

1920.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 15.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 30TH MARCH, 1920.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. CORRECTION OF ERROR IN DIVISION LIST.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that in the Division taken on Thursday last the Tellers inadvertently made an error. The name of Mr. Groom should have been included in the List of those Members who voted with the Ayes, instead of the name of Mr. Hay. The error had been rectified in the official records.
3. SUGAR COMMISSION—PRINTING OF REPORT WITHOUT EVIDENCE.—Mr. Speaker made the following statement to the House :—

“On the 18th instant the House ordered that the Report of the Royal Commission on the Sugar Industry, together with the Minutes of Evidence, be printed.

Both the Report and the Evidence were presented in print, but when the instruction to print and issue as a Parliamentary Paper was sent to the Government Printing Office it was found that the type of the Evidence, which was a document comprising 600 pages, had been broken up, and that the cost of re-setting the type and issuing the document as a Parliamentary Paper would amount approximately to £500.

A few of the printed copies of the Evidence had been obtained for purposes of reference by honorable Members, and, with the concurrence of the House, I do not propose to incur the heavy expense of re-printing it.

The Report itself has already been issued to honorable Members, and copies are available in the usual way.”

In reply to suggestions made by honorable Members, Mr. Speaker further announced that the matter would be referred to the Printing Committee.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS' REPATRIATION BILL (1920).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 2.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “*An Act to make provision for the Repatriation of Australian Soldiers and for other purposes,*” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.The Senate,
Melbourne, 26th March, 1920.

Mr. Poynton 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—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

F.255.

30th March, 1920.

5. **ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.**—Mr. Tudor 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 retail price of sugar as stated by the Prime Minister".
- 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. Tudor moved, That the House do now adjourn.
- Debate ensued.
- Mr. Hughes, addressing the House, and not having, in compliance with Standing Order No. 39, concluded his speech within fifteen minutes, the Right Honorable Member was, by leave of the House, allowed to continue his speech.
- Debate continued.
- It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, and the Business of the Day was called on.
6. **LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**—Mr. Tudor moved, by leave, That Mr. W. Maloney be appointed a member of the Library Committee.
- Question—put and passed.
7. **PAPERS.**—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
- Papua—
- Ordinances of 1919—
- No. 2—Roman Catholic Mission Property.
- No. 3—War Precautions (Validating).
- No. 4—Prisons.
- No. 6—Customs Tariff.
- Public Service Act—Appointment of G. G. M. Pain, Department of the Treasury.
8. **WAR GRATUITY 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 agreed to.
 Clause 2—
 Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.
 Ordered—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.
- Debate ensued.
- Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton*, Mr. Hay, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lamond, Mr. Livingston*, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Earle Page, Sir Granville Ryrie, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watt*, and Mr. Wienholt.

* On leave.

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