

1926-27.

# THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA.

No. 102.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WEDNESDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1927.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., according to the terms of the Resolution of the 9th May last.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH TO MEMBERS.—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following Commission :—

*His Excellency the Right Honorable JOHN LAWRENCE, BARON STONEHAVEN, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Commonwealth of Australia,*

To the Honorable Sir Littleton Ernest Groom, K.C.M.G., K.C., Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia,

Greeting :

WHEREAS by the forty-second section of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia it is enacted that every Member of the House of Representatives shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor-General, or some person authorized by him, an Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance in the form set forth in the Schedule to the aforesaid Constitution ; and

WHEREAS on the thirtieth day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, a Commission was issued to you commanding and authorizing you from time to time in the Parliament House of the Commonwealth, in the City of Melbourne, to administer the said Oath or Affirmation to such Members of the House of Representatives as had not already taken and subscribed the same since their election to the House of Representatives ; and

WHEREAS on the ninth day of May, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven, the Parliament of the Commonwealth was transferred from the City of Melbourne to the Seat of Government at Canberra,

NOW THEREFORE I, the Governor-General aforesaid, do hereby, by these presents, revoke the Commission of the thirteenth January aforesaid, and command and authorize you from time to time in the Parliament House of the Commonwealth, at the Seat of Government at Canberra, to administer the said Oath or Affirmation to such Members of the House of Representatives as have not already taken and subscribed the same since their election to the said House of Representatives.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, at Adelaide, this seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven.

(L.S.) STONEHAVEN,  
Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,  
S. M. BRUCE,  
Prime Minister.

3. RETURN TO WRIT (WARRINGAH DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received a Return to the Writ which he had issued on the 26th April last, for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Warringah, in the State of New South Wales, in the place of the Honorable Sir Granville Ryrie, resigned, and that by the indorsement on the Writ it appeared that Robert Archdale Parkhill had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.

28th September, 1927.

4. **MEMBER SWORN.**—Robert Archdale Parkhill, Esquire, was introduced, and made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
5. **VISIT OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF YORK.—PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS.—REPLY THERETO.**  
Mr. Speaker reported that he had waited on His Royal Highness the Duke of York on the evening of the 9th May last, and had presented to him the Address which had been agreed to by the House on that day, and that His Royal Highness had been graciously pleased to make the following reply :—

TO THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

I thank you most sincerely for the Address which you have just presented to me on behalf of the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth. The Duchess and I are deeply grateful for your generous words, and I will not fail to convey to the King, my Father, the expressions of duty and loyalty to the Crown and Person of the Sovereign which it contains. The King and Queen retain the most vivid recollections of their visit to Australia when, as your Address recalls, he opened the first Federal Parliament twenty-six years ago.

It is a source of the greatest pride to me that I should have been commissioned by the King to open the first meeting of the Commonwealth Parliament at Canberra, and thereby to inaugurate the new Capital City. The Duchess and I rejoice to have been associated with the people of the Commonwealth on this great and historic occasion. We shall always remember our visit to Australia, and to-day's culminating event as one of the proudest and happiest memories of our lives.

We pray that our present tour, and especially the ceremony of to-day, performed as it has been in the presence of representatives of various parts of the Empire, may be the means of drawing still closer the ties of loyalty, kinship, and affection, which bind together all members of the British Commonwealth.

ALBERT.

9th May, 1927.

6. **THE LATE HONORABLE WILLIAM GUTHRIE SPENCE.**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received from Mrs. Brooks, a daughter of the late Honorable William Guthrie Spence, a communication, on behalf of her mother and other members of the family, thanking the House for its resolution of sympathy.
7. **DEATH OF MR. W. A. GALE, C.M.G., CLERK OF THE HOUSE.**—Mr. Speaker, having announced, with deep regret, the death, on the 27th July last, of Mr. W. A. Gale, C.M.G., Clerk of the House—  
Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of Walter Augustus Gale, C.M.G., who was an officer of the House of Representatives since the inauguration of the Commonwealth, and Clerk of the House from the 1st February, 1917, until his death, and this House expresses its appreciation of the loyalty and ability with which he devoted himself to his official duties, and tenders its profound sympathy to his wife and family in their great bereavement. And Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion and other honorable Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—  
Question—passed.
8. **DIVISIONS.—CLOSING OF DOORS AND TAKING OF NAMES :—**Mr. Speaker informed the House that the corner doors in the Chamber would be closed on the bells being rung for a Division and that when in Division only the names of those Members inside the line of the back row of seats would be taken.
9. **OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE.—CHANGES IN OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE.**—Mr. Speaker announced that Mr. Frank L. Clapin, Clerk-Assistant, retired from the service of the House on the 30th June last, and consequent on that officer's retirement and the death of the Clerk of the House (Mr. Gale) the following changes had been made in regard to the officers in attendance in the Chamber :—  
Mr. McGregor to be Clerk of the House.  
Mr. Parkes to be Clerk-Assistant.  
Mr. Green to be Second Clerk-Assistant.  
Mr. Tregear to be Serjeant-at-Arms.
10. **ADDRESS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.—ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received the following letter from His Excellency the Governor-General :—

Governor-General's Office,  
Canberra,  
28th September, 1927.

