

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1926.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MR. SPEAKER—TEMPORARY RELIEF TO.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, during the unavoidable absence of Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Mr. Speaker be authorized to call upon any of the Temporary Chairmen of Committees to temporarily relieve him in the Chair.
Question—put and passed.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—
Bellata, New South Wales—For Postal purposes (Easements).
Collinsvale, Queensland—For Postal purposes.
4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENTS BUILDING, CANBERRA.—Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report thereon, viz.:—The erection of a building at Canberra for accommodation of Commonwealth Departments.
Mr. Marr having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—MOLONGLO RIVER DAM, CANBERRA.—Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report thereon, viz.:—The construction of a dam and improvements on the Molonglo River in the Federal Capital.
Mr. Marr having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—
Question—put and passed.
6. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—WHARF IMPROVEMENT, DARWIN.—Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report thereon, viz.:—Improvement of Wharf facilities at Darwin, Northern Territory.
Mr. Marr having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

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7. **CRIMES BILL (1926).**—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:—“this House is of opinion that the Bill should be withdrawn with a view to re-drafting so as to eliminate the obnoxious clauses referring to industrial disputes as such clauses associated with the Crimes Act are an unwarranted affront to the great bodies of organized labor.”

Debate resumed.

Mr. Fenton 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.

8. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PETROLEUM PROSPECTING BILL.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 10.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act relating to the Encouragement of Prospecting for Petroleum Oil*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1926.

9. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NAVIGATION BILL (1926).**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 11.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the Navigation Act 1912-1925*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1926.

10. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NEW GUINEA BILL (1926).**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 12.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “*An Act to amend the New Guinea Act 1920*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1926.

Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message 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.

11. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—CUSTOMS TARIFF (PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA PREFERENCE) BILL.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 13.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act relating to Customs Preference on Goods the Produce of Papua and on Goods the Produce of the Territory of New Guinea*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1926.

12. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA BOUNTIES BILL.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 14.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to provide for the Payment of Bounties on certain Goods the Produce of the Territory of Papua and on certain Goods the Produce of the Territory of New Guinea*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1926.

11th February, 1926.

13. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—REFERENDUM (CONSTITUTION ALTERATION) BILL (1926).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 15.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act 1906-1919’*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th February, 1926.

Mr. Murr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message 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.

14. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

New Guinea Act—Ordinance of 1926—No. 4—Appropriation 1925-26.

15. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eight minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bell, Mr. Roland Green, Sir Elliot Johnson, and Mr. Lazzarini.

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