

1926-27-28.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

No. 156.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST MARCH, 1928.

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. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—KERBING AND GUTTERING, CANBERRA.—Sir Neville Howse (Minister for Home and Territories), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the cost of kerbing and guttering in connexion with land leased for business or residential sites at Canberra.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Public Service Act—Appointments of J. C. Just, H. J. Clare, F. K. Baxter, A. E. Whyte, and R. H. Dial, Department of Trade and Customs.
4. HOUSING BILL (1928).—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Housing Act 1927*.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL, CANBERRA.—
Sir Neville Howse (Minister for Home and Territories) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-21*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report thereon, viz.:—The Australian War Memorial, Canberra.
Sir Neville Howse having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
6. FINANCIAL AGREEMENT BILL.—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 "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words:—"the Bill, involving as it does an alteration of the Constitution, be postponed until Parliament has had an opportunity to discuss a comprehensive scheme of constitutional reform, including the evidence taken before the Royal Commission now sitting and its proposals when made"—
Debate resumed.
Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.
The House divided—

Ayes, 34.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Killen
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Latham
Mr. Bell	Mr. Ley
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Lister
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Corser	Mr. Marks
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Nott
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Parsons
Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Seabrook
Mr. Hill	
Sir Neville Howse	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hurry	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Manning

Noes, 19.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Parker Maloney
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Forde	Mr. William Watson
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Yates
Mr. Albert Green	
Mr. Gregory	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Makin
Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Maxwell	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

21st March, 1928.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—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.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 debated—

Ordered—That the clause be postponed until after the consideration of the Schedule.

Clauses 3 to 5 agreed to.

Schedule—

Mr. Gregory moved, as an amendment, That the words “the following amounts in respect of each State as shown hereunder towards the interest payable by that State” (page 10, Part III, clause 2, paragraph (b)) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—
“an amount equal to twenty-five shillings per head of the population of each State towards the interest payable by that State, subject, however, that the amount so provided may be reduced on a population basis should the total amount so paid exceed one-fourth of the total revenue derived from Commonwealth customs and excise”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the Schedule—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Latham
Mr. Bell	Mr. Ley
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Marks
Mr. Coleman	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Corser	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Nott
Mr. Forde	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Parsons
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Seabrook
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Hill	Mr. Yates
Sir Neville Howse	
Mr. Hurry	
Mr. Jackson	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir Elliot Johnson	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Killen	Mr. Manning

Noes, 8.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Prowse
Mr. R. W. Foster	
Mr. Gregory	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Makin	Mr. Albert Green
Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Lacey

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Schedule agreed to.

Postponed clause 2 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 been previously suspended, see page 480) the Bill was read a third time.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fifteen 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. Donald Cameron, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Mann, Mr. Marr, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Pratten, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watt, and Mr. West.

E. W. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.