

1945-46.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 117.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD JULY, 1946.

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. RAW COTTON BOUNTY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Forde (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the Government's proposals for continuing the payment of a bounty on the production of raw cotton.
3. NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER.—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, made a Statement with respect to a political advertisement which appeared in a recent issue of a Sydney newspaper.
Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, also made a Statement in connexion with the matter.
4. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Supply Bill (No. 1) 1946-47*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 83.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

GORDON BROWN,
President.The Senate,
Canberra, 28th June, 1946.[*War Pensions Appropriation Bill 1946*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 84.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for War Pensions*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

GORDON BROWN,
President.The Senate,
Canberra, 28th June, 1946.[*Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 1945-46*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 85.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to grant and apply an additional sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, and to appropriate that sum*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

GORDON BROWN,
President.The Senate,
Canberra, 28th June, 1946.

3rd July, 1946.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was received, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 50.*

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Supply Act (No. 1) 1946-47* ”“ *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1945-46* ”

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

Government House,

Canberra, 29th June, 1946.

6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1946—
 No. 17—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 18—Commonwealth Medical Officers' Association.
 Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department of External Affairs—O. L. Davis, J. C. G. Kevin.
 High Commissioner Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1946, No. 97.
 Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Commonwealth purposes—Tottenham, Victoria.
7. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.
 Debate ensued.
 Question —put and passed.
8. MEAT EXPORT CONTROL BILL 1946.—Mr. Scully (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), pursuant to leave given on the 27th June, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Meat Export Control Act 1935-1938 ’, and for other purposes* ”, and moved, That it now be read a first time.
 Question —put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
 Mr. Scully moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Mr. Hutchinson 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. MEAT INDUSTRY CONTROL BILL 1946.—Mr. Scully (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), pursuant to leave given on the 27th June, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to provide for the transfer of the powers, authorities and functions conferred upon and exercised by the Controller of Meat Supplies and the Meat Canning Committee appointed under the National Security (Meat Industry Control) Regulations and the National Security (Meat Industry) Regulations respectively to the Australian Meat Board during the continuance of the ‘ National Security Act 1939-1946 ’ and the Regulations thereunder* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
 Question —put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
 Mr. Scully moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Mr. Hutchinson 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.
10. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING BILL 1946.—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.)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That after “ broadcast ” (page 2, line 3) the words “ the whole of ” be inserted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Fadden moved, as an amendment, That the following proviso be added to the clause :—“ Provided that such periods shall be equally divided between members of the Government for the time being and members of recognized Opposition Parties.”

Debate continued.

3rd and 4th July, 1946.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 4TH JULY, 1946.

Debate continued.

Question—That the proviso proposed to be added be so added—put.
The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Riordan, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 17.

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

Noes, 35.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Breen	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Burke	Mr. Makin
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Smith
Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Frost	Mr. Williams
Mr. Fuller	
Mr. Hadley	
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holloway	Mr. K. E. Beazley
Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 5—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister representing the Postmaster-General), the following amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 2, line 13, omit "six", insert "nine".

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

Page 2, line 21, omit "four", insert "seven".

Page 2, line 22, omit "two" (second occurring), insert "five".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 6 to 9 agreed to.

Clause 10—

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

Page 3, line 2, omit "three", insert "five".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 11—

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

Page 3, line 13, after "times" insert "(including times while either House of the Parliament is actually sitting)".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 12 agreed to.

Clause 13—

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

Page 3, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clause :—

"(4.) The Sub-Committee may sit and transact business during any adjournment or recess as well as during the session, and may sit at such times (including times while either House of the Parliament is actually sitting) as they deem proper."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 14—

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

"14.—(1.) No action or proceeding, civil or criminal, shall lie against the ^{No action} Australian Broadcasting Commission, its servants, agents and employees, ^{for broadcasting} for broadcasting or re-broadcasting any portion of the proceedings of either House of the ^{for parliamentary} Parliament ^{proceedings.}

"(2.) No action or proceeding, civil or criminal, shall lie against any member of either House of Parliament for any defamatory matter spoken or imputation made by him and broadcast or re-broadcast in accordance with this Act unless such matter or imputation be untrue in fact, in which event the immunity hereby conferred shall not apply if the matter were spoken or imputation made by such member maliciously or with knowledge that it was false."

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That the words "any person" (page 3, line 36) be omitted and the following words inserted in place thereof :—"the Australian Broadcasting Commission or any employee thereof acting within the scope of his authority".

Debate continued.

3rd and 4th July, 1946.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 16.		Noes, 33.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Menzies	Mr. K. E. Beazley	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Bryson	Mr. Makin
Mr. Cameron	Sir Frederick Stewart	Mr. Burke	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Fadden	Mr. White	Mr. Calwell	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Francis		Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mountjoy
Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Chifley	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Corser	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Russell
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy	Mr. Daly	Mr. Sheehy
		Mr. Dedman	Mr. Smith
		Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Ward
		Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins
		Mr. Frost	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Fuller	
		Mr. Hadley	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Haylen	Mr. Breen
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. Sheehan
		Mr. Johnson	

And so it was negatived.

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

Page 3, line 36, after "broadcasting" insert "or re-broadcasting".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 15—

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

Page 3, line 39, after "broadcasting" insert "or re-broadcasting".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 16 agreed to.

New Clause—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the following new clause was inserted in the Bill :—

"13A.—(1.) The Committee shall have power to determine the conditions in accordance with which a re-broadcast may be made of any portion of the proceedings of either House of the Parliament.

(2.) No re-broadcast shall be made of any portion of the proceedings of either House of the Parliament otherwise than in accordance with the conditions so determined."

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, by leave, the House adopted the Report.

Mr. Calwell moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question—put.

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

Ayes, 34.		Noes, 16.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Breen	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Adermann	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Makin	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Burke	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Cameron	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Fadden	Mr. White
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mountjoy	Mr. Francis	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Corser
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Guy
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Smith		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward		
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins		
Mr. Fuller	Mr. Williams		
Mr. Hadley			
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Holloway	Mr. K. E. Beazley		
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Sheehan		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes past two o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. J. A. Beasley, Mr. Clark, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Gullett, Mr. Holt, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Lazzarini, and Mr. Ryan.

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