

1926-27.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 100.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 24TH MARCH, 1927.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—CHANGES IN MINISTRY.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by leave, announced to the House that, consequent on the recent severe illness of Sir Neville Howse, Minister for Defence and Health, a re-arrangement had been made in the Ministry in regard to certain portfolios, as follows:—

Senator Sir William Glasgow to be Minister for Defence;
Sir Neville Howse to be Minister for Health; and
Mr. Marr to be Minister for Home and Territories.

Mr. Bruce also informed the House that Mr. Pratten, Minister for Trade and Customs, had been granted four months' leave of absence owing to ill-health, and that during his absence the Department of Trade and Customs would be administered by Senator Crawford (Honorary Minister).

3. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. W. Maloney rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The case of Robert Denholm, formerly employed in Parliament House".

Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—

Mr. W. Maloney moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

4. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Royal Australian Naval College—Annual Report, 1926.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Taxation—Tenth Report of the Commissioner, years 1923-24, 1924-25, and 1925-26.

Ordered to be printed.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE. —Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate:—

[*Pearl-shell Overseas Marketing Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 83.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act relating to the Export of Pearl-shell and for other purposes," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 23rd March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,

Deputy-President.

[*Pearl-shell Export Charges Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 84.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to impose Charges upon the Export of Pearl-shell," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 23rd March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,

Deputy-President.

24th March, 1927.

6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 1 and 2, Government Business, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 3.

7. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND BUILDINGS, 1924–25 AND 1925–26.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—

STONEHAVEN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 66.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six 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 twenty-five, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 2nd March, 1927.

STONEHAVEN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 67.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six 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, Buildings, &c., for the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 2nd March, 1927.

STONEHAVEN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 68.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six 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 twenty-six, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

19th March, 1927.

STONEHAVEN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 69.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six 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, Buildings, &c., for the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

19th March, 1927.

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

8. SUPPLY—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS, ETC., 1924–25 AND 1925–26.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved the following four motions :—

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1924–25.

That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1924–25, for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

	£
I. The Parliament	2,971
II. The Prime Minister's Department	19,855
III. The Department of the Treasury	97,641
IV. The Attorney-General's Department	11,256
V. The Home and Territories Department	43,530
VI. The Department of Defence	16,922
VII. The Department of Trade and Customs	82,641
VIII. The Department of Works and Railways	53,250
IX. The Postmaster-General's Department	790,407
X. The Department of Health	8,756
XI. Department of Markets and Migration	1,529
XII. Miscellaneous Services	179,493
XII. War Services	28,073
	1,336,324
Refunds of Revenue	62
Total	£1,336,386

24th March, 1927.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1924-25.

That there be granted to His Majesty to the service of the year 1924-25, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., a further sum not exceeding £2,672.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1925-26.

That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1925-26 for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

Part I.—Departments and Services other than Business Undertakings and Territories of the Commonwealth.

	£
I.—The Parliament	1,977
II.—The Prime Minister's Department	9,768
III.—The Department of the Treasury	59,403
IV.—The Attorney-General's Department	8,536
V.—The Home and Territories Department	5,502
VI.—The Department of Defence	10,502
VII.—The Department of Trade and Customs	23,431
VIII.—The Department of Works and Railways	8,771
IX.—The Department of Health	11,138
X.—Department of Markets and Migration	26,577
XI.—Miscellaneous Services	77,106
XII.—War Services	49,061
Total Part I.	291,772

Part II.—Business Undertakings.

I.—Commonwealth Railways	588
II.—Postmaster-General's Department	161,747
Total Part II.	162,335

Part III.—Territories of the Commonwealth.

Northern Territory	2,603
Federal Capital Territory	96
Papua	24,066
Norfolk Island	446
Total Part III.	27,211

Total £481,318

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1925-26.

That there be granted to His Majesty to the service of the year 1925-26 for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., a further sum not exceeding £29,741.

Question—put and passed.

Resolutions to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay. Question—put and passed.
10. SUPPLY RESOLUTIONS.—The Resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), were adopted by the House.
11. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1, Government Business, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 2.
12. WAYS AND MEANS [SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS, ETC., 1924-25 and 1925-26].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved the following four motions :—

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1924-25.

That, towards making good the further Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year 1924-25, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £1,336,386.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1924-25.

That, towards making good the further Supply granted to His Majesty for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year 1924-25, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £2,672.

24th March, 1927.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1925-26.

That, towards making good the further Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year 1925-26, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £481,318.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1925-26.

That, towards making good the further Supply granted to His Majesty for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year 1925-26, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £29,741.

Question—put and passed.

Resolutions to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed : Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

The Resolutions reported from the Committee were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Earle Page, were adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Earle Page and Mr. Hill do prepare and bring in Bills to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

13. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL, 1924-25.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Earle Page moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and, after debate, agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

14. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL, 1924-25.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Earle Page moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

15. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL 1925-26.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Earle Page moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

24th March, 1927.

16. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL 1925-26.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.,*" and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Earle Page moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

17. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE. Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate:—

[*Wire and Wire Netting Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 85.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Grant of Financial Assistance to the States and to North Australia and Central Australia for the purpose of supplying Wire and Wire Netting to Settlers,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 23rd March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

[*Petroleum Prospecting Bill (1927)*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 86.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Petroleum Prospecting Acts 1926'*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

[*War Service Homes Bill (1927)*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 87.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to sections eighteen, eighteen A, twenty-one and twenty-eight A of the 'War Service Homes Act 1918-1926'*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

18. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE BILL (1927).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 88.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to amend Section One hundred and twenty-four of the 'Defence Act 1903-1918'*," and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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 a later hour this day.

19. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate:—

[*Supplementary Appropriation Bill 1924-25*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 89.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

24th March, 1927.

[*Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Bill 1924-25*—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 90.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

20. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determination by the Arbitrator, &c.—No. 1 of 1927—Amalgamated Engineering Union.
Public Service Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 26.
21. FRESH FRUITS OVERSEAS MARKETING BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 5—

Mr. Seabrook moved, as an amendment, That the word "two" (page 2, line 23) be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the word "three" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 6 to 8 agreed to.

Clause 9 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 10 and 11 agreed to.

Clause 12 debated and agreed to.

Clause 13 agreed to.

Clause 14—

Mr. Seabrook moved, as an amendment, That the following proviso be added to sub-clause (1.) :—

"Provided that such licence shall not be required in the case of a *bona fide* purchaser in Australia for export abroad."

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Remainder of Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Thomas Paterson (Minister for Markets and Migration), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having been previously suspended, see page 322) the Bill was, after debate, read a third time.

22. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION—FRESH FRUITS EXPORT CHARGES BILL.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Thomas Paterson (Minister for Markets and Migration) moved—

1. That a charge at the rate of one penny for each case be imposed on all apples and pears exported from the Commonwealth, after a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this resolution, subject to a lower rate being prescribed by regulations made under that Act in respect of such apples or pears.
2. That the charge imposed in pursuance of this resolution shall cease to be imposed upon a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this resolution as the date upon which that Act shall cease to be in force.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Thomas Paterson moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Thomas Paterson, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Thomas Paterson and Mr. Bruce do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Thomas Paterson then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

24th March, 1927.

Mr. Thomas Paterson moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Thomas Paterson, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

23. PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER'S CHAIR AT CANBERRA—INCORPORATION OF PROCEEDINGS IN HANSARD.—

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, with a view to preserving the records of the presentation, at Canberra, on 11th October, 1926, of the Speaker's Chair so generously given by the Members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons of the United Kingdom, and, as an expression of appreciation on the part of this House, the report of the proceedings be incorporated in *Hansard*.

Question—put and passed.

24. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—VICTORIAN PARLIAMENT HOUSE MEMORIAL BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

STONEHAVEN,
Governor-General.

Message No. 70.

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Erection of a Memorial in connexion with the Occupation by the Commonwealth Parliament of the Parliament House of the State of Victoria.

19th March, 1927.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Erection of a Memorial in connexion with the Occupation by the Commonwealth Parliament of the Parliament House of the State of Victoria.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Mr. Bruce moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Bruce, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Bruce and Mr. Earle Page do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Bruce then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Bruce moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Bruce, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

25. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

24th March, 1927.

26. PLACE OF NEXT MEETING—CANBERRA.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the next sitting of the House of Representatives take place in the building known as Parliament House, at Canberra, at the Seat of Government.
Question—put and passed.
27. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until such time on Monday, 9th May, 1927, as is fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.
Question—put and passed.
28. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—APPOINTMENT OF MR. GROSVENOR FRANCIS IN PLACE OF SIR GRANVILLE RYRIE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Sir Granville Ryrie be discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and that, in his place, Mr. Grosvenor Francis be appointed a member of the Committee.
Question—put and passed.
29. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Malcolm Cameron be appointed a member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, in the place of Mr. Gregory, resigned.
Question—put and passed.
30. DEFENCE BILL (1927).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Defence) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Marr, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

31. SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH ACT—APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with sub-section (3.) of section 17B of the *Science and Industry Research Act 1920-1926*, the undermentioned additional Estimates of Expenditure of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for the year ending 30th June, 1927, be approved and passed:—

No. 1. Stock diseases and pests investigations (including cattle-tick dips and Buffalo-fly)	..	£1,750
No. 4. Horticultural investigations (including citricultural and viticultural)	..	1,000
No. 5. Food preservation and cold storage investigations	..	1,100
No. 14. State Committees, sundry investigations and miscellaneous expenditure	..	6,302
Total Investigation	..	£10,152

Question—put and passed.

32. COMMONWEALTH OFFICES, SYDNEY—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-21*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work, which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and on which the Committee has duly reported to this House the result of its investigations:—Erection of Commonwealth Offices, Sydney.
Question—put and passed.
33. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN ZOOLOGY, CANBERRA—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Marr (Minister representing the Minister for Home and Territories) moved, by leave, That in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-21*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and on which the Committee has duly reported to this House the result of its investigations:—The construction of buildings and formation of Zoological Reservation at Canberra for the National Museum of Australian Zoology.
Question—put and passed.
34. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Northern Territory—Report of Acting Administrator for the year ended 30th June, 1926.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Papua—Annual Report for the year 1925-26.
Public Service Act—Appointment of L. D. Lyons, Attorney-General's Department.

24th March, 1927.

35. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Supplementary Appropriation Bill 1925-26*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 91.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

[*Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Bill 1925-26*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 92.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

[*Fresh Fruits Overseas Marketing Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 93.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to the Export of Fresh Fruits and for other purposes,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

[*Fresh Fruits Export Charges Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 94.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to impose Charges upon the Export of Fresh Fruits,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

[*Victorian Parliament House Memorial Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 95.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Erection of a Memorial in connexion with the Occupation by the Commonwealth Parliament of the Parliament House of the State of Victoria,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 24th March, 1927.

WILLIAM PLAIN,
Deputy-President.

36. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Gibson (Postmaster-General) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes past six o'clock p.m., adjourned until Monday, the 9th May, 1927, at Canberra at an hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by resolution of the House at this sitting.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bell, Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Ley, Mr. Makin, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Watt, Mr. West, and Mr. Yates.

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