

1923.

(SECOND SESSION.)

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 31.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 3RD AUGUST, 1923.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (SIR NEVILLE HOWSE).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Calare (Sir Neville Howse), on the ground of urgent public business.
Question—put and passed.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
S.s. *Sumatra*—Report of Royal Commission appointed to inquire into loss of.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
4. PROPOSED ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Forde proposing to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The unsatisfactory treatment meted out to the Sugar Industry by the Commonwealth Government, and the advisability, even at this late hour, to grant the sugar growers £27 per ton nett for raw sugar and an embargo on black-grown sugar for five years, instead of two as already arranged"—
Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Speaker ruled that the matter was one which could not be submitted as it was substantially the same subject as that which had been discussed, during the current Session, upon a motion for adjournment, moved by the honorable Member for Herbert (Mr. Bamford), on 5th July last.
By leave, Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. Forde addressed the House upon the matter.
5. SUPPLY—[BUDGET DEBATE].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Question again proposed (*see p. 95 ante*), That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—
The Parliament—namely—

The President	£1,100
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be agreed to.

General debate resumed.

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.

3rd August, 1923.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NORTHERN TERRITORY RAILWAY EXTENSION BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 15.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Extension of the Railway in the Northern Territory by the construction of a Railway to Daly Waters,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 3rd August, 1923.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

7. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday next, at three o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
8. ADJOURNMENT.—DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) having announced, with deep regret, the death of the President of the United States of America, moved, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Warren G. Harding, President of the United States of America, the House do now adjourn.
And Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) having also expressed great regret at the sad event, and all Members present having risen in silence—
Question—passed.

And then the House, at nineteen minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Monday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Donald Cameron*, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Hill, Sir Neville Howse*, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McGrath,
Mr. Thomas Paterson, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. West.

*On leave.

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