

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 107.

THURSDAY, 7TH JULY, 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. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—LEAVE TO MAKE NOT GRANTED.—Mr. Ward (Minister for External Territories) asked leave to make a Ministerial Statement.
Objection being raised, leave not granted.
3. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Turnbull rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The necessity for a substantial increase in the allocation by the Commonwealth to the States of moneys from petrol tax for the construction and maintenance of roads, in view of (a) the increased importance of motor road transport because of decreased coal supplies, and (b) the necessity because of dollar restrictions to make the best use of the available motor vehicles and motor spirit".
Mr. Deputy Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—Mr. Turnbull moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Closure.—Mr. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.
Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.
And the question—That the House do now adjourn—was put accordingly, and negatived.
4. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate:—
[*Immigration Bill 1949*]—
MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, *Message No. 90.*
The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to amend the 'Immigration Act 1901-1948', and for other purposes", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.
GORDON BROWN,
President.
The Senate,
Canberra, 6th July, 1949.
[*War-time Refugees Removal Bill 1949*]—
MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, *Message No. 91.*
The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to provide for the Removal from Australia of certain Persons who entered Australia during the Period of Hostilities", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.
GORDON BROWN,
President.
The Senate,
Canberra, 6th July, 1949.
5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1949—
No. 48—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
No. 49—Postal Telecommunication Technicians' Association (Australia).
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
Postmaster-General—J. R. Dallinger, R. B. Dick, V. N. Fitze, E. J. Koop, D. J. Omond,
R. A. Shutz, G. A. Wiffen.
Works and Housing—J. K. McElgunn.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
Defence purposes—Spencer's Brook, Western Australia.
Postal purposes—
Kulpara, South Australia.
Liverpool, New South Wales.

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Social Services Consolidation Act—Report by the Director-General of Social Services for year 1947-48.

War Service Homes Act—Amendment of the arrangement of the 17th July, 1934, between the then War Service Homes Commissioner (now Director of War Service Homes) and the State of Western Australia.

6. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—CENTRAL HEATING AND HOT WATER SYSTEMS AT VICTORIA BARRACKS, MELBOURNE.—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1947*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely :—Supply and installation of a central heating system and a central hot water supply system at Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, to serve a total of eighteen buildings.

Mr. Lemmon having laid on the Table a plan in connexion with the proposed work—

Question—put and passed.

7. BATMAN AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, FLINDERS-LANE, MELBOURNE—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Lemmon (Minister for Works and Housing) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1947*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the Committee has duly reported to this House the results of its investigations, namely :—Erection of the Batman Automatic Telephone Exchange, Flinders-lane, Melbourne.

Question—put and passed.

8. POST AND TELEGRAPH BILL 1949.—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. Deputy 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, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Calwell (Minister representing the Postmaster-General), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9. LIGHTHOUSES BILL 1949.—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. Deputy 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 (Minister representing the Minister for Shipping and Fuel), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Rankin (Vice-Chairman) brought up the following Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works :—

Report relating to the proposed erection of a new school at Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

11. LIQUID FUEL (DEFENCE STOCKS) BILL 1949.—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. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) 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.

12. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS AND BUILDINGS, 1947-48.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and were read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 49.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 20th June, 1949.

7th July, 1949.

W. J. McKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 50.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Canberra, 20th June, 1949.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and, together with the accompanying Estimates, to be printed and referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

13. SUPPLY.—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS, ETC., 1947-48.—
The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved the following two motions :—

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1947-48.

That the following further sums be granted to His Majesty to defray the charges for the year 1947-48, for the several services hereunder specified, viz. :—

Part I.—Departments and Services—Other than Business Undertakings and Territories of the Commonwealth.

	£
Parliament	16,237
Prime Minister's Department	150,324
Department of External Affairs	56,796
Department of the Treasury	242,442
Attorney-General's Department	58,984
Department of the Interior	62,605
Department of Works and Housing	51,392
Department of Civil Aviation	406,515
Department of Trade and Customs	112,597
Department of Health	1,746
Department of Commerce and Agriculture	68,078
Department of Social Services	11,730
Department of Supply and Shipping	796,233
Department of External Territories	3,365
Department of Immigration	54,530
Department of Labour and National Service	46,109
Department of Transport	12,618
Department of Information	2,503
Department of Post-war Reconstruction	97,079
Defence and Post-war (1939-45) Charges—	£
Defence and Service Departments	5,416,771
Production Departments	687,503
Reciprocal Lend-Lease	221,448
Re-establishment and Repatriation	995,396
Lend-Lease Settlement	1,095,258
Subsidies	20,467,433
Miscellaneous	433,194
Miscellaneous Credits	Cr. 7,610,516
	21,706,487
Less amount chargeable to Loan Fund—	
Read	Nil
In lieu of	£30,328,000
	30,328,000
	52,034,487
Less amount provided in Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1947-48	29,800,000
	22,234,487
Less amounts provided under votes which remained unexpended at close of year	20,221,311
	2,013,176
Miscellaneous Services	1,120,432
War (1914-18) Services	3,012
	5,388,503
Total Part I.	5,388,503

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Part II.—Business Undertakings.

