

1951-52-53.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 169.

TUESDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 1953.

1. The House met, at twenty minutes past three o'clock p.m.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable A. G. Cameron) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. **DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, Vice-President of the United States of America, was within the precincts. The distinguished visitor thereupon, with the concurrence of honorable Members, was provided with a seat on the floor of the House.
3. **PETITION.**—Mr. Griffiths presented a petition from certain residents of the District of Newcastle praying that this House oppose any recognition of Communist China by the Australian Government, and oppose its admission to the United Nations.
Petition received and read.

4. **PAPERS.**—The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Commonwealth Committee on Taxation—Reports—
 - Collection by instalments.
 - Entertainments Tax—conditional exemption.
 - Pay-roll Tax—exemptions and anomalies.
 - Pay-roll Tax—local governing bodies.
 - Penal provisions and prosecutions.
 - Provisional tax.
 - Returns and assessments.
 - Sales Tax—freight charges.
 - Sales Tax exemptions—private hospitals and similar institutions.
 - Taxation of abnormal income receipts.
 Nauru—Ordinances—1953—
 - No. 1—Chinese and Native Labour.
 - No. 2—Prohibition of Sale or Barter of Administration and Employers' Stores.
 Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

- Defence Transition (Residual Provisions) Act—National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Order—Inventions and designs.
 - Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of the Army—J. H. Ramsay.
 - Public Service Arbitration Act—Determinations—1953—
 - No. 66—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 - No. 67—Federated Clerks' Union of Australia.
 - Social Services Consolidation Act—Report by Director-General of Social Services for year 1952-53.
 - Tariff Board Act—Tariff Board—Annual Report for year 1952-53, together with Summary of Recommendations.
5. **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT.**—Mr. Bland (Chairman) brought up the following Report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts :—
 - Seventh Report—Administration of Sales Tax.
 Ordered to be printed.
 6. **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General :—

W. J. SLIM,
Governor-General.

Message No. 142.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ Commonwealth Observatory Trust Fund Act 1953 ”
“ Forestry and Timber Bureau Act 1953 ”

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 Her Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Government House,
Canberra, 16th October, 1953.

20th October, 1953.

7. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY.—SUSPENSION BY THE ARBITRATION COURT OF QUARTERLY ADJUSTMENT PAYMENTS.—Mr. Joske having proposed to Mr. Speaker that a definite matter of urgent public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The effect on the Australian Arbitration system of the recent damaging statements by the Leader of the Opposition and the action of the Government of New South Wales in rejecting the recent decision of the Arbitration Court suspending quarterly adjustment payments"—

Mr. Speaker called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—

Mr. Joske addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Ordered—That Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) be granted an extension of time.

Discussion continued.

Mr. E. James Harrison addressing the House—

Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the Business of the Day be called on.

Question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. A. G. Cameron, in the Chair)—

AYES, 51.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Davis	Mr. Grayden	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Dean	Mr. Gullett	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Downer	Mr. Eric J. Harrison	Mr. Luck	Mr. Turner
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Haworth	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drury	Mr. Holt	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bowden	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Howse	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McLeay	
Mr. Brown	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Joske	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Corser	Mr. Francis	Mr. Kekwick	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Graham		Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 42.

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell
Mr. Andrews	Mr. Clark	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Costa	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cremean	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Ward
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Mullens	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. T. P. Burke	Mr. Duthie	Mr. E. James Harrison	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Daly
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Ewert		Mr. Riordan	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

8. CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL (No. 2) 1953.—Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), pursuant to leave given on the 15th October, brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff Proposals" and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Eric J. Harrison moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Eric J. Harrison, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9. EXCISE TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1953.—Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), pursuant to leave given on the 15th October, brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Excise under Excise Tariff Proposals" and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Eric J. Harrison moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Eric J. Harrison, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

20th October, 1953.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—STATES GRANTS BILL 1953.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General :—

W. J. SLIM,
Governor-General.

Message No. 143.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund sums for the purpose of Financial Assistance to the States of South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Canberra, 16th September, 1953.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund sums for the purpose of Financial Assistance to the States of South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Sir Arthur Fadden moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Sir Arthur Fadden, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir Arthur Fadden and Mr. Francis do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir Arthur Fadden then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Sir Arthur Fadden moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. T. P. Burke moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

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

11. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1 be postponed until after Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 3, Government Business.

12. SEAMEN'S WAR PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Francis (Minister for the Army) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

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

13. LOAN (WAR SERVICE LAND SETTLEMENT) BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Bill, as a whole, further considered and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see page 663*), the Bill was read a third time.

14. REPATRIATION BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Francis (Minister representing the Minister for Repatriation) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

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

15. SOCIAL SERVICES CONSOLIDATION BILL 1953.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed by Mr. A. D. Fraser, who moved, as an amendment, That all words after " That " be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof :—" the Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide for—

(1) the new pension rates to operate from 1st July, 1953 ;

(2) the rates set out in the Bill to be further increased to the same percentage of the basic wage as before this Government took office ;

(3) the amounts of permissible income and permissible property under the means test to be further increased in accord with the change in money values ;

(4) similarly appropriate increases to be made in those social service rates which have not been so increased".

20th October, 1953.

Debate continued.

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

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

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

16. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Wheat Marketing Bill 1953*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 236.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Wheat Industry Stabilization Act 1948–1953’* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 20th October, 1953.

[*International Wheat Agreement Bill 1953*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 237.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to approve Acceptance by Australia of the Agreement Revising and Renewing the International Wheat Agreement* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 20th October, 1953.

[*Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Assessment Bill (No. 2) 1953*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 238.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Assessment Act 1936–1952’*, as amended by the ‘ *Taxation Administration Act 1953* ’ and by the ‘ *Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Assessment Act 1953* ’ ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 20th October, 1953.

[*Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Bill 1953*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 239.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to impose upon Incomes a Tax by the name of Income Tax and Social Services Contribution* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 20th October, 1953.

17. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Townley (Minister for Social Services) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Berry, Mr. Bruce, Mr. C. R. Cameron, Mr. Casey, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Davies, Mr. Falkinder, Mr. Freeth, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Hasluck, Mr. Haylen, Mr. James, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Joshua, Mr. Kent Hughes, Sir Philip McBride, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Timson, Mr. Treloar, Mr. Whitlam and Mr. Wight.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.