

1956.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 1.

FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 1956.

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia begun and held in Parliament House, Canberra, on Wednesday, the fifteenth day of February, in the fifth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six.

1. On which day, being the first day of the meeting of the Parliament for the despatch of business pursuant to a Proclamation (hereinafter set forth), Albert Allan Tregear, Clerk of the House of Representatives, Alan George Turner, Clerk Assistant, Norman James Parkes, Second Clerk Assistant, and Douglas Maurice Blake, Acting Serjeant-at-Arms, attending in the House according to their duty, the said Proclamation was read at the Table by the Clerk:—

PROCLAMATION

Commonwealth of
Australia to wit.

W. J. SLIM

Governor-General.

By His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth
of Australia.

WHEREAS by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia it is amongst other things provided that the Governor-General may appoint such times for holding the Sessions of the Parliament as he thinks fit:

Now therefore I, Sir William Joseph Slim, the Governor-General aforesaid, in exercise of the power conferred by the said Constitution, do by this my Proclamation appoint Wednesday, the fifteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, as the day for the said Parliament to assemble and be holden for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs: and all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives are hereby required to give their attendance accordingly in the building known as Parliament House, Canberra, at the hour of ten-thirty o'clock in the morning on the said fifteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six.

(L.S.) GIVEN under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia this 7th day
of February, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six and in the fifth year of Her Majesty's
reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

ROBERT G. MENZIES

Prime Minister.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

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2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY'S DEPUTY BY THE USHER OF THE BLACK ROD.—The following Message was delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod :—

GENTLEMEN,

The Deputy of His Excellency the Governor-General for the opening of Parliament requests the attendance of this honorable House in the Senate Chamber forthwith.

Accordingly the Members of the House of Representatives went to the Senate Chamber, where the Deputy addressed the Members of both Houses as follows :—

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

His Excellency the Governor-General, not thinking fit to be present in person at this time, has been pleased to cause Letters Patent to issue under the Great Seal of the Commonwealth constituting me his Deputy to do in his name all that is necessary to be performed in declaring this Parliament open, as will more fully appear from the Letters Patent which will now be read.

The Commission was read as follows :—

His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

To the Honourable SIR WILFRED KELSHAM FULLAGAR, Knight Commander of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, a Justice of the High Court of Australia.

GREETING :

WHEREAS by Letters Patent dated the twenty-ninth day of October, One thousand nine hundred, passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, constituting the Office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the said Commonwealth, Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon Her by the Constitution of the Commonwealth, was pleased to authorize and empower the Governor-General of the Commonwealth, subject to any limitations expressed or directions given by Her, to appoint any person or persons, jointly or severally, to be his Deputy or Deputies within any part of the Commonwealth, and in that capacity to exercise, during his pleasure, such of his powers and functions as he might deem it necessary or expedient to assign to him or them :

AND WHEREAS by Proclamation dated the seventh day of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, and published in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on the seventh day of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, the fifteenth day of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, was appointed as the day for the Parliament of the Commonwealth to assemble and be holden for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs : and all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives were thereby required to give their attendance accordingly, in the Building known as Parliament House, Canberra, at ten-thirty o'clock in the morning of the said fifteenth day of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six :

KNOW YOU THAT, in pursuance of the powers and authority vested in me by the Constitution and the said Letters Patent, I, SIR WILLIAM JOSEPH SLIM, the Governor-General aforesaid, do hereby appoint you to be my Deputy for the purpose of declaring open the said Parliament at the time and place aforesaid.

GIVEN under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia this fourteenth day (L.S.) of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six.

W. J. SLIM

Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,
ROBERT G. MENZIES
Prime Minister.

The Deputy then said :—

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

I have it in command from the Governor-General to let you know that after Members of the House of Representatives shall have been sworn, the causes of His Excellency calling this Parliament will be declared by him in person at this place ; and it being necessary that a Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be first chosen, you, Members of the House of Representatives, will retire to the place where you are to sit, and there proceed to the choice of some proper person to be your Speaker ; and later this day you will present the person whom you shall so choose to His Excellency at such time and place as he shall appoint.

I will attend in the House of Representatives for the purpose of administering the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to Honourable Members of that House.

And thereupon the Members of the House returned to their own Chamber, and, after an interval of some minutes—

3. DEPUTY TO ADMINISTER THE OATH TO MEMBERS.—The Honourable Sir Wilfred Kelsham Fullagar, a Justice of the High Court of Australia, having been ushered into the Chamber and conducted by the Acting Serjeant-at-Arms to the Chair, handed to the Clerk at the Table a Commission, which was read and is as follows :—

His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

To the Honourable SIR WILFRED KELSHAM FULLAGAR, Knight Commander of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, a Justice of the High Court of Australia.

GREETING :

WHEREAS by Section forty-two of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia it is amongst other things enacted that every Member of the House of Representatives shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor-General, or some person authorized by him, an Oath

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or Affirmation of Allegiance in the form set forth in the Schedule to the aforesaid Constitution :
 Now THEREFORE I, SIR WILLIAM JOSEPH SLIM, the Governor-General aforesaid, do by these Presents command and authorize you to attend at the Chamber of the House of Representatives at Parliament House, Canberra, on Wednesday, the fifteenth day of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, immediately after the opening of the Parliament of the Commonwealth at ten-thirty o'clock in the morning of that day, and there and then to administer the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to such Members of the House of Representatives as are present.

GIVEN under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, this fourteenth day (L.S.) of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six.

W. J. SLIM
 Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,
 ROBERT G. MENZIES
 Prime Minister.

4. RETURNS TO WRITS FOR GENERAL ELECTION.—The Clerk laid on the Table returns to the 124 Writs for the General Election of the House of Representatives held on 10th December, 1955.

