

1914-15.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

No. 66.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 14TH JULY, 1915.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Greene presented a Petition from C. J. McRae and A. S. McKenzie, styling themselves President and Secretary respectively of the Dairy Factories Association of New South Wales, Northern Rivers Branch, in reference to the Necessary Commodities Commission Act of New South Wales and the action of the Attorney-General of that State in prohibiting the export of butter from New South Wales, and praying that such steps may be taken as will assure the Petitioners in the free exercise of their rights under the Constitution Act, and that Inter-State free trade may be preserved in its entirety.
Petition ordered to be received and read.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—MINISTERS OF STATE BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 59.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to increase the maximum number of Ministers of State from seven to eight, and to increase the amount appropriated for their salaries from Twelve thousand pounds to Thirteen thousand six hundred and fifty pounds a year,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 9th July, 1915.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO MINISTERS OF STATE BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 71.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to increase the maximum number of Ministers of State from seven to eight, and to increase the amount appropriated for their salaries from Twelve thousand pounds to Thirteen thousand six hundred and fifty pounds a year,*" 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, 10th July, 1915.

5. MINISTER FOR THE NAVY.—Mr. Fisher informed the House that the honorable Member for Bass (Mr. Jensen) had been appointed Minister for the Navy under the Ministers of State Act.

14th July, 1915.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO JERVIS BAY TERRITORY ACCEPTANCE BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 72.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Acceptance of certain Territory surrendered by the State of New South Wales to the Commonwealth*," 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 July, 1915.

7. THE WAR: S.S. *LUSITANIA*.—Mr. Speaker read to the House the following copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in connexion with the Resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 12th May last relating to the Sinking of the *Lusitania* :—

Commonwealth of Australia.
No. 334.

Downing-street,
20th May, 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's telegram of 14th May, and to request you to inform your Ministers that His Majesty's Government much appreciate the sentiments of sympathy with the relatives of those lost in the Sinking of the *Lusitania*, which are expressed in the Resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Resolution has been published in the Press of this country.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor-General

His Excellency

The Right Honorable

Sir R. Munro Ferguson, G.C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

8. WAR CENSUS BILL.—Mr. Hughes moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to War Census.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Hughes then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Ordered, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

9. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Prime Minister's Department—

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—

Memorandum by the Public Service Commissioner in connexion with the Award made by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on a plaint submitted by the Postal Sorters Union of Australia.

Premiers' Conference, held at Sydney, May, 1915—Report of the Resolutions, Proceedings, and Debates ; together with Appendices.

Department of Home Affairs—

Commonwealth Electoral Law and Administration—Report from the Royal Commission.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Prime Minister's Department—

Public Service Act—Regulations Amended (Provisional) Statutory Rules 1915, No. 110.

Public Works Committee Act—Regulations (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 111.

Department of Home Affairs—

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Beaufort, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Congwarra, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Coogee, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Kalgoorlie, Western Australia—For Railway purposes.

Kingoonya, South Australia—For Railway purposes.

La Perouse, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Midland Junction, Western Australia—For Defence purposes.

North Sydney, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Toowong, Queensland—For Postal purposes.

Public Service Act—

Appointment of W. J. Cole, as Draughtsman, Professional Division, Class E, Public Works Branch, Victoria.

Promotions of C. L. Quinlivan, H. R. Waterman, E. J. Farrell, and H. P. Ponton as Clerks, 4th Class.

14th July, 1915.

PAPERS—*continued.*

Department of Trade and Customs—

Public Service Act—

Promotions of—

P. D. Kewish, as Assistant, Class E, Professional Division, Analyst's Branch, Central Staff.

A. C. Threlfall, as Inspector and Sub-Collector, 1st Class, Clerical Division, South Australia.

J. Banks, as Inspector, 1st Class, Clerical Division, Landing Branch, New South Wales.

Quarantine Act—

Regulations (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 88.

Regulation Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 95.

10. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive be postponed until after the Order of the Day for the second reading of the War Census Bill.
11. WAR CENSUS BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Hughes moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Fleming 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.
12. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five 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—Lieut.-Colonel Abbott*, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Ozanne, Mr. Patten, Mr. Rodgers, Colonel Ryrie*, and Mr. Stumm.

* On leave.

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