

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 48.

FRIDAY, 15TH JUNE, 1945.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE—FIRST REPORT.—Mr. Conelan, Chairman, brought up the First Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate). The Report was read by the Clerk, as follows :—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, and other Papers, motions for the printing of which lapsed with the close of the Session in February last, recommend that the following be printed :—

Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Repatriation Commission—Report for year 1943-44.

Economic Conditions in United Kingdom, United States of America and Canada—Report by Professor D. B. Copland, Economic Consultant to the Prime Minister.

Electoral—Referendums—Statistical Returns in relation to the submission to the Electors of a Proposed Law for the Alteration of the Constitution entitled " Constitution Alteration (Post-war Reconstruction and Democratic Rights) 1944 " ; together with Summaries of Referendums, 1906-1944.

Northern Territory—Report on Administration for year 1943-44.

Taxation—Twenty-fifth Report of Commissioner, dated 1st November, 1944, together with Statistical Appendices.

War Service Homes Act—Report of War Services Homes Commission for year 1943-44, together with statements and balance-sheet.

W. P. CONELAN,
Chairman.

14th June, 1945.

Mr. Conelan moved, by leave, That the Report be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

3. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Bowden 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 mismanagement of the general fodder position by Commonwealth authorities " .
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. Bowden moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Ordered—That Mr. Bowden be granted an extension of time.
Ordered—That Mr. Scully (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) be granted an extension of time.
Ordered—That Mr. McDonald be granted an extension of time.
Ordered—That Mr. Lemmon be granted an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Question—put and negatived.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, No. 86.
National Security Act—
National Security (Rationing) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 87-91.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, Nos. 88, 89, 90.

15th June, 1945.

5. COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 155—

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That the word "may" (page 26, line 42) be omitted with a view to inserting the word "shall" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 156 to 159 agreed to.

Clause 160 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 161 to 167 agreed to.

Clause 168 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 169 to 178 agreed to.

Clause 179 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 180 to 189 agreed to.

New Clause—

Mr. Menzies moved, That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill :—

"15A. The Bank shall publish, at least weekly, its telegraphic transfer rates of exchange for sterling expressed in terms of Australian money." Publication of sterling exchange rate.

Limitation of Debate.—At fifteen minutes past three o'clock p.m., the Chairman having called the attention of the Committee to the fact that the time allotted for the remainder of the Committee stage of the Bill had expired—

Question—That the clause proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and passed.

Further question—That the remainder of the Bill be agreed to and that the Bill be reported with an amendment—put and passed.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Home Security), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Anthony, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Beasley, Mr. Blain*, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Clark, Mr. Coles, Mr. Curtin*, Mr. Dedman, Mr. Evatt*, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Forde*, Mr. Holt, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Martens, Mr. McEwen*, Mr. Mountjoy, Mr. Pollard*, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Spender, Sir Frederick Stewart, and Mr. Watkins.

* On leave.

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