

1943.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 1.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FIRST SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1943.

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia begun and held in Parliament House, Canberra, on Thursday, the twenty-third day of September, in the seventh year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Sixth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and forty-three.

1. On which day, being the first day of the meeting of the Parliament for the dispatch of business pursuant to a Proclamation (hereinafter set forth), Frank Clifton Green, M.C., Clerk of the House of Representatives, Albert Allan Tregear, Clerk Assistant, Sydney Friedrich Chubb, Second Clerk Assistant, and Norman James Parkes, acting as Serjeant-at-Arms, attending in the House according to their duty, the said Proclamation was read at the Table by the Clerk :—

PROCLAMATION

Commonwealth of
Australia to wit.
GOWRIE
Governor-General.

By His Excellency General the Right Honourable Alexander Gore Arkwright, Baron Gowrie, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Victoria Cross, the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia it is amongst other things provided that the Governor-General may appoint such times for holding the Sessions of the Parliament as he thinks fit :

Now therefore I, Alexander Gore Arkwright, Baron Gowrie, the Governor-General aforesaid, in exercise of the power conferred by the said Constitution do by this my Proclamation appoint Thursday the twenty-third day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-three as the day for the said Parliament to assemble and be holden for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs : and all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives are hereby required to give their attendance accordingly, in the building known as the Houses of Parliament, Canberra, at the hour of ten-thirty o'clock a.m. on the said twenty-third day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-three.

(L.S.) GIVEN under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia aforesaid this fifteenth day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, and in the seventh year of His Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JOHN CURTIN

Prime Minister.

GOD SAVE THE KING !

2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY'S DEPUTIES BY THE USHER OF THE BLACK ROD.—The following Message was delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod :—

HONORABLE MEMBERS,

The Deputies of His Excellency the Governor-General for the opening of Parliament request the attendance of this honorable House in the Senate Chamber forthwith,

F.5653.

23rd September, 1943.

Accordingly the Members of the House of Representatives went to the Senate Chamber, where the Senior Deputy addressed the Members of both Houses as follows :—

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

His Excellency the Governor-General, not thinking fit to be present in person at this time, has been pleased to cause Letters Patent to issue under the Great Seal of the Commonwealth constituting us his Deputies to do in his name all that is necessary to be performed in declaring this Parliament open, as will more fully appear from the Letters Patent which will now be read.

The Commission was read as follows :—

His Excellency General the Right Honourable ALEXANDER GORE ARKWRIGHT, BARON GOWRIE, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Victoria Cross, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Commonwealth of Australia :

To the Right Honourable Sir John Greig Latham, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia :

And the Honourable Edward Aloysius McTiernan, a Justice of the High Court of Australia.

GREETING :

WHEREAS by Letters Patent dated the twenty-ninth day of October, One thousand nine hundred, passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, constituting the Office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the said Commonwealth, Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon Her by the Constitution of the Commonwealth, was pleased to authorize and empower the Governor-General of the Commonwealth, subject to any limitations expressed or directions given by Her, to appoint any person or persons, jointly or severally, to be his Deputy or Deputies within any part of the Commonwealth, and in that capacity to exercise, during his pleasure, such of his powers and functions as he might deem it necessary to assign to him or them :

Provided always that the appointment of such Deputy or Deputies should not affect the exercise by the Governor-General himself of any power or function :

AND WHEREAS by Proclamation dated the fifteenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, and published in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on the sixteenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, the twenty-third day of September, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, was appointed as the day for the Parliament of the Commonwealth to assemble and be holden for the dispatch of divers urgent and important affairs : and all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives were thereby required to give their attendance accordingly, in the building known as the Houses of Parliament, Canberra, at the hour of ten thirty o'clock a.m. on the said twenty-third day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-three :

NOW KNOW YOU that in pursuance of the powers and authority vested in me by the Constitution and the said Letters Patent, I ALEXANDER GORE ARKWRIGHT, BARON GOWRIE, the Governor-General aforesaid, do hereby appoint you to be my Deputies for the purpose of declaring open the said Parliament at the time and place aforesaid.

