

1944.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 26.

THURSDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER, 1944.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. **ADVANCES ON WHEAT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.**—Mr. Scully (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of further advance payments to be made for certain wheat in the No. 6 and the No. 7 Wheat Pools.

3. **ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.**—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The announced intention of the Government to acquire and operate all interstate airlines".

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—

Mr. Menzies moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Cameron having called for a document quoted from by Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), and Mr. Forde having stated that the document was of a confidential nature—

Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Speaker ruled that, under the provisions of Standing Order No. 317, the document need not be tabled.

Ordered—That Mr. Forde be granted an extension of time.

Ordered—That Mr. Fadden be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. White be granted an extension of time.

Ordered—That Mr. Ward (Minister for Transport) be granted an extension of time.

Ordered—That Mr. Harrison 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.

4. **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 by Mr. McEwen, who moved, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—"this House is of the opinion that the Bill is incomplete in that the amount provided is inadequate because it fails to make provision for producers of other primary products who have been adversely affected by drought conditions and that financial provision should be made for such cases, having regard to the circumstances of the persons concerned".

Ordered—That Mr. McEwen be granted extensions of time (2).

Debate continued.

Mr. Rankin 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.

23rd November, 1944.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION BILL 1944.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 19.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to approve the Agreement for United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration between the Commonwealth of Australia and certain other Nations and Authorities, and for other purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
Canberra, 23rd November, 1944.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-eight minutes past eleven 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. Beasley, Mr. Blain*, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Francis, Mr. James, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Mountjoy, and Sir Earle Page.

* On leave.

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