

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 88.

FRIDAY, 3RD JUNE, 1949.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Clark) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 28.
Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 27.
Egg Export Charges Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 26.
War Service Homes Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 29.
3. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRECEDENCE TO CENSURE MOTION.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Notice of Motion (Censure Motion) taking precedence of all other Business until disposed of.
Question—put and passed.
4. CENSURE MOTION.—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, pursuant to notice, That the Government—
 - (a) by the use of its majority in this House is unreasonably and improperly restricting the rights of private Members and the electors they represent ;
 - (b) is disregarding the status of the Chair by permitting to remain for months on the notice paper, partly debated, but undetermined, a motion of No-Confidence in Mr. Deputy Speaker ;
 - (c) is permitting and encouraging personal defamatory and threatening attacks upon Opposition Members by Ministers, and so violating the decencies of political controversy ;
 - (d) is exhibiting a contempt for the institution of Parliament and its function as the democratic forum of the Nation ;
 and therefore that the Government is deserving of the censure of this House.
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.
5. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fourteen minutes to one o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Abbott, Mr. Blain, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Francis, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Holloway, Mr. James, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Mulcahy, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Scullin and Mr. Scully.

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