

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 77.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 27TH JUNE, 1924.

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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Public Service Act—Appointment of G. S. Peddie, Department of Works and Railways.
Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—City Leases Ordinance 1921-24—Amendments of Regulations.
3. POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL (1924).—Sir Littleton Groom (Minister representing the Postmaster-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902-1923*.
Question—put and passed.
Sir Littleton Groom then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
4. DEFENCE EQUIPMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 36—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Two million five hundred thousand pounds for Naval Construction and for a Reserve for Defence.
Question—put and passed.
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Sir Neville Howse reported accordingly.

Mr. Bruce 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.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Bruce, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Bruce and Sir Littleton Groom do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Bruce then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Bruce moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Charlton 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.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1924-25.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 53.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 27th June, 1924.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

6. BANKRUPTCY BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Sir Littleton Groom (Attorney-General) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Brennan 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.

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7. COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL (1924).—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—and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Charlton, viz. :—That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—"in order to preserve the Commonwealth Bank as a National Institution and to extend its operations for the purpose of controlling credit and exchange, it is desirable that financial experts, to be fully employed in the service of the Bank, should be appointed to its management, the proposal of the Government to appoint persons representing squatting and commercial interests, who are diametrically opposed to National banking, being designed more in the interests of private financial institutions than of the People's Bank"—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Makin addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—MAIN ROADS DEVELOPMENT BILL (1924).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 54.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to Main Roads Development*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 27th June, 1924.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the whole House forthwith.

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

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments made by the Senate, which are as follow :

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1.—Page 1, clause 1, line 6, after "1924" add "—1925".

No. 2.—Page 1, clause 1, line 10, leave out "1924", insert "1925".

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That Amendment No. 1 be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Mr. Bruce, Amendment No. 2 agreed to.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Bruce the House adopted the Report.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NATIONAL DEBT SINKING FUND BILL (1924).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 55.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'National Debt Sinking Fund Act 1923'*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 27th June, 1924.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

And then the House, at three minutes to five o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Sir Austin Chapman*, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Gibson*, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Latham, Mr. Marks, Mr. Charles McDonald*, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Seabrook, and Mr. Thompson.

* On leave.

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