

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 48.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 27TH MARCH, 1924.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

FORSTER,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 29.*

Bills intituled:—

- “ *Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923* ”
- “ *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1923* ”
- “ *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1923* ”
- “ *Post and Telegraph Act 1923* ”
- “ *War Service Homes Act 1923* ”
- “ *Advances to Settlers Act 1923* ”
- “ *River Murray Waters Act 1923* ”
- “ *Sulphur Bounty Act 1923* ”
- “ *Customs Tariff Act 1923* ”
- “ *Shale Oil Bounty Act 1923* ”
- “ *Special Annuity Act 1923* ”
- “ *Tariff Board Act 1923* ”
- “ *Income Tax Act 1923* ”
- “ *Income Tax Assessment Act 1923* ”
- “ *Income Tax Collection Act 1923* ”
- “ *Land Tax Assessment Act 1923* ”
- “ *Taxation of Loans Act 1923* ”
- “ *Agreements Validation Act 1923* ”
- “ *Wheat Pool Advances Act 1923* ”
- “ *Air Force Act 1923* ”
- “ *War Precautions Act Repeal Act 1923* ”
- “ *Loan Act 1923* ”
- “ *Appropriation Act 1923-24* ”,

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Acts.

Government House,
Melbourne, 1st September, 1923.

3. THE LATE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (MR. WARREN G. HARDING).—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he had received the following communication from His Excellency the Governor-General transmitting a copy of a letter which was received by the British Ambassador at Washington from the Secretary of the Department of State, Washington:—

Commonwealth of Australia.

Governor-General's Office,
Melbourne, 26th November, 1923.

MEMORANDUM to the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Governor-General forwards herewith, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a copy of a letter dated 12th October, 1923, which was received by the British Ambassador at Washington from the Secretary of the Department of State, Washington, on the subject of the resolutions

F.4713.

27th March, 1924.

of the Senate and the House of Representatives relating to the death of the late President of the United States of America and referred to in the Governor-General's memorandum of 27th August last.

FORSTER,
Governor-General.

With the Compliments of the British Embassy at Washington.

15th October, 1923.

Reference.—Melbourne despatch of 27th August, 1923.

His Excellency the Right Hon. Lord FORSTER, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia,
Melbourne, Australia.

Department of State,
Washington, 12th October, 1923.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note No. 865 of 5th October, 1923, with which you were so good as to transmit, at the request of His Excellency the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, two sets of extracts from the records of the Australian Parliament signed by the President of the Australian Senate and by the Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives and containing resolutions relating to the death of the late President Harding.

Thanking you for your good offices in bringing the resolutions to the knowledge of this Government, I shall be grateful if you will kindly assure the Governor-General that these evidences of the friendly regard which the legislative bodies of the Commonwealth of Australia entertained for the late President are most highly appreciated by the President and the Government of the United States.

I have directed that one set of the resolutions, together with your note, be deposited in the permanent archives of the Department of State for preservation, and I am forwarding the other set to Mrs. Harding, who doubtless will be no less appreciative of the friendly sympathy of the Australian Commonwealth.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

CHARLES E. HUGHES.

4. ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE (INTERNATIONAL HEALTH BOARD).—ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VOTE OF THANKS.

—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he had received letters from Mr. G. E. Vincent, President of the Rockefeller Foundation, New York, and Doctor F. F. Russell, General Director of the International Health Board, New York, acknowledging the receipt of the Resolution passed by the House on the 25th August last.

5. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—

Audit Act—Finance 1922-23—The Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure during the year ended 30th June, 1923, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.

Ordered to be printed.

Commonwealth Bank Act—Commonwealth Bank of Australia—Aggregate Balance-sheet and Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Note Issue Department; together with the Auditor-General's Reports thereon—

At 30th June, 1923.

At 31st December, 1923.

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

Norfolk Island—Report of the Administrator for the year ended 30th June, 1923.

Postmaster-General's Department—Thirteenth Annual Report, 1922-23.

