

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 121.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1918.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Taxation.—Report of the Commissioner, 1915-16.
Ordered to be printed.
3. NAVAL BASES: VISIT BY ADMIRAL JELlicOE.—Mr. Watt, by leave, made a statement with reference to the Harbour Defences of the Commonwealth and to the visit of inspection to be made by Admiral Jellicoe.
4. FRENCH MISSION—FAREWELL LETTER FROM GENERAL PAU.—Mr. Watt read to the House the following Letter:—

Mission Française
en
Australie.

République Française,
Melbourne, 19th December, 1918.

DEAR MR. WATT,

The French Mission is now about to leave this country after having received, not only from the Commonwealth and State Governments of Australia, but from the whole Australian people, a welcome of which the cordiality, generosity and genuineness will never be forgotten by us.

We know that such a welcome is not only extended to us, but through us to our noble country, and we do not expect ever being able to express by any words or actions the sincerity and depth of our gratitude.

Remembering, however, what Australia has done for France during these last four years of common ordeal and glory, we, members of the French Mission, should like, I do not say to pay a debt of gratitude, because that would be impossible, but we should like to mark in some visible way that the name of Australia is now written in our hearts as well as in the heart of France.

As a memory of our sojourn among you, as a passing sign of our gratefulness to Australia—which will be everlasting—allow me, dear Mr. Watt, to offer you the enclosed sum of £1,000, which it is my wish to see distributed by you in the best way in your discretion to the widows and orphans of the Australian heroes who, by voluntarily giving their lives to a sacred cause, have so largely contributed to the defence of the soil of France and to the now triumphant victory of the Allies.

Renewing the expression of my sincere friendship, believe me, dear Mr. Watt,

Yours very sincerely,
GENERAL

G. PAU.

The Hon. W. A. Watt, M.P.,
Acting Prime Minister
of the Commonwealth of Australia,
Melbourne.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (1918).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 88.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Commonwealth Public Service Act 1902-1917'*," and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 19th December, 1918.

Mr. Watt 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.

F.6286.

20th December, 1918.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—APPROPRIATION BILL 1918-19.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 89.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and ap;ly 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,*" to which it has agreed without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918, a.m.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—WAR-TIME PROFITS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1918).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 90.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'War-time Profits Tax Assessment Act 1917,'*" to which it has agreed with the amendments indicated in the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918, a.m.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

8. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Gregory rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The Quarantine conditions at Fremantle." Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—Mr. Gregory moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.
9. CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL (1918).—The Order of the Day having been read, for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
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.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr. Tudor moved, as an amendment, That the words "a Justice of the High Court" be inserted after the words "imposed by" (line 16).

Debate ensued.

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

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 9.

Noes, 25.

Mr. Brennan	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Considine	
Mr. Higgs	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lynch	
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Fenton
Mr. McGrath	Mr. Mathews

Lieut.-Col. Abbott	Mr. Poynton
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Sampson
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Sinclair
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Greene	Mr. Spence
Mr. Groom	Mr. Watt
Mr. Jowett	Mr. Webster
Mr. Lamond	Mr. Wise
Mr. Leckie	
Mr. Lister	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Livingston	
Mr. Orchard	Mr. Boyd
Mr. Palmer	Mr. Story

And so it was negatived.

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That the word "State" be inserted before the word "Court" (line 18).

Debate ensued.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Clause 5 debated, and agreed to.

20th December, 1918.

Clause 6 amended, on the motion of Mr. Groom, by the omission of the words "or District Court or a local Court of Full Jurisdiction" and the insertion of the words ", District or Local Court" in place thereof.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 7 debated, and agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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.

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

10. WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Watt 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.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—CHIEF JUSTICE'S PENSION BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 91.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Grant of a Pension to the First Chief Justice of Australia*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

12. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL (1918).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 92.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1915*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 317, 318.

14. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4, Government Business.

