

1957.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 32.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1957.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Bryant presented a Petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that immediate consideration be given to the matter of increasing the rate of age, invalid and widows' pensions to at least 50 per cent. of the basic wage.

Petition received and read.

Petitions from certain citizens of Australia praying that immediate consideration be given to the matter of increasing the rate of age, invalid and widows' pensions to at least 50 per cent. of the basic wage were presented by Mr. Lawson and Mr. Coutts.

Petitions severally received.

3. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Bank Act—Balance-sheets of Commonwealth Bank, Commonwealth Trading Bank and Commonwealth Savings Bank as at 30th June, 1957; together with Auditor-General's reports thereon.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Lands Acquisition Act—Land, &c., acquired for—
Postal purposes—

Arncliffe, New South Wales

Jemalong, New South Wales.

Linden, New South Wales.

Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority purposes—Adaminaby, New South Wales.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1957—No. 8—Scaffolding and Lifts.

Services Trust Funds Act—Services Canteens Trust Fund—Report for 1956.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—WESTERN AUSTRALIA GRANT (WATER SUPPLY) BILL 1957.—

Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General:—

W. J. SLIM,

Governor-General.

Message No. 29.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Western Australia Grant (Water Supply) Act 1948-1955*.

Canberra, 11th September, 1957.

Ordered—That the Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Western Australia Grant (Water Supply) Act 1948-1955*.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Sir Arthur Fadden 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.

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On the motion of Sir Arthur Fadden, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir Arthur Fadden and Mr. H. E. Holt do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir Arthur Fadden then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Sir Arthur Fadden moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

5. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.

Question—put and passed.

6. SUPPLY—BUDGET DEBATE.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the question, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division No. 1—Senate—namely—

Salaries and allowances £30,000

be agreed to, and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), viz.:—
That the first item be reduced by £1.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. D. A. Cameron (Minister for Health) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Bird, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Bowden*, Mr. Casey*, Mr. Costa*, Mr. Drury, Mr. Duthie*, Mr. Galvin, Mr. Harrison*, Mr. Hulme, Mr. Jack*, Mr. James, Mr. H. V. Johnson, Mr. Kearney, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Lucock, Mr. Minogue, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Peters, Mr. Pollard*, Mr. Turner*, Mr. Watkins* and Mr. Wheeler*.

*On leave.

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