

1901-2.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 150.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 20TH MARCH, 1902.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—Mr. Barton presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
British New Guinea—Transfer of, to the Commonwealth of Australia—Minute from the Governor-General to the Prime Minister, transmitting telegram from Secretary of State for the Colonies in reference thereto.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
3. APPEALS TO JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF PRIVY COUNCIL.—Mr. Glynn moved, pursuant to notice, That a Return be laid upon the Table of this House showing for each State of the Commonwealth the number of appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council during the twenty years ended 31st December, 1901.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
4. PUBLIC SERVICE BILL.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the Reasons for the House of Representatives disagreeing to Amendments Nos. 7, 8, 9, 13, 24, 25, 28, 32, 40, and 61, made by the Senate in this Bill, having been read—
Sir William Lyne, on behalf of the Committee appointed yesterday, brought up such Reasons, which were read, and are as follow :—
Reasons of the House of Representatives for Disagreeing to certain Amendments of the Senate.
As to Amendments Nos. 7 and 8—
Because a fixed tenure will enable the Government to obtain the services of the best men, and will enable the inspectors to perform their duties with greater independence and efficiency.
As to Amendment No. 9—
Because the position of the single Commissioner is one of very great responsibility and importance, and a suitable officer is not likely to be obtained for the salary proposed by the amendment.
As to Amendment No. 13—
Because this provision is administrative only, and is not inconsistent with clause 8.
As to Amendment No. 24—
Because the amendment would injure the prospects of women obtaining employment in the service.
As to Amendment No. 25—
Because the amendment might defeat the efficacy of the provision for a minimum wage in the Clerical Division.

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As to Amendment No. 28—

Because the amendment might defeat the efficacy of the provision for a minimum wage in the General Division.

As to Amendment No. 32—

Because the amendment would give an undue preference to persons in naval and military service over the general public.

As to Amendment No. 40—

Because the amendment is unnecessary, and interferes unduly with the power of the Commissioner.

As to Amendment No. 61—

Because the words desired to be retained make better provision.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Committee's Reasons be adopted.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 2, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 3.
 6. WAYS AND MEANS.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Chanter reported that the Committee had made progress, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
 7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Barton moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
- And then the House, at fifteen minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow, at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Messrs. Clarke, Hume Cook, Cruickshank, Fuller, F. E. McLean, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid, P.C., Messrs. Salmon, Sawers, and Willis.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.