

1940-41.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 45.

WEDNESDAY, 1ST OCTOBER, 1941.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable W. M. Nairn) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. USE OF SPECIAL FUNDS FOR SECURITY PURPOSES—ROYAL COMMISSION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Fadden (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the arrangements made for Sir Percival Halse Rogers, a Justice of the New South Wales Supreme Court, to act as the Royal Commissioner. Mr. Fadden announced the terms of reference, the names of Counsel assisting the Commission, and proposed sittings.
3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

GOWRIE.

Governor-General.

Message No. 42.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Raw Cotton Bounty Act (No. 2) 1941* ”

“ *Cable and Wire Bounty Act 1941* ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Admiralty House,

Sydney, 27th September, 1941.

4. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—
 - Commonwealth Bank Act—Balance-sheets of Commonwealth Bank and Commonwealth Savings Bank and Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Note Issue Department, as at 30th June, 1941 ; together with Auditor-General's Reports thereon.
 - The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 - Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1941—
 - No. 24—Australian Journalists' Association.
 - No. 25—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia ; and others ; Arms, Explosives and Munition Workers' Federation of Australia ; Commonwealth Storemen and Packers' Union ; and Commonwealth Naval Storehousemen's Association.
 - Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1941, No. 160.
 - Commonwealth Public Service Act—
 - Appointments—Department—
 - Labour and National Service—G. G. Firth.
 - Postmaster-General—B. M. Kennelly.
 - Regulations—Statutory Rules 1941, No. 224.
 - Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Defence purposes—
 - Benalla, Victoria.
 - Narrabeen, New South Wales.
 - Point Lonsdale, Victoria.
 - National Security Act—
 - National Security (Exchange Control) Regulations—Orders—
 - Exemption.
 - Sterling Area.
 - National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—
 - Control of lights and traffic (6).
 - Control of Overseas Postal Communications (Prisoners of War).
 - Control of Photography.
 - Prohibited place.
 - Taking possession of land, &c. (32).
 - Use of land (9).
 - National Security (Internment Camps) Regulations—Camp Rules (3).
 - National Security (Prisoners of War) Regulations—Order—Prisoners of War Camp (No. 1).
 - New Guinea Act—Ordinances—1941—
 - No. 15—Workers' Compensation (No. 2).
 - No. 16—Treasury.

1st October, 1941.

Quarantine Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1941, No. 235.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Ordinances—1941—

No. 7—Inflammable Liquids.

No. 10—Church of England Trust Property.

No. 11—Juvenile Offenders.

No. 12—Child Welfare Agreement.

No. 13—Industrial Board (No. 2).

No. 14—Seat of Government (Administration).

No. 15—Canberra Community Hospital (No. 2).

Regulations—1941—

No. 6 (Leases Ordinance).

No. 7 (Canberra Community Hospital Ordinance).

No. 8 (Workmen's Compensation Ordinance).

War-time (Company) Tax Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1941, No. 237.

5. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Fadden (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.
Question—put and passed.
6. 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 £8,470

be agreed to.

Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) proposing to move, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—"while agreeing that the expenditure requisite for a maximum prosecution of the war should be provided by Parliament, the Committee is opposed to the unjust methods prescribed by the Budget, declares that they are contrary to true equality of sacrifice, and directs that the plan of the Budget should be recast to ensure a more equitable distribution of the national burden"—

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman (Mr. Prowse) ruled that such an amendment could not be accepted in its present form, as each resolution in Committee of Supply for a grant of money was a distinct motion which could only be dealt with by being agreed to, reduced, negatived or withdrawn.

Mr. Curtin then moved, as an amendment, That the first item be reduced by £1.
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.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fadden (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at sixteen minutes past four 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 Sir George Bell, Mr. Blain, Mr. Breen, Sir Earle Page, and Mr. White.

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