

1905.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 27.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 31ST AUGUST, 1905.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Petitions from certain citizens and residents of South Australia, praying that stringent prohibitory legislation, such as is in force in New Zealand, against the importation and use of opium for smoking, may be enacted, were presented as under:—  
 By Mr. Batchelor—Five Petitions.  
 By Mr. Poynton—Four Petitions.  
 Petitions severally received.
3. PAPER.—Mr. Chapman presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
 Postmaster-General's Department—Copy of Reports by Mr. John Hesketh, Electrical Engineer, Postmaster-General's Department, Queensland, on—  
 (1) Matters investigated by him during his recent tour in America and Europe ;  
 (2) The Message Rate (Measured Service) or Toll system of charging for Telephone Services ; also  
 (3) Further Report on the Automatic Telephone Exchange System.  
 Ordered to lie on the Table.
4. MILITARY CANTEENS—PARTICULARS AS TO RECEIPTS, ETC.—Mr. Mauger moved, pursuant to notice, That a Return be laid on the Table showing—  
 (1) The receipts during the past twelve months from military canteens throughout the Commonwealth.  
 (2) The expenditure in connexion with the establishment and maintenance of same.  
 (3) The profits, if any, on intoxicating liquors, and the way in which such profits have been applied.  
 Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
5. OPIUM—RESTRICTION ON IMPORTATION.—Mr. Johnson moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the importation of opium for other than medical purposes should be prohibited.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Mr. Chapman 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, 5th October next.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion, General Business, No. 2 be made an Order of the Day for Thursday, 14th September next; that Notice of Motion, General Business, No. 3 be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow; and that Order of the Day, General Business, No. 1 be made an Order of the Day for Thursday, 14th September next.

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7. HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—

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, 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 recent legislation and recent debates in the Houses of Parliament of the United Kingdom, of a sincere desire now to deal justly with Ireland ; and in particular we congratulate the people of the United Kingdom on the remarkable Act directed towards the settlement of the land question, and on the concession to the people of Ireland of a measure of Local Government for municipal purposes. But the sad history of Ireland since the Act of Union shows that no British Parliament can understand or effectively deal with the economic and social conditions of Ireland.

Enjoying and appreciating as we do the blessings of Home Rule here, we would humbly express the hope that a just measure of Home Rule may be granted to the people of Ireland. They ask for it through their representatives—never has request more clear, consistent, and continuous been made by any nation. As subjects of Your Majesty we are interested in the peace and contentment of all parts of the Empire, and we desire to see this long-standing grievance at the very heart of the Empire removed. It is our desire for the solidarity and permanence of the Empire, as a Power making for peace and civilization, that must be our excuse for submitting to Your Majesty this respectful petition—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Ronald 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, 28th September next.

8. SUPPLY.—The House, according to Order, 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.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at fourteen 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. Bamford, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Frazer, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Kingston\*, Mr. McCol\*, Sir John Quick, Mr. Reid, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Dugald Thomson, and Sir George Turner.

\* On leave.

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