

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 35.

THURSDAY, 24TH MAY, 1945.

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. COST OF WORKS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the relative cost of works carried out by the Government and by private enterprise.
Sir Frederick Stewart, by leave, also made a Statement on the matter.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
Commonwealth purposes—
Darwin, Northern Territory.
Geraldton, Western Australia.
Hornby Head, Watson's Bay, New South Wales.
Sale, Victoria.
Telephonic purposes—Mount Lofty, South Australia.
National Security Act—National Security (Aliens Control) Regulations—Order—Aliens (Queensland curfew)—Revocation.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion No. 1, General Business, be postponed until Thursday, 14th June.
5. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion No. 2, General Business, be postponed until Thursday, 14th June.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 1 and 2, General Business, be postponed until Thursday, 14th June.
7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1, Government Business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
8. RE-ESTABLISHMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BILL 1945.—On the calling on of the Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—
Declaration of Bill as Urgent Bill.—Mr. Chifley (Acting Prime Minister) declared that the Bill was an Urgent Bill.
Question—That the Bill be considered an Urgent Bill—put.
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Coles	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fuller	Mr. Ward
Mr. Hadley	
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Martens
Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 17.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Fadden	Mr. White
Mr. Francis	
Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holt	
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Corser
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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Allotment of Time.—Mr. Chifley then moved, That the time allotted in connexion with the Bill be as follows :—

(1) For the Committee stage—

- (a) to the end of clause 33, until 11 p.m. this day.
- (b) to the end of clause 48, until midnight this day.
- (c) to the end of clause 53, until 1 a.m. on Friday, 25th May.
- (d) to the end of clause 63, until 11.30 a.m. on Friday, 25th May.
- (e) to the end of clause 101, until 3.15 p.m. on Friday, 25th May.
- (f) remainder of Committee stage, until 5.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 29th May.

(2) For the remaining stages, until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 29th May.

Debate ensued.

The time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B for the discussion of the motion for the allotment of time having expired—

Question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Coles	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fuller	Mr. Ward
Mr. Hadley	
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Martens
Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 17.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Fadden	Mr. White
Mr. Francis	
Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holt	
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Corser
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 20—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction), the following amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 10, lines 28 and 29, omit “ and one member to represent employers ”, insert “, one member to represent employers and one member to represent employees ”.

Mr. Bowden moved, as a further amendment, That the following words be added to sub-clause (2.) :—
“ both of whom shall be servicemen ”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Francis moved, as a further amendment, That after sub-clause (2.) the following sub-clause be inserted :—

“(2A.) Any organization representing discharged members of the Forces throughout the Commonwealth may, in respect of any Reinstatement Committee, submit to the Minister a list containing the names of not less than three persons from which the organization recommends that a selection be made of a person to be appointed as one of the members of the Reinstatement Committee and the Minister may appoint a person selected from the list so submitted to be one of the members of the Reinstatement Committee.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following further amendments were made :—

Page 10, after sub-clause (4.) insert the following sub-clauses :—

“(4A.) All questions before a Reinstatement Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes.

“(4B.) The chairman shall have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote.”.

Page 10, line 38, omit “ and employers respectively ”, insert “, to represent employers, and to represent employees, respectively,”.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following further amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 10, lines 42 and 43, omit “ act as a member of a Reinstatement Committee at any meeting which considers ”, insert “, at any meeting, act as a member of a Reinstatement Committee in relation to”.

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On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following further amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 11, lines 5 and 6, omit sub-clause (8.), insert the following sub-clause :—

“(8.) The members of Reinstatement Committees shall be paid remuneration and allowances at such rates (if any) as the Minister determines.”.

Clause, as amended, debated and agreed to.

Clause 21 debated and agreed to.

Clause 22 debated—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Riordan, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 32.		Noes, 17.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Abbott	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Adermann	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Cameron	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin	Mr. Coles	Mr. White
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Fadden	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy	Mr. Francis	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell	Mr. Holt	Mr. Corser
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Guy
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith		
Mr. Fuller			
Mr. Hadley	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Martens		
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Sheehan		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 23—

Sir Frederick Stewart moved, as an amendment, That sub-clauses (2.), (3.) and (4.) be omitted. Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Riordan, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 17.		Noes, 31.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Cameron	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Coles	Mr. White	Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Fadden		Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Francis	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Harrison		Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Holt	Mr. Corser	Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Guy	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scully
		Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehy
		Mr. Fraser	Mr. Smith
		Mr. Frost	
		Mr. Fuller	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Hadley	
		Mr. Haylen	Mr. Martens
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 12, line 10, after “thirty-nine” add “, and includes any other war in which His Majesty became engaged after the latter date and before the date of commencement of Division 2 of Part II. of the *Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945*”.

