

1905.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 62.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER, 1905.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE—THIRD REPORT FROM.—Mr. Poynton, Acting Chairman, brought up the Third 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 all the Papers and Petitions laid on the Table of the House since the last sitting of the Committee.

Your Committee find that the following Papers, presented to both Houses, have been printed by order of the Senate :—

Northern Territory—Report by the Governor of South Australia.

Pacific Cable Conference—Report.

Immigration and the "contract" provisions of the Immigration Restriction Act—Correspondence between the Premier of New South Wales and the Prime Minister.

Federal Capital Site—

Correspondence between the Prime Minister and the Premier of New South Wales *re* a Draft Bill to expedite settlement of.

Correspondence *re* (2nd to 20th October, 1905).

Your Committee recommend that the following Papers and Petition be printed :—

Papers—

Immigration—Correspondence in regard to communications between the Commonwealth and the Agents-General; and letter from Prime Minister to the Chairman of the Agents-General.

Standing Orders Committee—Standing Rules and Orders as further amended and recommended by.

Military Canteens—Particulars as to receipts, &c.

Public Service Commissioner's Department—Cost of.

Sugar Bonus—Report by Dr. Maxwell.

Royal Commissions and Select Committees—Cost of.

Petition—

From New South Wales Country Press Association *re* Copyright Bill.

A. POYNTON,  
Acting Chairman

House of Representatives,  
Committee Room, 2nd November, 1905.

Mr. Poynton moved, by leave, That the Report be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

2nd November, 1905.

3. PENNY POSTAGE FOR COMMONWEALTH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Lee :—That, in the opinion of this House, the penny postage system should be extended to all parts of the Commonwealth—  
Debate resumed.  
Mr. Poynton moved, That the debate be now adjourned.  
And, after debate—  
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and negatived.  
Debate continued.  
Mr. Brown 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 this day, after the consideration of the Notices of Motion.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day, General Business, Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 6 be postponed as follows, viz. :—Order of the Day No. 2 until Thursday, 30th instant ; Order of the Day No. 3 until Thursday next ; Order of the Day No. 4 until after the consideration of the Notices of Motion this day ; and Order of the Day No. 6 until to-morrow.
5. DISCHARGE OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—PREMIERS' CONFERENCE, HOBART, 1905—COST OF.—The Order of the Day for the motion on this question was read and discharged.
6. TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS—GUARANTEES.—Mr. Mahon moved, pursuant to notice, That the practice of insisting on guarantees to cover any deficiency between the revenue and the cost of erecting, maintaining, and working telegraphs and telephones in country districts retards settlement and should be discontinued.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr. Sydney Smith 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, 23rd instant.
7. PENNY POSTAGE FOR COMMONWEALTH.—Debate (adjourned at half-past four o'clock) resumed upon the following motion of Mr. Lee :—That, in the opinion of this House, the penny postage system should be extended to all parts of the Commonwealth.  
Mr. Knox 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, 23rd instant.
8. MINISTRY : PROPOSED ELECTION BY PARLIAMENT.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Fowler :—That the present methods of constituting Ministerial Cabinets, together with the powers exercised by these bodies, amount in many respects to the usurpation of the rights and duties of Parliament as a whole, tend to foment unnecessary party strife, impede the work of legislation, and precipitate artificial crises ; and therefore, in the opinion of this House, such legislation as may be necessary should be introduced to provide for the election of Ministers by Parliament—  
Debate resumed.  
Mr. G. B. Edwards moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word " therefore," in the second last line, be omitted, and that in place thereof the following words be inserted :—" this House asserts its right to determine which of its Members shall be recommended, by Address to the Crown, for appointment to administer particular Departments, and to represent the House in the Executive Council of the Commonwealth."  
Debate continued.  
Mr. Skene 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, 23rd instant.
9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—ELECTORAL BILL (1905).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—  
MR. SPEAKER, Message No. 14.  
The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to amend the Law relating to Parliamentary Elections,*" and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.  
R. C. BAKER,  
President.  
The Senate,  
Melbourne, 2nd November, 1905.
10. ELECTORAL BILL (1905).—Mr. Deakin moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message, intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the Law relating to Parliamentary Elections,*" 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 to-morrow.

2nd November, 1905.

11. 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 agreed to certain resolutions.  
 Ordered—That the consideration of the Report be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.  
 Mr. Salmon also acquainted the House 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.

12. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—REPRESENTATION BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 15.

The Senate has agreed to the Bill returned herewith intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to the Representation of the several States in the House of Representatives*," with the amendments indicated in the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate desires the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

R. C. BAKER,  
President.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 2nd November, 1905.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

13. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 2 and 3 be postponed until to-morrow.

14. LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES BILL—GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration in Committee of the whole House of the amendments recommended in this Bill by His Excellency the Governor-General in his Message No. 16, 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 dealt with the amendments, as follows:—

Amendment No. 1—

Clause 1, page 1, line 7, after the words "body of persons" insert the words "corporate or unincorporate".

Amendment agreed to with the following amendments:—Add to the words "corporate or unincorporate" the following words:—"associated together with the object either solely or amongst others of carrying on and in fact lawfully under the laws of the State carrying on the business of granting policies upon lives or entering into contracts for future endowments by way of annuity or otherwise", and then insert the words as so amended after the word "society" in line 7, instead of after the words "body of persons".

Amendment No. 2—

Clause 1, page 1, lines 7-8, omit the words "incorporated or regulated or enabled to sue and be sued by any charter or Act and".

Amendment agreed to, and, as a consequential amendment on the amendments made, all the remaining words in lines 9 to 12 omitted.

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

15. PAPER.—Mr. Deakin presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
 Federal Capital Site.—Further letter from the Premier of New South Wales to the Prime Minister (1st November, 1905).

Ordered to lie on the Table.

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

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at five minutes to 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. Fowler, Mr. Harper, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Kingston\*, Sir William Lyne, Mr. McColl, Sir John Quick, Mr. Reid, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Spence, Sir George Turner\*, Mr. Wilks, and Mr. Willis.

\* On leave.

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