

1923-24.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 66.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH JUNE, 1924.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—REPORT.—Mr. Gregory, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, brought up the following Report from the Committee—
Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed establishment of Aircraft Dépôt with Accessory Services, at Laverton, Victoria.
Ordered to be printed.
3. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Brennan 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, "Incorrect and misleading information deliberately supplied to honorable Members of this House and others by Departmental Officers in connexion with the case of ex-Private William Holland, No. 3,088, 38th Battalion, to the detriment of that ex-soldier".
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. Brennan moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Mr. Brennan not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 39—
Suspension of Standing Orders.—Mr. Charlton moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the honorable Member to continue his speech.
Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the Members of the House.
Mr. Brennan continued and concluded his speech.
Debate ensued.
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 Business of the Day was called on.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Excise Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 74.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—
Bute, South Australia—For Postal purposes.
Claremont, Tasmania—For Postal purposes.
North Geelong, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
Pakenham East, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
The Entrance, Tuggerah Lake, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 77.
Spirits Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 75.
5. NORTHERN TERRITORY CROWN LANDS 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.)**Schedule (put by clauses)—*

Clause 7—

Debate resumed on the amendment moved by Mr. Nelson, viz. :—That all the words after the word "members" (line 43) to the end of sub-clause (1.) be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—"one of whom shall be a pastoralist elected by the pastoral lessees in the Northern Territory, two to be appointed by the Minister."

Amendment negatived.

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On the motion of Mr. Gabb, after debate, the following amendment was made :—Page 4, line 11, after “ Board ” insert “ and one other member to be the Deputy Chairman ”.

On the motion of Mr. Gabb, the following further amendments were made :—

Page 4, sub-clause (6.), omit the sub-clause and insert the following sub-clause :—

(6.) The Chairman of the Board shall, when present, preside at meetings of the Board and in his absence the Deputy Chairman shall preside.

Page 4, lines 18–19, after “ votes ” omit all words to the end of sub-clause (8.) and insert :—

“ Provided that at any meeting of the Board at which only two members are present any question upon which those members disagree shall be reserved for determination by a full meeting of the Board.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 8—

On the motion of Mr. Atkinson (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories), the following amendments were made :—

Line 24, omit “ 1913 ”, insert “ 1913–1923 ”.

Line 25, omit “ 1902–1918 ”, insert “ 1922 ”.

Clause, as amended, debated and agreed to.

Clauses 9 and 10 agreed to.

Clause 11 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 12 to 17 agreed to.

Clause 18—

On the motion of Mr. Atkinson, the following amendment was made :—Line 21, omit “ *Northern Territory Gazette* and in the *Commonwealth* ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 19 agreed to.

Clause 20 debated and agreed to.

Clause 21 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 22 to 25 agreed to.

Clause 26—

On the motion of Mr. Atkinson, the following amendments were made :—

Line 21, omit “ and ”.

At end of clause add the following :—

“; and

(e) a reservation in^a favour of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Northern Territory shall be read as a reservation giving to all aboriginal inhabitants of the Northern Territory and their descendants full and free right of ingress, egress and regress into, upon and over the leased land and every part thereof, and in and to the springs and natural surface water thereon, and to make and erect thereon such wurlies and other dwellings as those aboriginal inhabitants have before the commencement of the lease been accustomed to make and erect, and to take and use for food birds and animals *ferae naturae* in such manner as they would have been entitled to do if the lease had not been made.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 27 agreed to.

Clause 28—

On the motion of Mr. Atkinson, the following amendment was made :—Line 35, after “ transfer, ” insert “ mortgage ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 29 and 30 agreed to.

Clause 31—

On the motion of Mr. Atkinson, the following amendments were made :—

Line 15, before “ Where ” insert “ Subject to the next two succeeding sub-sections ”.

After sub-clause (1.) insert the following sub-clauses :—

(1A.) Where any land included in any lease issued in pursuance of section fifty-eight of this Ordinance has been mortgaged to the original lessee as security for the payment of the balance of the amount due in respect of the transfer of the subdivision, and the mortgagee enters into possession of the land, he may, subject to the terms and conditions of the lease, remain in possession for a period of three years after the date of entering into possession and for such further period (if any) as the Minister thinks fit.

(1B.) If the mortgagee referred to in the last preceding sub-section fails to assign or transfer the lease within the period during which he is, in pursuance of the last preceding sub-section, allowed to remain in possession, the Minister may by notice in the *Gazette* forfeit the lease.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 32, 33, and 34 agreed to.

Clause 35 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 36, 37, and 38 agreed to.

Clause 39—

On the motion of Mr. Atkinson, the following amendment was made :—

After paragraph (a) insert the following paragraph :—

(aa) a reservation in favour of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Northern Territory ;

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Mr. Nelson moved, as a further amendment, That the following paragraph be added to the clause:—

(i) a covenant by the lessee that he will fence the land as prescribed.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Albert Green moved, as a further amendment, That the following paragraph be added to the clause:—

(i) a covenant by the lessee that he will fence the land within a period of five years after railway facilities have been provided within twenty-five miles from his holding.

Question—That the paragraph proposed to be added be so added—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 16.

Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Charlton	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Gabb	Mr. West
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Yates
Mr. Lacey	
Mr. Lazzarini	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Mahony	Mr. Cunningham
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Fenton

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Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Bowden	Sir Elliot Johnson
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Latham
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Mann
Mr. Corser	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Frederick Francis	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Gardner	Mr. William Watson
Mr. Roland Green	
Mr. Gregory	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir Littleton Groom	
Mr. Hill	Mr. Marr
Mr. Hurry	Mr. Prowse

And so it was negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 40 agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Watkins 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.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seventeen 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. Bayley, Sir Austin Chapman, Mr. Gibson*, Sir Neville Howse, Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Hunter*,
Mr. Killen, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Makin, Mr. Manning, Mr. Marks, Mr. Charles McDonald*,
Mr. McGrath, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Whitsitt.

* On leave.

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