15. INCOME TAX BILL (1918).—SENATE'S REQUEST.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of the Request made by the Senate in regard to this Bill—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Senate's Request, which is as follows:—

SCHEDULE OF A REQUEST BY THE SENATE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO BE MADE IN THE
INCOME TAX BILL (1918).

Page 2, clause 6, line 22, before "(5.)" insert "(4.) and".

Mr. Watt moved, That the requested Amendment be made.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Watt, the House adopted the Report.

Ordered—That the Bill, amended accordingly, be returned to the Senate.

20th December, 1918.

16. WAR-TIME PROFITS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1918)—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration, in Committee of the whole House, of the Amendments made by the Senate in this Bill—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments, which are as follow :—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1. Page 1, after clause 1 insert the following new clause :—

Duration.

“ 1A. Section two of the Principal Act is amended by omitting all words from and including ‘ next after ’ and inserting in their stead the words ‘ One thousand nine hundred and nineteen ’.”

No. 2. Page 2, clause 3, line 13, after “ proclamation ” add following words :—

“ The proclamation shall be laid before both Houses of the Parliament within seven days of the making thereof, or, if the Parliament is not then sitting, within seven days after the next meeting of the Parliament, but if either House of the Parliament passes a resolution of which notice has been given at any time within fifteen sitting days after the proclamation has been laid before such House disallowing the proclamation, the proclamation shall cease to have effect as from the making thereof.”

No. 3. Page 2, clause 3, lines 17–27, leave out sub-paragraph (j), insert the following sub-paragraph :—

“ (j) any agency (in which little or no capital expenditure is required) to the extent to which the Commissioner is satisfied that the profits arise from commissions in respect of purchases sales leases loans insurances or collections of money made on behalf of any other person, including commercial travellers and agents whose remuneration consists wholly of a fixed and definite sum not dependent on the amount of the business done or any other contingency.”

No. 4. Page 2, clause 3, after line 27, add the following new paragraph :—

“ (bb) by inserting after paragraph (j) the following paragraph :—
‘ ; and

(k) businesses deriving profits from the raising and sale of stud live stock bred by the owner of the business to the extent of the profits so derived where the profits so derived do not exceed Two thousand pounds.’ ”

No. 5. Page 5, clause 8, after paragraph (f) insert following new paragraph :—

“ (ff) by omitting sub-section (8.) thereof and inserting in its stead the following sub-section :—

‘ (8.) In the case of a business which uses leasehold property or the owner of which has acquired a licence to construct works, buildings or other improvements for the purpose of gain on any land—

- (a) for which a definite sum of money has been paid other than the rent reserved ; or
- (b) for which a consideration in the form of material assets has been given by the lessee or licensee ; or
- (c) upon which the lessee has covenanted with the lessor to expend [money on works, buildings or other improvements which will revert to the lessor upon the termination of the lease ; or
- (d) upon the condition that the works, buildings or other improvements will pass to the licensor at the termination of the licence,

a deduction shall be allowed of the amount obtained by dividing the sum so paid or to be expended or the value of the consideration so given by the number of years of the unexpired period of the lease or licence at the date the amount was so paid or the consideration was so given, or (in the case of money to be expended upon the works, buildings or other improvements) at the date of his entry into possession of the lease or licence.’ ”

No. 6. Page 6, clause 9, lines 39–45, leave out all words from and including the word “ Provided ”, insert—

“ Provided that where a member has borrowed money for the purpose of acquiring his estate in the land or has borrowed money on the security of his estate in the land for the purpose of using it in the business of the partnership, the average amount of the borrowed money outstanding during the accounting period of the partnership shall be deducted from the amount that would otherwise be included in the capital of the partnership business and shall be deemed to be borrowed money used by that business within the meaning of sub-section (15.) of section fifteen of this Act.”

No. 7. After clause 9 insert the following new clause :—

“ 9A. Section twenty-seven of the Principal Act is amended by omitting the Board of Referees. proviso to sub-section (3.) thereof.”

No. 8. Page 7, clause 11, line 12, after “ shall ” insert “ subject to this Act,”.

