

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 13.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST MARCH, 1945.

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. PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS IN REPLY.—Mr. Speaker reported that, accompanied by honorable Members, he had waited that day upon His Royal Highness the Governor-General at Government House, and had presented to him the Address in Reply to His Royal Highness's Speech on the Opening of the Third Session of the Seventeenth Parliament, agreed to by the House on the 15th March, and that His Royal Highness had been pleased to make the following reply:—

MR. SPEAKER,

I desire to thank you for the Address in Reply, which you have just presented to me.

It will afford me much pleasure to convey to His Most Gracious Majesty The King the message of loyalty from the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia to which the Address gives expression.

I also thank you and Members of the House of Representatives for your expressions of welcome to me.
3. TRUNK LINE TELEPHONE CALLS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Calwell (Minister representing the Postmaster-General), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to supplying the name of the originating station for trunk line telephone calls.
4. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. McEwen 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 position of the wheat industry, with particular reference to—
 - (a) the failure of the Government to guarantee an adequate price for the next crop;
 - (b) the failure of the Government to arrange, on account of wheat held in various pools, payments to growers calculated upon the actual value of the wheat;
 and the consequent serious effects upon growers' capacity to carry on; also those aspects of the Government's wheat policy which have contributed to the present shortage of feed wheat".

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. McEwen moved, That the House do now adjourn.

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

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

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. Fuller 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.

21st March, 1945.

5. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General—
 Minister for Trade and Customs (Senator the Hon. R. V. Keane)—Report of results of visit by the Minister to the United States of America and Canada (October 1944–January, 1945).
 Ordered to lie on the Table.
 The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Postal purposes—Tintinara, South Australia.
 National Security Act—
 National Security (Egg Industry) Regulations—Order—No. 10.
 National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—
 Prohibited places (6).
 Use of land (2).
 National Security (Man Power) Regulations—Orders—
 Optometrists (Supplementary information).
 Registration of optometrists.
6. COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL 1945.—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.
 Ordered—That Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) be granted extensions of time (2).
Suspension of Standing Orders.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Mr. Menzies concluding his speech without limitation of time.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Menzies continued and concluded his speech.
 Mr. Fadden 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.
7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-six minutes past ten 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 Mr. Adermann, Mr. Blain, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Forde, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Guy, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Makin, and Mr. Watkins.

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