Commonwealth Railways	133,623
Postmaster-General's Department	2,352,292
Total Part II.	2,485,915

Part III.—Territories of the Commonwealth.

Northern Territory	58,397
Australian Capital Territory	59,653
Papua-New Guinea	104,384
Total Part III.	222,434

Part V.—Primary Production—Self-balancing Items.

Eggs—War-time control—Distribution of surplus funds to State Egg Boards	650,000
Total	8,746,852

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1947-48.

That there be granted to His Majesty to the service of the year 1947-48 for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., a further sum not exceeding £1,246,723.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the motions be agreed to—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehy 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 Resolutions reported from the Committee were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Dedman, were adopted by the House.

14. WAYS AND MEANS—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR WORKS, ETC., 1947-48.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved the following two motions :—

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1947-48.

That, towards making good the further Supply granted to His Majesty for the service of the year 1947-48, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £8,746,852.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR ADDITIONS, NEW WORKS, BUILDINGS, ETC., 1947-48.

That, towards making good the further Supply granted to His Majesty for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year 1947-48, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum not exceeding £1,246,723.

Question—That the motions be agreed to—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehy reported accordingly.

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

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

Ordered—That Mr. Dedman and Mr. Holloway do prepare and bring in Bills to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

15. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL 1947-48.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) then brought up a Bill intituled " *A Bill for an Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight* ", 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.

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 a later hour this day.

7th July, 1949.

16. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL 1947-48.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) also brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.*”, 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.
 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 a later hour this day.
17. LIQUID FUEL (DEFENCE STOCKS) BILL 1949.—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. Deputy 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 (Minister representing the Minister for Shipping and Fuel), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

18. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 6, Government Business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
19. NEW GUINEA TIMBER RIGHTS ROYAL COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), That the Paper [*presented on the 24th June, 1949*], viz. :—
 New Guinea Timber Rights Royal Commission—Report—
 be printed—
 Debate resumed.
 Ordered—That Mr. Ward (Minister for External Territories) be granted extensions of time (3).
 Debate continued.
 Mr. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) 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.

20. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Bill 1949*]—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 94.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1948’*”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 7th July, 1949.

[*Australian Soldiers’ Repatriation Bill 1949*]—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 95.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Australian Soldiers’ Repatriation Act 1920-1948’*”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 7th July, 1949.

[*Census and Statistics Bill 1949*]—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 96.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Census and Statistics Act 1905-1946’*”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 7th July, 1949.

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21. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—STEVEDORING INDUSTRY BILL 1949.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 93.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Prevention or Settlement by Conciliation or Arbitration of Industrial Disputes, extending beyond the limits of any one State, in connexion with Stevedoring Operations; to regulate Industrial Matters in connexion with, and to regulate and control the Performance of, Stevedoring Operations in the course of Trade and Commerce with other Countries or among the States; and for other purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 7th July, 1949.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendment, which is as follows :—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE.

Page 15, clause 34, after sub-clause (1.) insert the following sub-clause :—

"(1A.) The Court shall have power to determine the terms and conditions in accordance with which, including the rates at which, the Board shall pay attendance money to waterside workers."

On the motion of Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), the Amendment was agreed to.
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Sheehan reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the House adopted the Report.

22. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—COCKATOO AND SCHNAPPER ISLANDS BILL 1949.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 92.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to repeal the 'Commonwealth Shipping Act 1923' and to provide for the Control and Management of Cockatoo Island and Schnapper Island*", and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 7th July, 1949.

Mr. Dedman (Minister representing the Minister for Shipping and Fuel) 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. Dedman moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. Deputy 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. Sheehan reported accordingly.

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

23. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL 1947-48.—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—

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

Mr. Deputy 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. Sheehan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, see page 364) the Bill was read a third time.

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24. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL 1947-48.—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—

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

Mr. Deputy 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. Sheehan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 364) the Bill was read a third time.

25. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department of the Treasury—L. W. B. Gibbons, J. N. Hutchinson.
 Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (6).
 Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
 Defence purposes—Zillmere, Queensland.
 Immigration purposes—Port Kembla, New South Wales.
 Postal purposes—
 North Sydney, New South Wales.
 West Tamworth, New South Wales.
 Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, Nos. 38, 39.
 War Service Homes Act—Land acquired at—
 Bankstown, New South Wales.
 Coburg, Victoria.

26. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

27. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by Resolution of the House at this sitting.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Abbott, Mr. Adermann, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Harrison, Mr. James, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Mulcahy, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Rosevear and Mr. Scullin

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.