Amendment No. 1 agreed to.

Amendment No. 2 debated and agreed to.

Amendment No. 3 debated and agreed to.

Amendment No. 4 agreed to.

20th December, 1918.

Amendment No. 5 agreed to.
 Amendment No. 6 debated and agreed to.
 Amendment No. 7 agreed to.
 Amendment No. 8 debated and agreed to.
 Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. Watt, the House adopted the Report.

17. WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
 Debate resumed.
 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.)

Clause 1 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 2 and 3 agreed to.
 Clause 4 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 5 to 11 agreed to.
 Clause 12 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 13—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "receive" (line 43) to the end of the clause be omitted, and that the words "such salary as the Governor-General determines" be inserted in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Amendment agreed to.
 Clause, as amended, agreed to.
 Clause 14 agreed to.
 Clause 15 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 16 agreed to.
 Clause 17 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 18 agreed to.
 Clause 19—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That the following new sub-clauses be added to the clause :—

"(8.) The cost and expense of any transfer or mortgage executed in pursuance of this section shall be borne by the purchaser.

"(9.) In this section 'Capital cost' includes the price paid for the land and dwelling-house, and such sum as the Commissioner determines as sufficient to cover the cost of acquisition and subdivision, together with interest on expenditure for purchase of the land and purchase or erection of the dwelling-house up to the time of the sale of the dwelling-house."

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.
 Clause, as amended, agreed to.
 Clause 20 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 21 to 23 agreed to.
 Clause 24 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 25 agreed to.
 Clause 26—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That the words "but a second mortgage may be taken as collateral security," (lines 12-13) be omitted and that the words "unless the advance is applied for the purpose of discharging the previous mortgage or charge" be inserted in place thereof.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.
 Clause 27 agreed to.
 Clauses 28 and 29 debated and agreed to.
 Clause 30 agreed to.
 Clause 31—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That the words "the expiration of two months'" (line 21) be omitted.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 32—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendments were made :—

Page 10, line 5, omit "or sublet", insert "sublet or mortgaged".

Page 10, line 7, after "sublease" insert "mortgage".

Page 10, line 10, omit "or sublets", insert "sublets or mortgages".

Page 10, lines 12-14, omit "may cause to be sold the estate and interest of the purchaser or borrower in the land or land and dwelling-house", insert "may—

(a) in the case of a purchaser, cancel the contract of sale, and, in his discretion, forfeit the instalments previously paid by the purchaser; and

(b) in the case of a borrower, sell the estate and interest of the borrower in the land or land and dwelling-house."

20th December, 1918.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 33, 34, 35 agreed to.

Clause 36—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That all the words from and including the words "may sell the estate" to and including the words "valid title thereto," (lines 17-24) be omitted and that the following words be inserted in place thereof:—"may—

(a) in the case of a purchaser, cancel the contract of sale, and, in his discretion, forfeit the instalments previously paid by the purchaser; and

(b) in the case of a borrower sell the estate and interest of the borrower in the land or land and dwelling-house, either by private sale or public tender or auction, and subject to such conditions of sale as he thinks expedient, and after giving to the borrower such notice of the time, place, terms and conditions of sale, as he thinks just and expedient, transfer the land or land and dwelling-house to the person who has purchased it and give a good and valid title thereto."

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 37 and 38 agreed to.

Clause 39 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 40 to 48 agreed to.

Clause 49—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That the words "such terms and conditions as are agreed between the Commissioner and the bank or institution," (lines 16-17) be omitted, and that the words "the same terms and conditions as are provided by this Act" be inserted in place thereof.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 50 agreed to.

New clause—

Mr. Groom moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill (to go in Part VIII.):—

"42A. Any notice required by this Act to be given may be served personally ^{Service of notices.} or by post."

Question—put and passed.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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.

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

18. DECEASED SOLDIERS' ESTATES BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

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.)

Clauses 1, 2, and 3 agreed to.