Sugar Purchases by the Commonwealth through Mr. W. E. Davies in September and October, 1920—Royal Commission—Report by the Commissioner (Sir E. F. Mitchell), 27th September, 1923.

War Service Homes Commissioner—Joinery supplied to, in March, 1920—Royal Commission—Report by the Commissioner (Mr. H. H. Henchman), 19th September, 1923.

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

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Report of the Repatriation Commission for the year ending 30th June, 1923.

River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1922-23.

War Service Homes Act—Arrangement between the War Service Homes Commissioner and the Government of Tasmania.

Severally ordered to be printed.

Advances to Settlers Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 206.

Air Force Act and Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 154, 199.

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—

Determinations, and variations of Determinations, by the Arbitrator, &c.—

No. 38 of 1923—Line Inspectors' Association.

No. 39 of 1923—Commonwealth Medical Quarantine Officers' Association.

No. 40 of 1923—Commonwealth Legal Professional Officers' Association.

27th March, 1924.

- No. 41 of 1923—Meat Inspectors' Association.
- No. 42 of 1923—Australian Postal Electricians' Union.
- No. 43 of 1923—Professional Officers' Association.
- No. 44 of 1923—Commonwealth Legal Professional Officers' Association.
- No. 45 of 1923—Professional Officers' Association.
- No. 46 of 1923—Arms, Explosives, and Munition Workers' Federation of Australia ; Amalgamated Engineering Union ; and Australasian Society of Engineers.
- No. 47 of 1923—Postal Sorters' Union of Australia.
- No. 48 of 1923—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
- No. 49 of 1923—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
- No. 50 of 1923—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association.
- No. 51 of 1923—Australian Postal Electricians' Union.
- No. 52 of 1923—Australian Postal Linemen's Union.
- No. 53 of 1923—Line Inspectors' Association.
- No. 54 of 1923—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
- No. 55 of 1923—Arms, Explosives, and Munition Workers' Federation of Australia ; Amalgamated Engineering Union ; and Australasian Society of Engineers.
- No. 56 of 1923—Arms, Explosives, and Munition Workers' Federation of Australia.
- No. 57 of 1923—Federated Public Service Assistants' Association.
- No. 58 of 1923—Australian Letter Carriers' Association.
- No. 59 of 1923—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association.

Audit Act—

Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—

Financial Year 1922-23—Dated 8th October, 1923.

Financial Year 1923-24—Dated—

- 4th October, 1923.
- 14th November, 1923.
- 28th November, 1923.
- 20th December, 1923.
- 16th January, 1924.
- 26th February, 1924.
- 13th March, 1924.

Regulations Amended—

- Statutory Rules 1923, No. 211.
- Statutory Rules 1924, No. 3.

Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—

Regulations Amended—

- Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 101, 112, 113, 127, 129, 136, 165, 194, 195.
- Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 8, 18, 21, 25.

Commonwealth Bank Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 2, 32.

Contract Immigrants Act—Return for 1923.

Customs Act—

Regulations Amended—

- Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 91, 92, 119, 132, 148, 166, 193, 205.
- Statutory Rules 1924, No. 20.

Proclamation relating to the prohibition of the Exportation (except under certain conditions) of—

- Animals and Skins (dated 5th December, 1923).
- Birds and the Plumage, Skins, and Eggs thereof (dated 5th December, 1923).
- Cinematograph Films, depicting unlawful assemblies, riots, &c. (dated 9th November, 1923).

Proclamation (dated 5th September, 1923) prohibiting the Exportation of Seeds and Maize contained in Second-hand bags.

Proclamation (dated 21st November, 1923) revoking Proclamation (issued 20th December, 1919) which prohibited the Exportation of Cinematograph Films.

Deceased Soldiers' Estates Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 10.

Defence Act—

Regulations Amended—

- Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 107, 115, 159, 162, 163, 170, 171, 172, 173, 179, 198, 200, 201.

Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 9, 11, 12.

Royal Military College—Report for 1922-23.

Electoral Act (Commonwealth) and Electoral Act (State of Victoria)—Regulations relating to Joint Electoral Rolls in the State of Victoria—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 37.