By the said Returns it appeared that for the several Electoral Divisions the following had been elected, as shown hereunder :—

Division.	State.	Name.
Adelaide	South Australia ..	Cyril Chambers.
Angas	South Australia ..	Alexander Russell Downer.
Australian Capital Territory .. ..	.. ..	James Reay Fraser.
Balaclava	Victoria	Percy Ernest Joske.
Ballaarat	Victoria	George Dudley Erwin.
Banks	New South Wales ..	Dominic Eric Costa.
Barker	South Australia ..	Archie Galbraith Cameron.
Barton	New South Wales ..	Herbert Vere Evatt.
Bass	Tasmania	Lance Herbert Barnard.
Batman	Victoria	Alan Charles Bird.
Bendigo	Victoria	Percy James Clarey.
Bennelong	New South Wales ..	John Oscar Cramer.
Blaxland	New South Wales ..	Eli James Harrison.
Bonython	South Australia ..	Norman John Oswald Makin.
Boothby	South Australia ..	John McLeay.
Bowman	Queensland	Malcolm Llewellyn McColm.
Braddon	Tasmania	Aubrey William George Luck.
Bradfield	New South Wales ..	Henry Basil Turner.
Brisbane	Queensland	George Lawson.
Bruce	Victoria	Billy Mackie Snedden.
Calare	New South Wales ..	John Brooke Howse.
Canning	Western Australia ..	Leonard William Hamilton.
Capricornia	Queensland	Henry George Pearce.
Chisholm	Victoria	Wilfred Selwyn Kent Hughes.
Corangamite	Victoria	Ewen Daniel Mackinnon.
Corio	Victoria	Hubert Ferdinand Opperman.
Cowper	New South Wales ..	Earle Christmas Grafton Page.
Cunningham	New South Wales ..	William Davies.
Curtin	Western Australia ..	Paul Meernaa Caedwalla Hasluck.
Dalley	New South Wales ..	William Paul O'Connor.
Darebin	Victoria	Robert Wilfred Holt.
Darling	New South Wales ..	Joseph James Clark.
Darling Downs	Queensland	Reginald William Colin Swartz.
Dawson	Queensland	Charles William Davidson.
Deakin	Victoria	Francis John Davis.
Denison	Tasmania	Athol Gordon Townley.
East Sydney	New South Wales ..	Edward John Ward.
Eden-Monaro	New South Wales ..	Allan Duncan Fraser.
Evans	New South Wales ..	Frederick Meares Osborne.
Farrer	New South Wales ..	David Eric Fairbairn.
Fawkner	Victoria	Peter Howson.
Fisher	Queensland	Charles Frederick Adermann.
Flinders	Victoria	Robert William Ludovic Lindsay.
Forrest	Western Australia ..	Gordon Freeth.
Franklin	Tasmania	Charles William Jackson Falkinder.
Fremantle	Western Australia ..	Kim Edward Beazley.
Gellibrand	Victoria	Hector James McIvor.
Gippsland	Victoria	George James Bowden.
Grayndler	New South Wales ..	Frederick Michael Daly.
Grey	South Australia ..	Edgar Hughes Deg Russell.
Griffith	Queensland	Wilfred Charles Coutts.
Gwydir	New South Wales ..	Archibald Ian Allan.
Henty	Victoria	Edmund Maxwell Cameron Fox.
Herbert	Queensland	William Frederick Edmonds.

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Division.	State.	Name.
Higgins	Victoria	Harold Edward Holt.
Higinbotham	Victoria	Thomas Frank Timson.
Hindmarsh	South Australia	Clyde Robert Cameron.
Hughes	New South Wales	Leslie Royston Johnson.
Hume	New South Wales	Charles Groves Wright Anderson.
Hunter	New South Wales	Rowland James.
Indi	Victoria	William Dowling Bostock.
Isaacs	Victoria	William Crawford Haworth.
Kalgoorlie	Western Australia	Herbert Victor Johnson.
Kennedy	Queensland	William James Frederick Riordan.
Kingsford-Smith	New South Wales	Daniel James Curtin.
Kingston	South Australia	Patrick Galvin.
Kooyong	Victoria	Robert Gordon Menzies.
Lalor	Victoria	Reginald Thomas Pollard.
Lang	New South Wales	Francis Eugene Stewart.
La Trobe	Victoria	Richard Gardiner Casey.
Lawson	New South Wales	Laurence John Failes.
Leichhardt	Queensland	Henry Adam Bruce.
Lilley	Queensland	Bruce McDonald Wight.
Lowe	New South Wales	William McMahon.
Lyne	New South Wales	Philip Ernest Lucock.
Macarthur	New South Wales	Henry Jefferson Bate.
Mackellar	New South Wales	William Charles Wentworth.
Macquarie	New South Wales	Anthony Sylvester Luchetti.
Mallee	Victoria	Winton George Turnbull.
Maranoa	Queensland	Wilfred John Brimblecombe.
Maribyrnong	Victoria	Philip William Clifford Stokes.
McMillan	Victoria	Alexander Andrew Buchanan.
McPherson	Queensland	Arthur William Fadden.
Melbourne	Victoria	Arthur Augustus Calwell.
Melbourne Ports	Victoria	Frank Crean.
Mitchell	New South Wales	Roy Crawford Wheeler.
Moore	Western Australia	Hugh Alan Leslie.
Moreton	Queensland	Denis James Killen.
Murray	Victoria	John McEwen.
Newcastle	New South Wales	David Oliver Watkins.
New England	New South Wales	David Henry Drummond.
Northern Territory .. ..	.. ..	John Norman Nelson.
North Sydney	New South Wales	William Mathers Jack.
Oxley	Queensland	Donald Alastair Cameron.
Parkes	New South Wales	Leslie Clement Haylen.
Parramatta	New South Wales	Oliver Howard Beale.
Paterson	New South Wales	Allen Fairhall.
Perth	Western Australia	Frederick Charles Chaney.
Petrie	Queensland	Alan Shallcross Hulme.
Phillip	New South Wales	William John Aston.
Port Adelaide	South Australia	Albert Victor Thompson.
Reid	New South Wales	Charles Albert Aaron Morgan.
Richmond	New South Wales	Hubert Lawrence Anthony.
Riverina	New South Wales	Hugh Stevenson Robertson.
Robertson	New South Wales	Roger Levinge Dean.
Ryan	Queensland	Edward Nigel Drury.
Scullin	Victoria	Edward William Peters.
Shortland	New South Wales	Charles Edward Griffiths.
St. George	New South Wales	Bruce William Graham.
Stirling	Western Australia	Charles Harry Webb.
Sturt	South Australia	Keith Cameron Wilson.
Swan	Western Australia	Richard Cleaver.
Wakefield	South Australia	Philip Albert Martin McBride.
Wannon	Victoria	John Malcolm Fraser.
Warringham	New South Wales	Francis Armand Bland.
Watson	New South Wales	James Francis Cope.
Wentworth	New South Wales	Eric John Harrison.
Werriwa	New South Wales	Edward Gough Whitlam.
West Sydney	New South Wales	Daniel Minogue.
Wide Bay	Queensland	William Alfred Brand.
Wills	Victoria	Gordon Munro Bryant.
Wilmot	Tasmania	Gilbert William Arthur Duthie.
Wimmera	Victoria	William Robert Lawrence.
Yarra	Victoria	James Ford Cairns.

