

1907-8.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 136.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 28TH MAY, 1908.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the Prime Minister to make a Ministerial statement to the House in regard to the Department of the Postmaster-General, and to permit Members generally to speak thereon.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative, without any dissent, an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the House being present.
3. POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Deakin thereupon made a Ministerial statement in reference to the Department of the Postmaster-General.  
And several other Members having spoken on the question—the Orders of the Day were called on.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day, Government Business Nos. 1 to 3 inclusive, be postponed until to-morrow.
5. SURPLUS REVENUE BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 26.  
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 agreed to a certain resolution.  
Ordered—That the Report be considered at once.  
And thereupon the said resolution was read, and is as follows :—  
*Resolved*—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to the payment to the several States of the Surplus Revenue of the Commonwealth.  
And, after debate, the said resolution was adopted by the House.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business No. 5, be postponed until after the consideration of the next Order of the Day.
7. PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill, Mr. Groom 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 made progress in the Bill, 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.

28th May, 1908.

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8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION BILL 1907-8.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 29.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and apply an additional sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and eight,*" to which it has agreed without request.

A. J. GOULD,  
President.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 28th May, 1908.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Groom moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Edwards\*  
Mr. Fowler\*, Mr. Hall, Mr. Mahon, and Mr. Bruce Smith.

\* On leave.

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