1914-15.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 32.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 22nd APRIL, 1915.

- 1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Message from the Deputy of the Governor-General.—Assent to Supply Bill (No. 5) 1914-15.—The following Message from the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

A. L. STANLEY,

Deputy of the Governor-General.

Message No. 49.

A Bill intituled "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 fifteen," 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, 21st April, 1915.

3. Papers.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Department of Home Affairs-

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at-

Glanville, South Australia—For Defence purposes. Glebe, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Hurstville, New South Wales-For Defence purposes.

Department of the Treasury -

War Pensions Act—Provisional Regulations—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 41.

- 4. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered—That Order of the Day, General Business No. 1, be postponed until Thursday, 27th May next.
- 5. MILITARY COURT-MARTIAL AT RABAUL—SENTENCED SOLDIERS.—Mr. Anstey moved, pursuant to notice, That it be an instruction to the Government to order the immediate release of the soldiers, Thomas Wilson, William Penny, J. R. McDonald, R. Hunter, and C. J. Clogg, now undergoing sentences of three to five years' penal servitude imposed upon them by the Military Court-Martial at Rabaul.

Debate ensued.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

6. Ballot for Choice of Speaker, Members of Committees, etc.—Mr. McWilliams moved, pursuant to notice, That the Standing Orders be amended so as to provide for the choice, by exhaustive ballot, in this House, of Members of the House when required to serve in any of the following capacities:—

As Speaker,

As Chairman of Committees,

- As Members of the Parliamentury Standing Committee on Public Works,
- As Members of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts,

As Members of Royal Commissions.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

7. Contracts Bill.—Mr. Tudor, for Mr. Hughes, moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to Contracts.

Question—put and passed.

F.12571.

8. Patents, Trade Marks and Designs Bill (1915).—Mr. Tudor, for Mr. Hughes, moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the Patents, Trade Marks and Designs Act 1914.

Question-put and passed.

9. Supply ["Grievance Day" and Estimates 1914-15].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—Question—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair—put and passed. Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

ESTIMATES 1914-15.

Division No. 15, subdivision No. 2, agreed to.

Division No. 16 agreed to.

Division No. 17 debated and agreed to.

Divisions Nos. 18 to 24 agreed to.

Division No. 25 debated and agreed to.

Divisions Nos. 26 to 32 agreed to.

Division No. 33, subdivision No. 1 agreed to

Subdivision No. 2 debated and agreed to.

Division No. 34, subdivision No. 1 debated.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

10. Message from the Senate.—War Precautions Bill (1915).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:-

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 40.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "An Act to amend the War Precautions Act 1914"," and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

Thos. Givens,

The Senate.

Melbourne, 22nd April, 1915.

President.

11. WAR PRECAUTIONS BILL (1915).—Mr. Fisher moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.

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

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

12. Papers.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Department of External Affairs-

Papua--Ordinances of 1914-

No. 8—Railway.

No. 9—Explosives Storage Rates. No. 10—Samarai Protestant Church Grant.

No. 11—Constabulary, No. 2.

No. 13—Real Property. No. 15—Port Moresby to Rona Railway.

Excise.

13. Adjournment.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question-put and passed.

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

Members Present.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Abbott, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Fleming, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Groom, Mr. W. Elliot Johnson, Mr. Pigott, Colonel Ryrie*, Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. West.

* On leave.

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