Clause 4 amended, on the motion of Mr. Wise, by the addition of the following new sub-clause:—

"(2.) In this section 'prescribed authority' means the Minister or any of the following officers of the Department of Defence, namely, the Secretary, the Finance Secretary, the Assistant Finance Secretary, District Paymasters, or the Chief Paymaster of the Australian Imperial Force abroad."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 agreed to.

Clause 6 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 7 and 8 agreed to.

Clause 9 debated and agreed to.

Clause 10 agreed to.

Clause 11 amended, on the motion of Mr. Wise, by the insertion of the words "or institution" after the word "person" (first occurring in line 32).

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 12 and 13 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

Mr. Wise 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. Wise, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

20th December, 1918.

19. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 5 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 6, Government Business.
20. NAVAL DEFENCE BILL (1918).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Poynton 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 and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Poynton, the House adopted the Report.
Mr. Poynton moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stage to be passed without delay.
Question—put and passed.
On the motion of Mr. Poynton, the Bill was read a third time.

21. PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (1918).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
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).

Clauses 1, 2, and 3 agreed to.
Clause 4 debated and agreed to.
Clause 5 agreed to.
Title agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Groom, the House adopted the Report.
Mr. Groom moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stage to be passed without delay.
Question—put and passed.
On the motion of Mr. Groom, the Bill was read a third time.

22. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—INCOME TAX BILL (1918).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 93.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to impose Taxes upon Incomes," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill as amended by the House at the request of the Senate.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 94.

The Senate has agreed to the amendments made by the House of Representatives in the Bill for "An Act to make provision for Homes for Australian Soldiers and female dependants of Australian Soldiers."

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 95.

The Senate has agreed to the amendments made by the House of Representatives in the Bill for "An Act relating to the Estates of Deceased Soldiers."

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

20th December, 1918.

25. DEFENCE BILL (No. 2) (1918).—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.)

Clause 7, as previously amended (see page 378 ante), agreed to.

Clause 8 debated and agreed to.

Clause 9 agreed to.

Clause 10 omitted.

Clauses 11, 12, and 13 agreed to.

Postponed clause 2 agreed to.

New clause.

Mr. Wise moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill :—

2A. After section twenty of the Principal Act the following section is inserted :—

“ 20A. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, an officer who is eligible for promotion to a higher rank, and who has served on active service abroad, shall, other things being equal, be granted preference in promotion to an officer of the same rank who is eligible for promotion to that higher rank, and who has not served on active service abroad.”

Promotion of returned officers.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Gregory moved, as an amendment, That the following words be added to the proposed new clause :—

“ and when any promotion or appointment is being made, if not to a returned soldier or sailor, the Secretary of the Department or the Public Service Commissioner shall certify that no returned soldier or sailor with suitable qualifications is available.”

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Proposed new clause agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Wise, the following new clauses were added to the Bill, after debate :—

2B. After section forty of the Principal Act the following sections are inserted :—

“ 40A. In time of war any person who is employed under articles of apprenticeship may, notwithstanding any provision of or obligation under the articles, enlist in the Military Forces, and any person who so enlists shall not be liable, during the period of his service in the Forces, and until a reasonable period thereafter, to be claimed for service under the articles.”

Enlistment of persons serving under articles of apprenticeship.

“ 40B.—(1.) Any person employed under articles of apprenticeship who has in time of war enlisted in the Military Forces shall, upon discharge from the Military Forces, unless the Minister otherwise determines, be entitled, within a period of three months after the date of his discharge, or, in the case of a person discharged before the commencement of this section, within three months after such commencement, to resume his employment under his articles of apprenticeship and the period served by him after discharge shall be deemed to be a continuance of the period served by him prior to enlistment.”

Resumption by apprentice of service under articles.

“ (2.) If any master, upon the application of an apprentice who is entitled under the last preceding sub-section to resume his employment, refuses to re-employ him, he shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty : Fifty pounds.”

