

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 120.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 19TH DECEMBER, 1918.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 85.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to make provision for Homes for Australian Soldiers and Female Dependants of Australian Soldiers,*" and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message 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.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DECEASED SOLDIERS' ESTATES BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 86.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act relating to the Estates of Deceased Soldiers,*" and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

Mr. Wise moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message 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.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—WAR PRECAUTIONS BILL (1918).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 87.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to extend the duration of the 'War Precautions Act 1914-1916' and for other purposes,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 19th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

Audit Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial year 1917-18—Dated 18th December, 1918.

Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 323, 324.

Papua—Ordinance No. 16 of 1918—Supply 1918-1919 (No. 2).

War Precautions Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, No. 314.

6. LIMITATION OF DEBATE—ALLOTMENT OF TIME—ESTIMATES AND APPROPRIATION BILL.—Mr. Watt moved [the Bill having previously been declared urgent, *see Votes and Proceedings, page 418*], That the time allotted for the consideration of the whole of the Estimates be until half-past four o'clock p.m. to-day, and that the time allotted for all Resolutions and stages of the Appropriation Bill be until half-past five o'clock p.m. to-day.

Debate ensued.

F.6286.

19th December, 1918.

Mr. Fenton proposed to move, as an amendment, That the word "to-day" (first occurring) be omitted from the motion with a view to the insertion of the words and figures "14th of January, 1919" in place thereof.

Proposed amendment ruled out of order.

Debate continued.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put.

The House divided--

Ayes, 29.

Lieut.-Col. Abbott	Mr. Orchard
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Palmer
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Pigott
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Poynton
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Chanter	Mr. Sinclair
Mr. Chapman	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Corser	Mr. Spence
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Watt
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Webster
Mr. Greene	Mr. Wise
Mr. Groom	
Mr. Jowett	
Mr. Lamond	
Mr. Livingston	Mr. Story
Mr. Lynch	Mr. John Thomson

Tellers:

Noes, 15.

Mr. Bayley	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Boyd	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Sampson
Mr. Considine	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Fenton	
Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Higgs	Mr. J. H. Catts
Mr. Lister	Mr. Mathews

Tellers:

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

7. SUPPLY [ESTIMATES, 1918-19].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, debated.

Limitation of Debate.—At half-past four o'clock p.m. the Chairman called the attention of the Committee to the fact that the time allotted for the consideration of the Estimates had expired.

Thereupon, Question—That the DEPARTMENT of the TREASURY be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the Remaining Estimates be agreed to—put and passed.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Watt—That the following Resolution be reported to the House:—

That, including the several sums already voted for such services, there be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1918-19, for the several services hereunder specified, a sum not exceeding £23,624,914.

	Payable out of Revenue.	Payable out of Loan Funds, Trust Fund, and other special funds.	Total.
	£	£	£
THE PARLIAMENT	41,115	..	41,115
THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT—	187,177		
Audit Office—Salaries .. .. .	..	5,822	
" Contingencies .. .. .	..	19,340	
Commonwealth Shipbuilding .. .. .	..	15,590	
Commonwealth Line of Steamers .. .. .	..	13,555	
Commonwealth Shipping Board .. .. .	..	4,460	
Port Pirie Wharf .. .. .	..	1,239	
	187,177	60,006	247,183
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY—	944,984		
Treasury—Salaries .. .. .	..	438	
Australian Notes, Bonds, and Stamp Printing Branch .. .. .	..	14,886	
Refunds of Revenue	350,000	..	
Advance to the Treasurer	1,000,000	..	
	2,294,984	15,324	2,310,308
THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT ..	74,582	..	74,582

19th December, 1918.

SUPPLY [ESTIMATES, 1918-19.]—continued.

	Payable out of Revenue.	Payable out of Loan Funds, Trust Fund, and other special funds.	Total.
	£	£	£
THE HOME AND TERRITORIES DEPARTMENT—	542,973		
Northern Territory—Hotels .. ..	..	2,110	
	542,973	2,110	545,083
THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE—MILITARY—..	1,605,138		
Aviation Instructional Staff Central Flying School—Pay .. ..	..	22,000	
Aviation Instructional Staff Central Flying School—Contingencies .. ..	..	11,150	
District Accounts and Pay Branch—Pay .. ..	..	14,569	
Universal Military Training—(Citizen Forces)—Pay .. ..	..	100,000	
	1,605,138	147,719	1,752,857
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY—	1,511,771		
Naval Administration—Contingencies .. ..	..	4,500	
Permanent Force (Sea Going)—Pay .. ..	..	105,000	
Permanent Force (Sea Going)—Contingencies .. ..	..	8,500	
Maintenance of Ships and Vessels .. ..	..	470,000	
Medical Services .. ..	..	7,000	
Citizen Naval Forces (Royal Australian Naval Brigade)—			
Pay .. ..	..	266,000	
Contingencies .. ..	..	71,200	
Signal Stations and Examination Services, including Stores and Hire of Steamers .. ..	..	21,000	
Radio Service—Pay .. ..	..	2,500	
Radio Service—Contingencies .. ..	..	1,000	
Naval Establishments—Contingencies .. ..	..	9,000	
Naval Dockyard .. ..	..	25,000	
Wireless Workshops .. ..	..	1,364	
Miscellaneous Services .. ..	..	1,600	
	1,511,771	993,664	2,505,435
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS—	583,215		
Central Staff—Salaries .. ..	..	600	
New South Wales—Salaries .. ..	..	240	
Victoria—Salaries .. ..	..	750	
Queensland—Salaries .. ..	..	200	
South Australia—Salaries .. ..	..	100	
Western Australia—Salaries .. ..	..	80	
Tasmania—Salaries .. ..	..	30	
	583,215	2,000	585,215
THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKS AND RAILWAYS—	641,789		
Naval Works Staff .. ..	..	32,695	
	641,789	32,695	674,484
THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT—	5,075,116		5,075,116
WAR SERVICES—Payable out of Revenue	9,813,536		9,813,536
Total	22,371,396	1,253,518	23,624,914

Leave to be 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.

