THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 68.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1904.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.-Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. PAPER.—Mr. McCay presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—

Defence Act 1903.—Military Forces.—Addition to the Financial and Allowance Regulations (Provisional).—Part XII., Fuel and Light (dated 3rd September, 1904. Statutory Rules, 1904, No. 52).

3. CONTRACT POST-OFFICES IN MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN AREA.—Mr. Maloney moved, pursuant to notice, That a Return be laid upon the Table of the House showing—

(1) All post-offices in the metropolitan area of Melbourne which are let by contract.

(2) The amount paid annually in each case by the Department to the contractor.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

4. PAPER.—The following Paper was laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Contract Post-offices in Melbourne Metropolitan Area.-Return to the foregoing Order.

- 5. POSTPONEMENT OF GENERAL BUSINESS.—Ordered, That General Business be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 1, Government Business.
- 6. STATEMENT AS TO MINISTERIAL POLICY.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Despatch from the Secretary of State with reference to the Metric System be printed (on which motion the Ministerial Statement of the Government Policy was made)— Debate resumed.

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

Question-That the debate be now adjourned-put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered-That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

7. ADJOURNMENT.-Mr. McLean moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question-put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House at twenty-five minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at halfpast ten o'clock a.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Mr. Cameron, Mr. Ewing, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Kingston, Mr. McWilliams, Sir John Quick, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Wilkinson.

> C. GAVAN DUFFY, Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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