

1909.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 97.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 1909.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DEATH OF MEMBER (THE HONORABLE JAMES HUTCHISON).—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, That this House desires to record its regret at the loss which the Commonwealth suffers in the death of the late Member for Hindmarsh—the Honorable James Hutchison—and expresses its sincere condolence with his widow and the members of his family in their bereavement. And all Members standing, the question was put and resolved in the affirmative.
3. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE BILL (1909).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 32.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to Naval and Military Defence*," and acquaints the House of Representatives that the Senate has agreed to the amendments of the House of Representatives upon amendments Nos. 1, 2, 12, and 14 of the Senate.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1909.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SEAMEN'S COMPENSATION BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 33.

The Senate has agreed to the amendment made by the House of Representatives in the Bill for "*An Act relating to compensation to Seamen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment*."

The Senate,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1909.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NAVAL LOAN BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 34.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the raising and expending of the sum of Three million five hundred thousand pounds for the purposes of Naval Defence*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1909.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SURPLUS REVENUE BILL (1909).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 35.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to the Surplus Revenue of the Commonwealth*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1909.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

7th December, 1909.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PATENTS BILL (1909).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 37.

The Senate has agreed to the amendments made by the House of Representatives in the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Patents Act 1903’* ”.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1909.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC SERVICE [COMMISSIONER'S SALARY, ETC.] BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 36.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act relating to the Salary of the Public Service Commissioner, Long Service Increments in the Fifth Class of the Clerical Division, and the Employment of Telegraph Messengers,* ” to which it has agreed with the amendment indicated in the annexed schedule, in which amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1909.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the Whole be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

9. TELEPHONE BUSINESS AND WORKING.—Mr. Thomas Brown moved, pursuant to notice, That a Return be laid upon the Table of the House, showing :—

- (1) The number of Exchange Telephone services in each of the States of the Commonwealth leased to subscribers under what is known as the “ Purchase ” system, and the annual rental and maintenance charges usually made in connexion with these services.
- (2) The number of private “ Purchase ” line services in use in each State, and the annual rental or maintenance charges usually made in connexion therewith.
- (3) The number of (1) Flat-rate and (2) Measured-rate subscribers' service receiving service in each of the six States.
- (4) The further length of time it is intended to allow the “ Purchase ” and Flat-rate subscribers to continue the use of their existing services before transferring same to the Measured-rate conditions.
- (5) The additional facilities proposed in the way of increased switch-board accommodation at the Sydney Exchange to allow of the “ Purchase ” and Flat-rate subscribers being provided with an improved service without increasing the present rentals or compelling the subscribers referred to to transfer their services to the Measured-rate conditions.
- (6) The number of subscribers' lines each of the telephone attendants engaged in each of the principal exchanges of the six States usually have to attend to during the busy hours of the day.
- (7) The extent to which the proposed additions to the Sydney Exchange will allow of the load of each attendant being reduced to conform with that of the attendants in Melbourne and other State Capital exchanges.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

10. SUPPLY [ESTIMATES].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had agreed to certain Resolutions.

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, this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

11. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Deakin moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

12. SUPPLY RESOLUTIONS.—The Resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply were read, and are as follow :—

ESTIMATES, 1909-10.

Resolved—That, including the several sums already voted in this present Session of Parliament for such services, there be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1909-10, for the several services hereunder specified, sums not exceeding in each case, the following amounts, viz.:—

i. The Parliament	...	...	£32,066
ii. The Department of External Affairs	...	...	79,805
iii. The Attorney-General's Department	...	...	16,172
iv. The Department of Home Affairs	...	...	305,845
v. The Department of the Treasury	...	...	94,247
Stamp Printing	...	...	1,267
Refunds of Revenue	...	...	100,000
Advance to the Treasurer	...	...	200,000
vi. The Department of Trade and Customs	...	...	353,296
vii. The Department of Defence	...	...	1,004,062
viii. The Postmaster-General's Department	...	...	3,206,796

And the said Resolutions were, on the motion of Sir John Forrest, adopted by the House.

7th December, 1909.

13. **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.**—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day Government Business, Nos. 2 to 10 inclusive, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 11.
14. **WAYS AND MEANS [ESTIMATES].**—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had agreed to a certain Resolution.
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, this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
15. **WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION.**—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Ways and Means was read, and is as follows:—
ESTIMATES, 1909-10.
Resolved—That towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year 1909-10, a sum not exceeding Three million two hundred and forty-six thousand four hundred and fifty-six pounds be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.
And the said Resolution was, on the motion of Sir John Forrest, adopted by the House.
Ordered—That Sir John Forrest and Mr. Glynn do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.
16. **APPROPRIATION BILL 1909-10.**—Sir John Forrest then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and ten and to appropriate the Supplies granted for such year in this session of the Parliament,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.
Sir John Forrest moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
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 gone through the Bill and had agreed to the same without amendment.
On the motion of Sir John Forrest, the House adopted the Report.
Sir John Forrest moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.
17. **SUPPLY [SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1907-8].**—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had made progress, 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.
18. **PAPERS.**—Mr. Fuller presented, pursuant to Statute—
Census and Statistics Act—Population and Vital Statistics for the year 1908—Bulletin No. 14.
Public Service Act—Recommendation in connexion with the promotion of Mr. William Williams to the position of Postmaster, Geelong.
19. **JOINT LIBRARY COMMITTEE—REPORT FROM.**—Mr. Speaker presented a Report from the Joint Library Committee.
Ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.
20. **PAPERS.**—Mr. Groom presented, pursuant to Statute—
Papua—Report for the year ended 30th June, 1909.
The following Paper was laid upon the Table by the Clerk:—
Telephone Business and Working.—Return to an Order of the House made this day.
Severally ordered to be printed.
21. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at a quarter to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Bowden, Mr. Carr, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Chapman, Sir Thomas Ewing, Mr. Frank J. Foster, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. Hall, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Johnson, Sir William Lyne, Mr. Page, Sir George Reid, Mr. Storrer, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Willis.

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