(I.S.) GIVEN under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, at Canberra, in the Australian Capital Territory, this twenty-first day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, and in the seventh year of His Majesty's reign.

GOWRIE,
Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,

JOHN CURTIN,
Prime Minister.

The Senior Deputy then said :—

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

We have it in command from the Governor-General to let you know that as soon as certain Members of the Senate and the Members of the House of Representatives shall have been sworn, the causes of His Excellency calling this Parliament will be declared by him in person at this place ; and it being necessary that a President of the Senate and a Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be first chosen, you, Members of the Senate, will proceed to choose some proper person to be your President, and you, Members of the House of Representatives, will retire to the place where you are to sit, and there proceed to the choice of some proper person to be your Speaker ; and thereafter you will respectively present the persons whom you shall so choose to His Excellency, at such time and place as he shall appoint.

Mr. Justice McTiernan will attend in the House of Representatives for the purpose of administering the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to Honourable Members of that House.

23rd September, 1943.

And thereupon the Members of the House returned to their own Chamber, and, after an interval of some minutes—

3. COMMISSIONER TO ADMINISTER THE OATH TO MEMBERS.—The Honourable Edward Aloysius McTiernan, a Justice of the High Court of Australia, having been ushered into the Chamber and conducted by the Serjeant-at-Arms to the Chair, handed to the Clerk at the Table a Commission, which was read and is as follows :—

His Excellency General the Right Honourable ALEXANDER GORE ARKWRIGHT, BARON GOWRIE, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Victoria Cross, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Commonwealth of Australia :

To the Honourable Edward Aloysius McTiernan, a Justice of the High Court of Australia.

GREETING :

WHEREAS by section forty-two of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, it is amongst other things enacted that every Member of the House of Representatives shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor-General, or some person authorized by him, an Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance in the form set forth in the Schedule to the aforesaid Constitution :

NOW THEREFORE I, ALEXANDER GORE ARKWRIGHT, BARON GOWRIE, the Governor-General aforesaid, do by these presents command and authorize you to attend at Parliament House, Canberra, on Thursday, the twenty-third day of September, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, at ten-thirty o'clock a.m. there and then to administer the said Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to such Members of the House of Representatives as are present.

(L.S.) GIVEN under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, at Canberra, this twenty-first day of September, in the year of our Lord, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three, and in the seventh year of His Majesty's reign.

GOWRIE,
Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,
JOHN CURTIN,
Prime Minister.

4. RETURNS TO WRITS FOR GENERAL ELECTION.—The Clerk laid on the Table returns to the 74 Writs for the General Election of the House of Representatives held on 21st August, 1943, which he had received from the Military and Official Secretary to His Excellency the Governor-General, and announced that the return to the Writ for the election of a Member for the Northern Territory had not yet been received by him.

By the said Returns it appeared that for the several Electoral Divisions the following had been elected, as shown hereunder :—

