

1945-46.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 95.

THURSDAY, 14TH MARCH, 1946.

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. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. James (Chairman) brought up the following Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:—
Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed Automatic Exchange and Postal Building in Russell-street, Melbourne, and Russell Automatic Telephone Exchange.
Ordered—That the Report be printed.
3. CAMPAIGN STARS AND WAR MEDALS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Acting Minister for Defence), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the present position regarding the reservations made by Australia in connexion with the Empire plan for the award of campaign stars and war medals to members of the Fighting Forces.
4. BROADCASTING COMMITTEE—ELEVENTH REPORT.—Mr. Francis, Vice-Chairman, brought up the Eleventh Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Broadcasting.
Ordered—That the Paper be printed.
5. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General—
Coal—Report by Mr. R. James, M.P., on his Overseas Investigations into Methods of working thick Coal Seams, Solid Stowage, Mechanization, Practices generally in Coal Mines, Oil from Coal, and Amenities for Miners.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
6. 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 necessity for immediate action by the Government to achieve equitable to producers, and to restore reasonable supplies of meat for consumers".
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.
Debate ensued.
Ordered—That Mr. Clark 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.
7. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1946, No. 51.
National Security Act—
National Security (Emergency Control) Regulations—Order—New Guinea (Administration) (No. 6).
National Security (General) Regulations—Orders—
Control of second-hand jute—Revocation.
Prohibited places.
National Security (Mobilization of Electricity Supply) Regulations—Order—Electricity (Australian Capital Territory)—Revocation.
Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act—Ordinance—1946—No. 1 - Liquor.

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8. NATIONALITY BILL 1945.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Calwell (Minister for Immigration) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
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.
9. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 3 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4, Government Business.
10. WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL 1946.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Lazzarini (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. White 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.
11. "AUSTRALIA FIRST MOVEMENT" INQUIRY—REPORT OF COMMISSIONER—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Beasley (Minister for Defence), That the Paper [*presented on the 12th September, 1945*], viz. :—
"Australia First Movement" Inquiry—Report of Commissioner (Mr. Justice Clyne) appointed under the National Security Regulations—
be printed—
Debate resumed.
Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof :—"a Commission be appointed, consisting of a Justice of the High Court of Australia, a Member of the Government and a Member of the Opposition Parties, as may be agreed upon by the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Country Party, to investigate and assess the compensation, if any, which should be paid to the 'Australian First' internees for the loss of income and status in the community which they unjustly suffered through their internment".
Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) 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.
12. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nine 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. J. A. Beasley, Mr. Blain, and Mr. Pollard.

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