
THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 140.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 6TH MARCH, 1917.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.
2. ABSENCE OF MR. SPEAKER.—The Clerk at the Table having informed the House that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent, the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, and read Prayers.
3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Hughes, by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in connexion with the proposed dissolution of the House of Representatives.
Mr. Tudor, by leave, also addressed the House.
4. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLY BILL (No. 5) 1916-17 AND SUPPLY (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL (No. 4) 1916-17.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 189.

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 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.

Melbourne, March, 1917.

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 190.

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 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.

Melbourne, March, 1917.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

5. CORRECTION OF ERROR IN DIVISION LIST.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker informed the House that in the first Division taken on Friday last the Tellers inadvertently made an error. The name of Sir John Forrest should have been included in the List of those Members who voted with the Noes, instead of the name of Mr. R. W. Foster. The error had been rectified in the official records.
6. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Public Service Act—Promotion of A. W. H. Wilford, Postmaster-General's Department.
7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 1, be postponed until after Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 3.

6th March, 1917.

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

(In the Committee.)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 5) 1916-17.

Sir John Forrest moved, That a sum not exceeding Three million seven hundred and ninety-eight thousand six hundred and fifty-two pounds be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the services of the year ending 30th June, 1917.

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Charlton reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Finance—General View of Commonwealth Finances by the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, Treasurer of the Commonwealth, 6th March, 1917.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
10. CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL.—Mr. Jensen moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Tariff proposals and for other purposes.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Jensen 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.
11. EXCISE TARIFF VALIDATION BILL.—Mr. Jensen moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Excise under Tariff proposals.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Jensen 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.
12. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eleven minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—General Abbott*, Mr. Brennan*, Mr. Burchell, Mr. Carr, Mr. Catts, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McDonald, Mr. McGrath*, Mr. Ozanne*, General Ryrie*, Mr. Sharpe, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Spence, Mr. Stumm, Mr. West*, Mr. Wise, and Mr. Yates.

* On leave.

WALTER A. GALE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.