

1905.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 50.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 12TH OCTOBER, 1905.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—Sir William Lyne presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—Excise Act 1901—Regulations (to come into operation on the 1st day of November, 1905)—Statutory Rules 1905, No. 65.
3. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered—That the consideration of Notice of Motion, General Business, No. 1, be postponed until Thursday next.
4. CANTEEN BILL.—Mr. Mauger moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to Military Canteens.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Mr. Mauger then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act relating to Military Canteens,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for Thursday, 26th instant.
5. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER'S DEPARTMENT—COST OF.—Mr. Hutchison moved, pursuant to notice, That a Return be laid upon the Table of the House showing the total cost of the Public Service Commissioner's Department, including rents, furnishing, cost of classification of the service, printing, and any other expenditure in connexion with the said Department from its inception up to 30th September, 1905.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of Orders of the Day, General Business, Nos. 1 to 3 inclusive, be postponed as follows, viz. :—Order of the Day No. 1, until Thursday, 26th instant; Order of the Day No. 2, until Thursday, 30th November next; and Order of the Day No. 3, until after consideration of Order of the Day, General Business, No. 4.
7. HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Higgins :—

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.

12th October, 1905.

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—

And on the amendment proposed thereto by Mr. Reid, viz. :—

That all the words after the first word "That" be omitted, and that the following words be inserted in place thereof :—

"whilst in full sympathy with every movement calculated to advance the best interests of Ireland, this House declines to petition His Majesty either in favour of or against a change in the parliamentary system which at present prevails in the United Kingdom—

- (1) because this House does not consider such matters within its legitimate province ;
- (2) because they will shortly become issues in an appeal to the electors of Great Britain and Ireland, in which this House has no right to interfere ; and
- (3) because this House confidently relies upon the fairness and wisdom of the British people for the removal of every just Irish grievance in the manner most likely to promote the welfare of the Irish people and the stability of the Empire"—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Robinson, 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.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of Orders of the Day, General Business, Nos. 3 and 5, be postponed until Thursday next.

9. SECRET COMMISSIONS BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the third reading of this Bill—Mr. Isaacs moved, That the Bill be now recommitted to a Committee of the whole House for the reconsideration of clause 4 in regard to the following proposed amendments :—Sub-clause (1), paragraphs (a) and (b), after the word "agent," wherever it occurs, insert the words "of the principal"; and clause 5, in regard to the following proposed amendment :—Omit the word "and" and insert the words "the receipt, account, or document."

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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 reconsidered clauses 4 and 5, and had agreed to the amendments therein referred to it.

On the motion of Mr. Isaacs the House ordered that the Standing Orders be suspended so as to allow the Bill to be passed through its remaining stages this day.

On the motion of Mr. Isaacs, the House adopted the Report.

Mr. Isaacs moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

10. 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.

11. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir William Lyne moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at eight 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. Cameron, Mr. Conroy, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Kingston, Mr. McColl, Mr. McLean, Mr. Phillips, Sir John Quick*, Mr. Reid, Sir George Turner, and Mr. Willis.

* On leave.

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