

1903.

# THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

---

## No. 64.

# VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

---

TUESDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER, 1903.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered, That Notice of Motion, Government Business, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 1.
3. NATURALIZATION BILL.—The Order of the Day for the third reading of this Bill having been read—  
Sir Edmund Barton moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.  
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.
4. FEDERAL CAPITAL SITE—CONFERENCE TO SELECT.—Sir Edmund Barton moved, pursuant to notice—
  - (1) That, with a view of facilitating the performance of the obligations imposed on Parliament by Section 125 of The Constitution, it is expedient that a Conference take place between the two Houses of the Parliament to consider the selection of the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth.
  - (2) That this House approves of such Conference being held on a day to be fixed by Mr. Speaker and Mr. President, and that it consist of all the Members of both Houses.
  - (3) That at such Conference an exhaustive ballot be taken to ascertain which of the Sites reported on by the Royal Commission on Sites for the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth appointed by the Governor-General, on the 14th day of January, 1903, is in the opinion of the Members of the Parliament the most suitable for the establishment of such Seat of Government.
  - (4) That Mr. Speaker be empowered, in conjunction with Mr. President, to draw up Regulations for the conduct of such Conference and for the taking of such exhaustive ballot.
  - (5) That the name of the Site which receives an absolute majority of the votes cast at such Conference be reported to the House by Mr. Speaker.
  - (6) That it is expedient that a Bill be introduced after such report has been made to the House, to determine, as the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth, the Site so reported to the House.
  - (7) That the passage of the last preceding Resolution be an instruction for the preparation and introduction of the necessary measure; and that leave be hereby given for that purpose.
  - (8) That so much of the Standing Orders of this House be suspended as would prevent the adoption or carrying into effect of any of the above Resolutions.
  - (9) That these Resolutions be communicated to the Senate by a Message requesting its concurrence therein.

Debate ensued.

22nd September, 1903.

---

Mr. A. McLean moved, as an amendment, That after the word "That" in line 1 of paragraph (1), the following words be inserted, viz.:—

"with a view to the selection of the most suitable Site for the Commonwealth Seat of Government, and the acquisition of same on the most favorable terms, it is desirable that the Government should ascertain the lowest price at which they can acquire 100 square miles of territory at each of the following proposed Sites, viz.:—Albury, Bombala, and Tumut; also the lowest price at which they can secure the necessary area for the protection of the proposed sources of water supply in connexion with each of the foregoing Sites.

That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Senate with a Message requesting concurrence with same."

Debate continued.

Mr. Chapman moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

5. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Edmund Barton moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at eight minutes to 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, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Deakin, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Macdonald-Paterson, Mr. McCay, Mr. McColl, Mr. F. E. McLean, Mr. Phillips, Sir John Quick, Mr. Reid, Mr. Sawers, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. V. L. Solomon, and Mr. Watkins.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*