

1954-55.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 84.

THURSDAY, 6TH OCTOBER, 1955.

1. The House met, at half past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Adermann) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for postal purposes—
Dallas, New South Wales.
Jiggi, New South Wales.
Monaro Vale, New South Wales.
3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Balaclava (Mr. Joske), on the ground of urgent public business.
Question—put and passed.
4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER.—Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) moved, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Adelaide (Mr. Chambers), on the ground of urgent public business.
Question—put and passed.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—WESTERN AUSTRALIA GRANT (WATER SUPPLY) BILL 1955.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General :—

W. J. SLIM,
Governor-General.

Message No. 72.

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 amend the *Western Australia Grant (Water Supply) Act 1948*, and for other purposes.

Canberra, 5th October, 1955.

Ordered—That the Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith. Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Menzies (Acting Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Western Australia Grant (Water Supply) Act 1948*, and for other purposes.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

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Mr. Menzies 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 Mr. Menzies, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Menzies and Sir Eric Harrison do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Menzies 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.

Mr. Menzies moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Evatt—Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

6. INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION BILL 1955.—Mr. Menzies (Acting Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve Acceptance by Australia of Membership in the International Finance Corporation, and for purposes connected therewith.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Menzies 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.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

7. REPATRIATION BILL 1955.—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.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Calwell), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

8. SEAMEN'S WAR PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES BILL 1955.—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.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Calwell), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

9. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES 1955-56.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Vote—"Northern Territory, £3,386,000"—

Vote—"Australian Capital Territory, £2,367,000"—

Vote—"Norfolk Island, £27,100"—

Vote—"Papua and New Guinea, £8,943,900"—

Vote—"Part 4.—Payments to or for the States, £1,750,000"—

Vote—"Part 5.—Self-balancing Items, £836,000"—

considered together.

Votes debated.

Limitation of Debate.—At fifteen minutes to six o'clock p.m., the Temporary Chairman (Mr. Bowden) having called the attention of the Committee to the fact that the time allotted for the Votes had expired—

Question—That the Votes be agreed to—put and passed.

Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the following Resolution be reported to the House—

That, including the sum already voted for such services, there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £441,645,000 for the services of the year 1955-56, viz.:—

PART I.—DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES—OTHER THAN BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS
AND TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

	£
Parliament	827,000
Prime Minister's Department	2,486,000
Department of External Affairs	1,853,000
Department of the Treasury	8,537,000
Attorney-General's Department	1,547,000
Department of the Interior	3,633,000
Department of Works	3,535,000
Department of Civil Aviation	7,719,000
Department of Trade and Customs	3,905,000
Department of Health	1,362,000
Department of Commerce and Agriculture	1,952,000
Department of Social Services	2,614,000
Department of Shipping and Transport	1,034,000
Department of Territories	180,000
Department of Immigration	1,543,000
Department of Labour and National Service	1,931,000
Department of National Development	843,000
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	4,449,000
Australian Atomic Energy Commission	582,000

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Defence Services—					£	
Department of Defence	750,000	
Department of the Navy	48,834,000	
Department of the Army	..	..	..	..	63,128,000	
Department of Air	..	..	..	..	50,926,000	
Department of Supply	..	..	..	..	14,134,000	
Department of Defence Production	..	..	..	..	11,253,000	
Other Services	..	..	..	..	975,000	
						190,000,000
Miscellaneous Services	..	..	..	..	..	25,803,000
Refunds of Revenue	..	..	..	..	..	22,000,000
Advance to the Treasurer	..	..	..	..	..	16,000,000
Bounties and Subsidies	..	..	..	..	..	16,070,000
War and Repatriation Services	..	..	..	..	..	15,977,000
Total PART 1.	..	..	..	..	..	336,382,000
PART 2.—BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS.						
Commonwealth Railways	..	..	..	..	..	3,336,000
Postmaster-General's Department	..	..	..	..	..	79,265,000
Broadcasting Services	..	..	..	..	..	5,352,000
Total PART 2	..	..	..	..	..	87,953,000
PART 3.—TERRITORIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.						
Northern Territory	..	..	..	..	..	3,386,000
Australian Capital Territory	..	..	..	..	..	2,367,000
Norfolk Island	..	..	..	..	..	27,100
Papua and New Guinea	..	..	..	..	..	8,943,900
Total PART 3	..	..	..	..	..	14,724,000
PART 4.—PAYMENTS TO OR FOR THE STATES.						
Miscellaneous Services	..	..	..	..	..	1,750,000
PART 5.—SELF-BALANCING ITEMS.						
Miscellaneous Services	..	..	..	..	..	836,000
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	441,645,000

Question—put and passed.