11A. Section one hundred and nineteen of the Principal Act is amended by omitting therefrom the words “ without the authority of the Minister, be entitled to ” and inserting in their stead the words “ except as prescribed.”

Amendment of s. 119.

12A. Section one hundred and thirty-five of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from sub-section (5.) the words “ detained by that authority ” and inserting in their stead the words “ handed over by that authority to military custody for conveyance to and detention ”.

Custody of offenders.

12B. Section one hundred and thirty-five B of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section inserted in its stead :—

“ 135B.—(1.) Notwithstanding anything contained in the next two preceding sections, a person shall not be liable in any one year to confinement in excess of thirty days in respect of offences committed by him against the provisions of sub-section (1.) or paragraph (a) of sub-section (1A.) of section one hundred and thirty-five, or of costs awarded in proceedings for such offences, and any order or other authority issued by a Court authorizing confinement for a period in excess of such thirty days, shall in so far as it relates to the period in excess be void, but nevertheless proceedings shall not be maintainable against the Commonwealth or any person in respect of the order or authority or of any act or thing done in pursuance of the order or authority.”

Total duration of confinement of trainees in any one year.

(2.) In this section ‘ confinement ’ includes detention under the authority of section one hundred and thirty-five of this Act, and custody under the authority of the last preceding section.”

20th and 21st December, 1918.

12C. Section one hundred and thirty-eight of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from sub-section (3.) thereof the words "undergo such equivalent training as prescribed, unless exempted by some provision of this Act" and inserting in their stead the words "become liable for training as prescribed but shall not be required to perform additional training equivalent to the training from which they have been exempted under this sub-section." Additional training by theological students not required.

12D. Section one hundred and forty-two of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following sub-section after sub-section (1.) thereof:—

"(1A.) If any such male inhabitant of Australia is not registered in the manner prescribed in sub-section (1.) of this section, he, and the parent, guardian, or person acting *in loco parentis*, shall severally be guilty of an offence." Registration.

12E. After section one hundred and forty-two of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:—

"142A. Any male inhabitant of Australia, who has resided therein for six months and is a British subject, and whose *bonâ fide* residence is within a distance of five miles, reckoned by the nearest practicable route, from the nearest place appointed for training, and who is, at any time after he has attained the age of fourteen years and before he has attained the age of twenty-six years, not registered for naval or military training, shall be guilty of an offence." Offence of being unregistered.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Wise 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. Wise, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

26. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the remaining Orders of the Day be postponed until after the consideration of Notices of Motion Nos. 1 and 2, Government Business

27. HOUSING WORKMEN, LITHGOW—APPROVAL OF CARRYING OUT OF WORK.—Mr. Groom moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1914*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work:—The scheme of housing workmen and others engaged in connexion with the Commonwealth Factories at Lithgow, New South Wales, which said work was referred to the Public Works Committee, and the Committee has duly reported to this House the result of its inquiries thereon.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

28. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF ORDNANCE STORES, SYDNEY.—Mr. Groom moved, pursuant to notice, That the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1914*, viz.:—Ordnance Stores, Sydney.

Mr. Groom having laid on the Table Plans, &c., in connexion with the above work,

Question—put and passed.

29. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Watt moved, by leave, That leave of absence be granted to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

30. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Watt moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until three p.m., on a date to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which day of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Question—put and passed.

And the House continuing to sit till after midnight,

SATURDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, 1918.

31. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE BILL (1918) (No. 2).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 96.

The Senate has agreed to the amendments made by the House of Representatives in the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Defence Act 1903-1918'*,"

The Senate,
Melbourne, 21st December, 1918, a.m.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

20th and 21st December, 1918.

32. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Watt moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until three o'clock p.m., on a date to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by resolution of the House this day.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey*, Mr. Archibald, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Burchell*(a), Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Charlton, Sir Joseph Cook*, Mr. Corboy, Mr. Corser, Mr. Finlayson, Mr. Fleming*(a),
Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Heitmann*(a), Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Page, Mr. Pigott, Mr. Riley, Brigadier-General Rylie*(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.