

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 66.

THURSDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY, 1949.

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. REPATRIATION COMMISSION—REPORT FOR YEAR 1947-48—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Barnard (Minister for Repatriation) presented, pursuant to Statute, the following Paper :—
 Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Repatriation Commission—Report for year 1947-48—
 and moved, That the Paper be printed.
 Mr. Harrison 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.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1949—
 No. 15—Trained Nurses' Guild.
 No. 16—Hospital Employees' Federation of Australasia.
 No. 17—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees' Association.
 Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of the Interior—J. K. R. Doolan.
 Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
 Defence purposes—Corunna Downs, Western Australia.
 Postal purposes—
 Dandenong Ranges, Victoria.
 New Norfolk, Tasmania.
 Pinkenba, Queensland.
 Silkwood, Queensland.
 Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Crown Lands Ordinance—Reasons for resumption of reservation of the Bagot Aboriginal Reserve.
4. SUSPENSION OF SESSIONAL ORDER.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That the Sessional Order relating to the Order of Business be suspended to enable Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business, to be proceeded with forthwith.
 Question—put and passed.
5. NEW GUINEA TIMBER RIGHTS COMMISSION BILL 1949.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to facilitate the Proceedings of the Royal Commissioner appointed to hold an Inquiry with respect to certain matters in relation to Timber Rights in the Territory of Papua-New Guinea.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Chifley 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. 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.
6. LAPSE OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Upon Notice of Motion No. 1, General Business, being called on and not being moved, it was, under Standing Order No. 102, withdrawn from the Notice Paper.

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7. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL.—Mrs. Blackburn moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that the Commonwealth Constitution be amended to provide for the Initiative, the Referendum and the Recall, and that at the next general election there be submitted to the people a proposal for alteration of the Constitution accordingly.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Williams moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.

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

Ayes, 32.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Chambers	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Williams
Mr. Fraser	
Mr. Hadley	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 24.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Lang
Mr. Anthony	Dame Enid Lyons
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Davidson	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Francis	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holt	Mr. Corser
Mr. Howse	Mr. McDonald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

8. MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER—WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION.—Mr. Harrison moved, pursuant to notice, That this House has no further confidence in Mr. Deputy Speaker on the grounds—

- That in the discharge of his duties he has revealed serious partiality in favour of Government Members;
- That he regards himself merely as the instrument of the Labour Party and not as the custodian of the rights and privileges of elected Members of this Parliament;
- That he constantly fails to interpret correctly the Standing Orders of the House; and
- Of gross incompetency in his administration of Parliamentary procedure.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) 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. WAR PENSIONS ENTITLEMENT APPEAL TRIBUNAL NO. 1—REPORT, 1947-48—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Harrison:—That the following Paper, laid on the Table of the House on the 14th October, be printed:—

Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal No. 1—
Report for period 1st July, 1947, to 28th February, 1948—

Debate resumed.

Closure.—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

Ayes, 33.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Langtry
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scully
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Williams
Mr. Edmonds	
Mr. Fraser	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Holloway	

Noes, 24.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hutchinson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Lang
Mr. Anthony	Dame Enid Lyons
Mr. Cameron	Mr. McBride
Mr. Davidson	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Francis	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Howse	Mr. Corser
Mr. Hughes	Mr. McDonald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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And the question—That the Paper be printed—being accordingly put—
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 24.		Noes, 33.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Lang	Mr. Beazley	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Anthony	Dame Enid Lyons	Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Cameron	Mr. McBride	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Davidson	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Menzies	Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Francis	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Turnbull	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Harrison		Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scully
Mr. Howse	Mr. Corser	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Hughes	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Edmonds	
		Mr. Fraser	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Hadley	Mr. Fuller
		Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan
		Mr. Holloway	

And so it was negatived.

10. SUPPLY ["GRIEVANCE DAY"].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—
Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Fuller moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, resolve itself into the said Committee.
11. WAYS AND MEANS—INCOME TAX.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) on the 15th February, 1949 (*see pages 219–22*).

Motion agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Dedman 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. Dedman was adopted by the House.

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

12. INCOME TAX BILL 1949.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to impose a Tax upon Incomes*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Dedman moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
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 6 agreed to.

Clause 7 debated and agreed to.

Schedules—

First Schedule debated and agreed to.

Second Schedule agreed to.

Third Schedule agreed to.

Fourth Schedule agreed to.

Fifth Schedule agreed to.

Sixth Schedule agreed to.

Seventh Schedule agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

24th February, 1949.

13. WAYS AND MEANS—SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) on the 15th February, 1949 (see page 222).

Motion agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

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

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

14. SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION BILL 1949.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) then brought up a Bill intitled “*A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘Social Services Contribution Act 1945–1948’*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Dedman moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. McEwen moved, as an amendment, That all words after “be” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—“read a second time in one week’s time in order to give the Government time to explain to the House the purposes and effects of the Bill”.

Debate continued.

Speaker’s Ruling.—Mr. Speaker said that the House had suspended the Standing Orders to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay and had ordered a Bill to be brought in to give effect to the Resolution already agreed to. In the circumstances, the amendment which proposed to defer the second reading for a week was not in order.

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.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

15. WAYS AND MEANS—ENTERTAINMENTS TAX.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the motion moved by Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) on the 15th February, 1949 (see pages 222–3).

Motion agreed to.

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

The House resumed: Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

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

Ayes, 31.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Lang
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Langtry
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Conelan	Mr. O’Connor
Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Edmonds	
Mr. Hadley	
Mr. Haylen	
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Johnson	

Tellers:

Mr. Fuller

Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 20.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Howse
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Hutchinson
Mr. Anthony	Dame Enid Lyons
Mr. Cameron	Mr. McBride
Mr. Davidson	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Francis	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Gullett	
Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	

Tellers:

Mr. Corser

Mr. McDonald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative,

24th February, 1949.

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

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

16. ENTERTAINMENTS TAX BILL 1949.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘Entertainments Tax Act 1942–1946’*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Dedman moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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. Burke reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

17. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) 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. Beale, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Clark, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Gaha, Mr. James, Mr. Scullin, Mr. Sheehy, Mr. Spender, Mr. Ward, Mr. Watkins and Mr. White.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.