

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 108.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER, 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. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—RESERVATION OF BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

FORSTER,

Governor-General.

Message No. 44.

A Bill intituled "*Navigation 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 reserved the said Bill for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure.

Government House,
Melbourne, 17th November, 1920.

3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Northern Territory—Ordinance of 1920—No. 9—Supreme Court.
Public Service Act—List of Permanent Officers of the Commonwealth Public Service as on 30th June, 1920.
4. PRINTING COMMITTEE—SECOND REPORT FROM.—Mr. Corser, for the Chairman, brought up the Second Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate).
The Report was read by the Clerk, as follows :—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, recommend that the following be printed :—

Industrial Troubles on Melbourne Wharves—Report of Royal Commission.

Shale Oil Bounty Act—Particulars of Bounty paid, &c., Financial Year 1919–20.

*Railways of Australia—Break of Gauge Problem—Statement by Secretary to the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner.

Commonwealth Bank Act—Aggregate Balance-sheet of Commonwealth Bank of Australia at 30th June, 1920, together with Auditor-General's Report thereon.

Inscribed Stock Act—Dealings and Transactions during the year ended 30th June, 1919.

Senate Committee Room,
18th November, 1920.

E. B. C. CORSER,
for Chairman.

* Presented to House of Representatives only.

Mr. Corser moved, That the Report be agreed to.
Question—put and passed.

F.255.

18th November, 1920.

5. SUPPLY ["GRIEVANCE DAY" AND ESTIMATES 1920-21].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—
Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Debate ensued.

Closure—

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

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

The question—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair—was accordingly put, and passed.

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

(In the Committee.)

ESTIMATES, 1920-21.

Debate resumed on Vote—The Postmaster-General's Department, £6,352,936—and on the Amendment moved by Mr. Ryan, viz.:—That the amount of the Vote be reduced by £1.

Question—That the amount of the Vote proposed to be reduced be so reduced—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 16.

Mr. Blakeley	Mr. James Page
Mr. J. H. Catts	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Considine	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Fenton	Mr. West
Mr. Gabb	
Mr. Lavelle	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Mahony
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Riley

Noes, 32.

Mr. Bayley	Mr. Livingston
Mr. Bell	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Blundell	Mr. Marks
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Marr
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Earle Page
Sir Joseph Cook	Mr. Poynton
Mr. Corser	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Fleming	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. R. W. Foster	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. Francis	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Greene	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Higgs	Mr. Wienholt
Mr. Hill	Mr. Wise
Mr. Hughes	
Mr. Jackson	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lamond	Mr. Burchell
Mr. Lister	Mr. Story

And so it was negatived.

Vote agreed to.

Vote—War Services, £11,017,652—

Debate ensued.

Vote agreed to.

Resolved, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook—That the following Resolution be reported to the House:—

That, including the several sums already voted for such services, there be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1920-21, for the several services hereunder specified, a sum not exceeding £27,861,596.

	Payable out of Revenue.	Payable out of Loan Funds, Trust Fund, and other Special Funds.	Total.
	£	£	£
THE PARLIAMENT	48,739	..	48,739
THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT—	304,452		
Commonwealth Shipbuilding .. .. .	..	22,348	
Commonwealth Line of Steamers .. .. .	..	38,772	
Port Pirie Wharf .. .. .	..	1,291	
	304,452	62,411	366,863
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY—	1,109,899		
Australian Notes, Bonds, and Stamp Printing Branch .. .. .	..	27,848	
Refunds of Revenue	750,000	..	
Advance to the Treasurer	1,500,000	..	
	3,359,899	27,848	3,387,747
THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT	86,273	..	86,273
THE HOME AND TERRITORIES DEPARTMENT—	928,175		
Northern Territory—Hotels .. .. .	..	2,950	
	928,175	2,950	931,125

SUPPLY—continued.

	Payable out of Revenue.	Payable out of Loan Funds, Trust Fund, and other Special Funds.	Total.
	£	£	£
THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE—MILITARY	1,550,000	..	1,550,000
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY— Naval Dockyard	2,279,238	30,000	
	2,279,238	30,000	2,309,238
THE DEPARTMENT OF NAVY AND DEFENCE (AIR SERVICES)	305,833	..	305,833
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS	727,251	..	727,251
THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKS AND RAILWAYS— Naval Works Staff—Salaries	750,304	27,635	
	750,304	27,635	777,939
THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT	6,352,936	..	6,352,936
WAR SERVICES—Payable out of Revenue	10,695,455		
Repatriation Commission—Salaries .. .. .	..	208,451	
War Service Homes Commission—Salaries .. .. .	..	113,746	
	10,695,455	322,197	11,017,652
Total	27,388,555	473,041	27,861,596

Leave to be asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

6. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—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.
7. SUPPLY RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read, and, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, was adopted by the House.
8. WAYS AND MEANS [ESTIMATES 1920-21].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

ESTIMATES, 1920-21.

Resolved, on the motion of Sir Joseph Cook—That, towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year 1920-21, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £18,796,363.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

9. APPROPRIATION BILL 1920-21.—Sir Joseph Cook then brought up a Bill intituled “ A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for such year,” 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.

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.

18th November, 1920.

(In the Committee.)

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

10. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL (1920).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 69.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the Commonwealth Bank Act 1911-1914 and for other purposes,*" to which it has agreed with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th November, 1920.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration forthwith 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.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments made by the Senate, which are as follow :—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1.—Page 3, clause 7, line 12, after "appointed" insert "and shall hold office, during good behaviour".

No. 2.—Page 3, clause 7, line 16, after "years" insert "subject to good behaviour".

No. 3.—Page 3, clause 7, line 19, after "absence" insert "from the Commonwealth or absence from duty on leave".

Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the Amendments be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Joseph Cook, the House adopted the Report.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—ALIENS REGISTRATION BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 70.

The Senate has agreed to the Amendments made by the House of Representatives in the Bill for "*An Act relating to the Registration of Aliens.*"

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th November, 1920.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

12. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening Business be postponed until after the consideration of Notice of Motion No. 4, Government Business.
13. WAR PRECAUTIONS ACT REPEAL BILL.—Sir Joseph Cook, for Mr. Hughes, moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to repeal the *War Precautions Act 1914-1918* and to provide for certain matters arising out of such repeal, and for other purposes.
Question—put and passed.
14. IMMIGRATION BILL (1920).—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.
Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

18th November, 1920.

15. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUGAR PURCHASE BILL (No. 2) (1920).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

FORSTER,

*Message No. 45.**Governor-General.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sugar Purchase Act 1915-1920*.

Melbourne, 12th November, 1920.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration forthwith 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.)

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 1915-1920*.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter 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. Groom 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. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

16. INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL (1920).—Sir Joseph Cook moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend section twenty-four of the *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1908-1919* by increasing the limit of pension and income together in the case of blind pensioners.
Question—put and passed.

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

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow, at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Hay, Mr. Jowett, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Makin, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Nicholls, and Mr. Watt.

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