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5. MEMBERS SWORN.—The Members whose names are above set forth made and subscribed the Oath required by law, except Mr. Daly, Mr. Davies, Mr. Howson and Mr. Menzies, who were not then present, and Mr. A. G. Cameron, who made and subscribed an Affirmation according to law.

The Deputy retired.

6. ELECTION OF SPEAKER.—Mr. Hulme, addressing himself to the Clerk, proposed to the House for its Speaker Mr. Archie Galbraith Cameron, and moved, That he do take the Chair of this House as Speaker, which motion was seconded by Mr. Bowden.

Mr. Cameron informed the House that he accepted nomination.

Mr. Evatt, addressing himself to the Clerk, proposed to the House for its Speaker Mr. Norman John Oswald Makin, and moved, That he do take the Chair of this House as Speaker, which motion was seconded by Mr. Calwell.

Mr. Makin informed the House that he accepted nomination.

There being no further proposal—

Debate ensued.

Mr. Ward rising to address the House—

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

The Clerk thereupon put the question—That the question be now put.

The House divided—

AYES, 72.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Chaney	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Snedden
Mr. Allan	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Stokes
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cramer	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Graham	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Dean	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Turner
Mr. Beale	Mr. Downer	Mr. Hasluck	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bland	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drury	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brand	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Failes	Mr. Jack	Mr. Osborne	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Joske	Sir E. Page	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Casey	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Killen	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 44.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. E. James	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Cope	Harrison	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bird	Mr. Costa	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Coutts	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Crean	Mr. James	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Curtin	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Russell	
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Webb

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House accordingly proceeded to ballot; and the ballot being concluded, the Clerk reported the result, as follows:—

Mr. A. G. Cameron	..	..	..	..	71 votes.
Mr. Makin	..	..	..	..	46 votes.

Mr. Cameron was thereupon declared elected as Speaker, and Mr. Hulme and Mr. Bowden conducted him to the Chair.

Mr. Cameron returned his acknowledgments to the House for the honour it had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be its Speaker, and thereupon sat down in the Chair.

Then the Mace, which before lay under the Table, was laid upon the Table.

Sir Arthur Fadden, Mr. Evatt and Mr. Makin congratulated Mr. Speaker, who expressed his thanks.

7. PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) stated that he had already ascertained that it would be His Excellency's pleasure to receive the Speaker in the Library of the Parliament that day at fourteen minutes to three o'clock p.m.

And the sitting of the House having been suspended until fifteen minutes to three o'clock p.m.—

Mr. Speaker, after resuming the Chair, went with the Members of the House to attend his Excellency; and, having returned, Mr. Speaker reported that the House had proceeded to the Library of the Parliament, and that he had presented himself to His Excellency the Governor-General as the choice of the House of Representatives, and that His Excellency had been kind enough to congratulate him upon his election.

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8. COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH TO MEMBERS.—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following Commission :—

His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

To the Honourable Archie Galbraith Cameron, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia.

GREETING :

WHEREAS by Section forty-two of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia it is amongst other things enacted that every Member of the House of Representatives shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor-General, or some person authorized by him, an Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance in the form set forth in the Schedule to the aforesaid Constitution :

NOW THEREFORE I, SIR WILLIAM JOSEPH SLIM, the Governor-General aforesaid, do by these Presents command and authorize you from time to time, at Parliament House, Canberra, to administer the said Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to such Members of the House of Representatives as have not already taken and subscribed the same since their election to the House of Representatives.

GIVEN under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, this fifteenth day (L.S.) day of February, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-six.

W. J. SLIM

Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,

ROBERT G. MENZIES

Prime Minister.