The Honorable  
The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

With reference to the letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives in which was embodied the text of the resolution unanimously agreed to by the House of Representatives at its first meeting in the Parliament House at Canberra, expressing thanks to His Majesty the King for His message on the occasion of the establishment of the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth at Canberra, the Governor-General desires to inform the Speaker that he has received advice that the resolution has been laid before His Majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously.

STONEHAVEN,  
Governor-General.

28th September, 1927.

11. GIFT FROM HIS MAJESTY THE KING—RESOLUTION OF THANKS.—ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received the following letter from His Majesty the Governor-General :—

Governor-General's Office,  
Canberra,  
28th September, 1927.

The Honorable

The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

With reference to the letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives, dated 9th May, 1927, in which was embodied the text of the resolution unanimously agreed to by the House of Representatives at its meeting in Canberra on that date, expressing sincere gratitude to His Majesty the King for his historic gift to the Parliament, the Governor-General desires to inform the Speaker that he has received advice that the message has been laid before His Majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously.

STONEHAVEN,  
Governor-General.

12. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—REPORT.—Mr. E. C. Riley, for the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Report from the Committee :—

Commonwealth Government Shipping Activities, including Cockatoo Island Dockyard.  
and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) 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.

13. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Bank Act—Commonwealth Bank of Australia—Aggregate Balance-sheet at 30th June, 1927, and Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Note Issue Department at 30th June, 1927 ; together with the Auditor-General's Reports thereon.

The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Federal Capital Commission—Reports for quarter ended—

31st March, 1927.

30th June, 1927.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute :—

River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for the year 1926–27.

Ordered to be printed.

Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 47.

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—

No. 17 of 1927—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association.

No. 18 of 1927—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association.

No. 20 of 1927—Commonwealth Telephone Officers' Association.

No. 25 of 1927—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association.

Audit Act—

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 41, 74.

Transfers of amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial Year 1926–27—

Dated 1st June, 1927.

Commonwealth Bank Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 99.

Customs Act—

Proclamation, dated 2nd June, 1927, prohibiting the exportation (except under certain conditions) of Wine.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 95.

Defence Act—

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 42, 58, 96, 105, 106.

Distillation Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 91.

Export Guarantee Act—Returns showing Reports, Recommendations and Assistance granted up to—

31st March, 1927.

30th June, 1927.

Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 64.

Iron and Steel Products Bounty Act—Statements (2) of reasons for authorizing the use of imported material in manufactures (Traction Engines) on which bounty is payable.

Land Tax Assessment Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 49.

28th September, 1927.

## Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—

Balgowlah, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.  
 Ceduna, South Australia—For Postal purposes.  
 Congwarra, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.  
 Hurstville, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.  
 Jericho, Queensland—For Postal purposes.  
 Maitland, South Australia—For Postal purposes.  
 Queanbeyan, Federal Territory (2)—For Federal Capital purposes.  
 Sandy Bay, Tasmania—For Defence purposes.  
 Seymour, Victoria—For Defence purposes.  
 Toowoomba, Queensland—For Defence purposes.  
 Tuggeranong, Federal Territory (4)—For Federal Capital purposes.  
 Turimetta, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.  
 West Maitland, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.  
 Woden, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 23, 35, 59, 79, 80, 81, 82, 97, 102, 103, 104.

## Navigation Act—

Compass Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 39.  
 Survey and Equipment Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 93.  
 Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 48, 55, 89, 90.

## New Guinea Act—Ordinances of 1927—

No. 16—Criminal Code Amendment.  
 No. 17—Laws Repeal and Adopting (No. 2).  
 No. 18—Advisory Council.  
 No. 19—Interpretation and Amendments Incorporation.  
 No. 20—Cinematograph (Censorship) Ordinance Repeal.  
 No. 21—Native Labour.  
 No. 22—Native Labour (No. 2).  
 No. 23—Appropriation (No. 3), 1926–27.  
 No. 24—Supply (No. 1), 1927–28.  
 No. 25—Natives' Contracts Protection.  
 No. 26—Transfer of Land Control.

## Norfolk Island Act—

Ordinances of 1927—  
 No. 1—Dangerous Drugs.  
 No. 2—Public and Patriotic Funds.  
 Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Ordinance—Regulations.

## Northern Australia Act—

Central Australia—Ordinances of 1927—  
 No. 1—Slaughtering.  
 No. 2—Registration.  
 No. 3—Bills of Sale.  
 No. 4—Supreme Court.  
 No. 5—Aboriginals.

