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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 45.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 18TH AUGUST, 1903.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.-Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.

- PETITIONS.—Mr. McDonald presented a Petition from Allan Cameron, Henry Belfrage, and R. S. Guthrie, styling themselves the executive officers of the Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia, praying that the Conciliation and Arbitration Bill may be amended so as to equally apply to all vessels engaging in the Australian coastal trades, whether Australian, oversea, or foreign.
 Mr. Batchelor presented a similar Petition from David Watson and others, styling themselves
 - Mr. Batchelor presented a similar Petition from David Watson and others, styling themselves respectively president and members of the executive of the Australasian Institute of Marine Engineers.

Petitions severally received and read.

- Mr. Hume Cook presented a Petition from John Robertson, of Moonee Ponds, Victoria, praying that the House will inquire into the law of legal tender.
- Petition received.
- 3 ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES—PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this House disapproves of the proposed distribution of the State of New South Wales into twenty-six Divisions, named East Sydney, West Sydney, Wentworth, South Sydney, Lang, Dalley, Parkes, Ashfield, North Sydney, Parramatta, Illawarra, Macquarie, Werriwa, Eden-Monaro, Robertson, Newcastle, Hunter, Hume, Bland, Cowper, Canobolas, New England, Gwydir, Clarence-Richmond, Darling, and Riverina, and shown on the maps laid upon the Table of the House of Representatives on the 7th August instant—and on the amendment—That the words "in order that a fresh distribution may be proposed by the Commissioner of the State" be inserted after the word "That," having been read—
 - Debate resumed.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Question—That this House disapproves of the proposed distribution of the State of New South Wales into twenty-six Divisions, named East Sydney, West Sydney, Wentworth, South Sydney, Lang, Dalley, Parkes, Ashfield, North Sydney, Parramatta, Illawarra, Macquarie, Werriwa, Eden-Monaro, Robertson, Newcastle, Hunter, Hume, Bland, Cowper, Canobolas, New England, Gwydir, Clarence-Richmond, Darling, and Riverina, and shown on the maps laid upon the Table of the House of Representatives on the 7th August instant—put.

The House divided-		,			
Ayes, 31.			Noes, 15.		
Mr. Bamford, Sir Edmund Barton Mr. Batchelor, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Ewing; Mr. Fisher, Sir John Forrest, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. L. E. Groom, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. Kennedy, Sir William Lyne, Mr. Mauger, Mr. McColl, Mr. McColl, Mr. A. McLean,	Mr. O'Malley, Mr. Page, Mr. Phillips, Sir John Quick, Mr. Ronald, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Sawers, Mr. Skene, Mr. Spence, Mr. Thomas, Sir George Turner, Mr. Wilkinson. <i>Tellers.</i> Mr. Chapman, Mr. Hume Cook.		Mr. Conroy, Mr. Joseph Cook, Mr. R. Edwards, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Kingston, Mr. F. E. McLean, Sir William McMillan, Mr. Reid,	Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Thomson, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Willis. <i>Tellers.</i> Mr. Kirwan, Mr. Sydney Smith.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- 4. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF QUEENSLAND--PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION.-Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to notice, That this House disapproves of the proposed distribution of the State of Queensland into nine Divisions, named Brisbane, Capricornia, Darling Downs, Herbert, Kennedy, Maranca, Moreton, Oxley, and Wide Bay, and shown on the maps laid upon the Table of the House of Representatives on the 11th August instant.
 - Debate ensued.

Mr. R. Edwards addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he 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 to-morrow.

5. RESIGNATION OF MEMBER (THE RIGHT HONORABLE G. H. REID).—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he had received the following letter :—

Parliament House, Melbourne, 18th August, 1903.

Sir, I have the honour to tender my resignation of my seat in the House of Representatives for the constituency of East Sydney, New South Wales.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant, G. H. REID.

The Honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Edmund Barton moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House at twenty-five minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Sir Langdon Bonython, Sir Edward Braddon*, Mr. Brown, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Winter Cooke, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. G. B. Edwards, Mr. Macdonald-Paterson, Mr. McCay, Sir Malcolm McEacharn, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Watson.

* On leave.

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

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