

1940.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 8.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, 1940.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable W. M. Nairn) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MEMBER SWORN.—Adair Macalister Blain, Esquire, made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
3. PRICE CONTROL—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Harrison (Minister for Trade and Customs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement referring to price control and certain public criticism made thereon by Mr. J. R. Hughes, a member of the Advisory Committee on Prices in New South Wales.
4. RETIREMENT OF PRINCIPAL PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER.—Mr. Speaker informed the House of the retirement of Mr. J. S. Weatherston, Principal Parliamentary Reporter, and referred to the service rendered to Parliament by this officer. Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition), Mr. Fadden, Mr. Beasley, Mr. Brennan and Mr. Blackburn also addressed the House in similar terms.
5. GRAPHS, ETC., IN HANSARD—STATEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER.—Mr. Speaker made a Statement regarding the inclusion in the official report of Parliamentary Debates of graphs and other matter placed before the House or a Committee.
6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
  - Customs Act—Proclamations prohibiting the Exportation (except under certain conditions) of—
    - Iron and steel scrap (dated 27th November, 1940).
    - Pearl-shell (dated 27th November, 1940).
  - National Security Act—National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—
    - Taking possession of land, &c. (81).
    - Use of land (23).
  - Northern Australia Survey Act—Aerial, Geological and Geophysical Survey of Northern Australia—Report of Committee, for period ended 30th June, 1940.
  - Sales Tax Assessment Acts (Nos. 1-9)—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1940, No. 258.
  - War Service Homes Act—Report of the War Service Homes Commission for year 1939-40, together with statements and Balance-sheet.
7. SUPPLY—BUDGET DEBATE.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the question, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division No.

1.—The Senate—namely—

Salaries and allowances .. .. .	£8,176
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be agreed to, and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Curtin, viz. :—That the words " agreed to " be omitted and the word " postponed " inserted in place thereof.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

4th December, 1940.

8. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Supply Bill (No. 3) 1940-41*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 1.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the 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 forty-one*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

J. B. HAYES,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 4th December, 1940.

[*Loan Bill (No. 3) 1940*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 2.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the Raising and Expending of a certain Sum of Money*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

J. B. HAYES,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 4th December, 1940.

9. ADJOURNMENT-COUNT-OUT.—Mr. Collins (Assistant Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Debate ensued.

Mr. Ward called the attention of Mr. Speaker to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present. The Bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time, Mr. Speaker thereupon, at twenty minutes to seven o'clock p.m., adjourned the House until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Lazzarini and Mr. White.

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F. C. GREEN,  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*