

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 100.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER, 1918.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRESENTATION TO GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF ADDRESS TO THE KING.—Mr. Speaker reported that, accompanied by honorable Members, he had yesterday waited upon His Excellency the Governor-General on the steps of Parliament House and had presented to him, for transmission by cablegram to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies for presentation to His Majesty the King, the Address to His Majesty to which the House had agreed yesterday, in reference to the surrender of Germany, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply:—

Mr. Speaker,

It is with feelings of deep emotion that on this the greatest day in the history of our Empire I receive the Addresses in which both Houses of the Australian Parliament express their sentiments of loyalty to His Majesty the King, and tender their congratulations on the great Victory which, after four and a quarter years of desperate fighting, has crowned the arms of the Allies. Australia remembers with pride the part played by her sons in the mighty struggle, and, having borne her share of the heat and burden of the day, she rejoices with proud thankfulness in the overwhelming success achieved, under God's Providence, by the relentless pressure of the navy, the heroic valour of the soldiers, and by the patient tenacity of the peoples of the British Empire and of the Allies. I shall have the honour, Mr. Speaker, of forthwith transmitting to His Majesty the King the loyal message which you have tendered to me on behalf of the House of Representatives.

3. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Auditor-General—Comments on certain remarks made in Parliament by the Honorable W. G. Higgs, M.P.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Public Service Act—Promotion of W. Thomson, Department of the Treasury.
Railways Act—By-law No. 8.

4. GERMANY'S CAPTURED PACIFIC OCEAN POSSESSIONS.—Mr. Watt moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia declares that it is essential to the future safety and welfare of Australia that the captured German possessions in the Pacific, which are now occupied by the Australian and New Zealand troops, should not, in any circumstances, be restored to Germany; and that in the consideration and determination of proposals affecting the destination of these islands Australia should be consulted.

Mr. Tudor 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 a later hour this day.

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5. SUPPLY ["GRIEVANCE DAY"].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—

Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Mr. McGrath moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"a Royal Commission be appointed to inquire into the charge of desertion from the A.I.F. made against ex-Quartermaster Sergeant A. T. Ozanne".

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Groom moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 27.

Noes, 11.

Lieut.-Col. Abbott	Mr. Lynch	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Archibald	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Considine	Mr. West
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. McWilliams	Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Pigott	Mr. Higgs	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Poynton	Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Boyd	Mr. Rodgers	Mr. Mathews	Mr. Page
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Laird Smith	Mr. Nicholls	
Mr. Chapman	Mr. Watt		
Mr. Corser	Mr. Webster		
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Wise		
Mr. Glynn			
Mr. Greene	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Groom	Mr. Story		
Mr. Lamond	Mr. John Thomson		
Mr. Lister			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

6. GERMANY'S CAPTURED PACIFIC OCEAN POSSESSIONS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate upon the motion of Mr. Watt (see entry No. 4 *ante*)—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Finlayson moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Webster moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey*, Mr. Burchell^(a), Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Charlton, Sir Joseph Cook*, Mr. Falkiner, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Fleming^(a), Mr. Heitmann^(a), Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Leckie, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Riley, Brigadier-General Ryrrie^(a), Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Wallace^(a), Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates^(a).

* On leave.

^(a) Joined Australian Imperial Force.

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