THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 28.

FRIDAY, 4TH APRIL, 1930.

- 1. The House met at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.-Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
- 2. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Earle Page 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 fact that the Commonwealth Government is the only Dominion Government which has expressed its willingness at the present time to receive a Consul from the Russian Soviet Government, notwithstanding the recent religious persecutions, the barbarous and brutal treatment of its farmers, and the continued propaganda by the Russian Soviet against all other Governments.'

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. Earle Page moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) addressing the House— Suspension of Standing Orders.—Mr. E. C. Riley moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the honorable Member to continue his speech.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the Members of the House. Mr. Scullin continued and concluded his speech.

Debate continued.

Question—put and negatived.

3. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—REPORTS.—Mr. Coleman, Chairman of the Joint Committee

of Public Accounts, brought up the following from the Committee :-

Claim of Charles Dean and others, trading under the name of Henry Dean and Son, against the War Service Homes Commissioner, for compensation to cover losses alleged to have been sustained as the result of extensions and alterations made to their works to provide bricks for the erection of War Service Homes-Majority and Minority Reports, together with Minutes of Evidence.

Ordered—That the Reports be printed.

4. Papers.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General— Northern Territory—Report by Messrs. A. L. B. Lefroy and Hubert Evans on their visit to the Western side of Northern Territory, June, 1929.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute-

Land Tax Assessment Act—Regulations (Crown Leases)—Statutory Rules 1930, No. 33.

- 5. Postponement of Orders of the Day.—Ordered—That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the consideration of Notices of Motion, Government Business.
- 6. Postponement of Notice of Motion.—Ordered—That the consideration of Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business, be postponed until Tuesday next.

4th April, 1930.

7. Constitution Alteration (Trade and Commerce) Bill (1930).—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to alter Paragraph (i.) of Section Fifty-one of the Constitution.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Scullin 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. Scullin moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Latham 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.

8. Land Tax Assessment Bill (No. 2) (1930).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Latham 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.

9. CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (POWER OF AMENDMENT) 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-Debate resumed.

Mr. McTiernan 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.

10. Adjournment.—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Debate ensued. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eleven minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

Members Present.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Curtin, Mr. Fenton*, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Killen*, Mr. Mathews*, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rowe, and Mr. Stewart. * On leave.

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