

1923.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 6.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 9TH MARCH, 1923.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) informed the House that the Address in Reply would be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General, at Government House, at two o'clock this afternoon.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
War Service Homes Act—Land acquired under, in New South Wales, at Tamworth.
4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following Members be appointed Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, viz. :—Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Mackay, and Mr. Mathews.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.
5. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Committee of Public Accounts Act 1913-1920*, the following Members be appointed Members of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, viz. :—Mr. Bayley, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Makin, Mr. Marks, Mr. Thomas Paterson, and Mr. West.  
Question—put and passed.
6. LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. Anstey, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Hughes, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Latham, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Charles McDonald, and Mr. Pratten be Members of the Library Committee ; three to form a quorum.  
Question—put and passed.
7. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Chairman of Committees, Mr. Charlton, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Charles McDonald, and Mr. Earle Page be Members of the Standing Orders Committee ; three to form a quorum.  
Question—put and passed.
8. PRINTING COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Corser, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Lister, Mr. Edward Riley, Mr. Scullin, and Mr. Thompson be Members of the Printing Committee ; three to form a quorum, with power to confer with a similar Committee of the Senate.  
Question—put and passed.
9. HOUSE COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Fenton, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Marr, Mr. Prowse, and Mr. Watkins be Members of the House Committee ; three to form a quorum.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

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10. **PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY.**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he would be glad if the Mover and Seconder of the Address in Reply, together with other honorable Members, would accompany him to present the Address.

Mr. Speaker, with Members of the House, went to attend His Excellency the Governor-General, at Government House, and having returned, Mr. Speaker reported that he had presented the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech on the Opening of Parliament, agreed to by the House this morning, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen—

I receive with much pleasure the Address which has been adopted by the House of Representatives in reply to the Speech which I delivered on the occasion of the Opening of the First Session of the Ninth Parliament of the Commonwealth; and desire to thank you for your expression of loyalty to His Majesty the King.

11. **PAPER.**—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Iron and Steel Products Bounty Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 13.

12. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—PROVISIONAL PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA.**—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for its investigation and report thereon, viz.:—Erection of Provisional Parliament House Buildings, Canberra.

Mr. Stewart having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—  
Question—put and passed.

13. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, CANBERRA.**—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for its investigation and report thereon, viz.:—The construction of Provisional Administrative Offices, with accessory engineering and other services, at Canberra.

Mr. Stewart having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—  
Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

14. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—OFFICERS' HOSTEL, CANBERRA.**—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for its investigation and report thereon, viz.:—Erection of Officers' Hostel, Canberra.

Mr. Stewart having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—  
Question—put and passed.

15. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.**—Mr. Gregory brought up the following Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works—

Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed erection of Commonwealth Offices, Brisbane.

Ordered to be printed.

16. **TIME OF NEXT MEETING.**—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday, 28th March, at three o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

17. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-six minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, 28th March, at three o'clock p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT.**—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Bowden, Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Josiah Francis\*, Mr. Killen, and Mr. Charles McDonald.

\* On leave.

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