9. MEMBER SWORN.—The Right Honorable Robert Gordon Menzies made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
10. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL BY THE USHER OF THE BLACK ROD.—The following Message was delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod :—

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor-General desires the attendance of this honorable House in the Senate Chamber forthwith.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker with the Members of the House went to attend His Excellency :—And having returned—

11. FORMATION OF NEW MINISTRY AND CHANGES IN DEPARTMENTS.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) announced that the Ministry would be constituted as follows :—

Prime Minister	Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies, C.H., Q.C.
Treasurer	Rt. Hon. Sir Arthur Fadden, K.C.M.G.
Vice-President of the Executive Council, Leader of the House, and Minister for Defence Production	Rt. Hon. Sir Eric Harrison, K.C.V.O.
Minister for Labour and National Service and Minister for Immigration	Rt. Hon. H. E. Holt.
Minister for Trade	Rt. Hon. J. McEwen.
Minister for External Affairs and Minister in charge of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey, C.H., D.S.O., M.C.
Minister for Defence	Hon. Sir Philip McBride, K.C.M.G.
Minister for the Navy and Leader of the Government in the Senate	Senator the Hon. N. O'Sullivan.
Attorney-General	Senator the Hon. J. A. Spicer, Q.C.
Minister for National Development	Senator the Hon. W. H. Spooner, M.M.
Minister for Air and Minister for Civil Aviation	Hon. A. G. Townley.
Minister for Territories	Hon. P. M. C. Hasluck.
Minister for Repatriation	Senator the Hon. W. J. Cooper, M.B.E.
Minister for Supply	Hon. H. Beale, Q.C.
Minister for Primary Industry	Hon. W. McMahan.
Minister for Shipping and Transport	Senator the Hon. S. Paltridge.
Minister for Health	Hon. D. A. Cameron, O.B.E.
Minister for the Army	Hon. J. O. Cramer.
Postmaster-General	Hon. C. W. Davidson, O.B.E.
Minister for Customs and Excise	Hon. F. M. Osborne, D.S.C.
Minister for the Interior and Minister for Works	Hon. A. Fairhall.
Minister for Social Services	Hon. H. S. Robertson.

Senate Ministers would be represented in the House of Representatives as follows :—

Minister for the Navy	Mr. McMahan.
Attorney-General	Mr. Menzies.
Minister for National Development	Mr. Fairhall.
Minister for Repatriation	Mr. D. A. Cameron.
Minister for Shipping and Transport	Mr. Townley.

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Mr. Menzies stated that the Cabinet would consist only of the twelve Ministers first named. Other Ministers would be co-opted to attend Cabinet meetings as required.

Three new Departments had been created out of a re-organization of the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture, and Trade and Customs, namely :—the Departments of Trade, Primary Industry, and Customs and Excise.

The addition of two Ministers was involved and the Parliament would be invited to consider an amendment to the Ministers of State Act to increase the number to twenty-two. Mr. Cramer and Mr. Robertson had been sworn in as Executive Councillors and would be sworn in as Ministers immediately after the passing of the proposed legislation, but, in the meantime, Sir Eric Harrison would be Minister for the Army and Mr. McMahon Minister for Social Services.

Mr. Menzies also announced that Sir Eric Harrison would continue to assist him.

12. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—Mr. Evatt informed the House that he had been appointed Leader of the Opposition, and that Mr. Calwell had been appointed Deputy Leader.
13. LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY PARTY.—Sir Arthur Fadden informed the House that he had been appointed Leader of the Australian Country Party, and that Mr. McEwen had been appointed Deputy Leader.
14. BANKRUPTCY BILL 1956.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Bankruptcy Act 1924–1955*.
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.
15. HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Speaker reported that the House had that day attended His Excellency the Governor-General in the Senate Chamber, when His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker had received a copy, which read as follows :—

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

You have been called together to deal with matters of national moment. The House of Representatives having been dissolved and a General Election having occurred, the 22nd Parliament is now duly constituted.

The election has left my Government with a substantially larger majority in the House of Representatives but with a Senate in which the Government will by July not have a majority. This brings into sharp relief the very important constitutional problem of the relationship between the two Houses—the problem of producing a workable Parliament. The present position is that any conflict between the two Houses can be resolved only by the slow, cumbrous and not very satisfactory procedure of a double dissolution such as occurred in 1951. My advisers believe that the relations between the two Houses should be reviewed. They are of opinion that a government requires a reasonable term of office and a reasonable period of stability in which it may give effect to its long-range plans for the nation. They will, therefore, propose the setting up of an all-Party committee of both Houses to investigate the constitutional problems which may be referred to it. One of these problems is that of the Senate and its powers and the procedure to be followed in the event of a dispute between the two Houses. My advisers believe that such matters are not merely Party matters; they can readily affect any Party at any time in the future; they can be solved only by securing some agreement between the Parties upon the proper course to be followed. They are of opinion that should agreement be reached by the suggested committee the electors may be more disposed to vote for any constitutional amendment which would subsequently be submitted to the electors by referendum.

In the Session of Parliament which I am now opening, there will be two important groups of matters which will call for consideration.

The first embraces foreign policy and the related defence measures which can make that policy effective.

The second can be described broadly as the economic problem. It has particular relation to internal development; the increase of production; restraint upon the rising costs of production which threaten to impair our international trading position; the encouragement of our exports; the control of our imports; the restoration of a sound balance of trade; the preservation and building up of our international financial reserves; and the protection of our currency.

My Government has constantly sought to make a contribution to international peace by the building up of friendship and mutual understanding with other nations.

A further meeting of the Prime Ministers of the British Commonwealth will be held in London this year, beginning towards the end of June. These meetings of Prime Ministers are believed by my advisers to be of great value to all the member countries of the Commonwealth.

