

1914-15.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 75.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH AUGUST, 1915.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. THE WAR—HIS MAJESTY'S REPLY TO RESOLUTION OF HOUSE *RE*.—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following communication in reference to a Resolution agreed to by the House on the 4th instant:—

Commonwealth of Australia.

Governor-General's Office,  
Melbourne, 10th August, 1915.

Memorandum from the Governor-General.

To the Honorable  
The Speaker,  
House of Representatives.

The Governor-General transmits herewith copy of a cablegram which has been received from His Majesty the King, in reply to the Resolution agreed to by the House of Representatives on the 4th instant.

R. M. FERGUSON,  
*Governor-General.*

Decode of cablegram from Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated London, 7th August, 1915,  
3.20 p.m.

His Majesty the King was much moved by your telegram, August 5th, conveying the Resolution passed by both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament recording their determination to continue to a victorious end the struggle for the ideals animating the allied nations.

I am commanded by His Majesty the King to desire you to express to the Senate and the House of Representatives his warm appreciation of the generous support which the Parliament and people of the Commonwealth have given to the common cause, of the sacrifices they have made and are making, and of the brilliant and effective services which His Australian Naval and Military Forces have (been) rendered in the prosecution of the war.

3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Department of External Affairs—  
Steamship Service to Darwin—Contract with the Eastern and Australian Steamship Company Limited.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

11th August, 1915.

4. **ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.**—Mr. Rodgers 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 export of wheat and flour, and the chartering of freight space for the forthcoming Australian wheat harvest, and any agreement or arrangements in relation thereto."

Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—

Mr. Rodgers moved, That the House do now adjourn, and not having, in compliance with Standing Order No. 39, concluded his speech within half-an-hour, the honorable Member was, by leave of the House, allowed to continue his speech.

Debate ensued.

It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, the Business of the Day was called on.

5. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—WAR PENSIONS BILL (1915).**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 71.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to amend the 'War Pensions Act 1914,'" to which it has agreed with the amendments indicated in the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 5th August, 1915.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

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

Prime Minister's Department—

The War—

Neutral Shipping—Policy of His Majesty's Government—Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies forwarding copy of Memorandum communicated to the United States Ambassador.

Prisoners of War, etc.—

Treatment of Prisoners of War in England and Germany [during the first eight months of the War—Paper presented to British Parliament.

Civilian Internment Camp at Ruhleben—Note from the United States Ambassador, transmitting report, dated 8th June, 1915—Presented to British Parliament.

Correspondence (further) with the United States Ambassador respecting the treatment of British Prisoners of War and Interned Civilians in Germany.

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, Nos. 132, 133.

Attorney-General's Department—

War Precautions Act—Regulation (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 135.

Department of External Affairs—

Northern Territory—

Ordinance of 1915—No. 5—Health.

Norfolk Island—

Ordinance of 1915—No. 6—Marriage.

Department of Home Affairs—

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Copmanhurst, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Kingoonya, South Australia—For Railway purposes.

Port Lincoln, South Australia—For Defence purposes.

Queanbeyan (near), New South Wales—For Federal Capital purposes.

Sandy Bay, Tasmania—For Defence purposes.

Transcontinental Railway Route—South Australia—At 250½ miles from Port Augusta—For Railway purposes.

Urayarra and Tidbinbilla, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Wangaratta, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Department of Trade and Customs—

Customs Act—Regulations Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 87.

Public Service Act—Promotion of E. T. Hall, as Inspector, 1st Class, Landing Branch, Victoria.

Department of Defence—

Defence Act—

Military Forces—

Regulations Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 123.

Financial and Allowance Regulations Amended (Provisional) Statutory Rules 1915, Nos. 124, 125, 126.

War Precautions Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 130.

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7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

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

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—  
Lieut.-Colonel Abbott\*, Mr. Burchell, Mr. Finlayson, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Greene, Mr. Lynch,  
Mr. Mahony, Mr. Page, General Ryrie\*, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Sharpe, Mr. Stumm, Mr. West,  
Mr. Wise, and Mr. Yates.

\* On leave

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