

1923.  
(SECOND SESSION.)

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 6TH JULY, 1923.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Australian Imperial Force Canteens Funds Act—Third Annual Report by the Trustees, 1st July, 1922, to 30th June, 1923 (including the Sir Samuel McCaughey Bequest for the Technical Education of Soldiers' Children).  
Ordered to be printed.
3. COMMONWEALTH SHIPPING BILL.—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.  
Mr. Edward Riley 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 the next sitting.
4. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Commonwealth Shipping and Ship-building Activities—Statement showing position of, to 30th June, 1923; together with Balance Sheets, Commonwealth Government Line of Steamers, for years ended 30th June, 1922, and 30th June, 1923.  
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.  
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
New Guinea Act—Ordinances of 1923—  
No. 24—Police Force.  
No. 25—Customs Tariff.  
No. 26—Public Service (No. 2).  
No. 27—Licences (No. 2).
5. RETIREMENT OF PRINCIPAL PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER.—Mr. Speaker read to the House the following letter :—

Parliamentary Reporting Staff,  
Melbourne, 10th July, 1923.

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I cannot retire from my office without thanking you and those Members of the House of Representatives, with whom I have been officially associated during so long a term of years, for generous support in the discharge of my highly-esteemed trust.

It is to me a source of much pleasure and pride that I am able to-day to hand over to Parliament a record of its debates which is acknowledged to occupy, at least, a prominent place among similar publications in the British Dominions. I am satisfied that under the leadership of my successor the reputation the Staff has already achieved will be confirmed and strengthened.

I very much regret that illness should have precluded my saying good-bye to honorable Members personally.

I am, Mr. Speaker,

Yours faithfully,

B. HARRY FRIEND,

Principal Parliamentary Reporter.

Rt. Hon. W. A. Watt,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Melbourne.

6th July, 1923.

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Mr. Speaker referred in terms of high appreciation to the long and valuable services rendered to the Commonwealth by Mr. Friend since the inauguration of the Parliament.

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition), and Mr. West also expressed themselves in complimentary terms regarding Mr. Friend's performance of his important duties as Principal Parliamentary Reporter.

6. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—INCOME TAX COLLECTION.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with regard to the Collection of Income Tax and the proposed abolition of unnecessary duplication of Returns.
7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Hill, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lister, Mr. Charles McDonald, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Pratten, Sir Granville Ryrie, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates.

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