My Government is determined, as in the past, to adhere to the United Nations. Australia was recently elected to the Security Council. My Government has taken an active part in the formulation of such regional agreements as the ANZUS Treaty and the South-East Asian Treaty, and was also the original promoter of what is now called the Colombo Plan. By the establishment of overseas posts, particularly in Asian countries, it has sought and will continue to seek friendship, goodwill and understanding. It believes that, as a result of these various activities, Australia enjoys a real friendship with the countries of south-east Asia,

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There are threats in the world to the peace and freedom of the Democracies. My Government believes that these threats come essentially from the Communist nations, whose modern history has shown them to be aggressive and willing to resort to both external pressure and internal subversion to achieve their ends. It would, in the opinion of my advisers, be folly to accept Communist protestations or gestures at their face value. Every offer must be considered on its merits and in the light of past experience. What has happened in the Middle European countries and subsequently in Korea and Indo-China is not to be forgotten by us except at our peril. It is for these reasons that my advisers have co-operated with other free countries in treaty organizations, designed not only to increase our contacts with other free countries, but also to marshal our combined strength for resistance to any further Communist aggression. My Government believes that, for example, it is false to say that the presence of British Commonwealth forces in south-east Asian countries is a threat to self-government. Great Britain has a record of converting colonies into self-governing nations, unequalled in recorded history. The truth is that the things that are vital to the defence of Australia are equally vital to the defence of the free countries of south-east Asia. The concerting of military plans and provision in respect of any one of these countries is of moment to all the others. Australian troops are not in Malaya as trespassers or for some purpose hostile to the self-government of Malaya. On the contrary the constitutional growth of the Malayan people can proceed upon democratic lines only so long as the Malayan people are the masters of their own destiny. They cannot be such masters if they are at any time subject to molestation from within or without.

Like Australia and any other country whose defensive power is limited, they need friends, effective arrangements and joint action if they are to survive. The Australian soldier in Malaya is therefore engaged in a joint enterprise in which his Malayan opposite number is also engaged. They are both defending the freedom not only of their own countries but of others. They are each defending the principle and application of democratic self-government and of freedom from external fear.

Our ties with the Asian members of the British Commonwealth are particularly close. The influence and importance of India, Pakistan and Ceylon in world affairs is growing daily. We were particularly glad to welcome the admission of Ceylon to the United Nations. Our relations with the new Governments of Malaya and Singapore are developing satisfactorily.

The second meeting of the S.E.A.T.O. Council will take place in Karachi in March of this year and will be attended by the Minister for External Affairs.

No external policy will possess reality unless it is backed by adequate defence provision. My advisers are, therefore, resolutely pursuing the improvement of the training and equipment of our armed services and of research into the design and use of modern weapons. They are seeking to maintain a balance between manpower and equipment, and between defence preparations and economic stability. They have, with the approval of Parliament and in partnership with the United Kingdom, expended large sums on research and development of guided weapons at the Weapons Research Establishments in South Australia. In addition, my Government is co-operating with the Government of the United Kingdom in the testing of nuclear weapons. They will, consistently with the safety of the civil population, continue to do so. The whole of their defence policy has been constantly kept under review so that both in the Navy; the Army and the Air Force, the constitution of forces, their training and their equipment will be related to the kind of war in which they would have to engage should a war come.

Until the occurrence of the recent waterfront strike, the prospect of bringing our international payments into balance was materially improving. It is unfortunately true that the strike has, by grievously reducing our export flow, dealt a serious blow to those prospects. Nevertheless, my Government is determined to adopt measures to arrest the decline in our international reserves. That decline is not in itself the cause of our problems; indeed, normally, a fall in our overseas balances would tend to have a counter-inflationary effect at home. The truth is that the decline in our overseas balances is primarily the result of inflation at home. Private incomes and total purchasing power are at record levels. Our local production falls far short of satisfying the demands so established. There is, therefore, a call for imports and, in recent times, at a level which we cannot as a nation pay for out of our current earnings. We have, therefore, been drawing upon our reserves. It needs no economist to tell us that such a process cannot go on for long.

As an immediate measure my Government imposed further import restrictions. But such restrictions are not in themselves a complete cure.

Recently my Government reorganized its departmental structure to enable particular emphasis to be given to trade.

Under the new Department of Trade, both primary and secondary industries are being encouraged to increase Australia's export earnings. The Trade Commissioner Service and associated publicity campaigns are being expanded. My advisers are re-examining Australia's overseas trade agreements in the light of present day requirements.

An export insurance scheme will be established to provide cover to exporters against certain risks of non-payment. Parliament will be invited to pass appropriate legislation early in the Session. Legislation will be introduced as soon as agreement has been reached between all interested parties to give effect to a stabilization scheme for the dried vine-fruits industry.

The Prime Minister recently made an appeal not only to the public generally but to representatives of many sections of industry for restraint in expenditure; a restraint which would do more to preserve the value of earnings, by counteracting inflation, than any other single factor. It is not yet clear how far these appeals have been successful. But my advisers want to make it clear that, limited as their powers may be, they will be prepared to use them to the full to counteract an inflation which threatens to inflict deep injury upon our true prosperity. They believe that, prosperous though we are, we cannot sensibly seek to satisfy all our demands at the one time. There must be some balance between demands and resources. In our present state, either our resources

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must be materially increased, and that means a far more urgent understanding of the importance of increased production than is now visible, or the demands themselves must be reduced by appropriate fiscal and other measures. Government expenditure itself must be sedulously watched and, wherever possible, pruned. But there are limits to the extent to which public works programmes can be cut back, since those programmes, if properly chosen and planned, largely represent the foundation upon which expanding private enterprise builds. In the last three years, public works expenditure has not been a growing contributor to inflationary pressure since, in terms of money, it has remained approximately static, and has, therefore, in physical terms, been smaller.

My Government has decided that it should regularly make available relevant statistical information on the state of the economy. The first publication of this Treasury Information Bulletin was issued recently.

In addition a comprehensive statement on the condition of the economy will be presented to Parliament at an early date.

There are three features of the industrial position in Australia which deserve mention.

The first is that we have no unemployment except when some strike is on; on the contrary, we have, by and large, quite a substantial unsatisfied demand for labour.

The second is that average weekly earnings are not only high, but rising. The industrial tribunals have granted a very substantial increase in all marginal rates of pay, while competition for labour has raised pay still further.

