

1948.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 52.

THURSDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 1948.

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. ILL-HEALTH OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING—POSTPONEMENT OF ROYAL VISIT—REPLY TO ADDRESS.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following reply by His Majesty The King to the Address from the Members of the House of Representatives which was transmitted to The King in connexion with His Majesty's ill-health and the consequent postponement of the Royal Visit :—

“ The Queen and I send our sincere thanks for your kind message of sympathy and good wishes which we much appreciate.

GEORGE R.”

3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

W. J. MCKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 22.

A Proposed Law intituled “ *Kemira Tunnel (Arbitration) Act 1948* ” 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 Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Law.

Government House,
Canberra, 30th November, 1948.

4. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Chifley (Acting Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement relating to international affairs, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—

International Affairs—Statement by the Acting Minister for External Affairs, 2nd December, 1948—

and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Mr. Harrison (Acting Leader of the Opposition), by leave, made a Statement, and then 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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1948, No. 149.

Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—

National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (17).

National Security (Prices) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 3414–3416.

Hospital Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1948, Nos. 150, 151.

Wine Overseas Marketing Act—Twentieth Annual Report of the Australian Wine Board, for year 1947–48, together with Statement by Minister regarding the operation of the Act.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL 1948.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 35.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1947 ’, as amended by the ‘ Judges’ Pensions Act 1948 ’* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 2nd December, 1948.

2nd December, 1948.

Mr. Holloway (Minister representing the Acting Attorney-General) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Holloway moved, by leave, That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

Question—put and passed.

7. RIVER MURRAY WATERS BILL 1948.—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to ratify and approve an Agreement for the further variation of the Agreement entered into between the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth and the Premiers of the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, respecting the River Murray and Lake Victoria and other Waters, and for other purposes.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

8. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF TASMANIA—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of Tasmania into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs. A. B. Smith, C. M. Pitt and C. A. Blakney, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before the House of Representatives on the 13th day of October, 1948, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report, and indicated on the map referred to therein, be adopted.

Dame Enid Lyons 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. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of South Australia into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs. A. G. Davis, C. M. Hambidge and K. V. McEntee, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before the House of Representatives on the 7th day of October, 1948, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report, and indicated on the maps referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name "Sturt" be substituted for the name "Bonython".

Mr. McBride 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. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF VICTORIA—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of Victoria into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs. R. C. Nance and O. G. Pearson, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before the House of Representatives on the 14th day of October, 1948, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report, and indicated on the maps referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name "Balaclava" be substituted for "Gordon", the name "Burke" for "Bourke", the name "Chisholm" for "Lonsdale", the name "Higinbotham" for "Bridges", the name "Higgins" for "Hotham", the name "Isaacs" for "Balaclava", the name "Lalor" for "Phillip", and the name "Murray" for "Barkly".

Mr. Harrison (Acting 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.

11. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF QUEENSLAND—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of Queensland into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs. J. E. Stewart, J. P. Harvey and J. C. Stewart, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before the House of Representatives on the 26th day of October, 1948, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report, and indicated on the maps referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name "Bowman" be substituted for "Mowbray", the name "Leichhardt" for "Dalrymple", the name "Oxley" for "Somerset", and the name "Ryan" for "Wilson".

Mr. Francis 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. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs. V. F. Turner, D. S. Mulley and R. W. Evans, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before the House of Representatives on the 26th day of October, 1948, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report, and indicated on the maps referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name "Bennelong" be substituted for "Lane Cove", the name "Cook" for "McGowen", the name "Cunningham" for "Werriwa", the name "Evans" for "Parkes", the name "Farrer" for "Hume", the name "Grayndler" for "Cook", the name "Hume" for "Farrer", the name "Kingsford-Smith" for "Watson", the name "Lawson" for "Bligh", the name "Lowe" for "Strathfield", the name "Lyne"

2nd December, 1948.

for "Kendall", the name "Mackellar" for "Warringah", the name "Parkes" for "Evans", the name "Phillip" for "Nelson", the name "Warringah" for "Rawson", the name "Watson" for "Kingsford", the name "Werriwa" for "Cunningham", and the name "West Sydney" for "Sydney".

Mr. Harrison (Acting 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.

13. MENTAL INSTITUTION BENEFITS BILL 1948.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Holloway (Minister representing the Minister for Health) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Francis 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.