Excise Act—Regulations Amended—

- Statutory Rules 1923, No. 150.
- Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 19, 26, 32.

High Court Procedure Act—Rules of Court—Rules *re* Sittings—Dated 24th October, 1923.
 Immigration Act—Return for 1923.
 Income Tax Assessment Act—

Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 130, 176, 177, 197.
 Statutory Rules 1924, No. 23.

Iron and Steel Products Bounty Act—Statement setting out particulars relating to approval given for the use of imported materials in the manufacture of products upon which bounty may be paid.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Adelaide, South Australia—For Defence purposes.
 Belmore, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
 Brinkworth, South Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Carnarvon, Western Australia—For Customs purposes.
 Chelsea, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Cummins, South Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Dalwallinu, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Eclipse Island, near Albany, Western Australia—For Lighthouse purposes.
 Erskineville, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
 Goomeri, Queensland—For Postal purposes.
 Goroke, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Hampton, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Heyfield, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Kondinin, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Koorda, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Lake Boga, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Lilydale, Tasmania—For Postal purposes.
 Liverpool, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
 Mildura, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Mundubbera, Queensland—For Postal purposes.
 Northam, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Nyah West, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Peninsula, Perth, Western Australia—For Defence purposes.
 Rose Park, South Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Roseville, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
 Sarina, Queensland—For Postal purposes.
 Toowong, Queensland—For Postal purposes.
 Wentworthville, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
 West Adelaide, South Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Yarraman, Queensland—For Postal purposes.

Meat Export Bounties Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 125.
 Nationality Act—Return for year 1923.

Naval Defence Act—

Naval Financial Regulations—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 34.

Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 128, 160, 161, 202, 203, 208, 209, 210.
 Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 13, 16, 17, 35.

New Guinea Act—

Ordinances of 1923—

No. 31—Re-appropriation, 1921–22.
 No. 32—Land (No. 3).
 No. 33—Expropriation (No. 2).
 No. 34—Mining (No. 2).
 No. 35—Interpretation and Amendments Incorporation.
 No. 36—Laws Repeal and Adopting.
 No. 37—Supply (No. 3) 1923–24.
 No. 38—Business Tax (Amount).
 No. 39—Companies.
 No. 40—Public Service (No. 3).
 No. 41—Supply (No. 4) 1923–24.
 No. 42—Mining (No. 3).
 No. 43—Supply (No. 5) 1923–24.
 No. 44—Mining (No. 4).

Ordinances of 1924—

No. 1—Laws Repeal and Adopting.
 No. 2—Native Labour.
 No. 3—Town Boundaries.

- No. 4—District Courts.
- No. 5—Companies.
- No. 6—Supply (No. 6) 1923-24
- No. 7—Land.
- No. 8—Supply (No. 7) 1923-24.

Norfolk Island Act—

Ordinances of 1923—

- No. 6—Melanesian Mission Lands (No. 2).
- No. 7—Slaughtering.
- No. 8—Administration.

Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—

Ordinances of 1923—

- No. 12—Health.
- No. 13—Darwin Town Council (No. 3).
- No. 14—Slaughtering.
- No. 15—Contracts.
- No. 16—Brands.
- No. 17—Dog.
- No. 18—Government Hospitals.
- No. 19—Dingo Destruction.
- No. 20—Police and Police Offences.
- No. 21—Workmen's Compensation.

Ordinances of 1924—

- No. 1—Opium Smoking Prohibition.
- No. 2—Slaughtering.
- No. 3—Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement).
- No. 4—Workmen's Compensation.
- No. 5—Health.
- No. 6—Poisons.
- No. 7—Tin Dredging.

Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory Crown Lands Act 1890 (South Australia)—Proclamation resuming reserve in the Hundred of Bagot, Northern Territory.

