

1920.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 93.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 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. STATEMENT BY MR. WATT WITH REFERENCE TO HIS RESIGNATION AS A MINISTER.—Mr. Watt asked for leave to make a statement with reference to his resignation, while in Europe, as Treasurer of the Commonwealth and Representative of the Government.

Leave of the House not being granted owing to there being dissentient voices—

Suspension of Standing Orders—

Mr. Hughes moved, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the honorable Member for Balaclava, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Leader of the Country Party from making statements to the House.

Question—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 45.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Livingston
Mr. Bell	Mr. Mackay
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Mahony
Mr. Blundell	Mr. Marks
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Marr
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Chanter	Mr. McWilliams
Mr. Austin Chapman	Mr. Earle Page
Sir Joseph Cook	Mr. Poynton
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Riley
Mr. Corser	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Fleming	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Francis	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Greene	Mr. Watt
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Wienholt
Mr. Groom	Mr. Wise
Mr. Hay	
Mr. Higgs	
Mr. Hughes	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Burchell
Mr. Lamond	Mr. Story

Noes, 11.

Mr. Brennan	Mr. Mathews
Mr. Considine	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cunningham	
Mr. Gabb	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lavelle	
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Blakeley
Mr. Makin	Mr. Parker Moloney

And so it was resolved in the affirmative by an absolute majority of the Members of the House.

Mr. Watt accordingly made a statement to the House.

Mr. Hughes, Mr. Tudor, and Mr. McWilliams also made statements with reference to the matter.

It being more than two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the Orders of the Day were called on.

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3. SUPPLY.—[ESTIMATES 1920-21].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Vote—"The Department of the Treasury, £3,387,747"—

Mr. Blakeley moved, That progress be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

Question—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 13.		Noes, 34.	
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Lister
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Tudor	Mr. Bamford	Mr. Livingston
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Bell	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Gabb		Mr. Blundell	Mr. Marks
Mr. Lavelle		Mr. Bruce	Mr. Marr
Mr. Lazzarini	<i>Tellers :</i>	Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Mahony	Mr. Considine	Sir Joseph Cook	Mr. McWilliams
Mr. James Page	Mr. Riley	Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Earle Page
		Mr. Corser	Mr. Poynton
		Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Rodgers
		Mr. Gibson	Sir Granville Ryrie
		Mr. Greene	Mr. Stewart
		Mr. Gregory	Mr. Wienholt
		Mr. Groom	Mr. Wise
		Mr. Hay	
		Mr. Higgs	<i>Tellers :</i>
		Mr. Hughes	Mr. Burchell
		Mr. Jackson	Mr. Fleming

And so it was negatived.

Debate on Vote ensued.

Member Named.—Mr. Blakeley having refused to obey the ruling of the Chair, was named by the Chairman for deliberately defying the authority of the Chair.

Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the honorable Member for Darling (Mr. Blakeley) be suspended from the service of the Committee.

Question—put.

The Committee proceeded to divide, but the Tellers appointed for the Noes being unwilling to act as Tellers—

The Chairman declared the question resolved in the affirmative.

The Chairman forthwith suspended the proceedings of the Committee.

The House resumed.

The Chairman of Committees reported the circumstance to the House, and Mr. Speaker thereupon put the question—That the honorable Member for Darling (Mr. Blakeley) be suspended from the service of the House.

The House proceeded to divide, but the Tellers appointed for the Noes being unwilling to act as Tellers—

Mr. Speaker declared the question resolved in the affirmative.

And the honorable Member was, therefore, under Standing Order, No. 59, suspended for the remainder of the day's sitting.

Mr. Blakeley not withdrawing, Mr. Speaker directed the Serjeant-at-Arms [to remove the honorable Member from the Chamber.

Thereupon Mr. Blakeley, accompanied by the Serjeant-at-Arms, withdrew from the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Debate on Vote—"The Department of the Treasury"—continued.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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

Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 159, 160.

Public Service Act—Promotion of J. F. B. Carroll, Postmaster-General's Department.

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5. **ADJOURNMENT—COUNT OUT.**—Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Austin Chapman called the attention of Mr. Speaker to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present.

The bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time, Mr. Speaker thereupon, at seventeen minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned the House 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. Anstey, Mr. Bayley, Mr. Bowden*, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Hill, Mr. Jowett, Mr. Mahon, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Prowse, and Mr. West.

* On leave.

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