| Division. | State. | Name. |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Adelaide | .. South Australia | .. Cyril Chambers. |
| Balaclava | .. Victoria .. | .. Thomas Walter White. |
| Ballaarat | .. Victoria .. | .. Reginald Thomas Pollard. |
| Barker | .. South Australia | .. Archie Galbraith Cameron. |
| Barton | .. New South Wales | .. Herbert Vere Evatt. |
| Bass .. | .. Tasmania .. | .. Herbert Claude Barnard. |
| Batman | .. Victoria .. | .. Frank Brennan. |
| Bendigo | .. Victoria .. | .. George James Rankin. |
| Boothby | .. South Australia | .. Thomas Neil Sheehy. |
| Bourke | .. Victoria .. | .. William George Bryson. |
| Brisbane | .. Queensland .. | .. George Lawson. |
| Calare .. | .. New South Wales | .. John Patrick Breen. |
| Capricornia | .. Queensland .. | .. Francis Michael Forde. |
| Cook .. | .. New South Wales | .. Thomas Sheehan. |
| Corangamite | .. Victoria .. | .. Allan McKenzie McDonald. |
| Corio .. | .. Victoria .. | .. John Johnstone Dedman. |
| Cowper | .. New South Wales | .. Earle Christmas Grafton Page. |
| Dalley | .. New South Wales | .. John Solomon Rosevear. |
| Darling | .. New South Wales | .. Joseph James Clark. |
| Darling Downs .. | .. Queensland .. | .. Arthur William Fadden. |
| Darwin | .. Tasmania .. | .. Enid Muriel Lyons. |
| Deakin | .. Victoria .. | .. William Joseph Hutchinson. |
| Denison | .. Tasmania .. | .. John Francis Gaha. |
| East Sydney | .. New South Wales | .. Edward John Ward. |
| Eden-Monaro | .. New South Wales | .. Allan Duncan Fraser. |
| Fawkner | .. Victoria .. | .. Harold Edward Holt. |
| Flinders | .. Victoria .. | .. Rupert Sumner Ryan. |
| Forrest | .. Western Australia | .. Nelson Lemmon. |
| Franklin | .. Tasmania .. | .. Charles William Frost. |
| Fremantle | .. Western Australia | .. John Curtin. |
| Gippsland | .. Victoria .. | .. George James Bowden. |
| Grey .. | .. South Australia | .. Edgar Hughes Dcg Russell. |

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| Division. | State. | Name. |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Griffith | Queensland | William Patrick Conelan. |
| Gwydir | New South Wales | William James Scully. |
| Henty | Victoria | Arthur William Coles. |
| Herbert | Queensland | George William Martens. |
| Hindmarsh | South Australia | Norman John Oswald Makin. |
| Hume | New South Wales | Arthur Neiberding Fuller. |
| Hunter | New South Wales | Rowland James. |
| Indi | Victoria | John McEwen. |
| Kalgoorlie | Western Australia | Herbert Victor Johnson. |
| Kennedy | Queensland | William James Frederick Riordan. |
| Kooyong | Victoria | Robert Gordon Menzies. |
| Lang | New South Wales | Daniel Mulcahy. |
| Lilley | Queensland | James William Hadley. |
| Macquarie | New South Wales | Joseph Benedict Chifley. |
| Maranoa | Queensland | Charles Frederick Adermann. |
| Maribyrnong | Victoria | Arthur Samuel Drakeford. |
| Martin | New South Wales | Frederick Michael Daly. |
| Melbourne | Victoria | Arthur Augustus Calwell. |
| Melbourne Ports | Victoria | Edward James Holloway. |
| Moreton | Queensland | Josiah Francis. |
| Newcastle | New South Wales | David Oliver Watkins. |
| New England | New South Wales | Joseph Palmer Abbott. |
| North Sydney | New South Wales | William Morris Hughes. |
| Parke | New South Wales | Leslie Clement Haylen. |
| Parramatta | New South Wales | Frederick Harold Stewart. |
| Perth | Western Australia | Thomas Patrick Burke. |
| Reid | New South Wales | Charles Albert Aaron Morgan. |
| Richmond | New South Wales | Hubert Lawrence Anthony. |
| Riverina | New South Wales | Joseph Ignatius Langtry. |
| Robertson | New South Wales | Thomas Francis Williams. |
| Swan | Western Australia | Donald Alfred Mountjoy. |
| Wakefield | South Australia | Albert Edward Smith. |
| Wannon | Victoria | Donald McLeod. |
| Warringah | New South Wales | Percy Claude Spender. |
| Watson | New South Wales | Sydney Max Falstein. |
| Wentworth | New South Wales | Eric John Harrison. |
| Werriwa | New South Wales | Hubert Peter Lazzarini. |
| West Sydney | New South Wales | John Albert Beasley. |
| Wide Bay | Queensland | Bernard Henry Corser. |
| Wilmot | Tasmania | James Allan Guy. |
| Wimmera | Victoria | Alexander Wilson. |
| Yarra | Victoria | James Henry Scullin. |

