THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 63.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1906.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Public Service (Appeals) Bill.—Mr. Hughes, pursuant to leave given on 9th August last, brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Commonwealth Public Service Act 1902'," and moved, That it be new 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.

3. Joint Library Committee—Report from .—Mr. Speaker, Chairman, presented a Report from the Joint Library Committee.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

4. Postal Rates Bill.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill—Mr. Chapman moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Kelly moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.

The House divided--

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 16.	
Mr. Bamford, Sir Langdon Bonython, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Joseph Cook, Mr. Culpin, Mr. R. Edwards, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Frazer, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Knox, Mr. Mahon, Mr. McCay, Mr. McCay, Mr. McLean,	Mr. McWilliams, Mr. O'Malley, Mr. Page, Mr. Poynton, Mr. Reid, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Storrer, Mr. David Thomson, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Tudor, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Willis. Tellers. Mr. Crouch, Mr. Hutchison.	Mr. Brown, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Deakin, Mr. G. B. Edwards, Mr. Ewing, Sir John Forrest, Mr. Groom,	Mr. Harper, Mr. Maloney, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Spence, Mr. Wilson. *Tellers.* Mr. Hume Cook, Mr. Ronald.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

26th and 27th September, 1906.

5. Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General.—Assent to Bills.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker:—

NORTHCOTE,

Governor-General.

Message No. 15.

A Bill intituled "An Act for the Preservation of Australian Industries and for the Repression of Destructive Monopolies," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,

Melbourne, 24th September, 1906.

NORTHCOTE.

Governor-General.

Message No. 16.

A Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Audit Act 1901'," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,

Melbourne, 24th September, 1906.

6. Supply.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after midnight-

THURSDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1906.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that a quorum of Members was not present in the Committee; whereupon Mr. Speaker counted the House, and a quorum of Members having been obtained, the House again resolved itself into the Committee.

Mr. Speaker again resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that a quorum of Members was not present in the Committee; whereupon Mr. Speaker counted the House, and a quorum of Members having been obtained, the House ordered that Mr. Watkins do take the Chair of the Committee temporarily, and the House again resolved itself into the Committee.

Mr. Speaker again resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald 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. Papers.—Mr. Deakin presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Defence-

Report of Committee of Naval Officers of the Commonwealth assembled at Melbourne, Victoria, to consider the Memorandum of the Committee of Imperial Defence and report as regards the Naval Defence of Australia.

Report of Committee of Officers appointed by the Minister of State for Defence to consider and report upon the General Scheme of Defence for Australia as submitted by the Committee of Imperial Defence—Organization, &c.

Statement of Schemes for Commonwealth Naval Defence.

Statement of Schemes for the Defence of the Commonwealth.

Immigration-

Further correspondence with State Premiers re Agents-General acting on behalf of the Commonwealth—(Dated 17th August, 1905, to 28th February, 1906.)

Correspondence with State Premiers in regard to proposals of the Commonwealth Government for the promotion of Immigration—(Dated 2nd May, 1906, to 29th August, 1906.)

Sir William Lyne presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Rabbit Destruction—Dr. Danysz's Experiments—Report on the virus proposed for use. (By Frank Tidswell, Principal Assistant Medical Officer of the Government of New South Wales, and Microbiologist to the Board of Health).

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

Mr. Groom presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—

Public Service Act 1902—Recommendations and approval in connexion with the promotion of Mr. J. G. McLaren, as Clerk-in-Charge, Commonwealth Electoral office, Sydney, and Mr. M. M. Fowles, as clerk, 4th class, Commonwealth Electoral office, Adelaide.

- 8. Excise Inspectors in Victoria and South Australia.—Mr. Hutchison moved, by leave, That a Return be laid upon the Table showing—
 - (1) The number of Inspectors of Excise in Victoria, length of service of each officer, and amount of salary for year 1906-7.
 - (2) The number of Inspectors of Excise in South Australia, length of service of each officer, and amount of salary for year 1906-7.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. 26th and 27th September, 1906.

- 9. Postponement of Business.—Ordered—That the remaining business, except Order of the Day No. 9, General Business, be postponed until to-morrow.
- 10. DISCHARGE OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—On the motion of Mr. Brown, the following Order of the Day was read and discharged:—

No. 9—Public Service Bill (1906)—Second reading.

Ordered—That the Bill be withdrawn.

11. Adjournment.—Sir John Forrest moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

Members Present.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Conroy, Mr. Fuller, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. Gibb, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Lee, Mr. Lonsdale, Sir John Quick, Mr. Sydney Smith, Sir George Turner, and Mr. Wilks.

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