

1937.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 4.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JUNE, 1937.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. J. Bell) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRINTING OF PAPER.—Mr. Thomas Paterson (Minister for the Interior) moved, That the Report by the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the State of Western Australia into Electoral Divisions, laid on the Table of the House on the 17th instant, be printed.  
Question—put and passed.
3. MEMBER NAMED AND SUSPENDED.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Hunter (Mr. James) for using an objectionable expression and refusing to withdraw and apologize when called on.  
Mr. Earle Page (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That the honorable Member for Hunter be suspended from the service of the House.  
Question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Bell, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 35.

Mr. A. G. Cameron	Mr. McClelland
Sir Donald Cameron	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Thomas Collins	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Nairn
Mr. J. V. Fairbairn	Mr. Nock
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. E. F. Harrison	Mr. Price
Mr. E. J. Harrison	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Hawker	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Holt	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Street
Mr. Hunter	Mr. Thorby
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. White
Mr. Lane	
Mr. John Lawson	
Sir Charles Marr	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. McBride	Mr. Gardner
Mr. McCall	Mr. Thompson

Noes, 22.

Mr. Baker	Mr. James
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Beasley	Mr. G. W. Mahoney
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Martens
Mr. Brennan	Mr. William Riordan
Mr. Clark	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Frost	
Mr. Garden	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Gander
Mr. Holloway	Mr. George Lawson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The honorable Member was, therefore, under Standing Order No. 59, suspended for the remainder of the day's sitting, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

4. PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Address in Reply would be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General at Government House, at half-past eleven o'clock a.m. to-morrow.  
Mr. Speaker said he would be glad if the mover and seconder, together with other honorable Members, would accompany him to present the Address.

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5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Nauru—Report to Council of League of Nations on Administration of Nauru during 1936.

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

External Affairs Department—Report for 1936.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1937, Nos. 65, 66, 67, 68.

Public Service Act—Appointments—W. G. Bamford, R. H. Bowen, Department of the Interior.

Quarantine Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1937, No. 69.

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

Ordinance of 1936—No. 49—Advisory Council.

Ordinances of 1937—

No. 1—Rates.

No. 2—Roman Catholic Church Property Trust.

No. 3—Administration and Probate.

No. 4—Seat of Government (Administration).

No. 5—Court of Petty Sessions.

Regulations Amended, &c., under—

Apprenticeship Ordinance.

Industrial Board Ordinances.

Public Baths Ordinance.

Public Health Ordinance (2).

6. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Thomas Paterson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of Western Australia into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs. R. H. Bandy, J. P. Camm and S. R. H. Roberts, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before Parliament on the seventeenth day of June, 1937, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report be adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

7. STATUTE OF WESTMINSTER ADOPTION BILL (1937).—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General), pursuant to leave given on the 22nd instant, brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to provide for the adoption of sections two, three, four, five and six of the Statute of Westminster, 1931, and for other purposes*”, and moved, That it 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. ACTS INTERPRETATION BILL (1937).—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General), pursuant to leave given on the 22nd instant, brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘Acts Interpretation Act 1901–1932’, to repeal the ‘Acts Interpretation Act 1904–1934’, and for other purposes*”, and moved, That it 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.

9. PATENTS BILL (1937).—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General), pursuant to leave given on the 22nd instant, brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Patents of Inventions and for other purposes*”, and moved, That it 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.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLY BILL (NO. 1) 1937–38.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

GOWRIE,

Governor-General.

Message No. 1.

In accordance with the requirements of Section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of 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 thirty-eight.

Canberra, 16th June, 1937.

Mr. Menzies (Acting Treasurer) moved, That the Message be referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

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Mr. Forde moved, as an amendment, That all the words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof :—

"this House directs the Government—

- (1) To increase the rate of invalid and old-age pensions to £1 per week and to liberalize the provisions of the *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act* ;
- (2) To take whatever steps are necessary to ensure progressive reductions in the number of working hours and increases in living standards commensurate with increased powers of production due to the mechanization and speeding up of industry; and
- (3) To give effect to the Prime Minister's pre-election promise made in 1934 that a great National Housing Scheme would be undertaken in conjunction with the States and local authorities."

Debate ensued.

Mr. Garden addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—

Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Mr. Beasley addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—

Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General) addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—

Ordered—That the Right Honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Mr. Thomas Paterson (Minister for the Interior) 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.

11. LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General) moved, by leave, That Mr. Fadden be appointed to fill the vacancy now existing on the Library Committee.

Question—put and passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at three minutes past eleven 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. Blain, Mr. Casey, Mr. Fiskens, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Makin, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Mulcahy, Sir Archdale Parkhill, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Scholfield, and Mr. D. O. Watkins.

F. C. GREEN,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*