Papua Act—

Ordinances of 1923—

- No. 4—British New Guinea Development Company Limited.
- No. 5—Customs (Export) Tariff.
- No. 6—Supply, 1923-24.
- No. 7—Pearl, Pearl-shell, and Beche-de-mer.
- No. 8—Registration of Firms.
- No. 9—Navigation.
- No. 10—Dangerous Drugs.
- No. 11—Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) 1922-23.
- No. 12—Appropriation 1923-24.
- No. 14—Companies.
- No. 15—Customs (Export) Tariff (No. 2).
- No. 16—Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement).

Ordinances of 1924—

- No. 1—Mineral Oil and Coal.
- No. 2—Mineral Oil and Coal (No. 2).

Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—

- Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 116, 117, 118, 122, 123, 143, 144, 157, 158, 178, 191, 192.
- Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 14, 15, 22, 41, 42, 43, 44.

Public Service Act—

List of Permanent Officers of the Commonwealth Public Service, as on 30th June, 1923.

Appointments—Department of—

Attorney-General—

N. P. P. Webbe.

Health—

Drs. P. J. Campbell, R. Y. Mathew, and E. A. Richards.
Dr. R. W. Cilento, L. E. Cooling, and Dr. A. H. Baldwin.

Home and Territories—

Dr. W. G. Duffield.

Trade and Customs—

I. J. Burch, A. Moore, K. Ditcham, C. D. Matheson.
A. J. Sutherland.

Works and Railways—

K. B. Hudson.
A. M. Opie and J. M. Norton.

27th March, 1924.

Public Service Act—*continued*.

Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 126, 137, 138, 145, 146, 168, 190, 207, 212.

Statutory Rules 1924, No. 7.

Railways Act—By-law No. 27.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances of 1923—

No. 7—Leases.

No. 8—Seat of Government Railway.

No. 9—Trespass on Commonwealth Lands (No. 2).

No. 10—Trespass on Commonwealth Lands (No. 2).

Shale Oil Bounty Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 140.

Sulphur Bounty Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 149.

Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 167.

Trading with the Enemy Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 189.

Treaties of Peace (Austria and Bulgaria) Act—Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 152, 153, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188.

Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 27, 28.

Treaty of Peace Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 31.

Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act—Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 151, 180, 181, 182.

Statutory Rules 1924, No. 46.

Treaty of Peace (Hungary) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 29.

War Service Homes Act—

Land acquired under, in—

New South Wales, at—Bega, Coogee, East Maitland, Nowra, Richmond, Rose Bay, Walcha, Waverley, Wollongong, Yass.

Declaration by War Service Homes Commissioner of the Revocation of Notification of the Acquisition of Land, Richmond, New South Wales.

War-Time Profits Tax Assessment Act—Rules—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 142.

6. IMPERIAL AND ECONOMIC CONFERENCES, 1923—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPERS AND APPROVING RESOLUTIONS.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Papers :—

Imperial Conference, 1923—Summary of Proceedings ;

Imperial Economic Conference, 1923—Resolutions agreed to ;

and moved, by leave—

(1) That the Summary of Proceedings of the Imperial Conference 1923, and the Resolutions of the Imperial Economic Conference 1923, be printed.

(2) That this House approves of the conclusions of the Imperial Conference, as set out in the Summary of Proceedings, relating to—

(a) Foreign Relations ;

(b) Negotiation, Signature and Ratification of Treaties ;

(c) Defence.

(3) That this House approves of the Resolutions of the Imperial Economic Conference relating to—

(a) Imperial Preference ;

(b) Imperial Economic Committee.

Mr. Bruce not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, the Right Honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.

Suspension of Standing Order.—It being almost two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, on the motion of Mr. Bruce, by leave, Standing Order No. 119 was suspended for this day in order to allow the debate to be continued.

Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the first word "That" in paragraph (2) be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—"this House approves of the foreign policy of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain, as indorsed by a majority of the representatives of the British people in the House of Commons, aiming as such policy does to bring about goodwill between nations and advance the peace of the world."

Debate ensued.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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.

Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) 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.

27th March, 1924.

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-four minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Gabb, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Makin, Mr. Charles McDonald,
Mr. McGrath, Mr. O'Keefe, and Mr. Yates.

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