

1926-27.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. CANBERRA.

No. 105.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 5TH OCTOBER, 1927.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 Report of Debates of Commonwealth and State Ministers' Conference held at Melbourne, June, 1927, and at Sydney, July, 1927, to consider (1) Australian Exhibition; (2) Child Endowment; (3) Financial Relations between the States and the Commonwealth; (4) International Labor Conference; (5) Soldier Land Settlement.
 Edie Creek (New Guinea) Leases—Report, with summary of exhibits, of the Royal Commission.
 National Insurance—Membership, Finance, and Administration—Fourth and Final Report of the Royal Commission.
 Wireless—Report, with appendices, of the Royal Commission.
 Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
 British Phosphate Commission—Report and Accounts for year ended 30th June, 1926.
 Papuan Oilfields—
 Reports for the months of January, February, March, and May, 1927.
 Drilling Report to 30th June, 1927.
 The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Tariff Board—Annual Report for 1926-27—together with accompanying Schedule of Recommendations.
 Ordered—That the Report be printed.
 Air Force Act and Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 108.
 Cotton Bounty Act—Statement by the Minister for Trade and Customs of the reasons for authorizing the use of less than fifty per centum of Australian-grown cotton in the manufacture of cotton yarn upon which bounty has been paid.
3. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the consideration of Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business.
4. COMMONWEALTH BANK (SAVINGS BANK) BILL.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Bank Act* 1911-1925.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Earle Page 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. Earle Page moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Mr. Scullin 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.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—HOUSING 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. 74.

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 moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an act relating to Housing.

Government House,
Canberra, 28th September, 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.

5th October, 1927.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to Housing.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Mr. Earle Page 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. Earle Page, was adopted by the House.

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

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

Mr. Scullin 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.

6. SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1927-28.—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.)

Schedule further considered—

“ Prime Minister’s Department, £55,410 ”—further debated and agreed to.

“ The Department of the Treasury, £136,620 ”—agreed to.

“ The Attorney-General’s Department, £22,640 ”—agreed to.

“ The Home and Territories Department, £35,000 ”—agreed to.

“ The Department of Defence, £785,355 ”—agreed to.

“ The Department of Trade and Customs, £140,400 ”—agreed to.

“ The Department of Works and Railways, £42,400 ”—debated and agreed to.

“ The Department of Health, £27,920 ”—agreed to.

“ The Department of Markets and Migration, £15,600 ”—debated and agreed to.

“ Miscellaneous Services, £9,750 ”—agreed to.

“ War Services, £203,695 ”—agreed to.

“ Commonwealth Railways, £106,690 ”—agreed to.

“ Postmaster-General’s Department, £1,716,030 ”—agreed to.

“ North Australia and Central Australia, £39,660 ”—debated and agreed to.

“ Federal Capital Territory, £10,030 ”—agreed to.

“ Papua, £8,615 ”—agreed to.

“ New Guinea, £1,650 ”—debated and agreed to.

“ Norfolk Island, £750 ”—agreed to.

“ Refunds of Revenue, £200,000 ”—agreed to.

“ Advance to the Treasurer, £500,000 ”—agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see page 359*) the Bill was read a third time.

7. STANDING ORDER NO. 28A—VACANCY IN OFFICE OF CLERK.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That the following Standing Order be forthwith adopted :—

28A. During any vacancy in the office of Clerk all powers, functions, and duties of the Clerk shall be exercised and performed by the Clerk-Assistant.

Question—put and passed.

8. SUPPLY—ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1927-28.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Question again proposed (*see page 358*), That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—

The Parliament—namely—

The President £1,300

be agreed to.

Ordered, on the motion of Mr. Earle Page—That the consideration of the General Estimates be postponed until after the consideration of Estimates for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.

5th October, 1927.

ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1927-28.

Vote—"The Prime Minister's Department, £3,000"—agreed to.

Vote—"The Home and Territories Department, £8,800"—debated and agreed to.

Vote—"The Department of Defence, £205,364"—debated and agreed to.

Vote—"The Department of Trade and Customs, £25,015"—agreed to.

Vote—"The Department of Health, £41,870"—agreed to.

Vote—"Territories of the Commonwealth, £33,600"—debated and agreed to.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That there be granted to His Majesty to the service of the year 1927-28, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., a sum not exceeding £317,649.

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 the next sitting, 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 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.

11. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION—ESTIMATES—ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1927-28.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1927-28.

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year 1927-28, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £317,649.

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 the next sitting, 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. Thomas Paterson do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

12. APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL 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 for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., and to appropriate such sum,*" 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.

13. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—LOAN BILL (No. 2) (1927).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

STONEHAVEN,

Governor-General.

Message No. 75.

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 moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to authorize the Raising and Expending of certain Sums of Money.

Canberra, 28th September, 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.

5th October, 1927.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to authorize the Raising and Expending of certain Sums of Money. Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes past ten 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. Aubrey Abbott, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Bowden*, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Grosvenor Francis, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Roland Green, Sir Neville Howse*, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Ley*, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Parkhill, Mr. Edward Riley, Mr. E. C. Riley, Mr. Theodore, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Watt.

*On leave.

E. W. PARKES,

Clerk-Assistant, House of Representatives.