5. MEMBERS SWORN.—The Members whose names are above set forth made and subscribed the Oath required by law, except Mr. Brennan, Mr. Curtin, and Sir Frederick Stewart (who were not then present), and Mr. Cameron, who made and subscribed an Affirmation according to law. The Commissioner retired.
6. ELECTION OF SPEAKER.—Mr. Sheehan, addressing himself to the Clerk, proposed to the House for its Speaker Mr. John Solomon Rosevear, and moved, That he do take the Chair of this House as Speaker, which motion was seconded by Mr. Mulcahy.
Mr. Rosevear informed the House that he accepted nomination.
There being no further proposal, Mr. Rosevear was declared elected as Speaker, and Mr. Sheehan and Mr. Mulcahy conducted him to the Chair.
Mr. Rosevear returned his acknowledgments to the House for the honour it had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be its Speaker, and thereupon sat down in the Chair.
Then the Mace, which before lay under the Table, was laid upon the Table.
Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister), Mr. Menzies and Mr. Fadden congratulated Mr. Speaker, who expressed his thanks.
7. PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) stated that he had already ascertained that it would be His Excellency's pleasure to receive the Speaker in the Library of the Parliament that day at eighteen minutes to three o'clock p.m.
And the sitting of the House having been suspended until twenty minutes to three o'clock p.m.—Mr. Speaker, after resuming the Chair, went with the Members of the House to attend His Excellency; and, having returned, Mr. Speaker reported that the House had proceeded to the Library of the Parliament, and that he had presented himself to His Excellency the Governor-General as the choice of the House of Representatives, and that His Excellency had been kind enough to congratulate him upon his election.
8. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL BY THE USHER OF THE BLACK ROD.—The following Message was delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod :—
Mr. Speaker,
His Excellency the Governor-General desires the attendance of this honorable House in the Senate Chamber forthwith.

23rd September, 1943.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker with the Members of the House went to attend His Excellency :—And having returned—

9. FORMATION OF NEW MINISTRY.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) announced that, on the 21st September, a new Ministry was formed constituted as follows :—

| | | | |
|--|----|----|-------------------|
| Prime Minister and Minister for Defence | .. | .. | Mr. Curtin. |
| Minister for the Army (also Deputy Prime Minister) | .. | .. | Mr. Forde. |
| Treasurer and Minister for Post-war Reconstruction | .. | .. | Mr. Chifley. |
| Attorney-General and Minister for External Affairs | .. | .. | Mr. Evatt. |
| Minister for Supply and Shipping | .. | .. | Mr. Beasley. |
| Minister for the Navy and Minister for Munitions | .. | .. | Mr. Makin. |
| Minister for Trade and Customs | .. | .. | Senator Keane. |
| Minister for Labour and National Service | .. | .. | Mr. Holloway. |
| Minister for Air and Minister for Civil Aviation | .. | .. | Mr. Drakeford. |
| Minister for Commerce and Agriculture | .. | .. | Mr. Scully. |
| Postmaster-General and Vice-President of the Executive Council | | | Senator Ashley. |
| Minister for War Organization of Industry and Minister in charge of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research | | | Mr. Dedman. |
| Minister for the Interior | .. | .. | Senator Collings. |
| Minister for Transport and Minister for External Territories | | | Mr. Ward. |
| Minister for Health and Minister for Social Services | .. | .. | Senator Fraser. |
| Minister for Repatriation and Minister in charge of War Service Homes | | | Mr. Frost. |
| Minister for Home Security | .. | .. | Mr. Lazzarini. |
| Minister for Aircraft Production | .. | .. | Senator Cameron. |
| Minister for Information | .. | .. | Mr. Calwell. |

Mr. Forde informed the House that the Members of the War Cabinet would be Mr. Curtin, Mr. Forde, Mr. Chifley, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Beasley, Mr. Makin, Mr. Drakeford and Mr. Dedman.