19th December, 1918.

8. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.**—Mr. Watt 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.
9. **SUPPLY RESOLUTION.**—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Watt, after debate, was adopted by the House.
10. **WAYS AND MEANS [ESTIMATES, 1918–19].**—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

ESTIMATES, 1918–19.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Watt, after debate, That, towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year 1918–19, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £13,512,774.
Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson 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. Glynn, was adopted by the House.

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

11. **APPROPRIATION BILL 1918–19.**—Mr. Glynn then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and nineteen and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for such year*," and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Glynn 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, after debate, and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

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

12. **PAPERS.**—Mr. Speaker presented—

Audit Act—Finance 1917–18—The Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure during the year ended 30th June, 1918, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.

Ordered to be printed.

13. **WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Tudor 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 a later hour this day.

14. **SHIPBUILDING BILL.**—Mr. Poynton, pursuant to leave given on the 16th instant, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Shipbuilding*," 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.

15. **DECEASED SOLDIERS' ESTATES BILL.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Wise moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Tudor 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 a later hour this day.

16. **PAPER.**—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Factories—Commonwealth Government—Reports for year ended 30th June, 1918.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

19th December, 1918.

17. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 3, 4, and 5 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 6, Government Business.
18. WAR-TIME PROFITS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1913).—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Question again proposed—That the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

“ E. Section sixteen of the Principal Act is amended by adding the following proviso to sub-section (12.) :—

‘ Provided always that when the last accounting period prior to the 4th August, 1914, was not a date later than the 30th September, 1913, then any accounting period between the 4th August, 1914, and 30th September, 1913, shall be one of the pre-war trading years, provided, that it is shown to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the profits made between the 4th day of August, 1914, and the close of the accounting period are not proportionately in excess of the profits of the preceding part of such year.’ ”

Mr. Higgs moved, That the proposed new clause be amended by omitting all the words after the word “last” (line 1 of the proviso) and inserting the following words in place thereof:—“pre-war accounting period is more than six months prior to the 4th day of August, 1914, the proportion of the 1914 balance may be taken and averaged as the pre-war standard of the last pre-war trade year, and this provision shall apply to the 1915-16 tax already paid and a refund made on account thereof.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment—put and negatived.

Proposed new clause—put and negatived.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Watt 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.

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

19. CHIEF JUSTICE'S PENSION BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 82, and of the following motion of Mr. Groom :—“That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Grant of a Pension to the First Chief Justice of Australia”—and of the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Higgs, viz. :—That after the word “That” there be inserted the words “in view of the state of the finances and the just demand by the public and press for economy in Commonwealth expenditure, the present is not an opportune time to grant a pension of £1,750 to any one”—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the foregoing motion and amendment.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 7.	|	Noes, 28.
Mr. Considine		Lieut.-Col. Abbott
Mr. Fenton		Mr. Bamford
Mr. Higgs		Sir Robert Best
Mr. Maxwell		Mr. Boyd
Mr. Tudor		Mr. Falkiner
		Mr. Glynn
		Mr. Greene
		Mr. Gregory
		Mr. Groom
		Mr. Jowett
		Mr. Kelly
		Mr. Lamond
		Mr. Leckie
		Mr. Livingston
		Mr. Lynch
		Mr. McWilliams
		Mr. Palmer
		Mr. Poynton
		Mr. Rodgers
		Mr. Sampson
		Mr. Sinclair
		Mr. Laird Smith
		Mr. Spence
		Mr. Watt
		Mr. Webster
		Mr. Wise
		Tellers:
		Mr. Story
		Mr. John Thomson

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

19th December, 1918.

Mr. Groom 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.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Groom, was adopted by the House.

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

Mr. Groom 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.

Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 25.		Noes, 8.
Lieut.-Col. Abbott	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Brennan
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Rodgers	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Boyd	Mr. Sampson	Mr. Higgs
Mr. Falkiner	Mr. Sinclair	Mr. Mathews
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Laird Smith	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Greene	Mr. Spence	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Watt	
Mr. Groom	Mr. Webster	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Jowett	Mr. Wise	Mr. Considine
Mr. Leckie		Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Lynch		
Mr. McWilliams	<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Orchard	Mr. Story	
Mr. Palmer	Mr. John Thomson	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—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. Groom, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

20. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Groom moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at sixteen minutes to 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. Archibald, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Burchell*(a), Mr. Charlton, Sir Joseph Cook*,
Mr. Corboy, Mr. Fleming*(a), Mr. Heitmann*(a), Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Mahony, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Page, Mr. Riley, Brigadier-General Ryrice*(a), Mr. Wallace,
Mr. Watkins, Mr. West, and Mr. Yates*(a).

* On leave.

(a) Joined Australian Imperial Force.

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