Leave to be asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

10. WAYS AND MEANS—ESTIMATES 1955-56.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year 1955-56, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of £278,568,000.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir Eric Harrison and Mr. McEwen do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

11. APPROPRIATION BILL 1955-56.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for that year*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Sir Eric Harrison moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

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(In the Committee.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Eric Harrison, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

12. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Regulations—1955—No. 6 (Hospital and Medical Services Ordinance).

13. SOCIAL SERVICES BILL (No. 2) 1955.—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 redrafted to provide, as from the 1st July, 1955, in the light of the declining purchasing value of money, increases in the rates of social service payments to the maximum extent that the national economy will permit, and, particularly, to ensure as a minimum that each of these payments is restored to the same percentage of the (unpegged) basic wage as it was under the adjustment of rates by the Chifley Government in 1948".

Debate continued.

Point of Order.—Mr. Calwell raised a point of order that certain words used by Mr. Pearce were out of order.

Deputy Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Deputy Speaker ruled that he would not order their withdrawal.

Dissent from Ruling.—Mr. Calwell having handed in, in writing, an objection to the Ruling, moved, That the Ruling be dissented from.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Pearce having withdrawn the words complained of, Mr. Calwell asked leave to withdraw the motion of dissent.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

Debate continued.

Closure.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 48.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Dean	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Downer	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Failes	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Brand	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahan	Mr. Wight
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Opperman	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lindsay	Sir E. Page	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Francis	Mr. Luck	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Davis	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Gullett

NOES, 38.

Mr. Andrews	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Thompson
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Costa	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Coutts	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Webb
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Crean	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Cremean	Mr. E. James	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Daly
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Curtin	Harrison	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Fitzgerald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Ruling be dissented from—being accordingly put—

The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 37.

Mr. Andrews	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Duthie	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Ward
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Costa	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Webb
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Coutts	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Crean	Mr. E. James	Mr. McLeod	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Cremean	Harrison	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Daly
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Johnson	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Fitzgerald

NOES, 48.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Dean	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Downer	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Failes	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Brand	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. McMahan	Mr. Wight
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Opperman	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lindsay	Sir E. Page	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Francis	Mr. Luck	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Davis	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Gullett

And so it was negatived.

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The time allowed to Mr. Pearce by Standing Order No. 92 for his speech on the original question having expired—

Suspension of Standing Orders.—Sir Eric Harrison moved, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Mr. Pearce from concluding his speech without limitation of time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

Debate on original question continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Daly), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Daly addressing the House—

Closure.—Sir Eric Harrison moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 45.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Downer	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Failes	Mr. Holt	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Brand	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Howse	Mr. Opperman	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Jack	Mr. Pearce	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Davidson
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Francis	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz	Mr. Gullett
Mr. Davis	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson	
Mr. Dean	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley	

NOES, 20.

Mr. Andrews	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Crean	Mr. E. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Cremean	Harrison	
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Costa	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Daly
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Coutts	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Fitzgerald
Mr. C. R. Cameron		Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Ward	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the House do now adjourn—was put accordingly, and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-eight minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until Tuesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Beazley, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Brown, Mr. T. P. Burke, Mr. A. G. Cameron, Mr. Casey, Mr. Chambers*, Sir Arthur Fadden, Mr. Galvin, Mr. Haylen, Mr. Hulme, Mr. Joske*, Mr. Mullens, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Russell, Mr. Watkins and Mr. Wheeler.

* On leave.

A. A. TREGGAR,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.