. TAXATION BUILDING, BRISBANE—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Kent Hughes (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1953*, 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 the Taxation Building, Brisbane, Queensland.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
5. AUDIT BILL 1954.—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. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the following amendment was made, after debate:—Page 1, omit sub-clause (2.), insert the following sub-clause:—

“(2.) The remaining provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have come into operation on the twenty-fifth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-four.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the clause was omitted, and the following clause inserted in place thereof:—

“4. Notwithstanding the provisions of section five A of the *Audit Act 1901–1954* Extension of term of office of Auditor-General. but subject to the other provisions of that Act, the Auditor-General for the Commonwealth holding office at the date of commencement of this section shall continue in his office for a period of one year from and including the twenty-sixth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-four, being the date upon which the Auditor-General will attain the age of sixty-five years.”

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Title—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the Title was amended by adding the words “, and for other purposes ”.
Title, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments, and with an amended Title.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

6. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES—ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, ETC., 1954–55.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Estimates, by leave, taken as a whole, and debated.

Mr. Pollard rising to address the Committee—

Closure.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 48.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Drury	Mr. Howse	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Beale	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McCole	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Joske	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Francis	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Brown	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Osborne	Mr. Wight
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Leslie	Sir Earle Page	
Mr. Dean	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Pearce	Tellers:
Mr. Downer	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Drummond	Mr. Haworth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Timson	Mr. Gullett

NOES, 37.

Mr. Andrews	Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Makin	Mr. Russell
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Chambers	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Bird	Mr. Clark	Mr. E. James	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Coutts	Harrison	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Webb
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Mullens	
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Joshua	Mr. O'Connor	Tellers:
Mr. T. P. Burke	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Keon	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Daly
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Thompson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Estimates be agreed to—was put accordingly, and passed.

Sir Eric Harrison moved, That the following Resolution be reported to the House—

That, including the sum already voted for such services, there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £99,783,000 for the services of the year 1954–55, for Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, viz. :—

PART 1.—DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES—OTHER THAN BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS AND TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.		£
Parliament	.. .. .	24,000
Prime Minister's Department	.. .. .	980,000
Department of External Affairs	.. .. .	117,000
Department of the Treasury	.. .. .	522,000
Attorney-General's Department	.. .. .	161,000
Department of the Interior	.. .. .	1,524,000
Department of Works	.. .. .	735,000
Department of Civil Aviation	.. .. .	6,150,000
Department of Trade and Customs	.. .. .	157,000
Department of Health	.. .. .	2,160,000
Repatriation Department	.. .. .	444,000
Department of Commerce and Agriculture	.. .. .	416,000
Department of Social Services	.. .. .	30,166,000
Department of Shipping and Transport	.. .. .	5,114,000
Department of Territories	.. .. .	5,000
Department of Immigration	.. .. .	475,000
Department of Labour and National Service	.. .. .	40,000
Department of National Development	.. .. .	14,395,000
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	.. .. .	381,000
Australian Atomic Energy Commission	.. .. .	285,000
Total PART 1	.. .. .	64,251,000
PART 2.—BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS.		
Commonwealth Railways	.. .. .	1,200,000
Postmaster-General's Department	27,215,000
Broadcasting Services	332,000
Total PART 2	28,747,000

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PART 3.—TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.							£
Northern Territory	2,464,000
Australian Capital Territory	4,302,000
Papua and New Guinea	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,000
Total PART 3							6,785,000
Total							99,783,000

Question—put and passed.

Leave to be asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee. Sir Eric Harrison moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

7. WAYS AND MEANS—ESTIMATES—ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, ETC., 1954–55.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year 1954–55, for Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of £68,655,000.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee. On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir Eric Harrison and Mr. Kent Hughes do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

8. APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND SERVICES) BILL 1954–55.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-five, for the purposes of Additions, New Works and other Services involving Capital Expenditure and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for that year* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Sir Eric Harrison moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. 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.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—A Message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment :—

23rd September, 1954—*Message No. 8—Audit 1954.*

10. *Hansard*—SELECT COMMITTEE.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, by leave, That, in addition to Mr. Speaker and the Mover (Mr. Wentworth) already appointed, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Downer, Mr. A. D. Fraser, Mr. J. R. Fraser, Mr. Freeth, Mr. Haylen and Mr. Luchetti be members of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the preparation, production and distribution of the *Hansard* of this House.

Question—put and passed.

11. SOCIAL SERVICES BILL 1954.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. McMahon (Minister for Social Services) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr. A. D. Fraser), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

12. REPATRIATION BILL 1954.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Francis (Minister representing the Minister for Repatriation) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time. Mr. Haylen moved, as an amendment, That all words after “ That ” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof :—“ a Parliamentary Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the decisions and interpretations made under section 47 of the Repatriation Act ”.

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Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Pollard), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Anthony, Mr. Beazley, Mr. Bland, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Casey, Mr. Clarey, Mr. Davies, Mr. Drakeford*, Mr. Edmonds, Sir Arthur Fadden, Mr. Fairhall, Mr. Holt, Mr. James, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Opperman, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Whitlam.

* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.