

1920.

 THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 106.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER, 1920.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

FORSTER,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 43.*

Bills intituled respectively—

*Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act 1920,**Treaties of Peace (Austria and Bulgaria) Act 1920,**Customs Act 1920,*

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Acts.

Government House,

Melbourne, 10th November, 1920.

3. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Norfolk Island—Report for the year ended 30th June, 1920.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Distillation Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 214.

Norfolk Island—Ordinance of 1920—No. 2—Pasturage and Enclosure.

Public Service Act—Appointment of J. Sykes, Attorney-General's Department.

War Service Homes Act—Land acquired under, at—

Goulburn, New South Wales.

Tamworth, New South Wales.

Waratah, New South Wales.

4. 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 Commonwealth Basic Wage".
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.

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 Orders of the Day were called on.

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5. ALIENS REGISTRATION BILL.—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 6—

Debate resumed on the amendment by Mr. Maxwell—That the words “the child, and” (lines 40 and 41) be omitted.

Amendment, by leave, temporarily withdrawn.

On the motion of Mr. Poynton, the words “one month” (line 37) were omitted and the words “three months” inserted in place thereof.

Mr. Maxwell again moved, as a further amendment, That the words “the child, and” (lines 40 and 41) be omitted from the clause.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 21.		Noes, 19.	
Mr. Anstey	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Bamford	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Blundell	Mr. McGrath	Mr. Bayley	Mr. Poynton
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Bell	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. J. H. Catts	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Donald Cameron	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. Considine	Mr. Stewart	Sir Joseph Cook	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. West	Mr. Corser	Mr. Wise
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Wienholt	Mr. R. W. Foster	
Mr. Francis		Mr. Greene	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Gibson	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Groom	Mr. Burchell
Mr. Hill	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Higgs	Mr. Story
Mr. Lister	Mr. James Page	Mr. Hughes	
Mr. Mahony			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

On the motion of Mr. Poynton, the word “severally” (line 42) was omitted; the words “One hundred” (line 43) were omitted and the word “Fifty” inserted in place thereof; and the word “six” (line 43) was omitted and the word “three” inserted in place thereof.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 7 agreed to.

Clause 8 amended, on the motion of Mr. Poynton, after debate, by the omission of the words “agent for” (line 43) and the insertion of the words “owner, agent or charterer of” in place thereof.

Clause, as amended, debated and agreed to.

Clause 9—

Mr. Considine moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word “document” (line 3) up to and inclusive of the word “document” (line 5) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 32.		Noes, 9.	
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Lister	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. West
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Livingston	Mr. Considine	
Mr. Bell	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Cunningham	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. J. H. Catts
Mr. Blundell	Mr. McWilliams	Mr. James Page	Mr. Mahony
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Ryan	
Sir Joseph Cook	Mr. Prowse		
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Rodgers		
Mr. Corser	Sir Granville Ryrie		
Mr. Fleming	Mr. Laird Smith		
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Stewart		
Mr. Francis	Mr. Wienholt		
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Wise		
Mr. Greene			
Mr. Groom	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Hill	Mr. Burchell		
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Story		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 10 to 13 agreed to.

Clause 14 amended, on the motion of Mr. Ryan, by the omission of the words “One hundred” (line 44) and the insertion of the word “Fifty” in place thereof, and by the omission of the word “six” (line 44), and the insertion of the word “three” in place thereof.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

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Clause 15 debated and agreed to.

Clause 16 agreed to.

Clause 17—

Mr. Ryan moved, as an amendment, That the words "is committing" be inserted after the word "believe" (line 11).

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 18, 19, and 20 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

6. **POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.**—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 3 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4.
7. **SUPPLY.**—[ESTIMATES 1920-21].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Vote—The Department of Defence—Military, £1,550,000.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Ryan moved, as an amendment, That the amount of the Vote be reduced by £1.

Debate continued.

The Committee continuing to sit until after twelve o'clock, midnight—

WEDNESDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 1920.

Debate continued.

Closure—

Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

The question—That the amount of the Vote be reduced by £1—was accordingly put, and negatived.

And the question—That the Vote be agreed to—was accordingly put, and passed.

Vote—The Department of the Navy £2,309,238—

Debate ensued.

Vote agreed to.

Vote—The Department of Navy and Defence (Air Services), £305,833—

Agreed to.

Vote—The Department of Trade and Customs, £727,251—

Debate ensued.

Vote agreed to.

Vote—The Department of Works and Railways, £777,939—

Agreed to.

Vote—The Postmaster-General's Department, £6,352,936—

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved, after debate—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. **KALGOORLIE ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT.**—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he proposed to issue a Writ, this day, for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Kalgoorlie, in the State of Western Australia, in the place of the Honorable Hugh Mahon, whose seat became vacant by his expulsion from this House. The dates in connexion with the Election would be fixed as follows:—

Date of Issue of Writ	Wednesday, 17th November, 1920.
Date of Nomination	Thursday, 2nd December, 1920.
Date of Polling	Saturday, 18th December, 1920.
Date for Return of Writ	On or before Saturday, 15th January, 1921.

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

And then the House, at thirteen minutes to four o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Atkinson Mr. Bowden*, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Gabb, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Hay, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lamond, Mr. Lavelle, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Marks, Mr. Marr, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Riley, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Watt.

* On leave.

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