

1914-15.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 82.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 26TH AUGUST, 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. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER No. 241 ["GRIEVANCE DAY"].—Mr. Fisher moved, pursuant to notice, That Standing Order No. 241 be suspended for this sitting of the House, and that, on Order of the Day No. 1 being called on, Mr. Speaker do forthwith leave the Chair.
Question—put and passed.
3. WAR CENSUS [POSTAL MATTER] BILL.—Mr. Spence moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to Provide for the free transmission of Postal Matter relating to the War Census.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Spence 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—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
4. POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL (1915).—Mr. Spence moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902-1913*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Spence 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—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORKS—AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.—
Mr. Spence moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1914*, the following works be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for their report, viz. :—
 1. Provision of Automatic Telephone Exchange, Sydney.
 2. Provision of Automatic Telephone Exchange, Malvern, Victoria.
 3. Provision of Automatic Telephone Exchange, Collingwood, Victoria.
 Mr. Spence 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. SUPPLY [FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND SUPPLY BILL].—Order of the Day No. 1 having been called on, Mr. Speaker, according to the Resolution agreed to by the House this day, forthwith left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1915-16.

Debate resumed on the following motion of Mr. Fisher:—That a sum not exceeding Sixteen million one hundred and ninety-five thousand four hundred and sixty-nine pounds be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the services of the year ending 30th June, 1916.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Charlton reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the intervening Orders of the Day be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 6.
8. CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (SENATORS' TERM OF SERVICE) 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. Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time. Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

On the motion of Mr. Hughes, after debate, the following amendment was made:—

Page 2, line 9, after "vacant", add "and the term of service of Senators elected at an election next after a dissolution of the Senate shall be taken to begin on the day of the first meeting of the House of Representatives after the dissolution."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Mr. Hughes, the House adopted the Report.

Ordered—That the third reading be made on Order of the Day for to-morrow.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COMPULSORY VOTING BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 75.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to provide for compulsory voting at the Referendums under the 'Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act 1906-1912' which are submitted to the electors during the year One thousand nine hundred and fifteen,*" and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

G. HENDERSON,
Deputy-President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 26th August, 1915.

10. COMPULSORY VOTING BILL.—Mr. Archibald 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.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SUPPLY (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL (No. 2) 1915-16.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 76.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the 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 sixteen for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

G. HENDERSON,
Deputy-President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 26th August, 1915.

12. SUPPLY [FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND SUPPLY BILL].—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1915-16.

Debate resumed on the following motion of Mr. Fisher:—That a sum not exceeding Sixteen million one hundred and ninety-five thousand four hundred and sixty-nine pounds be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the services of the year ending 30th June, 1916.

Mr. Greene moved, That the amount be reduced by the sum of £1.

Debate continued.

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.

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

And then the House, at eight minutes past eleven 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—
Lieut.-Colonel Abbott*, Mr. Anstey, General Ryrie*, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. Thomas.

* On leave.

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