

1903.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 65.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1903.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Chanter presented a Petition from certain electors of New South Wales, praying that, in view of the recent drought and the consequent emigration of many workmen, speedy provision may be made by the House for the passage of an Iron Bonus Bill, which will give substantial encouragement to private enterprise in developing the iron industry.  
Petition received.  
Mr. Sydney Smith presented a Petition from Thos. A. Machattie, styling himself President of the Western Federal Capital League of New South Wales, praying that the House, before proceeding to select a Site for the future Federal Capital, will take steps to have prepared a ratio of values of the various factors of suitability (including the factors of defence, coal supply, and the cost of freightage to the Capital from the port of miscellaneous supply), so that the House may be in possession of information which is absolutely necessary for a proper decision on the respective value of the several sites.  
Petition received and read.
3. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 1 and 2, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 5.
4. SUPPLY.—ESTIMATES, AND ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND BUILDINGS (1903-4).—The Order of the Day for the consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply having been read—the said resolutions were read, and are as follow :—

## ESTIMATES, 1903-4.

*Resolved*—That, including the several sums already voted in this present Session of Parliament for such services, the following sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1903-4 for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

	£
I. The Parliament ... ..	30,207
II. The Department of External Affairs ... ..	38,235
III. The Attorney-General's Department ... ..	7,165
IV. The Department of Home Affairs ... ..	213,739
V. The Department of the Treasury ... ..	35,678
Refunds of Revenue ... ..	55,000
Advance to the Treasurer ... ..	200,000
VI. The Department of Trade and Customs ... ..	260,196
VII. The Department of Defence ... ..	677,579
VIII. The Postmaster-General's Department ... ..	2,460,299

## ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, AND BUILDINGS, 1903-4.

*Resolved*—That the following sum be granted to His Majesty for the several services hereunder specified for the year ending 30th June, 1904, viz. :—

	£
Additions, New Works, and Buildings ... ..	422,283

And the said resolutions were adopted by the House.

5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 4, be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 2.
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 agreed to a certain resolution.  
Ordered—That the consideration of the Report be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.  
Mr. Chanter also acquainted the House 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.

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7. FEDERAL CAPITAL SITE—CONFERENCE TO SELECT.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—

- (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—

and on the amendment proposed *thereto*, viz.:—

That after the word "That," in line 1 of paragraph (1), the following words be inserted:—

"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 resumed.

And the Motion having by request been divided—

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 10.

Mr. Cameron,	Mr. Ronald,
Mr. Kennedy,	Mr. Salmon.
Mr. Knox,	
Sir Malcolm	<i>Tellers.</i>
McEacharn,	
Mr. A. McLean,	Mr. Hume Cook,
Mr. Phillips,	Mr. Crouch.

Noes, 47.

Mr. Bamford,	Mr. Manifold,
Sir Edmund Barton,	Mr. McCay,
Sir Langdon	Mr. McDonald,
Bonython,	Sir William
Brown,	McMillan,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. O'Malley,
Mr. Conroy,	Mr. Page,
Mr. Joseph Cook,	Mr. Paterson,
Mr. Winter Cooke,	Mr. Poynton,
Mr. G. B. Edwards,	Mr. Skene,
Mr. R. Edwards,	Mr. E. Solomon,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Fisher,	Mr. Thomas,
Sir John Forrest,	Mr. Thomson,
Mr. Fowler,	Mr. Tudor,
Mr. Fuller,	Sir George Turner,
Sir Philip Fysh,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Glynn,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. A. C. Groom,	Mr. Wilkinson,
Mr. L. E. Groom,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Hartnoll,	Mr. Willis.
Mr. Higgins,	
Mr. Isaacs,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Kirwan,	
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Mahon,	Mr. Sydney Smith.

And so it passed in the negative.

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Paragraphs (1) and (2) agreed to.

Paragraph (3)—Mr. Watson moved, as an amendment, That the word "open" be inserted after the word "exhaustive" in line 1.

Mr. McCay moved, as an amendment on the amendment, That the word proposed to be inserted be amended by the addition thereto of the words "preference transfer."

Debate ensued.

And the amendment on the amendment having been, by leave, withdrawn—

Question—That the word "open" proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Crouch moved, as a further amendment, That the word "three" be inserted after the word "which" in line 1 of the paragraph.

