

1946.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 8.

THURSDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 1946.

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. MEMBER SWORN.—Adair Macalister Blain, Esquire, made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of Supply and Shipping—
E. J. B. Foxcroft.
4. MINISTERS OF STATE BILL 1946.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), pursuant to leave given on the 13th November, brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an act to amend the ‘Ministers of State Act 1935-1941’*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Chifley moved, by leave, 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.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—STATES GRANTS BILL 1946.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 4.*

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 to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund sums for the purposes of Financial Assistance to the States of South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Canberra, 21st November, 1946.

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. Lemmon (Minister assisting the Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund sums for the purposes of Financial Assistance to the States of South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

Mr. Lemmon moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Lemmon, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Lemmon and Mr. Pollard do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Lemmon then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Lemmon 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.

21st November, 1946.

6. DEFENCE (TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1946.—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), pursuant to leave given on the 20th November, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to make provision for the Security and Defence of the Commonwealth during a Time of Transition from War Conditions to Conditions of Peace, and for other purposes* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Evatt moved, by leave, 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.
7. SUPPLY—BUDGET DEBATE.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the question, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division No. 1.—Senate—namely—

Salaries and allowances £8,870

be agreed to, and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Menzies, viz. :—That the first item be reduced by £1.

Point of Order.—Mr. Lang raised a Point of Order that, having been present in the Committee during the whole of the day, he had a right to pre-audience over honorable Members who had not so attended the Committee.

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman (Mr. Clark) stated that the call rested with the Chair and the Chair would distribute the call as fairly as possible. The honorable Member for Fremantle had risen before the honorable Member for Reid.

Dissent from Chairman's Ruling.—Sir Earle Page having handed in, in writing, an objection to the Ruling of the Chairman, moved, That the Ruling be dissented from.

Question—That the Ruling be dissented from—put.

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

Ayes, 23.

Noes, 29.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Lang
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McBride
Mr. Beale	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Spender
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Francis	Mr. White
Mr. Gullett	
Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Corser
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald

Mr. Beazley	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Brennan	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Burke	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Calwell	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Ward
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Williams
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Langtry	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Lazzarini	

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes past ten 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. Anthony, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Conclan, Mr. Duthie, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Lawson*, Dame Enid Lyons, Mr. Russell, and Mr. Sheehy.

* On leave.

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