

1914-15.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 91.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH OCTOBER, 1915.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. RESIGNATION OF MEMBER (MR. FISHER).—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he had received the following letter :—

Commonwealth of Australia.

Prime Minister,  
26th October, 1915.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER,

I now resign my seat for Wide Bay in the House of Representatives, and take this opportunity of thanking you and all the Members I have been associated with since the Federal Parliament came into existence for their kindness and consideration to me as Member and Minister.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW FISHER.The Hon. the Speaker,  
House of Representatives, Melbourne.

3. RESIGNATION OF PRIME MINISTER, AND CONSEQUENT FORMATION OF NEW MINISTRY.—Mr. Hughes informed the House that the Right Honorable Andrew Fisher had yesterday tendered his resignation to His Excellency the Governor-General and that His Excellency had been pleased to accept it. His Excellency had thereupon requested Mr. Hughes to form an Administration and he had done so, and had allotted the offices as follows :—
  - Minister of State for Defence—The Honorable George Foster Pearce.
  - Minister of State for Trade and Customs—The Honorable Frank Gwynne Tudor.
  - Minister of State for External Affairs—The Honorable Hugh Mahon.
  - Minister of State for the Navy—The Honorable Jens August Jensen.
  - Treasurer—The Honorable William Guy Higgs.
  - Minister of State for Home Affairs—The Honorable King O'Malley.
  - Postmaster-General—The Honorable William Webster.
  - Vice-President of the Executive Council—The Honorable Albert Gardiner.
  - Assistant Minister—The Honorable Edward John Russell.
 Mr. Hughes added that he himself would fill the office of Attorney-General.
4. HIGH COMMISSIONER—APPOINTMENT OF MR. FISHER.—Mr. Hughes announced to the House that the Right Honorable Andrew Fisher had been appointed High Commissioner of the Commonwealth in the United Kingdom.

27th October, 1915.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE DEPUTY FOR THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from the Deputy for His Excellency the Governor-General were presented by Mr. Speaker :—

[*Income Tax Assessment Bill*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 99.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Imposition Assessment and Collection of a Tax upon Incomes,*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

[*Conciliation and Arbitration Bill (1915)*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 100.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1914,'*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

[*Compulsory Voting Bill*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 101.*

A Bill intituled "*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,*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

[*Public Service Bill (1915)*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 102.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Commonwealth Public Service Act 1902-1913,'*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

[*Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Bill (1915)*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 103.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act 1906-1912,'*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

[*War Precautions Bill 1915 (No. 2)*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 104.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'War Precautions Act 1914-1915,'*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

[*Freight Arrangements Bill*]

A. L. STANLEY,

*Deputy for Governor-General.*

*Message No. 105.*

A Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the borrowing of money from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia,*" as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

27th October, 1915.

[Income Tax Bill]—

A. L. STANLEY,  
Deputy for Governor-General.

Message No. 106.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to impose a Progressive Tax upon Incomes*," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy for the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 13th September, 1915.

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

Prime Minister's Department—

Dominions Royal Commission (Imperial)—Natural Resources, Trade, and Legislation of certain portions of His Majesty's Dominions—Minutes of Evidence taken in the Maritime Provinces of Canada in 1914.

The War—Foreign Office (British)—Statement issued by—Respecting the Anglo-German Negotiations of 1912.

Department of Trade and Customs—

Fisheries—Fishing Experiments carried on by the F.I.S. *Endeavour*—Biological Results.

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Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Prime Minister's Department—

Public Service Act—

Promotions of—

C. L. G. Durbin, as Examiner, 4th Class, Auditor-General's Office, New South Wales.

H. A. Peterson, as Clerk, 4th Class.

Regulations Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, Nos. 159, 166.

Regulation Amended—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 182.

Department of the Treasury—

Land Tax Assessment Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 150.

Public Service Act—

Promotions of—

R. H. Fyfe, as Clerk, 4th Class, Pensions and Maternity Allowances Branch, Central Staff.

T. H. Pitt and E. W. J. Moore, as Clerks, 4th Class, Pensions and Maternity Allowances Branch (Pensions), Victoria.

Department of Trade and Customs—

Customs Act—Regulation Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 156.