Mr. Fadden moved, as a further amendment, That the following sub-clause be added to the clause :—

“(7.) The amendments made by sub-sections (2.), (3.), (4.) and (5.) of this section shall cease to operate at the expiration of seven years after the cessation of hostilities in the war.”.

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 24—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 12, line 17, omit “the engagement in”, insert “any matter relating to the”.

Mr. Fadden moved, as a further amendment, That the words “to the exclusion of” (page 12, line 24) be omitted with a view to inserting the words “in addition to” in place thereof.

Amendment negatived.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following further amendment was made :—

Page 12, line 25, omit “the engagement in”, insert “any matter relating to the”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

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Clause 25—

Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (b) (page 12, line 44) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 26 debated and agreed to.

Clause 27—

Mr. Harrison moved, That the clause be omitted, and the following clause be inserted in place thereof :—

“ 27. Notwithstanding anything contained in any Commonwealth or State legislation, statute, act, regulation, or measure or in any award or industrial agreement, every employer shall give first and complete preference in employment to any person defined in this Act as ‘ member of the Forces ’, and those who served in the 1914–18 war, including the Royal Australian Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force.”

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Temporary Chairman, Mr. Martens, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 15.		Noes, 30.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Bryson	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Bowden	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Cameron	Mr. White	Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Coles		Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Fadden	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Francis		Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser	Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
		Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
		Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
		Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
		Mr. Fuller	
		Mr. Hadley	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Haylen	Mr. Lawson
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (b) of sub-clause (3.) be omitted.

Question—That the paragraph proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

The Committee divided (The Temporary Chairman, Mr. Martens, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 30.		Noes, 15.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Abbott	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Adermann	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Bowden	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin	Mr. Cameron	Mr. White
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Coles	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy	Mr. Fadden	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Francis	
Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith		
Mr. Fuller			
Mr. Hadley	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Lawson		
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Sheehan		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 13, line 37, omit “ indictable offence ”, insert “ offence of such a nature that he is unsuitable for engagement in that employment ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 28—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 14, line 9, omit “ indictable offence ”, insert “ offence of such a nature that he is unsuitable for engagement in that employment ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 29 agreed to.

Clause 30—

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That the following sub-clause be added to the clause :—

“(2.) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this section or of section twenty-seven or section twenty-eight hereof shall be guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding One hundred pounds or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or both.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

24th May, 1945.

Clause 31—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the clause was omitted, and the following clause inserted in place thereof :—

“ 31.—(1.) The Minister may appoint a Central Preference Board and, in each Preference State and Territory of the Commonwealth, one or more Regional Preference Boards. ^{Boards.}

“ (2.) Each Preference Board shall consist of a chairman, one member to represent persons who have rendered war service, one member to represent employers and one member to represent employees.

“ (3.) In the event of the illness or absence of the chairman of a Preference Board, any person appointed by the Minister to be a deputy chairman of the Board shall have, and may exercise, all the powers and functions of the chairman.

“ (4.) Any act done by a deputy chairman shall not, in any proceedings, be questioned on the ground that the occasion for the exercise of his powers had not arisen or had ceased.

“ (5.) All questions before a Preference Board shall be decided by a majority of votes.

“ (6.) The chairman shall have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote.

“ (7.) Panels of persons to represent persons who have rendered war service, to represent employers, and to represent employees, respectively, shall be selected in such manner as the Minister determines, and the members of a Preference Board, other than the chairman, shall be selected from the panels in such a manner as the Minister determines.

“ (8.) Unless in any particular case the Minister is satisfied that it is not practicable, a majority of the members of a Preference Board selected from the panels shall be persons who have been members of the Forces.

“ (9.) A person shall not, at any meeting, act as a member of a Preference Board in relation to any matter in which that person has an interest, whether personally or as a member of a firm or company.

“ (10.) A Preference Board shall exercise such powers and functions as are prescribed.

“ (11.) The members of Preference Boards shall be paid remuneration and allowances at such rates (if any) as the Minister determines.”

Mr. Francis moved, as a further amendment, That the following sub-clause be added to the clause :—

“ (12.) Any organization representing discharged members of the Forces throughout the Commonwealth may, in respect of the Central Preference Board or any Regional Preference Board, submit to the person empowered by the regulations to appoint the members of the Board a list containing the names of not less than three persons from which the organization recommends that a selection be made of a person to be appointed as one of the members of the Board and the person empowered by the regulations to appoint the members of the Board may appoint a person selected from the list so submitted to be one of the members of the Board.”