The third is that, apart from the circumstances attending the waterside trouble, working days lost through industrial stoppages have been at a minimum.

Each of these elements is intrinsically good. But there is another side of the picture. Though production is in many instances increasing, it is increasing too slowly to meet demand. This has inflationary consequences. Costs are rising; our competitive position in the world is being weakened. Security of employment should, if allied to a proper social consciousness, lead to more effective work and therefore to lower costs.

An extensive programme of migration has undoubtedly added to the labour force available in Australia and will, in due time, make a strong contribution to the national security. But, in the meantime, the migration programme gives rise to substantial demands upon capital resources for industry, houses, schools, hospitals, transport and public services generally.

Added to these elements there is the fact that great confusion exists in the industrial field because of conflict between the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, the State industrial tribunals and, in some cases, direct industrial legislation by the State Parliaments.

My advisers feel that the problems so presented possess both reality and urgency. They are giving careful study to the ways and means of increasing production and lowering costs while, at the same time, producing both stability and justice in the industrial field. It would be a national misfortune if our people looked at such problems merely from the point of view of immediate self-interest. My advisers will, at the earliest possible date, give some lead in these matters. It is not to be forgotten that the direct powers of the Commonwealth are both limited and sketchy. There is, therefore, great room for intelligent co-operation between Commonwealth and States, and between employers and employees.

The Commonwealth and State Housing Agreement negotiated in 1945 expires within a few months. My Government is proposing a new Housing Agreement with the States to operate from 1st July, 1956. Negotiations have commenced with the States and on agreement the necessary legislation will be introduced into Parliament.

An efficient manufacturing industry requires amongst other things adequate supplies of steel, power and fuel. The problem of coal shortages has been solved; four great petroleum refineries have been completed in the past two years; steel production has nearly doubled in recent years and the industry envisages a very large programme of development. Yet Australian production falls far short of satisfying Australian demand.

The entry into Australia of overseas manufacturing firms, which my Government welcomes, has contributed and will contribute to the development of our manufacturing industries.

Electric generating capacity is increasing. During last year we saw the completion of the Guthega unit of the Snowy Mountains Scheme. My Government will continue to press on with this major development.

The Australian Aluminium Production Commission's works at Bell Bay have now been completed. Production is at the rate of 8,000 tons per annum and will increase as soon as possible to an output of 13,000 tons per annum.

My Government is active in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy both by fostering the search for and production of uranium oxide and by establishing research facilities in Australia.

My Government will maintain a substantial and balanced immigration programme during the coming year.

My advisers report that, as a result of their policy in the Northern Territory and the Territory of Papua and New Guinea, private enterprise is demonstrating confidence and initiative and making a larger contribution to development and trade than in any previous period. My Government will continue its policy of investigation, development and provision of facilities to assist this expansion and ensure that the indigenous people share in and benefit thereby. On 23rd November, 1955, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands came under the authority of the Commonwealth and are now administered as an Australian Territory.

My Government will continue to contribute to the programme of scientific research being conducted in the Antarctic in connexion with the International Geophysical Year. It will maintain the two existing research bases at Macquarie Island and Mawson, and will establish a third base in the Vestfold Hills area of Princess Elizabeth Land. My Government also contributed to the British Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition.

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My Government will continue to follow its practical health policy. The research work on poliomyelitis, in which our scientists played a notable part, will shortly yield important practical results with the commencement of production of Salk vaccine at our Commonwealth Serum Laboratories.

The Social Services structure will be kept under continuing review. My advisers report that the scheme of financial assistance to churches and charitable institutions for homes for the aged has proved most successful. A programme of research into the special problems of the elderly will be undertaken shortly by my Government.

The public demand for postal and telecommunication services has reached new record levels. My Government's programme of works is designed as far as possible to overtake arrears and maintain Post Office services at a high level of efficiency.

Consequent on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Television, my Government has decided to proceed with the introduction of television into Australia and, as an initial step, to establish national stations in Sydney and in Melbourne and to authorize the setting up of two commercial stations in each of these cities. A Bill to amend the Broadcasting and Television Acts to meet the requirements of television will be presented to Parliament in the near future.

My Government will continue its programme of reviewing and bringing up to date the law of the Commonwealth relating to industrial property, bankruptcy, copyright and designs.

In the earnest hope that Divine Providence may guide your deliberations and further the welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, I now leave you to the discharge of your high and important duties.

16. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, That a Committee, consisting of Mr. Chaney, Mr. Anderson and the Mover be appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor-General to both Houses of the Parliament, and that the Committee do report this day.
Question—put and passed.

Suspension of Sitting.—At eighteen minutes to four o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of Sitting.—At eight o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

17. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 92.
Atomic Energy Act—Australian Atomic Energy Commission—Third Annual Report and financial accounts, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1954-55, and a Supplementary Statement by the Minister.
Audit Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1956, No. 2.
Broadcasting Act—Australian Broadcasting Control Board—Seventh Annual Report, for year 1954-55.
Coal Production (War-time) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 83.
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—
Ordinances—1955—
No. 1—Interpretation.
No. 2—Laws Repeal.
No. 3—Official Representative.
No. 4—Supreme Court.
No. 5—Courts (Amendment).
No. 6—Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment).
No. 7—Coinage.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 85.
Commonwealth Bank Act—Appointment Certificates—D. S. Black, E. Fretze, R. Lucas.
Commonwealth Debt Conversion Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1956, No. 3.
Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, Nos. 90, 91.
Customs Tariff (Export Duties) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 78.
Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules—
1955—No. 76.
1956—No. 1.
Defence Transition (Residual Provisions) Act—National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (6).
Dried Fruits Export Charges Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 89.
Dried Fruits Export Control Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 77.
Explosives Act—Explosives Regulations—Orders—
Berthing of a Vessel (6).
Mooring of a Vessel.
Flax Fibre Bounty Act—Return for year ended 30th October, 1955.
High Commissioner Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 72.
Judiciary Act—Rule of Court, dated 18th October, 1955.
Lands Acquisition Act—
Land, &c., acquired for—
Defence purposes—
Port Kembla, New South Wales.
St. Mary's, New South Wales,

