

1914-15.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 90.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1915.

1. The House met, at twelve o'clock, noon, pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Department of External Affairs—
Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco—Correspondence between the Minister for Public Works, Victoria (Hon. F. Hagelthorn, M.L.C.) and the Minister for External Affairs (Hon. Hugh Mahon) in connexion with Australian Representation at—
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
3. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. W. Maloney 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, "Cases pertaining to the Base Hospitals and the Camps."
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. W. Maloney moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.
4. FREIGHT ARRANGEMENTS 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 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 3 agreed to.
 Clause 4 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 5 omitted.

Mr. Hughes moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

"5. If the Treasurer is of opinion that there no longer exists any need for the continuation of the Commonwealth Treasurer Freight Arrangements Account, the Treasurer may close the account, and thereupon the balance of the account, if a credit balance, shall be transferred to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and, if a debit balance, shall be payable out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, which is hereby appropriated for that purpose accordingly."

Debate ensued.

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And the proposed new clause having been amended by the addition of the following proviso :—

“ Provided that this Act shall continue in operation during the present wheat season, but thereafter shall not continue in force after the expiration of six months from the end of the present war.”

Question—That the proposed new clause, as amended, be added to the Bill—put and passed.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Tudor 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. Tudor, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

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

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 88.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the Commonwealth Public Service Act 1902-1913*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate does not insist on its Amendment No. 1 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, 10th September, 1915.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 89.

The Senate has agreed to the amendments made by the House of Representatives in the Bill intituled “ *A Bill for An Act to provide for Compulsory Voting at the Referendums under the Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act 1902-1912*” which are submitted to the electors during the year One thousand nine hundred and fifteen.”

The Senate,
Melbourne, 10th September, 1915.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

7. ENEMY TRADING ACT—PROSECUTIONS.—Mr. Kelly moved, by leave, That a Return be laid upon the Table of the House, showing—

- (1) How many recommendations to prosecute for infringements of the Enemy Trading Act have reached the Attorney-General to date.
- (2) In how many cases has it been decided to prosecute.
- (3) How many prosecutions have been inaugurated and how many dealt with.

Question—put and passed.

8. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday, 27th October next, unless Mr. Speaker shall, prior to that date, by telegram addressed to each Member of the House, fix an earlier day of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

9. SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MR. ATLEE HUNT).—Mr. Mahon, by leave, made a statement to the House in reference to the visit of Mr. Atlee Hunt to the Northern Territory.

10. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. CATTS).—Mr. Hughes moved, by leave, That leave of absence be given to the honorable Member for Cook (Mr. Catts) until the next meeting of the House.

Question—put and passed.

11. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the remaining Orders of the Day, Government Business, be postponed until after the consideration of the Notice of Motion.

12. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORKS—CUSTOMS HOUSE, SYDNEY, ETC.—Mr. Archibald 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 thereon, viz. :—

Alterations and additions to the Customs House, Sydney.

Additional office accommodation at Victoria Barracks, Melbourne.

Barracks, quarters, gun park, &c., for the Royal Australian Field Artillery, Enoggera, Queensland.

Cement works for Federal Capital and other Commonwealth purposes.

Mr. Archibald having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed works—

Question—put and passed.

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13. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—FREIGHT ARRANGEMENTS BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 90.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the borrowing of money from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 10th September, 1915.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes to six o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, 27th October next at three o'clock p.m., unless Mr. Speaker shall, prior to that date, by telegram addressed to each Member of the House, fix an earlier date of meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Lieut.-Colonel Abbott*, Mr. Catts*, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Fisher, Sir John Forrest, Mr. R. W. Foster, Sir William Irvine, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Pigott, General Ryrie*, Mr. Salmon, and Mr. Bruce Smith.

* On leave.

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