Mr. Forde indicated that the Minister for Trade and Customs would be represented in the House of Representatives by Mr. Beasley, the Minister for Health and Minister for Social Services by Mr. Holloway, the Minister for Aircraft Production by Mr. Drakeford, the Minister for the Interior by Mr. Lazzarini, and the Postmaster-General by Mr. Calwell.

10. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—Mr. Menzies informed the House that he had been appointed Leader of the Opposition, and that Mr. Hughes had been appointed Deputy Leader.
11. LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY PARTY.—Mr. Fadden informed the House that he had been appointed Leader of the Australian Country Party, and that Mr. McEwen had been appointed Deputy Leader.
12. STATUTORY DECLARATIONS BILL 1943.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) moved, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Forde 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.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
13. HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Speaker reported that the House had that day attended His Excellency the Governor-General in the Senate Chamber, when His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had received a copy, which read as follows :—

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

You have been called together to deliberate upon matters of importance to the well-being of the Commonwealth :

1. Since I last addressed you, our country has been beset by dangers greater than at any previous time in our history. However, in recent months, we have witnessed notable improvements in the war situation in every theatre.

2. In the South-West Pacific, United States troops in the Solomons, and Australian and United States troops in New Guinea, are relentlessly forcing the enemy out of his forward bases. With each advance, the range of our air attack becomes more extensive, and the enemy's rearward bases more vulnerable. The overwhelming air assault on the enemy's base at Wewak and the landing of both air-borne and sea-borne forces near Lae have again emphasized the predominance of our air and sea power. The achievements of our land forces have demonstrated that the arms of the United Nations have established a definite superiority over the enemy from whom the initiative has been wrested.

3. The capture of Lae by Allied Forces on 16th September, following so closely on the successes of Allied arms at Salamaua and in the Solomon Islands, marks another notable stage in the war in the Pacific. The gallant members of the Australian Imperial Force and the Citizen Military Forces and their heroic comrades in the American Forces have again demonstrated their superiority over a stubborn foe and the thanks and admiration of the people of Australia go out to the Commanders and to the officers and men of the Australian and American Forces of all arms for these magnificent victories.

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4. We acknowledge the gallantry of those of our countrymen serving on land, sea, and in the air in all theatres, and express our sympathy with the relatives and dependants of those who have died in the service of the nation.

5. In the North Pacific, the Japanese have been compelled to relinquish Kiska, their last foothold in the Aleutians, while air attacks on the Kuriles and Marcus Island portend an increasing threat to Japan itself.

6. In the European theatre, the unconditional surrender of Italy has deprived the Axis of some 65 Italian divisions, many of which were employed as garrisons for the occupied territories, and will have to be replaced by German troops. It has also transformed the naval position in the Mediterranean and this will undoubtedly have its effect on the Pacific theatre. In due course, we may expect that Allied aircraft operating from airfields in Italy will be able to attack the dispersed industries which Germany has so laboriously transferred from Western Germany to regions believed to be less vulnerable. At the same time, the occupation of the Italian mainland will expose the flanks of the Axis positions in the Balkans. It is clear, however, that Germany does not intend to relinquish Italy without a struggle.

7. The magnificent efforts of the Soviet Forces have been crowned with further victories. The most notable feature is the fact that this is the first summer campaign in which the Germans have suffered grave reverses on the Eastern front.

8. The air offensive against Germany continues on an ever-increasing scale. These attacks are having a serious effect on German industry. They have also compelled Germany to weaken the air forces on the Russian front in an endeavour to cope with the British and American raids from the west. The raids are imposing a heavy strain on the German civilian defence organization and are undermining German morale on the home front.

