THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 10

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 18th MARCH, 1920.

- 1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment. --Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—SUGAR.—Mr. Hughes, by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the supply of Sugar and the Colonial Sugar Refining Company.
- 3. Papers.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Referendums, 1919—Result of Statements, dated 29th January, 1920, of the Chief Electoral Officer for the Commonwealth, indorsed on the Writs for the submission to the Electors of proposed Laws for the Alteration of the Constitution, entitled "Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919" and "Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919."
 - Shipbuilding—Agreements between the Commonwealth and (a) William Beardmore and Co. Ltd. and (b) Vickers Limited—in connexion with the construction of ships in Great Britain.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

- 4. Address-in-Reply to His Excellency the Governor-General's Speech.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address-in-Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to by this House:—
 - MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY-

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Mr. James Page, 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.

- PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Sugar Industry—Report of the Royal Commission; together with Evidence.
 Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
- 6. Message from the Senate.—Supply Bill (No. 4) 1919-20.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

Mr. Speaker,

Message No. 1.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "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 twenty," to which it has agreed without requests.

Thos, Givens, President.

The Senate, Melbourne, 18th March, 1920. 18th and 19th March, 1920.

7. Address-in-Reply to His Excellency the Governor-General's Speech.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address-in-Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to by this House:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY-

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Hughes informed the House that he would ascertain when it would be convenient for His Excellency the Governor-General to receive the Address-in-Reply, and honorable Members would be notified accordingly.

- 8. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until twelve o'clock noon to-morrow.

 Question—put and passed.
- 9. Printing of Paper.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the following Paper presented yesterday be printed, viz.:—

Sugar—Memorandum of Agreement [as amended 18th March, 1920] between Representatives of the Queensland Sugar Industry, the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments, Sydney, March, 1920.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight-

FRIDAY, 19TH MARCH, 1920.

Debate continued. Question—put and passed.

10. Adjournment.—Mr. Greene moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at one o'clock a.m., adjourned until this day at twelve o'clock noon.

MEMBERS PRESENT—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Blakeley, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton*, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Lamond, Mr. Lavelle, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Makin, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watt, Mr. West, and Mr. Wise.

* On leave.

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