

1945.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 57.

TUESDAY, 3RD JULY, 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. ABSENCE OF MR. CURTIN—PERFORMANCE OF MINISTERIAL DUTIES.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence of Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) owing to illness, he would act as Prime Minister. Mr. Forde also announced that Senator Fraser (Minister for Health and for Social Services) would cease to act as a Member of the War Cabinet, and that Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction) would cease to act as a Member of the Advisory War Council.
3. THE WAR—FURTHER AUSTRALIAN LANDING IN BORNEO—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of extracts from communiques from General Headquarters, South-west Pacific Area, announcing that the 7th Australian Division had made the third major landing on the island of Borneo.
4. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.
Question—put and passed.
5. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION—TEXT OF AGREEMENTS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Forde (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the proceedings at the United Nations Conference on International Organization, and, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—
United Nations Conference on International Organization—Text of Agreements signed at San Francisco, 26th June, 1945 :—
(1) Charter of the United Nations,
(2) Statute of the International Court of Justice, and
(3) Interim Arrangements (Agreement establishing the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations)—
and moved, That the Paper be printed.
Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) 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.
6. MESSAGES FROM THE DEPUTY OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Deputy of the Governor-General were received, and were read by Mr. Speaker :—

W. DUGAN,

*Deputy of the Governor-General.**Message No. 10.*

Proposed Laws intituled :—

- “ *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Appropriation Act 1945* ”
- “ *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1945* ”
- “ *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1944-45* ”
- “ *Supply Act (No. 1) 1945-46* ”
- “ *Child Endowment Act 1945* ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy of the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Government House,
Melbourne, 27th June, 1945.

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W. DUGAN,

*Deputy of the Governor-General.**Message No. 11.*

A Proposed Law intituled " *Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945* " as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy of the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Law.

Government House,
Melbourne, 28th June, 1945.

7. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Commonwealth purposes—
South Guildford, Western Australia.
Welshpool, Victoria.
National Security Act—
National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—
Taking possession of land, &c. (10).
Use of land (3).
National Security (Man Power) Regulations—Orders—Protected undertakings (39).
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1945, Nos. 97, 99.
Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
Ordinance—1945—No. 4—Health.
8. LIFE INSURANCE 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.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—LIFE INSURANCE BILL 1945.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 12.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to Life Insurance and other matters.

Canberra, 25th May, 1945.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to Life Insurance and other matters.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Calwell, by leave, was adopted by the House.

10. LIFE INSURANCE 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 again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information), the following amendment was made :—
Page 4, line 23, omit " only ".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 5 to 8 agreed to.

Clause 9—

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That the words " subject to any directions of the Treasurer " (page 7, lines 21 and 22) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

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Clauses 10 to 18 agreed to.

Clause 19—

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That the following proviso be added to the clause :—“ Provided that where an application under this section is refused, an appeal against such refusal may be made to the Court.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 20 to 37 agreed to.

Clause 38—

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

Page 14, line 30, omit “ profits ”, insert “ surplus ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 39 to 46 agreed to.

Clause 47—

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

“ (4.) An appeal against the refusal or revocation of approval under this section shall lie to the Court.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 48 to 53 agreed to.

Clause 54—

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That the word “ forthwith ” (page 22, line 29) be omitted with a view to inserting the following words “ within a reasonable time ” in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Amendment withdrawn, by leave.

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

Page 22, line 29, omit “ and the company shall forthwith comply in writing with that demand ”.

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

“ Provided that such information shall not be demanded by or disclosed to an officer of the Commonwealth Government Insurance Office established under the provisions of Part VI. of this Act.”

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 55 to 85 agreed to.

Clause 86 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 87 to 92 agreed to.

Clause 93 debated and agreed to.

Clause 94 debated and agreed to.

Clause 95 agreed to.

Clause 96—

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

Page 38, omit sub-clause (2.).

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 97 to 100 agreed to.

Clause 101—

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

Page 40, omit sub-clause (5.).

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 102 to 116 agreed to.

Clause 117—

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

Page 46, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clause :—

“ (7.) For the purposes of this and the last preceding section, a register of policies kept by a company shall be deemed to be in or at a registry if it is kept, in respect of that registry, at the head office of the company in Australia.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 118 to 121 agreed to.

Clause 122 omitted.

Clauses 123 to 126 agreed to.

Clause 127—

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

Page 49, line 41, omit “ and ”.

Page 49, line 48, after “ premium ” insert—

“ ; and (c) a notice stating that proof of age may be required prior to payment of the sum insured.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 128 to 130 agreed to.

Clauses 131 to 137 taken together, by leave.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Spender moved, as an amendment, That the word “ prescribed ” (clause 133, page 51, line 3)

be omitted with a view to inserting the words “ approved by resolution of both Houses of the Parliament ” in place thereof.

Debate continued.

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Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 14.		Noes, 31.	
Mr. Adermann	Dame Enid Lyons	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Spender	Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Bowden	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Coles	Mr. White	Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Fadden		Mr. Chambers	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Francis	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Chifley	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser	Mr. Clark	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Holt	Mr. Guy	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
		Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
		Mr. Dedman	Mr. Smith
		Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Ward
		Mr. Forde	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Fraser	
		Mr. Frost	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Gaha	Mr. Fuller
		Mr. Hadley	Mr. Sheehan
		Mr. Haylen	

And so it was negatived.

Clauses 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.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at six 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. Abbott, Mr. Blain*, Mr. Breen, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Curtin*, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Lemmon, Mr. McDonald, Mr. McEwen, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Scully, Mr. Sheehy, and Mr. Watkins.

* On leave.

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