

1912.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 25TH JUNE, 1912.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. SUBPŒNA—PRODUCTION OF WRIT, ETC.—Mr. Speaker said—

“I have to inform the House that a subpœna was yesterday served on the Clerk of the House, requiring him to attend on the 27th instant, at the Court of Petty Sessions, Melbourne, in connexion with an information filed against one Robert Murray Smith and others for permitting the publication in a newspaper which they owned, of an unsigned article contrary to the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* 1902-1911, and to produce the Writ issued on the 6th May last for the election of a Member for the Electoral Division of Werriwa, and the letter from the Chief Electoral Officer to the Speaker, dated the 12th instant.

“If the House approves, the Clerk or some officer of his Staff will be authorized to attend and produce the Writ and letter as required by the subpœna.”

3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1912-13.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

DENMAN,  
*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 1.*

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 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 thirteen.

Government House,  
Sydney, 22nd June, 1912.

Ordered to lie on the Table and to be referred to the Committee of Supply when appointed.

4. PAPERS.—Mr. Thomas presented, pursuant to Statute—

Papua—Ordinance of 1912—No. 2—Supplementary Appropriation 1911-1912, No. 2.  
Public Service Act—Department of External Affairs—Promotions of—  
J. A. Carrodus as Clerk, 4th Class.  
H. C. Elvins to new position of 4th Class Clerk.  
W. L. Smallhorn to new position of 3rd Class Clerk, Northern Territory Branch.

Mr. Tudor presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations Amended (Provisional)—  
Statutory Rules 1911, No. 204.  
Statutory Rules 1912, No. 53.

Customs Act—Proclamation prohibiting the exportation of leather, &c., when for human wear, containing barium.

Excise Act—Regulation Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1912, No. 5.

Quarantine Act—Regulations Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1912, No. 105.

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PAPERS—*continued.*

- Mr. O'Malley presented, pursuant to Statute—  
 Census and Statistics Act—Regulations—  
 Labour and Industrial Statistics (Agents and Correspondents)—Statutory Rules 1912, No. 116.  
 Quarterly Returns of House Rents by House Agents—(Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1912, No. 118.  
 Public Service Act—  
 Appointment of W. H. Vincent as Assistant Engineer (Electrical), Class D, Public Works Branch, Department of Home Affairs, Central Staff.  
 New Regulation (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1912, No. 117.
- Mr. Frazer (for Mr. Roberts) presented, pursuant to Statute—  
 Defence Act—Military Forces—  
 Regulations Amended (Provisional)—  
 Statutory Rules 1912, No. 111.  
 Statutory Rules 1912, No. 112.  
 Financial and Allowance Regulations Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1912, No. 110.  
 Naval Defence Act—Naval Forces—Regulations Amended (Provisional)—  
 Statutory Rules 1912, No. 108.  
 Statutory Rules 1912, No. 109.

5. ADDRESS-IN-REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY 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 by this House:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, beg 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 by Mr. Deakin, viz.:*—That the following words be added to the Address:—“and to inform Your Excellency that the Government merits the censure of the House and the country for its failure to realize its national and constitutional obligations, for flagrant neglect of its duty to secure industrial peace and good order and to uphold the law within the Commonwealth; for its maladministration of public affairs and public departments, for its grossly partisan actions and appointments and its reckless irresponsibility in the financial affairs of the Commonwealth”——

Debate resumed.

Mr. Speaker called the honorable Member for Echuca (Mr. Palmer) to order for making constant interjections.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Palmer came up and addressed Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker named Mr. Palmer for using insulting language to the Chair.

Mr. Palmer, at the suggestion of the Prime Minister (Mr. Fisher), withdrew the remarks which he had made to Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker stated that in the circumstances a withdrawal of the language used was not sufficient, but that an apology was also necessary.

Mr. Palmer thereupon apologized.

Debate resumed.

Mr. Hughes addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
 Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at three minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. Catts, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Hedges, Mr. Hans Irvine, Mr. W. Elliot Johnson, Sir William Lyne, Mr. McDougall, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Poynton, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Scullin, Mr. Sinclair, and Mr. Bruce Smith.

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