

1904.

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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 114.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 1st DECEMBER, 1904.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business take precedence of General Business (Notices of Motion and Orders of the Day).
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.
3. HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.—Mr. Ronald moved, pursuant to notice, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY :

We, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia in Parliament assembled, desire most earnestly in our name and on behalf of the people whom we represent, to express our unswerving loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty's person and Government.

We have observed, with feelings of profound satisfaction, the evidence afforded by the recent speeches from the Throne, and debates thereon in the Houses of Lords and Commons of the United Kingdom, and also from Your Most Gracious Majesty's recent visits to Ireland, of a sincere desire on all sides to usher in a new era of lasting peace and goodwill in Ireland, and this House congratulates the Mother country on the just and equitable legislation recently passed on the land and education questions, and hopes for an early and lasting settlement of the troublesome problem of the government of Ireland, which has taxed the powers of British statesmen for so long.

Enjoying and appreciating as we do the blessings of self-government here, we would humbly express the hope that a just measure of Home Rule will be granted to the people of Ireland. We would point out that land purchase was half of the proposed settlement of Ireland's difficulties in 1881, and that recently Your Majesty's Advisers saw fit to pass a liberal measure of land purchase, thus removing the great hindrance to Home Rule.

We desire to point to our own experience, and to emphasize the blessings which accrue to this Commonwealth from the Federal system of Home Rule under which our people live, and the benefits in which the people of Australia, with their fellow citizens and subjects of the Dominion of Canada, rejoice. This extended experience which Your Most Gracious Majesty's subjects have had of the inestimable benefits resulting from self-government being bestowed on the Australian States and Commonwealth, only intensifies their desire to affirm through their representatives in Parliament the sentiment that nothing could give more solidarity to the Empire over which Your Most Gracious Majesty rules than a liberal measure of Federal Home Rule being granted to the people of Ireland.

Mr. Ronald 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.

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4. INCOME TAX—DECISION OF HIGH COURT.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That, in order that all citizens of the Commonwealth may be placed upon an equal footing with respect to Income Tax, the Government should introduce a short Bill for the purpose of imposing a Federal Income Tax, to apply to all persons in the Commonwealth, who, by the decision of the High Court, escape payment of State Income Tax—
Debate resumed.
Mr. Wilks 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 Thursday next.
5. GOVERNMENT MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF TOBACCO, ETC.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration in Committee of the whole House of the Senate's Message, No. 3—
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, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Resolved—That the House will, on Thursday, 15th instant, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 3 to 9 inclusive, General Business, be Orders of the Day for Thursday next, and that Order of the Day No. 10, General Business, be an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
7. COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration in Committee of the whole House of the amendments made by the Senate in this Bill—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, 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.
8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Reid moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at five 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. Kingston, Sir John Quick, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Sir George Turner.

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