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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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No. 27.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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WEDNESDAY, 5TH MAY, 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. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Blakeley 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 present congestion in the Arbitration Court and matters appertaining thereto".  
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. Blakeley moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
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.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Audit Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 57.  
Public Service Act—  
Appointment of J. I. Connor, Department of Trade and Customs.  
Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 64, 65.
4. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—CASE OF EX-GUNNER YATES.—Sir Granville Ryrie, by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the *personnel* of the Committee of Inquiry which the Government proposed to appoint for the purpose of investigating the case of ex-Gunner Yates (formerly Member for Adelaide).
5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the consideration of the Notice of Motion, Government Business.
6. AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, SYDNEY—APPROVAL OF CARRYING OUT OF WORK.—Mr. Wise moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed works:—Provision of Automatic Telephone Exchange, Sydney.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.
7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1 be postponed until to-morrow.

5th May, 1920.

8. INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS APPROPRIATION BILL (1920).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 8—

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

*Resolved*, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for Invalid and Old-age Pensions.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

Sir Joseph Cook 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 Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir Joseph Cook and Mr. Wise do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir Joseph Cook 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.

Sir Joseph Cook 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.*)

Bill agreed to, after debate, and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

9. WAR PENSIONS APPROPRIATION BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 9—

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

*Resolved*, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for War Pensions.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

Sir Joseph Cook 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 Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir Joseph Cook and Mr. Laird Smith do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir Joseph Cook 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.

Sir Joseph Cook 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.*)

Bill agreed to, and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

5th May, 1920.

10. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 4, 5, and 6 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 7.
11. SUGAR PURCHASE BILL (1920).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 11—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, after debate—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sugar Purchase Act 1915-1917*.  
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.  
Sir Joseph Cook 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 Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, was adopted by the House.  
Ordered: That Sir Joseph Cook and Mr. Laird Smith do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.  
Sir Joseph Cook 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.  
Sir Joseph Cook 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 and 2 agreed to.  
Title agreed to.  
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

12. 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. 11.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to make provision for the Repatriation of Australian Soldiers and for other purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate does not insist upon its disagreement to Amendment No. 4 of the House of Representatives, and, with regard to Amendment No. 30, disagrees to the alternative amendment made by the House of Representatives inserting new clause 47A, as indicated by the annexed Schedule.

The Senate desires the further consideration of the Bill in respect to the alternative amendment disagreed to.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 5th May, 1920.

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 to-morrow.

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

And then the House, at one minute to ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Bayley, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Charlton\*, Mr. Greene, Mr. Hay, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Ryan, and Mr. Watt\*.

\* On leave.

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