

1917-18.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 39.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 1918.

1. The House met at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO SUPPLY BILL (No. 4) 1917-18.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

R. M. FERGUSON,  
*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 55.*

A Bill intituled "*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 eighteen,*" 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, 11th January, 1918.

3. WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Tudor :—That the House protests against—

- (a) the repudiation of the pledges of the Prime Minister and other Ministers ;
- (b) the political persecution of public men and other citizens and the press under the War Precautions Regulations during the recent Referendum campaign ;
- (c) the deprivation of statutory electoral rights of Australian-born citizens by regulation behind the back of Parliament ;
- (d) the general administration of public affairs,

and wishes to inform His Excellency the Governor-General that the Government does not possess the confidence of the people of Australia—

Debate resumed.

Mr. J. H. Catts, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, was given leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Mr. Blakeley addressing the House, and 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.

4. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until eleven o'clock a.m. to-morrow.  
Question—put and passed.

5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Audit Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial Year 1916-17—Dated 27th December, 1917.

Public Service Act—Promotions—

Home and Territories Department—

H. C. Green.

A. H. Lumsden.

15th January, 1918.

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6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

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

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—  
Lieut.-Colonel Abbott<sup>\*a</sup>, Mr. Anstey, Sir Robert Best, Mr. Burchell<sup>\*a</sup>, Mr. Falkiner, Mr. Fleming<sup>a</sup>,  
Mr. Livingston, Mr. McGrath<sup>\*a</sup>, Brigadier-General Ryrie<sup>\*a</sup>, Mr. Spence, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wise,  
and Mr. Yates<sup>a</sup>.

\* On leave.  
(a) Joined Australian Imperial Expeditionary Forces.

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