

1913.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 74.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 1913.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Thomas rose in his place and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The action of the Government in printing a limited number of steel-plate postage stamps with an understanding that no more of that kind should be printed."
Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
Mr. Thomas moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.
3. BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 2 again read, and, after debate, agreed to.
 Clause 3 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 4, 5, and 6 agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Fowler reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. Groom the House adopted the Report.
 Mr. Groom moved, pursuant to contingent notice by Mr. Joseph Cook, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stage to be passed without delay.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a third time.

18th December, 1913.

4. **MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

(*Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Bill 1911-12*)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 32.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twelve for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.*", to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

(*Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Bill 1912-13*)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 33.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and thirteen for purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.*", to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

5. **POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.**—Ordered—That all remaining business prior to Orders of the Day, General Business Nos. 1 to 6 inclusive be postponed till after the consideration of such Orders.
6. **CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (TRADE AND COMMERCE) BILL, CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (CORPORATIONS) BILL, CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (TRUSTS) BILL, CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (INDUSTRIAL MATTERS) BILL, CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (RAILWAY DISPUTES) BILL, CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (NATIONALIZATION OF MONOPOLIES) BILL.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of the Constitution Alteration (Trade and Commerce) Bill—Mr. Fisher, by leave, moved, That the six Constitution Alteration Bills be now read a second time.
- Debate ensued.
- Mr. W. H. Irvine moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
- Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
- Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the day for to-morrow.
7. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PINE CREEK TO KATHERINE RIVER RAILWAY 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 provide for the Construction of a Railway in the Northern Territory from Pine Creek to the Katherine River, the Appointment of Officers, the Making of Charges, and the Appropriation of Money in connexion with such Railway,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate does not insist upon its amendment No. 2 disagreed to by the House of Representatives.

The Senate insists upon amendment No. 4 as regards paragraphs (1.) and (2.) with the amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, but does not insist upon paragraphs (3.) and (4.) ; insists upon amendment No. 5 with the amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, and requests the reconsideration of the Bill with respect to such amendments.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

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

(*In the Committee.*)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments made by the Senate, which are as follow :—

SCHEDULE OF PART OF AMENDMENT NO. 4 AND OF AMENDMENT NO. 5 DISAGREED TO BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WHICH THE SENATE HAS AMENDED.

Part of Senate's Amendment No. 4:—

No. 4.—Page 3, after clause 14 insert the following new clause :—

" 14A.—(1.) In the construction of the Railway provision shall be made for the payment of not less than the prescribed minimum rates of wages and for the observance of the prescribed conditions of employment, and also for the recovery of penalties for non-payment of the prescribed rates of wages or for non-compliance with the prescribed conditions of employment. Wages and conditions of employment.

(2.) The minimum rates of wages and the conditions of employment shall be prescribed by the Minister and shall be set forth in a Schedule.

Sub-clause (1.), line 1, after "In" insert "any contract relating to".

Sub-clause (1.), line 2, after "payment" insert "by the contractor".

Sub-clause (2.), at end of sub-clause add "to the contract".

Senate's Amendment No. 5:—

No. 5.—Page 3, after new Clause 14A, insert the following new Clause:—

"14B. In the supply and sale of stores to the men employed in the construction of the Railway by the Government the prices charged shall not be more than the prices for such stores obtaining in Darwin, plus freights." Supply of stores.

Line 1, leave out "In" (first occurring), insert "The Government shall undertake".

Line 2, leave out "by the Government", insert "and".

Mr. W. H. Irvine moved, That Amendment No. 4, as amended by the Senate, be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. W. H. Irvine moved, That Amendment No. 5, as amended by the Senate, be disagreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Resolutions to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. John Thomson reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. W. H. Irvine, the House adopted the Report.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NORFOLK ISLAND BILL.—Mr. Deputy-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 to provide for the acceptance of Norfolk Island as a Territory under the authority of the Commonwealth, and the Government thereof*," and acquaints the House that the Senate no longer insists on its amendments Nos. 2 and 3 disagreed to by the House of Representatives.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE BILL.—Mr. Deputy-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 to provide for the establishment of a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and for other purposes*", to which it has agreed with the amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments made by the Senate, which are as follow:—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1.—Page 2, Clause 3, Sub-clause (2.), line 1, leave out "Two", insert "Three".

No. 2.—Page 2, Clause 3, Sub-clause (2.), line 2, leave out "six", insert "five".

Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That Amendment No. 1 be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That Amendment No. 2 be disagreed to.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the following consequential amendment be made in clause 3 of the Bill:—

Page 1, line 18, omit "eight", insert "nine".

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Resolutions to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Fowler reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Joseph Cook, the House adopted the Report.

18th and 19th December, 1913.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (1913).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 37.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the provisions of the 'Commonwealth Public Service Act 1902-1911' in relation to eligibility for appointment to the Public Service of the Commonwealth by reason of State service*", to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

And the House continuing to sit till after midnight—

FRIDAY, 19TH DECEMBER, 1913.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS BILL (No. 2).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 38.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for a Joint Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts*", to which it has agreed with the amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

The House proceeded to consider the Amendments made by the Senate, which are as follow :—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

- No. 1.—Page 1, Clause 2, sub-clause (1.), line 8, leave out "seven", insert "nine".
No. 2.—Page 1, Clause 2, sub-clause (2.), line 14, leave out "Two", insert "Three".
No. 3.—Page 1, Clause 2, sub-clause (2.), line 15, leave out "five", insert "six".
No. 4.—Page 2, after Clause 6, add the following new Clause :—

"7. Every Committee of Public Accounts appointed under this Act shall hold office as such Committee and may exercise all powers conferred upon it for the term of the Parliament during which it is appointed."

Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the Amendments be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

12. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

(Supplementary Appropriation Bill 1911-12)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 39.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twelve*", to which it has agreed without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

(Supplementary Appropriation Bill 1912-13)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 40.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and thirteen*", to which it has agreed without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

13. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

(Appropriation Bill 1913-14)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 41.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and fourteen and to appropriate the supplies granted for such year in this Session of the Parliament*", to which it has agreed without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 19th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

(*Pine Creek to Katherine River Railway Bill*)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 42.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Construction of a Railway in the Northern Territory from Pine Creek to the Katherine River, the Appointment of Officers, the Making of Charges, and the Appropriation of Money in connexion with such Railway,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate no longer insists on its amendment No. 5 disagreed to by the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
 Melbourne, 19th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
 President.

(*Public Works Committee Bill*)—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 43.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the establishment of a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and for other purposes,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate does not insist on its amendment No. 2 disagreed to by the House of Representatives, and agrees to the consequential amendment made by the House of Representatives in the Bill.

The Senate,
 Melbourne, 19th December, 1913.

THOS. GIVENS,
 President.

14. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Friday next.

Question—put and passed.

15. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes to four o'clock in the morning, adjourned until Friday next, at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Abbott, Mr. Archibald, Mr. Burchell, Mr. Carr, Mr. Catts, Mr. Conroy, Mr. Finlayson, Sir John Forrest, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Livingston, Mr. McGrath (under suspension), Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Page, Mr. Patten, Mr. Poynton, Mr. Sinclair, and Mr. Webster.

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