

1944.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 25.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER, 1944.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DEATH OF MAJOR-GENERAL C. F. COX.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House of the death, on the 20th November, of Major-General C. F. Cox, and moved, That this House records its sincere regret at the death of Major-General Charles Frederick Cox, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., a former Senator for the State of New South Wales, 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. Fadden having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—Question—passed.
3. RETURNED PRISONERS OF WAR—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing the decision of War Cabinet that the 92 Australian prisoners of war rescued from a Japanese transport torpedoed on the 12th September were to be given the option of discharge from their respective services at the expiration of their leave.
4. INTERSTATE AIRLINES—GOVERNMENT CONTROL—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing that the Government had decided that a wholly government-owned statutory authority is to be formed to take over, operate and maintain all interstate airlines.
5. SECOND VICTORY LOAN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing the result of the Second Victory Loan.
6. RELEASE OF SERVICE PERSONNEL FOR UNIVERSITY STUDIES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the arrangements and conditions approved by War Cabinet concerning the release of service personnel for the purpose of commencing or continuing University courses in certain reserved faculties.
7. TRUNK LINE TELEPHONE CALLS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Calwell (Minister representing the Postmaster-General), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the practice of withholding the name of the originating station for trunk line telephone calls.
8. COMMUNICATION OF TAXATION INFORMATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with respect to the exchange of confidential information between the Taxation Department and the Prices Branch.
9. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Dame Enid Lyons rose in her place, and said that she proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The inequitable working of the method now in use for the calculation of Commonwealth grants to the smaller States".  
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—  
Dame Enid Lyons moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Ordered—That Dame Enid Lyons be granted an extension of time.  
Debate ensued.  
Ordered—That Mr. Barnard be granted an extension of time.  
Ordered—That Mr. Guy be granted an extension of time.  
Debate continued.

The debate having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 257B.

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10. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
 Commonwealth Railways Act—Report on Commonwealth Railways Operations for year 1943-44.  
 National Security Act—  
   National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—  
     Control of automotive spare parts (No. 3).  
     Restriction of celery planting (South Australia) (No. 2).  
     Taking possession of land, &c. (23).  
     Use of land (3).  
   National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (232).  
   National Security (Liquid Fuel) Regulations—Order—No. 18.  
   National Security (Maritime Industry) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 46, 47.  
   National Security (Vegetable Seeds) Regulations—Order—Control of sale of vegetable seeds.  
 Supply and Development Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1944, No. 158.
11. STATES GRANTS (DROUGHT RELIEF) BILL 1944.—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. McEwen 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.
12. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
 Question—put and passed.
- And then the House, at twenty-four minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned 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. Beasley, Mr. Blain\*, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Francis, Mr. Fraser, Mr. James, Mr. Lawson, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Rankin, and Mr. Spender.

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\* On leave.

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