

1911.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 57.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 1911.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Jensen presented a Petition from fruitgrowers in the State of Tasmania praying that a Royal Commission may be appointed to inquire into and report upon all matters in connexion with the export, transport, receiving, and marketing of fruit and fruit products. Petition read, and received.
3. PAPERS.—Mr. O'Malley presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land disposed of—Sale Yards, Perth, Western Australia.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 1 be postponed until to-morrow.
5. LONDON SITE FOR, AND ERECTION OF, COMMONWEALTH OFFICES.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Thomas:—That this House approves of the purchase of the following site, and the erection of a permanent building thereon for Commonwealth Offices, viz. :—That part of the London County Council's property included within the Strand, Aldwych, and Melbourne-place, London.
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed.
Ordered—That the Resolution be transmitted, by Message, to the Senate and its concurrence desired therein.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—
(*Purchase Telephone Lines Acquisition Bill*)—

DENMAN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 20.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Acquisition of Purchase Telephone Lines,*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to His Excellency for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,
Melbourne, 12th December, 1911.

(Post and Telegraph Rates Bill 1911)—

DENMAN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 21.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902-1910,'*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,
Melbourne, 12th December, 1911.

12th December, 1911.

(Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta Railway Bill)—DENMAN,
Governor-General.

Message No. 22.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Construction of a Railway from Kalgoorlie in the State of Western Australia to Port Augusta in the State of South Australia, the acquisition of the necessary land, the appointment of officers, the making of charges, and the appropriation of money in connexion with such Railway,*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,
Melbourne, 12th December, 1911.

7. CORONATION—REPLY TO ADDRESS OF CONGRATULATION TO THE KING.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received the following communication from His Excellency the Governor-General, forwarding a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

Commonwealth of Australia.

Governor-General's Office,
Melbourne, 11th December, 1911.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 7th September last forwarding an Address to His Majesty the King, which was agreed to on the 5th idem by the Senate and the House of Representatives respectively, I now have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

DENMAN,
Governor-General.

The Speaker,
House of Representatives,
Melbourne.

Downing-street,
10th November, 1911.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that I have duly laid before the King the Address from the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth on the occasion of His Majesty's Coronation forwarded in your despatch No. 173 of the 25th September.

His Majesty was pleased to receive the Address very graciously and to command that his thanks should be conveyed to the Senate and House of Representatives for their congratulations and assurance of loyalty to his Throne and person.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor-General
His Excellency
The Right Honorable
Lord Denman, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.,
&c., &c., &c.

8. WAYS AND MEANS [TARIFF AMENDMENTS].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the motion of Mr. Tudor (see page 129 *ante*) that certain amendments be made in Schedule A to the *Customs Tariff 1908-1910*.
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. W. Elliot Johnson reported accordingly.
Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour, this day again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—ARBITRATION (PUBLIC SERVICE) BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and the Public Service of the Commonwealth*", to which it has agreed without amendment.

H. TURLEY,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 12th December, 1911.

0. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—LONDON SITE FOR, AND ERECTION OF, COMMONWEALTH OFFICES.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 23.

The Senate, having taken into consideration Message No. 24 of the House of Representatives, requesting the concurrence of the Senate in a resolution transmitted therewith in reference to a site for, and the erection of Commonwealth Offices in London, acquaints the House of Representatives that it concurs in such resolution.

H. TURLEY,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 12th December, 1911.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SEAMEN'S COMPENSATION BILL (1911).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

DENMAN,

Governor-General.

Message No. 23.

In accordance with section 58 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia the Governor-General returns to the House of Representatives a proposed law intituled "*An Act relating to compensation to Seamen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment,*" and known as the "*Seamen's Compensation Act 1911,*" which has been presented to him for the King's Assent, and transmits herewith the following amendment, which he recommends to be made in the said proposed law.

Government House,
Melbourne, 12th December, 1911.

Amendment Recommended.

Page 7, clause 13, line 1, omit "or", insert "of".

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration forthwith.

Mr. Fisher moved, That the amendment recommended by His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

12. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the intervening Orders of the Day be postponed until after Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 13.
13. SUPPLY [SUPPLY BILL].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Fisher, after debate—That a sum not exceeding Five hundred and sixty-one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six pounds be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the services of the year ending 30th June, 1912.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

14. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Fisher moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.
- Question—put and passed.
15. SUPPLY RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Fisher, was adopted by the House.
16. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Fisher—That towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year ending 30th June, 1912, a sum not exceeding Five hundred and sixty-one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six pounds be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Resolution to be reported and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Fisher, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Fisher and Mr. Hughes do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

12th and 13th December, 1911.

17. SUPPLY BILL (No. 4) 1911-12.—Mr. Fisher then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twelve,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Fisher 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.*)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Fisher, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill, after debate, was read a third time.

And the House continuing to sit till after midnight—

WEDNESDAY, 13TH DECEMBER, 1911.

18. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Brown, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Harper, and Mr. Hans Irvine.

WALTER A. GALE,
Clerk Assistant,
for Clerk of the House of Representatives.