

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 101.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1918.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. THE WAR: CONGRATULATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Watt, by leave, read to the House the following cablegrams:—

[Copy of cablegram sent by the Acting Prime Minister to the Prime Minister of France, dated 7th November, 1918.]

I have the honour to acknowledge your cordial message delivered by the head of the French Mission, General Pau. Australia feels proud to receive the congratulations of your brave and noble nation. The admiration and gratitude which you are generous enough to express to Australia for the valour of her troops now fighting in the cause of liberty and justice on French soil will find pleasurable acceptance by all classes of the community. Our returning soldiers are full of praise of the French people for their great sacrifices, and of admiration of their French comrades in arms for their heroic deeds and steadfast courage. Australians feel that centuries cannot repay the debt the world owes patient undaunted France. We read with peculiar pleasure your assurance that the peoples of France and Australia are animated by the same ideals and aspirations and the same fraternal sympathy. May I be permitted to express the hope that this sentiment will develop into an indissoluble bond of free nations tending to the maintenance of peace and civilization.

[Copy of cablegram received by the Acting Prime Minister from M. Clemenceau, Prime Minister of France.]

Your eloquent message will touch the hearts of all the French people, and I am happy in replying to it on the day of victory. I wish to thank you for all you have done for our great cause. Both the soldiers and civilians of Australia have well merited the gratitude of humanity. Our friendship strengthened by sacrifice, supported by the same courage, will continue to grow stronger in peace for the good of the world.

3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Defence Act—Royal Military College—Report for 1917-18.
4. THE WAR: MEMORIAL SERVICE.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that a memorial service would be held on the steps of Parliament House on Sunday next, at half-past three o'clock in the afternoon.
5. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Watt moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
6. GERMANY'S CAPTURED PACIFIC OCEAN POSSESSIONS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Watt:—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—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.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. Lister,
Mr. Livingston, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Riley, Brigadier-General Ryrie*(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.