

1923.
(SECOND SESSION.)

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 19.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 17TH JULY, 1923.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Coleman 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 failure of the War Service Homes Commission to provide homes for returned soldiers at not more than the maximum prescribed by the War Service Homes Act, namely £800, and the administration generally of the said War Service Homes Act".
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. Coleman moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Mr. Coleman not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 39, the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.
Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways), addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 39, the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.
Debate continued.
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.
3. CUSTOMS BILL (1923).—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.
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.)

Clause 1 agreed to.
Clause 2 debated and agreed to.
Clauses 3 to 19 agreed to.
Clause 20 debated and postponed.
Clauses 21 to 24 agreed to.
Clause 25 debated and negatived.
Clauses 26 to 34 agreed to.
Clause 35 debated and negatived.
Clause 36 agreed to.
Clause 37 debated and agreed to.
Clause 38 agreed to.
Clause 39 debated and agreed to.
Clause 40 agreed to.
Clause 41 debated and agreed to.
Clauses 42 and 43 agreed to.
Postponed clause—
Clause 20—

On the motion of Mr. Groom (Attorney-General), after debate, the following amendments were made :—

After sub-clause (2.) insert the following sub-clause :—

(2A.) Where, in pursuance of the last preceding sub-section, the Minister has decided not to grant a Certificate of Clearance, the owner of the ship or aircraft shall be entitled, in a Court of competent jurisdiction, to recover damages against the Commonwealth in respect of the non-granting, or delay in granting, of the Certificate, if the Court is satisfied that the non-granting or delay was without reasonable and probable cause.

Line 40, before " No " insert " Except as provided in the last preceding sub-section".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

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Schedule agreed to.
Title agreed to.
Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

Mr. Groom 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. Austin Chapman (Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Defence—Australian Military Forces—Report of the Inspector-General (Lieut.-General Sir H. G. Chauvel, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.), Part I., 31st May, 1923.

New Hebrides—Protocol respecting, signed at London, 6th August, 1914, by representatives of the British and French Governments, and Papers relating to it.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—

Balaclava, Victoria—For Postal purposes.

Geraldton, Western Australia—For Defence purposes.

South Fremantle, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.

Public Service Act—

Appointments of G. B. V. Keogh, F. V. Stonham, and R. J. Cowan, Department of Health.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 78.

Regulations of the Public Service Board Commissioners—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 93.

5. AIR DEFENCE 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. Marks, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 30.

Noes, 21.

Mr. Atkinson

Mr. Bamford

Mr. Bayley

Mr. Bowden

Mr. Bruce

Mr. Malcolm Cameron

Mr. Austin Chapman

Mr. Robert Cook

Mr. Corser

Mr. Duncan-Hughes

Mr. R. W. Foster

Mr. Frederick Francis

Mr. Josiah Francis

Mr. Gardner

Mr. Gibson

Mr. Roland Green

Mr. Gregory

Mr. Groom

Mr. Hill

Sir Neville Howse

Mr. Killen

Mr. Mackay

Mr. Mann

Mr. Marks

Mr. Maxwell

Mr. Earle Page

Mr. Thomas Paterson

Mr. William Watson

Tellers :

Mr. Marr

Mr. Prowse

Mr. Anstey

Mr. Blakeley

Mr. Charlton

Mr. Coleman

Mr. Forde

Mr. Gabb

Mr. Albert Green

Mr. Lacey

Mr. Lambert

Mr. Lazzarini

Mr. Frederick McDonald

Mr. McGrath

Mr. Parker Moloney

Mr. O'Keefe

Mr. Edward Riley

Mr. E. C. Riley

Mr. Scullin

Mr. West

Mr. Yates

Tellers :

Mr. Fenton

Mr. Makin

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned 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. Donald Cameron, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Hurry, Mr. Jackson, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Manning, Mr. Pratten, Sir Granville Ryrie, Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Whitsitt.

WALTER A. GALE,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.