14. PASSPORTS BILL 1948.—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—

Dame Enid Lyons moved, as an amendment, That the following sub-section be added to proposed section 7:—

"(4.) The holder of any such passport who has not obtained the same in contravention of this Act shall be entitled to the protection thereof during its currency, subject only to not being guilty after its issue of any misdemeanour or felony against the law of the Commonwealth or any Australian State or of any other country which, in the opinion of the Minister, is of such a character as would justify the cancellation of such passport."

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported, without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister for Immigration), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15. IMMIGRATION BILL 1948.—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 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3—

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

Page 2, before paragraph (a) insert the following paragraph:—

"(aa) by adding at the end of paragraph (ad) the words 'An intending migrant shall be required to sign a declaration in the prescribed form that he is not a person as described in this paragraph;';"

On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister for Immigration), the following further amendment was made:—

Page 2, lines 15-17, omit paragraph (b), insert the following paragraph:—

"(b) by omitting sub-paragraph (iv) of that paragraph and inserting in its stead the following paragraph:—

'(iv) which, if issued by or on behalf of a Government other than a Government of any part of His Majesty's dominions, is, except where a visé is dispensed with in pursuance of an international arrangement to which the Commonwealth is a party, viséed or endorsed for entry into Australia by a consular or passport officer of the Commonwealth or of any other part of His Majesty's dominions;'; and"

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Clause 5—

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

Page 2, line 33, after "by" insert "or on behalf of".

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

Page 3, line 6, after "by" insert "or on behalf of".

Page 3, lines 33-40, omit proposed new section 14J, insert the following section:—

"14J.—(1.) Subject to this Act, registration as an agent shall remain in force for such period as is specified in the certificate of registration, but that period may be extended from time to time upon application made as prescribed.

2nd December, 1948.

“(2.) An authorized officer shall have the same discretion and powers in relation to the extension of the period of an agent's registration as he has under the last preceding section in relation to the original registration of an agent.”

Page 4, line 40, omit “for an intending immigrant to Australia”, insert “to Australia for an intending immigrant”.

Page 5, lines 1 and 2, omit “to the intending immigrant the moneys so paid”, insert “those moneys to the person by whom those moneys were so paid”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 6 agreed to.

New clauses—

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, the following new clauses were inserted in the Bill:—

“1A. This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by commencement. Proclamation.”

“4A. After section thirteen B of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:—

“13c.—(1.) A stowaway who is a prohibited immigrant and is brought into a port in Australia may—

(a) if an authorized officer so directs; or

(b) if the master of the vessel on which the stowaway was brought into that port so requests and an authorized officer approves,

be taken ashore by an officer and kept in such custody, and for such period after the vessel's arrival in that port and before its departure from its last port of call in Australia, as the authorized officer directs, and may, upon the expiration of that period, be returned to the vessel by an officer.

(2.) The master, owners, agents or charterers of the vessel shall be liable to pay to the Commonwealth a fair sum for the cost of keeping and maintaining the stowaway while he is kept in custody in pursuance of this section and the cost of the transportation of the stowaway and of any custodian between the vessel and the place of custody.

(3.) A stowaway shall not, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed, by reason only of his having been taken ashore in pursuance of this section, to have entered the Commonwealth or to have been given permission to land.”

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Calwell, by leave, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time, after debate.

16. STEVEDORING INDUSTRY BILL 1948.—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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister representing the Minister for Shipping and Fuel), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

17. COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (No. 2) 1948.—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.

Mrs. Blackburn 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 a later hour this day.

18. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE BILL 1948.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 36.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “An Act to provide for the Establishment of National Health Services, and for other purposes”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

The Senate,

Canberra, 2nd December, 1948.

Mr. Holloway (Minister representing the Minister for Health) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Holloway moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Sir Earle Page 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.

2nd December, 1948.

19. COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (No. 2) 1948.—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.
 Mr. Dedman (Minister in charge of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) 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.

20. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL 1948.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 37.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for " *An Act to amend the Commonwealth Bank Act 1945* " , and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

GORDON BROWN,

President.

The Senate,

Canberra, 2nd December, 1948.

21. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
 Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-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. Anthony, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Howse, Mr. James, Mr. Menzies, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Scullin, Mr. Sheehy, Mr. Ward, Mr. Watkins and Mr. Williams.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.