

1957.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 3.

THURSDAY, 21ST MARCH, 1957.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Evatt, viz. :—*That the following words be added to the Address :—
“ but add—

1. That the Government is censured for the statement of Housing policy made by the Prime Minister on 7th March last and for the acute social ills caused by its continued failure to establish, in conjunction with the States, a National Housing Plan.
2. This failure has been largely caused by the provision of inadequate finance for home building for—
 - (a) State Governments ;
 - (b) War Service Homes ;
 - (c) Co-operative Building Societies ;
 - (d) Australians seeking to build their own homes.
3. The National Plan should have regard to—
 - (a) the immediate reduction of migrant intake ;
 - (b) employment of the maximum work force in the home-building industry ;
 - (c) availability of materials.
4. It should also provide for—
 - (a) priority to home building over less essential private investment ;
 - (b) provision of sufficient finance to promote home ownership at low rates of interest ”—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr. McMahon—Minister for Primary Industry), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CONSTITUTION REVIEW—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 1.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 1 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith:—

- (1) That the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by the House of Representatives for the appointment of a Joint Committee to examine Problems of Constitutional Change, subject to the following modification:—

That the words “ recess or ” be inserted before the word “ adjournment ” in clause 8.

- (2) That the Resolution, so far as it is inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

The Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives in the Senate's modification of the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by the House.

The Senate,
Canberra, 21st March, 1957.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

Ordered—That the Message be taken into consideration at the next sitting.

21st March, 1957.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 2.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 2 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith:—

- (1) That the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 2 of the House of Representatives with reference to the appointment of a Joint Committee to examine and report on certain matters relating to the Australian Capital Territory.
- (2) That the provisions of that Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

The Senate,
Canberra, 21st March, 1957.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FOREIGN AFFAIRS—JOINT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 3.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 3 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith:—

- (1) That the Senate concurs in the resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 3 of the House of Representatives relating to the appointment of a Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs.
- (2) That Senators Cole, Gorton, Maher, Pearson, Robertson, Vincent and Wordsworth be members of such Joint Committee.

The Senate,
Canberra, 21st March, 1957.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

6. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Public Service Act—Appointment—Repatriation Department—L. J. Lomas.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. McMahon (Minister for Primary Industry) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-past ten 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. Bowden, Mr. Brand, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Daly, Mr. Drummond, Mr. A. D. Fraser, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Hasluck, Mr. Jack, Mr. H. V. Johnson, Mr. Kearney, Mr. McColm, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Swartz, Mr. Turner and Mr. Watkins.

A. A. TREGEAR,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.