9. Operations in China and Burma are largely handicapped by difficulties of transport and communications. Increased air forces in these areas, however, have inflicted heavy damage on the Japanese. The establishment of the South-East Asia Command is an indication that further developments in this region may be expected.

10. The Allied shipping position has greatly improved in recent months. The losses from enemy action have been reduced to a most encouraging extent and the sinking of enemy submarines has shown a marked upward trend.

11. We have every reason for satisfaction with the decision of Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt that the war in the Pacific will be prosecuted with the same vigour as in Europe. My advisers have expressed to them on behalf of the Australian people their appreciation of the deep significance of their assurance relating to the Pacific.

12. My Government wishes me to express, on behalf of the people of Australia, our deep thanks to Great Britain and to the United States of America for the assistance which those countries gave and are continuing to give to Australia in resisting Japanese aggression. We also pay tribute to the noble sacrifices which have been endured by our gallant Russian and Chinese Allies. Deep appreciation is expressed of the valuable co-operation of the Netherlands Government in the common cause in the South-west Pacific Area.

13. My Government will undertake a comprehensive review of the nature, extent and balance of Australia's war effort.

14. The outbreak of the war with Japan had a far-reaching effect on the Australian national economy. The call-up of man-power for the mobilization of the Army and the intensification of production of munitions and other Service needs caused a diversion of man-power and productive resources from non-essential or less pressing purposes. In short, Australia's capacity in the last resort to defend itself against invasion became paramount over every other consideration.

15. We acknowledge with deep thankfulness that the threat of invasion has now been removed, though we are still open to marauding attacks. However, time has given us the opportunity to strengthen our defences. Great aid has come to us from abroad because of the United Nations' command of the sea. The enemy has been frustrated in his attempts to establish himself in adjacent islands from where he could sever the lines of communication from overseas and attack the mainland of the Commonwealth.

16. With the improvement in the strategical position, the time is now due to reconsider those classes of production which have been unduly depressed because of the earlier paramount urgency of other demands.

17. The need for this review is particularly pressing in the case of those industries which are required to make a greater contribution to the war effort in the South-West Pacific Area, or which represent a specialized aspect of the Australian economy in which the Commonwealth is peculiarly fitted to make a contribution to the war effort of the United Nations, as in the case of foodstuffs.

18. It is essential from the aspect of our own policy for us to determine the precise limits and nature of both the military and civil contribution of which we are capable, in order to enable it to be related to the wider plans of the Empire and the United Nations into which our effort is fitted.

19. In this review, the war effort of the Commonwealth, as determined by the Government, will continue to be governed by the Commander-in-Chief's strategical plan of operations as related to the global strategy of the United Nations.

20. The primary consideration will be to ensure the maximum contribution by Australia to the war effort in the South-West Pacific Area, but the Commonwealth will contribute to the efforts of the United Nations in other theatres where the aid can be provided by Australia. Assistance to the United States Forces will continue to be made in accordance with the provisions of the reciprocal Lend-Lease Agreements.

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21. In accordance with the policy of strengthening the bonds linking Australia to other members of the United Nations, my Government arranged for the exchange of diplomatic representatives between Australia and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and early this year, I was pleased to be able to welcome the first Soviet Minister to Australia. A High Commissioner from New Zealand is now located in Australia, and it is proposed to reciprocate by appointing an Australian High Commissioner in New Zealand.

22. My Government will continue to pay the closest attention to the changing events in the outside world and, in particular, to the Pacific Area, where Australia's future lies. To achieve this, my Government will act in full collaboration with the United Nations, in order to secure lasting conditions of peace and security in the Pacific and elsewhere in the world.

23. The programme which my Government put before the people of Australia prior to the elections will be prepared by my advisers, and, at appropriate times, measures to bring into effect the Government's decisions will be placed before Parliament.

24. The Government will ask you to provide the finance necessary to enable the war to be waged to the greatest capacity of our Australian resources.

