

1904.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 106.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 1904.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 2. PRINTING COMMITTEE.—SEVENTH REPORT FROM.—Sir John Quick, Chairman, brought up the Seventh Report from the Printing Committee.
- The Report was read by the Clerk, and is as follows :—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have dealt with the Petition presented and all Papers laid on the Table of the House since the last sitting of the Committee.

Your Committee find that the following Papers have been printed by order of the Senate since the last meeting of your Committee :—

Metric System of Weights and Measures—Despatch from Secretary of State.
 Military Forces of the Commonwealth—Statutory Rules No. 63 of 1904.
 Transcontinental Railway—Report by Mr. H. C. Castilla on Boring Operations for Water along the Route.
 Pacific Island Mail Services—Summary of Negotiations for further extension.

Your Committee recommend that, in addition, the following be printed :—

Papua (British New Guinea)—Spirituous Liquors—Correspondence *re* suggested prohibition, &c.
 The Budget, 1904-5—Papers prepared by the Right Honorable the Treasurer.
 Defence Department—Memorandum by the Minister on Estimates for 1904-5.
 New Hebrides—Statistics as to—Return to an Order.
 Australian Produce—Report by the Agent-General of Victoria *re* a Federal Depôt in London.
 Library Committee (Joint)—Report from.
 Defence Forces—Memorandum by the Minister of Defence on the Administration and control of.
 Butter Industry—Royal Commission—Progress Report.

JOHN QUICK,
 Chairman.

House of Representatives,
 Committee Room, 17th November, 1904.

Sir John Quick moved, by leave, That the Report be agreed to.
 Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

17th November, 1904.

3. OLD-AGE PENSIONS—NATIONAL SCHEME.—Mr. O'Malley moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable, in the interests of the aged poor, that the Government should, without unnecessary delay, formulate a national scheme for the payment of old-age pensions, and that this motion, when carried, be an instruction to the Attorney-General to draft the necessary measure.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Wilks, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
 Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Thursday next.
 It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, the Orders of the Day were called on.
4. LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill—Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.
 Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Salmon reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
 Resolved—That the House will, on Tuesday, 29th instant, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 2, 3, and 4, General Business, be Orders of the Day for Thursday next.
6. SUPPLY.—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.
 Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
 Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Salmon reported that the Committee had made progress, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
 Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Reid moved, That the House do now adjourn.
 Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at two minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Mr. Batchelor, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Conroy, Mr. Harper, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Bruce Smith, Sir George Turner, and Mr. Willis.

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