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 32 debated—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Riordan, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 31.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Daly	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Frost	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fuller	
Mr. Hadley	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Haylen	
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Martens
Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 15.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Bowden	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Cameron	Mr. White
Mr. Coles	
Mr. Fadden	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Francis	
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 33—

Mr. Dedman moved, as an amendment, That the words “ in the war ” (page 14, line 44) be omitted with a view to inserting the words “ in all the wars in which His Majesty was engaged at the date of commencement of this Division ” in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Limitation of Debate.—At eleven o'clock p.m., the Chairman having called the attention of the Committee to the fact that the time allotted for the Committee stage of the Bill to the end of clause 33 had expired—

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and passed.

Further question—That the clause, as amended, be agreed to—put.

24th and 25th May, 1945.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Riordan, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 15.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Abbott	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Adermann	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Bowden	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin	Mr. Cameron	Mr. White
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Martens	Mr. Coles	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Fadden	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mountjoy	Mr. Francis	
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Scully		
Mr. Frost	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Fuller	Mr. Smith		
Mr. Hadley			
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Holloway			
Mr. James	Mr. Daly		
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Sheehan		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clauses 34 to 37 agreed to.

Clause 38 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 39 to 44 agreed to.

Clause 45 debated and agreed to.

Clause 46 agreed to.

Clause 47 debated and agreed to.

Clause 48 debated and agreed to.

Clause 49—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 19, after sub-clause (1.) insert the following sub-clauses :—

“(1A.) The Minister may, on behalf of the Commonwealth, make arrangements with any State for the use, for the purposes of this Part, of any services and facilities of the State in relation to vocational training (including training for a professional occupation or for an agricultural occupation).

“(1B.) Any such arrangement may provide for the extension of any such services and facilities of the State and for the use of those services and facilities as extended in pursuance of the arrangement.”.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Bowden moved, as a further amendment, That the following proviso be added to sub-clause (2.) :—

“ Provided that any such scheme shall include members of the Forces whose age on enlistment was thirty years or under.”.

Debate continued.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

FRIDAY, 25TH MAY, 1945.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 50—

Mr. Menzies moved, as an amendment, That after sub-clause (3.) the following sub-clause be inserted :—

“(3A.) Any organization representing discharged members of the Forces throughout the Commonwealth may submit to the Minister a list containing the names of not less than three persons from which the organization recommends that a selection be made of a person to be appointed as one of the members of the Committee and the Minister may appoint a person selected from the list so submitted to be one of the members of the Committee.”.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 51—

Mr. Menzies moved, as an amendment, That after sub-clause (3.) the following sub-clause be inserted :—

“(3A.) Any organization representing discharged members of the Forces throughout the Commonwealth may, in respect of any Regional Training Committee, Industrial Committee or Provisional Committee, submit to the Minister a list containing the names of not less than three persons from which the organization recommends that a selection be made of a person to be appointed as a member of the committee and the Minister may appoint a person selected from the list so submitted to be one of the members of the committee.”.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 52 agreed to.

Clause 53—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 20, line 29, omit “ and ” (first occurring), insert “ or ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

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Clause 54—

Mr. Ryan moved, as an amendment, That the words " or a person included in any prescribed class of persons " (page 20, line 34) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 55 and 56 agreed to.

Clause 57 debated and agreed to.

Clause 58 agreed to.

Clause 59—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 21, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clause :—

" (2.) In this section, ' employers ' includes the Crown in right of the Commonwealth or of a State and any authority constituted by or under any law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory of the Commonwealth."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 60—

Mr. Francis moved, as an amendment, That after " determines " (page 22, line 5) the words " provided that a majority of the members of such committee shall be members of the Forces " be inserted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Francis moved, as an amendment, That after sub-clause (1.) the following sub-clause be inserted :—

" (1A.) Any organization representing discharged members of the Forces throughout the Commonwealth may, in respect of any such committee, submit to the Minister a list containing the names of not less than three persons from which the organization recommends that a selection be made of a person to be appointed as one of the members of the committee and the Minister may appoint a person selected from the list so submitted to be one of the members of the committee."

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 61 agreed to.

Clause 62—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the following amendment was made :—

Page 22, line 26, after " is " insert " , in the opinion of the prescribed authority, ".

Debate ensued.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 63 agreed to.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes to one o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Anthony, Mr. Blain*, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Clark, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Evatt*, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Forde*, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Lemmon, Dame Enid Lyons, Mr. McEwen*, Mr. McLeod, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Pollard*, Mr. Spender, Mr. Watkins*, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Wilson.

* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.