25. The Budget which will be presented to Parliament in the near future will be the greatest in our history. The financial burden which Australians have to meet will be grievous, but my advisers do not doubt but that it will be accepted cheerfully in the knowledge that the War makes necessary unprecedented sacrifice.

26. My advisers, confident in the ultimate victory of the Allies, are preparing plans for the organization and development of the resources of Australia in peace. Already preliminary surveys have been made upon which those plans may be brought to fruition.

27. Provision will be made for certain social services without which any scheme of reconstruction will be in vain.

28. My Government will continue to make adequate provision for the restoration to their rightful place in the civil life of our fighting forces.

29. It is also planning the re-establishment in post-war industry of those who have been diverted to war production.

30. The sacrifices of all the men and women who have served in the various spheres of war activity have merited and will receive the full recompense of the nation.

31. Proposals will be submitted to enable the Commonwealth Parliament to deal effectively with the problem of post-war reconstruction. This problem, which will clearly have to be approached from a national standpoint, will include such important matters as the re-instatement and advancement of the Australian fighting forces and their dependants, the provision of employment and the prevention of unemployment, the rehabilitation and development of primary and secondary industries, and works of national value, including provision for land and air transportation.

32. Final victory has still to be won. Until Germany is defeated and the full weight of the United Nations can be thrown against Japan we must be unrelaxing in our resolution and efforts. We must willingly accept the sacrifices which the Commonwealth's war effort will continue to demand from us. It is the price of victory and of a future free from fear and want.

33. In the earnest hope that Divine Providence may guide your deliberations and further the welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, I now leave you to the discharge of your high and important duties.

14. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) moved, That a Committee, consisting of Mr. Chambers, Mr. Williams and the Mover, be appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor-General to both Houses of the Parliament, and that the Committee do report at the next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

15. TIME OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

Question—put and passed.

16. DEATH OF THE HONORABLE SIR WILLIAM IRVINE.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) informed the House of the death on the 20th August of the Honorable Sir William Irvine, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of the Honorable Sir William Hill Irvine, a former Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of Flinders, and a Minister of the Crown, also a former Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Justice of the State of Victoria, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its deep sympathy to his widow and family in their bereavement.

And Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Ryan and Mr. Fadden having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

17. DEATH OF SENATOR THE HONORABLE JAMES CUNNINGHAM.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) referred to the death on the 4th July of Senator the Honorable James Cunningham, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of the Honorable James Cunningham, a Senator for the State of Western Australia, President of the Senate, and a former State Minister, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its heartfelt sympathy to the widow and members of his family in their bereavement.

And Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Fadden and Mr. Johnson having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

23rd September, 1943.

18. DEATH OF THE HONORABLE D. J. O'KEEFE.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) informed the House of the death on the 21st July of the Honorable D. J. O'Keefe, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of the Honorable David John O'Keefe, a former Senator for the State of Tasmania and a Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of Denison, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, Tasmania, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its heartfelt sympathy to the widow and members of his family in their bereavement.

And Mr. Hughes (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Fadden and Mr. Barnard having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

19. DEATH OF MR. E. RILEY.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) referred to the death on the 21st July of Mr. Edward Riley, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of Mr. Edward Riley, a former Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of South Sydney, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its heartfelt sympathy to his relatives in their bereavement.

And Mr. Hughes (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Fadden and Mr. Sheehan having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

20. DEATH OF MR. J. T. H. WHITSITT.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) informed the House of the death on the 14th September of Mr. J. T. H. Whitsitt, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of Mr. Joshua Thomas Hoskins Whitsitt, a former Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of Darwin and Member of the House of Assembly, Tasmania, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its heartfelt sympathy to the widow and members of his family in their bereavement.

And Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Sir Earle Page having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—put and passed.

21. ADJOURNMENT AS MARK OF RESPECT.—Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister) then moved, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fourteen minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Brennan, Mr. Curtin, and Sir Frederick Stewart.

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