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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

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No. 118.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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THURSDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1916.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
  - Prime Minister's Department—
  - Brisbane Election—Translation from German Leaflet of article *re* Mr. W. F. Finlayson, M.P.
  - Department of Home Affairs—
  - Strategic Railway from Brisbane to Port Augusta *via* Hay—Corrected Map (*in substitution for that attached to Mr. Combes' Report, laid on the Table on 18th May last*).
  - Federal Capital—Documents necessary to complete Paper laid on the Table on 16th June, 1915.
  - Railways—Report, with Appendices, on Commonwealth Railways and Progress of Operations to 30th June, 1916, by the Engineer-in-Chief and Acting Commissioner.
  - Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta Railway—Comparative Statement of Cost at 1st July, 1916, with Mr. Deane's Estimate of 20th September, 1911, with Explanations; also Comparative Estimates of Cost.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Prime Minister's Department—

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—

- (1) Copy of Awards dated 19th day of September, 1916, made by the Deputy President of the Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on complaints filed by—
  - The Australian Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Officers' Association,
  - The Federated Public Service Assistants' Association, and
  - The Australian Letter Carriers' Association.
- (2) Statement of the Laws and Regulations of the Commonwealth with which, in the opinion of the Deputy President, the awards are not or may not be in accord.
- (3) Copy of "reasons for judgment" of the Deputy President.
- (4) Copy of a memorandum by the Public Service Commissioner.
- (5) Opinion of the Attorney-General on each of the three Awards.

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## Department of Trade and Customs—

## Inter-State Commission Act—

## Inter-State Commission—Tariff Investigation Reports—

Enamelledware and Hollowware.

Fruits, Dried.

Horseshoe Nails.

Iron and Steel.

Machinery : Engines and Boilers, and Machines Generally.

Machinery and Implements, Agricultural : also Incubators and Irrigation Apparatus.

Machinery, Electrical, and Electrical and Gas Appliances, Telephones, &amp;c.

Manures, Native Sulphur, and Pyrites.

Motor Cycles and Cycle Parts.

Stoves, Fuel and Gas, and Register Grates, &amp;c.

Wire Nails and Barbed Wire.

Miscellaneous Group III.—Cookers, Steam. Gold Leaf. Gold and Platinum Sheet, Wire, and Solder. Lead Wool. Incandescent Mantles. Malleable Iron Castings. Metal Plate Goods. Metal Printing. Motor Car Lampware. Oil Drums. Picks, Miners'. Snap-Hooks, Drawer-Handles, Pulls, Ticket-Holders, Twine Holders and Reel Paper-Cutters. Spirit Gas Stoves (Heaters). Wire, Brass Pinion. Wire Netting. Woven Wire and Woven Wire Fencing. Electrolytic Zinc. Manufactures of Metal n.e.i.

Severally ordered to be printed.

3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. McGRATH).—Mr. Hughes moved, by leave, That leave of absence for the remainder of the Session be given to the honorable Member for Ballarat (Mr. McGrath), absent on military service with the Australian Expeditionary Forces.

Question—put and passed.

4. PAPER.—Mr. Higgs presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Interim Financial Statement for the years 1915-16 and 1916-17 made by the Honorable William Guy Higgs on the 27th September, 1916.

Ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.

5. ESTATE DUTY ASSESSMENT BILL (1916).—Mr. Higgs moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Estate Duty Assessment Act* 1914 by making provision for the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner of Taxation.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Higgs 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.

6. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1916).—Mr. Higgs moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Income Tax Assessment Acts* 1915 by making provision for the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner of Taxation.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Higgs 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.

7. ENTERTAINMENTS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL.—Mr. Higgs moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to the Imposition, Assessment and Collection of a Tax upon Payments for Admission to Entertainments.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Higgs 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.

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

(In the Committee.)

## SUPPLY (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL (No. 2) 1916-17.

Debate resumed on the Financial Statement, and on the motion of Mr. Higgs (see page 502 ante), That there be granted to His Majesty to the service of the year 1916-17, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., a sum not exceeding Nine hundred and eighteen thousand pounds.

Motion agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

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9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Higgs 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.
10. SUPPLY RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Higgs, was adopted by the House.
11. WAYS AND MEANS—RESOLUTION.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

## SUPPLY (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL (No. 2) 1916-17.

*Resolved*, on the motion of Mr. Higgs—That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year 1916-17, a sum not exceeding Nine hundred and eighteen thousand pounds be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee. The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Higgs, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Higgs and Mr. Hughes do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

12. SUPPLY (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL (No. 2) 1916-17.—Mr. Higgs then brought up a Bill intituled "*A 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 seventeen for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.*" and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Mr. Higgs moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
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.)

Bill agreed to, and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Higgs, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

13. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SOLICITOR-GENERAL BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 133.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to the Solicitor-General*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 28th September, 1916.

14. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—FREIGHT ARRANGEMENTS BILL (1916).—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. 169.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Freight Arrangements Act 1915*.

Melbourne, 20th September, 1916.

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

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15. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUGAR PURCHASE BILL (1916).—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. 170.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sugar Purchase Act 1915*.

Melbourne, 20th September, 1916.

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

16. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO MILITARY SERVICE REFERENDUM 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. 171.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to submit to a Referendum a question in relation to Military Service Abroad*," 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, 28th September, 1916.

17. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Higgs moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-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. Burchell, Mr. Burns, Mr. Catts, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Hampson, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McGrath\*, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Ozanne\*, Mr. Palmer, General Ryrie\*, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Watkins.

\* On leave.

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