

1926-27-28.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA.

No. 169.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 10TH MAY, 1928.

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. **PAPERS.**—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1928, Nos. 33, 36.
 Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1928, Nos. 31, 32.
 Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance of 1928—No. 7—Defamation.
3. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS.**—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended as will enable the Notice of Motion No. 1, General Business, to take precedence for this day.
 Question—put and passed.
4. **AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS' REPATRIATION ACT—SELECT COMMITTEE.**—Mr. Coleman moved, pursuant to notice—
 (1) That a Select Committee from this House be appointed to inquire into and report upon the operation of the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act*, including—
 (a) the method of assessing war pensions; and
 (b) the question of establishing an Appeal Board in regard to war pensions.
 (2) That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to move from place to place, and to sit during any adjournment of the House.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Donald Cameron moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" (first occurring) be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"this House is of the opinion that the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act* as now administered provides the means whereby every pension claim which has been rejected by the Repatriation Commission can be placed before the Minister in charge of Repatriation, and receive full consideration by him, and accepts the assurance of the Government that, in the event of the Minister finding it impossible to follow his present practice of personally reviewing every case submitted to him, steps will be taken to provide some equally effective means, preferably an independent Appeal Board, to safeguard the rights of ex-service men and their dependants."

Debate continued.

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

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The House divided—

Ayes, 15.		Noes, 36.	
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Theodore	Mr. Aubrey Abbott	Mr. Latham
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Ley
Mr. Charlton	Mr. West	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Lister
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Yates	Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Albert Green		Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mann
Mr. W. Maloney		Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Marks
Mr. Edward Riley	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. E. C. Riley	Mr. Fenton	Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Scullin	Mr. Forde	Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Parsons
		Mr. Gardner	Mr. Thomas Paterson
		Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Perkins
		Mr. Gibson	Mr. Prowse
		Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Rodgers
		Mr. Gregory	Mr. Seabrook
		Mr. Gullett	Mr. William Watson
		Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Sir Neville Howse	
		Mr. Jackson	Mr. Hunter
		Mr. Killen	Mr. Manning

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and passed.

Question—That this House is of the opinion that the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act* as now administered provides the means whereby every pension claim which has been rejected by the Repatriation Commission can be placed before the Minister in charge of Repatriation and receive full consideration by him, and accepts the assurance of the Government that, in the event of the Minister finding it impossible to follow his present practice of personally reviewing every case submitted to him, steps will be taken to provide some equally effective means, preferably an independent Appeal Board, to safeguard the rights of ex-service men and their dependants—put and passed.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—HOUSING BILL (1928).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 128.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the Commonwealth Housing Act 1927*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

Canberra, 10th May, 1928.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SERVICE AND EXECUTION OF PROCESS BILL (1928).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 129.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “*An Act to amend the 'Service and Execution of Process Act 1901-1924*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

Canberra, 10th May, 1928.

Mr. Latham (Attorney-General) 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.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—STATE AND TERRITORIAL LAWS AND RECORDS RECOGNITION BILL (1928).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 130.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “*An Act to amend the 'State Laws and Records Recognition Act 1901*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.

Canberra, 10th May, 1928.

Mr. Latham (Attorney-General) 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.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five minutes past 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. Bayley, Mr. Bell, Mr. Malcolm Cameron, Mr. Hurry, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Watt.

E. W. PARKES,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.