## North Australia—Ordinances of 1927—

No. 1—Slaughtering.  
 No. 2—Registration.  
 No. 3—Bills of Sale.  
 No. 4—Supreme Court.  
 No. 5—Aboriginals.

Crown Lands Ordinance—Statement and plan relative to resumption of portion of Post and Telegraph Reserve at Katherine.

Public Service Ordinance—Regulations Amended.

## Papua Act—

## Ordinances of 1927—

No. 7—Supplementary Appropriation (No. 1), 1926–27; together with Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure (No. 1) for the year ending 30th June, 1927.  
 No. 8—Appropriation, 1927–28; together with Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1928.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 73.

Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 32, 66, 78, 84, 85, 86, 98, 101.

Power Alcohol Bounty Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 52.

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## Public Service Act—

## Appointments—Department—

## Health—

E. Allen.

S. W. M. King and C. W. Adey.

S. C. Lyon, P. T. Redmond and H. M. Green.

## Home and Territories—

C. E. Lane-Poole.

G. W. Mackey and A. W. O'Hara.

## Markets and Migration—

K. M. Lucas, E. J. Reid and H. S. Lucas.

## Postmaster-General's—

V. G. Acton and W. L. Price.

G. K. Elliott.

C. J. Griffiths and V. F. Reeves.

T. N. Mirfield, A. J. McKenzie, D. O'Donnell and L. Hanly.

E. J. T. Symonds and N. H. Stuart.

J. C. Tinning.

## Works and Railways—

W. C. Bruce (variation of approval).

J. W. Grinham.

T. W. Holmes.

J. H. Jorgenson.

J. C. Mackenzie.

P. F. Pearce.

F. E. Priddle.

C. E. F. Roach.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 46.

Quarantine Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 44.

Railways Act—By-laws Nos. 45, 46.

Royal Commissions Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 75.

Science and Industry Research Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 57.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances of 1927—

No. 5—Leases (Special Purposes).

No. 6—Provisional Government (No. 3).

No. 7—Meat.

No. 8—Bank Holidays.

No. 9—Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement).

No. 10—Leases.

No. 11—Districts.

No. 12—Bank Holidays (No. 2).

No. 13—Church Lands Leases.

No. 14—Tobacco.

No. 15—Real Property.

No. 16—Motor Traffic.

No. 17—Timber Protection.

No. 18—Trespass on Commonwealth Lands.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

By-laws—Accommodation.

Regulations Amended, &amp;c.—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 37, 54, 77.

Spirits Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 51.

Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 40, 53.

Wine Export Bounty Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 92.

Wireless Telegraphy Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 63.

14. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ESTIMATES 1927-28.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—

STONEHAVEN,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 72.*

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 Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 28th September, 1927.

28th September, 1927.

STONEHAVEN,  
Governor-General.

Message No. 73.

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 Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 28th September, 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.

15. SUPPLY [BUDGET STATEMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) delivered the Budget Speech, and then moved, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—The Parliament—namely—

The President .. .. . £1,300

be agreed to.

Progress 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.

16. PAPER.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
The Budget, 1927–28—Papers presented by the Honorable Earle Page, M.P., for the information of honorable Members on the occasion of opening the Budget of 1927–28.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

17. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 4)—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved—

That the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1921–1926 be further amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the twenty-ninth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Territory for the Seat of Government, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Customs Tariff as so amended.

That, excepting by mutual agreement or until after six months' notice has been given to the Government of the Dominion of New Zealand, nothing in this Resolution shall affect any goods the produce or manufacture of the Dominion of New Zealand entering the Commonwealth of Australia from the Dominion of New Zealand.

## IMPORT DUTIES.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
DIVISION XIV.—VEHICLES.			
359. By omitting from sub-item (D) the whole of paragraph (4) (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :—			
“ (4) Chassis, but not including Rubber Tyres or Storage Batteries—			
(a) Unassembled .. .. . ad val.	Free	12½ per cent.	17½ per cent.
(b) Assembled .. .. . ad val.	5 per cent.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.”

Progress 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.

18. SUPPLY RESOLUTION—SUPPLY BILL.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

28th September, 1927.

*(In the Committee.)*

## SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1927-28.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That there be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the services of the year 1927-28 a sum not exceeding £4,069,925.

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.

19. 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.

20. SUPPLY RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), was adopted by the House.

21. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

## SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1927-28.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year 1927-28, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £4,069,925.

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

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

22. SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1927-28.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight*," 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.

Mr. Charlton, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that the honorable Member 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 the next sitting.

23. DEATH OF MR. J. R. MCGREGOR, CLERK OF THE HOUSE.—Mr. Speaker announced, with deep regret, the death that evening of the Clerk of the House, Mr. John Robert McGregor.

24. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) thereupon moved, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased gentleman, That the House do now adjourn.

And all honorable Members having risen in silence—

Question—passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Ley, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Parker Moloney, and Mr. Watt.

E. W. PARKES,  
*Clerk-Assistant, House of Representatives.*