Department of External Affairs—

Northern Territory—

Ordinances of 1915—

No. 6—District Council (No. 2).

No. 7—Darwin Town Council.

No. 8—Liquor.

Papua—

Ordinances of 1915—

No. 2—Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) 1914–1915.

No. 3—Supply 1915–1916 (No. 1).

Department of Home Affairs—

Census and Statistics Act—Regulations—Statistics (Disclosure in Time of War)—Statutory Rules, 1915, No. 176.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Abermain, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Adelaide, South Australia—For Postal purposes.

Amungula, Molonglo, Majura, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Avoca, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Bright, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Chiltern, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Dutton Park, Queensland—For Defence purposes.

Ginninderra and Goorooyarroo, partly in Federal Territory and partly in New South Wales—For Federal Capital purposes (two Papers).

Goorooyarroo, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Goorooyarroo, partly in Federal Territory and partly in New South Wales—For Federal Capital purposes.

Liverpool, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Majura, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Mullumbimby, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Pialligo and Goorooyarroo, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Tarcoola, South Australia—For Railway purposes.

Thirroul, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Thursday Island, Queensland—For Postal purposes.

Twin Hills, Queensland—For Postal purposes.

27th October, 1915.

Public Service Act—

Promotions of—

- A. J. Egan, as Clerk, 4th Class, Accounts Branch, Queensland.  
 S. C. McLachlan, as Clerk, 4th Class, Accounts Branch, New South Wales.  
 A. F. Moloney, as Clerk, 4th Class, Public Works Branch, New South Wales.  
 F. H. G. Simcocks, as Clerk, 4th Class, Accounts Branch, Central Staff.

Postmaster-General's Department—

Public Service Act—

- Promotion of E. G. L. Croft, as Assistant Superintendent, 2nd Class, Mail Branch, New South Wales.

Wireless Telegraphy Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1915, Nos. 139, 179.

Department of the Navy—

Naval Defence Act—

Regulations (Provisional)—

- Royal Australian Naval College—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 193.

Regulations Amended (Provisional)—

- H.M.A. Training Ship *Tingira*—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 186.  
 Royal Australian Naval Reserve (Sea-going)—Entry, Training, and Pay of Officers—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 185.  
 Royal Australian Naval Reserve (M)—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 158.  
 Royal Australian Naval Reserve (O)—Universal Training—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 157.

7. THE WAR—APPEAL BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING.—Mr. Hughes read to the House the following cablegrams:—

Copy of Cablegram received by His Excellency the Governor-General from the Secretary of State, dated London, 22nd October, 1915.

“Following Message from His Majesty the King headed Buckingham Palace will be published to-morrow morning (Saturday):—

“TO MY PEOPLE—

“At this grave moment in the struggle between my people and a highly organized enemy who has transgressed the law of nations and changed the ordinance that binds civilized Europe together I appeal to you.

“I rejoice in my Empire's effort, and I feel pride in the voluntary response from my subjects all over the world who have sacrificed home, fortune, and life itself in order that another may not inherit the free Empire which their ancestors and mine have built.

“I ask you to make good these sacrifices.

“The end is not in sight. More men and yet more wanted to keep my armies in the field, and through them to secure victory and enduring peace.

“In ancient days the darkest moment has ever produced in men of our race the sternest resolve.

“I ask you, men of all classes, to come forward voluntarily and take your share in the fight.

“In freely responding to my appeal you will be giving your support to our brothers who for long months have nobly upheld Britain's past traditions and the glory of her arms.

“GEORGE R.I.”

Copy of Cablegram despatched by His Excellency the Governor-General to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 25th October.

I feel confident that Your Majesty's Message will evoke patriotic response from the people of the Commonwealth and will tend greatly to augment the ranks of the 160,000 Australians who have already provided an assurance of the wholehearted co-operation and determination of Australia to carry the war to a successful issue.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five minutes past three 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. Carr, Sir John Forrest, Mr. Groom, General Ryrie\*, Mr. Stumm, and Mr. Wise.

\* On leave.

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