Debate ensued

The further amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Conroy moved, as a further amendment, That the words "of the" in line 1 of the paragraph be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the word "district" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

The further amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Sir William Lyne moved, as a further amendment, That the word "Sites," in line 1 of the paragraph be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words "following localities, namely:—Albury, Armidale, Bathurst, Bombala, Dalgety, Lake George, Lyndhurst, Orange, and Tumut" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the paragraph—put and negatived.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And the words "within such locality" having been inserted after the word "establishment" in the last line but one of the paragraph—

Mr. Thomson moved, as a further amendment, That the words "Provided that before such exhaustive ballot be taken the Sites in each of the following groups be reduced by ballot to one Site in each group:—

Western Group.—Bathurst, Lyndhurst, Orange.

South-Western Group.—Albury, Tumut.

Southern Group.—Bombala, Dalgety."

be added to the paragraph.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Fuller moved, as an amendment on the amendment, That all the words after the word "Orange" be omitted therefrom.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the amendment—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

The House divided—

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Brown,	Mr. Poynton,
Mr. Cameron,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Conroy,	Mr. Thomson,
Mr. Joseph Cook,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. G. B. Edwards,	Mr. Willis.
Mr. R. Edwards,	
Mr. Fuller,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Hartnoll,	
Mr. McDonald,	Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Page,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Paterson,	

Noes, 30.

Sir Edmund Barton,	Mr. Mauger,
Sir Langdon	Mr. McCay,
Bonython,	Sir Malcolm
Mr. Chanter,	McEacharn,
Mr. Hume Cook,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Winter Cooke,	Mr. Ronald,
Mr. Crouch,	Mr. Salmon,
Mr. Fisher,	Mr. Skene,
Sir John Forrest,	Mr. E. Solomon,
Mr. Fowler,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Glynn,	Mr. Tudor,
Mr. Isaacs,	Sir George Turner,
Mr. Kennedy,	Mr. Wilkinson.
Mr. Kingston,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Knox,	
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Mahon,	Mr. L. E. Groom.

And so it passed in the negative.

Paragraph (3), as amended, agreed to.

Paragraph (4) agreed to.

Paragraph (5) amended (consequentially) by the omission of the word "Site" and the insertion of the word "locality" in place thereof; and agreed to as amended.

Paragraph (6) amended by the omission of the word "determine" and the insertion of the words "provide for determining" in place thereof, and by the omission of the words "the Site" and the insertion of the words "a Site within the locality"; and agreed to as amended.

Paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), agreed to.

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Motion accordingly agreed to, amended as follows :—

- (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 open ballot be taken to ascertain which of the following localities, namely, Albury, Armidale, Bathurst, Bombala, Dalgety, Lake George, Lyndhurst, Orange, and Tumut, 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 within such locality 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 locality 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 provide for determining as the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth, a Site within the locality 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.

8. MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND BUILDINGS, 1901-2 and 1902-3.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented by Sir George Turner, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—

TENNYSON,

*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 20.*

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the Year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and two, and Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for Arrears of the period ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and one, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 23rd September, 1903.

TENNYSON,

*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 21.*

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works, and Buildings for the Year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and two, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 23rd September, 1903.

TENNYSON,

*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 22.*

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the Year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three, and Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for Arrears of the period ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and two, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 23rd September, 1903.

TENNYSON,

*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 23.*

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works, and Buildings for the Year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and three, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 23rd September, 1903.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and, together with the accompanying Estimates, to be printed and referred to the Committee of Supply.

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9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—AMENDMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATIONS.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

*Message No. 21.*

Mr. SPEAKER,

The Senate transmits to the House of Representatives the annexed schedule of amendments, which the Senate is of opinion should be made in the Commonwealth Public Service Regulations, and requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives thereto.

R. C. BAKER,  
President.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 23rd September, 1903.

PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATIONS.

*Schedule of Amendments Agreed to by the Senate.*

No. 1.—Page 1, Regulation 4, line 15, omit "half an hour," insert "three quarters of an hour."

No. 2.—Page 4, Regulation 66, line 1, after "officer" insert "having already worked six days during the week in addition thereto."

No. 3.—Page 4, Regulation 66, line 3, omit "a," insert "one and one half."

No. 4.—Page 9, Regulation 149, in column "Daily Allowance," omit "7s.," insert "8s."

No. 5.—Page 9, Regulation 149, in column "Daily Allowance," omit "6s.," insert "7s."

E. G. BLACKMORE,  
*Clerk of the Parliaments.*

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for Friday next.

10. 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 twenty 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—Mr. Clarke, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Deakin, Mr. Macdonald-Paterson, Mr. McColl, Mr. F. E. McLean, Sir John Quick, Mr. Reid, Mr. Sawers, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. V. L. Solomon.

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