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- Department of Civil Aviation purposes—
 Carnarvon, Western Australia.
 Cowra, New South Wales.
 Launceston, Tasmania.
- Department of Shipping and Transport (Marine Branch) purposes—Cape Banks, South Australia.
- Postal purposes—
 Bidgeemia, New South Wales.
 Bundure, New South Wales.
 Delmont, Tasmania.
 Girvan, New South Wales.
 Milton, New South Wales.
 Morago, New South Wales.
 Mount McDonald, New South Wales.
 Nericon, New South Wales.
 Pine Lea, New South Wales.
 Stanbridge, New South Wales.
 Strzelecki, Victoria.
 Wallanthery, New South Wales.
 Westdale, New South Wales.
- Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority purposes—Cooma, New South Wales.
- Returns (3) of land disposed of under section 63.
- Nationality and Citizenship Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 80.
- Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 74.
- Navigation Act—Navigation (Dangerous Goods) Regulations—Determination dated 9th January, 1956.
- Norfolk Island Act—Regulations—1955—No. 4 (Timber Licences Ordinance).
- Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1955—
 No. 7—Cemeteries.
 No. 8—Control of Waters.
 No. 9—Control of Roads.
 No. 10—Auctioneers.
 No. 11—Housing Loans.
 No. 12—Mining Development.
 No. 13—Mental Defectives.
 No. 14—Abattoirs and Slaughtering.
 No. 15—Native and Historical Objects Preservation.
 No. 16—Crown Lands.
 No. 17—National Parks and Gardens.
 No. 18—Local Government.
- Overseas Telecommunications Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 87.
- Patents Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 70.
- Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 73.
- Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
 Air—R. J. Barnes, M. C. Whitta.
 Army—J. T. Davies, J. R. Hanscomb, C. I. McMillan.
 Attorney-General—D. C. Harris, F. J. Hawkins, S. S. Kin.
 Civil Aviation—W. J. Bygott, W. N. Campbell, D. F. Darben, R. N. Oliver, D. J. Richardson, G. H. Sanders.
 Defence Production—F. L. Dogan, L. G. Grinter, G. T. King, J. C. A. McLeod, F. W. Millington.
 Health—R. H. Black, L. E. D. Campbell, G. T. Hutchinson, E. V. Sherriff, S. R. Windon.
 Interior—F. L. Clark, R. W. Clarke, B. S. Maddy, L. Praks.
 National Development—A. H. Mutton, A. Rudka, E. M. Smith, K. W. A. Summers.
 Postmaster-General—A. Bacon, E. D. Burrin, T. G. Elias, G. A. Elliott, G. G. Griffiths, J. Harris, H. D. A. Herz, F. Hudson, A. C. Lee, G. H. S. Lew-Sang, R. O. Martyn, J. McClelland, F. B. Nixon, D. Ore, A. D. Pontin, S. M. Pugh, A. Reedy, N. Smith, J. Stewart, S. A. Young.
 Repatriation—H. J. Bennett, J. J. Hurley, C. W. Nye, P. W. Reid, J. E. Shilliday, D. J. C. Smythe.
 Social Services—L. M. Lee, G. J. Mott.
 Supply—J. Allen-Ovenstone, W. A. Bradfield, I. D. Campbell, J. G. Clouston, W. Conway, J. W. Crompton, W. R. Ellis, G. Gibson, C. S. Goldsmith, J. M. Hammond, E. G. Hayman, R. J. Poole, A. W. Pryor, R. G. Putt, L. B. Soden, T. M. Spotswood, E. S. Stanley, B. D. Wadland, G. R. Wallwork, J. B. S. Waugh, B. F. W. White, P. S. Williams, V. N. Young.
 Territories—J. Dusek, L. R. Murray.
 Trade and Customs—W. G. Austin.
 Works—A. R. S. Gamble, H. Holt, W. I. Pierce, N. J. Pollard, A. C. Tow, E. Trawinski.
- Public Service Arbitration Act—Determinations—1955—
 Nos. 23 and 24—Australian Third Division Telegraphists and Postal Clerks' Union and others and Association of Assistants of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (together with Judgment and Order dated 16th December, 1955 of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration).
 No. 39—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association and others,

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- No. 40—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 41—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 42—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 43—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association and Customs Officers' Association of Australia (Fourth Division).
 No. 44—Amalgamated Engineering Union and others.
 No. 45—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 No. 46—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 47—Amalgamated Engineering Union and others.
 No. 48—Line Inspectors' Association, Commonwealth of Australia.
 No. 49—Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 50—Supervising Technicians' Association, Postmaster-General's Department and Postal Telecommunication Technicians' Association (Australia).
 No. 51—Federated Clerks' Union of Australia.
 No. 52—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 53—Merchant Service Guild of Australasia.
 No. 54—Customs Officers' Association of Australia (Fourth Division) and Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 55—Australian Journalists' Association.
 No. 56—Federated Engine Drivers and Firemen's Association of Australasia.
 Quarantine Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 71.
 Rayon Yarn Bounty Act—Return for year ended 30th October, 1955.
 Re-establishment and Employment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 82.
 Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
 Ordinances—1955—
 No. 10—Leases.
 No. 11—Interpretation.
 No. 12—Commonwealth Motor Omnibus Services.
 No. 13—Canberra Community Hospital.
 Regulations—
 1955—
 No. 12 (Public Baths Ordinance).
 No. 13 (Leases Ordinance).
 No. 14 (Commonwealth Motor Omnibus Services Ordinance).
 No. 15 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).
 No. 16 (Companies Ordinance).
 Statutory Rules 1955, No. 88.
 Service and Execution of Process Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 86.
 Supply and Development Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 69.
 Television Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 84.
 Therapeutic Substances Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1956, No. 4.
 War Crimes Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, Nos. 75, 81.
 War Service Homes Act—Land acquired at—
 Liverpool, New South Wales.
 Wagga Wagga, New South Wales.
 Wool Tax Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1955, No. 79.

18. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until half-past two o'clock p.m. to-morrow.
 Question—put and passed.

19. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.—Mr. Failes moved, That Mr. Adermann be appointed Chairman of Committees of this House, which motion was seconded by Mr. McColm.
 Mr. Haylen moved, That Mr. Clark be appointed Chairman of Committees of this House, which motion was seconded by Mr. Bird.

There being no further proposal—

Debate ensued.

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 Speaker, Mr. A. G. Cameron, in the Chair)—

AYES, 69.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Chaney	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson
Mr. Allan	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cramer	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Stokes
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Graham	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Dean	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Downer	Mr. Hasluck	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bland	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Drury	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Brand	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wight
Mr. Brimblecombe	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McMahan	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Failes	Mr. Jack	Mr. Osborne	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Joske	Sir E. Page	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Casey	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Killen	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Turnbull

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NOES, 42.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. James	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. Chambers	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Makin	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Webb

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House accordingly proceeded to ballot; and the ballot being concluded, Mr. Speaker reported the result, as follows:—

Mr. Adermann	.. .. .	68 votes.
Mr. Clark	.. .. .	45 votes.

Mr. Adermann was thereupon declared elected as Chairman.

Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer), Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), Mr. Clark and Mr. Haylen congratulated Mr. Adermann, who made his acknowledgments to the House.

20. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Chaney brought up the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech, prepared by the Committee appointed this day, and the same was read by the Clerk, as follows:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Mr. Chaney moved, That the Address be agreed to.

Mr. Anderson seconded the motion.

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

21. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—MINISTERS OF STATE BILL.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent, before the Address in Reply is adopted, the introduction and passing through all stages without delay of a Ministers of State Bill.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Pollard rising to address 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 Speaker, Mr. A. G. Cameron, in the Chair)—

AYES, 66.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Chaney	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Allan	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Timson
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cramer	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davidson	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bate	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Beale	Mr. Dean	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bland	Mr. Drummond	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howse	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Bowden	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Brand	Mr. Failes	Mr. Jack	Sir E. Page	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Killen	Mr. Pearce	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fox	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Casey	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Stokes	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 43.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Makin	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. James	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Chambers	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Webb

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 67.

Mr. Adermann	Mr. Chaney	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Stokes
Mr. Allan	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cramer	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Timson
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Davis	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Beale	Mr. Dean	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bland	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drury	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Howse	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brand	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Failes	Mr. Jack	Sir E. Page	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Killen	Mr. Pearce	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Casey	Mr. Fox	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Turnbull

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NOES, 43.				
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Makin	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. James	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Chambers	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Webb

And so it was resolved in the affirmative by an absolute majority.

22. **MINISTERS OF STATE BILL 1956.**—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Ministers of State Act 1952*.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 66.				
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Chaney	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Allan	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Timson
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cramer	Mr. Graham	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davidson	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bate	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Beale	Mr. Dean	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bland	Mr. Drummond	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drury	Mr. Howse	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Brand	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Jack	Sir E. Page	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Failes	Mr. Killen	Mr. Pearce	
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Opperman
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Casey	Mr. Fox	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Stokes	

NOES, 43.				
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clarey	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Makin	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Clark	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. James	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Chambers	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Webb

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Question—put.

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

AYES, 64.				
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Casey	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Snedden
Mr. Allan	Mr. Chaney	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Luck	Mr. Stokes
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Graham	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Swartz
Mr. Aston	Mr. Cramer	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Timson
Mr. Bate	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Hasluck	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Townley
Mr. Beale	Mr. Davis	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McColm	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bland	Mr. Dean	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drury	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wight
Mr. Brand	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Jack	Mr. Osborne	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Failes	Mr. Killen	Sir E. Page	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Pearce	Mr. Opperman
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fox	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Turnbull

NOES, 41.				
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bird	Mr. Cope	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Costa	Mr. James	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Coutts	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Peters	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Crean	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Russell	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Chambers	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Makin	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Webb
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Galvin	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Thompson	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.

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

Debate ensued.

Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.

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

AYES, 46.				
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Clark	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Makin	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Cope	Mr. Galvin	Mr. McIvor	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bird	Mr. Costa	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Minogue	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Coutts	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bryant	Mr. Crean	Mr. R. W. Holt	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Cairns	Mr. Curtin	Mr. James	Mr. Peters	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Downer	Mr. H. V. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. L. R. Johnson	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Duthie
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Russell	Mr. Webb
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Stewart	

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NOES, 60.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Cleaver	Mr. Graham	Mr. Luck	Mr. Timson
Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cramer	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Townley
Mr. Aston	Mr. Davidson	Sir E. Harrison	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bate	Mr. Davis	Mr. Hasluck	Mr. McColm	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Beale	Mr. Dean	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McEwen	Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Drummond	Mr. H. E. Holt	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Drury	Mr. Howse	Mr. McMahon	
Mr. Brand	Mr. Erwin	Mr. Hulme	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Sir A. Fadden	Mr. Jack	Mr. Pearce	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Buchanan	Mr. Failes	Mr. Killen	Mr. Robertson	
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Snedden	Mr. Opperman
Mr. Casey	Mr. Fox	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Stokes	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Chaney	Mr. J. M. Fraser	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Swartz	

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

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

23. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five 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. Daly, Mr. Davies and Mr. Howson.

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