

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 20.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH JULY, 1923.

1. The House met, at half past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Northern Territory—Report of Engineer Vice-Admiral Sir William Clarkson on Wharf and Shipping facilities, and on the possibility of developing Ports in the Territory, particularly at the mouth of the Macarthur River.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
Mineral Oil and Coal Ordinance 1922-23—Regulations.
Ordinance of 1923—No. 11—Crown Lands (No. 2).
3. AIR DEFENCE 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.)

Clauses 1, 2, and 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That all the words after "Service", page 1, line 18, to the end of the page, be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—"means service in or with a force which is engaged in operations against the enemy;"

Debate ensued.

Want of Quorum.—Temporary Chairman's Ruling.—Attention having been called by an honorable Member to the absence of a quorum, and the bells having been rung and a quorum having been formed, and attention having been again called within a few minutes, by the same honorable Member, to the absence of a quorum—the Temporary Chairman (Sir Neville Howse) said that, following a ruling given in the Session 1920-21, he would not again count the Committee until a reasonable interval of time had elapsed after his previous count of the Committee. This interval he considered should be a quarter of an hour, as provided for by the Standing Orders in other cases.

Debate on amendment continued.

Clause postponed.

Clauses 5 to 16 agreed to.

Clause 17—

On the motion of Mr. Bowden (Minister for Defence) the following amendment was made :—Line 37, omit "abroad".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 18 to 27 agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

F.4713.

18th July, 1923.

4. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at four minutes past eleven 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. Hunter, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Manning, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Pratten, Sir Granville Ryrie, and Mr. Watkins.

WALTER A. GALE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives