

1957.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 26.

WEDNESDAY, 28TH AUGUST, 1957.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Cairns presented a Petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that immediate consideration be given to the matter of increasing the rate of age, invalid and widows' pensions to at least 50 per cent. of the basic wage.
Petition received and read.
Petitions from certain citizens of Australia praying that immediate consideration be given to the matter of increasing the rate of age, invalid and widows' pensions to at least 50 per cent. of the basic wage were presented by Mr. Crean, Mr. R. W. Holt and Mr. Bostock.
Petitions severally received.
Mr. Lucock presented a Petition from certain electors in the States of New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia praying that funds made available for educational purposes be used for the extension of the public school system which not only gives a high standard of general education to all children but also makes provision for scripture teaching in its curriculum.
Petition received and read.
3. MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) informed the House that during the absence abroad of Mr. Casey, he would act as Minister for External Affairs and would exercise a general responsibility for external affairs policy, and that Mr. Osborne (Minister for Air) would attend to administrative details. The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization would be administered by Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service).
4. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board—Eighth Annual Report, for year 1955-56.
5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, That leave of absence for two months be given to the honorable Member for Gippsland (Mr. Bowden) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas.
Question—put and passed.
6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That leave of absence for two months be given to the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Casey) on the ground of public business overseas, to the honorable Member for Mitchell (Mr. Wheeler) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas, and to the honorable Member for North Sydney (Mr. Jack) owing to his absence from Australia.
Question—put and passed.
7. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.—Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) moved, That leave of absence be given for two months to the honorable Members for Blaxland (Mr. Harrison) and Lalor (Mr. Pollard) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas, to the honorable Members for Banks (Mr. Costa) and Newcastle (Mr. Watkins) on the ground of ill health, and for one month to the honorable Member for Wilmot (Mr. Duthie) on the ground of ill health.
Question—put and passed.
8. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.
Question—put and passed.

28th August, 1957.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—SALARIES (STATUTORY OFFICES) ADJUSTMENT BILL 1957.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General:—

W. J. SLIM,
Governor-General.

Message No. 24.

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 increase the Salaries payable to the Holders of certain Statutory Offices, and for purposes connected therewith.

Canberra, 26th August, 1957.

Ordered—That the 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.)

Mr. Townley (Minister for Immigration) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to increase the Salaries payable to the Holders of certain Statutory Offices, and for purposes connected therewith.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

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

Mr. Townley 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. Townley 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.

10. COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION BILL 1957.—Mr. Townley (Minister for Immigration) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Grants Commission Act 1933-1951*, and for purposes connected with the amendment.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Townley 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. Townley moved, by leave, 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.

11. NATIONAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BILL 1957.—Mr. Fairhall (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to establish a Commission for the Development of the City of Canberra as the National Capital of the Commonwealth, and for related purposes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Fairhall 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. Fairhall moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr. J. R. Fraser), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

12. WAYS AND MEANS—WINE GRAPES CHARGES.—The House according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. McMahon (Minister for Primary Industry) moved, That, in lieu of the maximum rate imposed by the *Wine Grapes Charges Act 1929-1954*, the maximum rate of charge on all grapes delivered to a winery or distillery on or after the first day of January, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight, for use in the manufacture of wine be—

(a) in respect of fresh grapes—Fifteen shillings per ton; and

(b) in respect of dried grapes—Two pounds five shillings per ton.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

28th August, 1957.

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

Ordered—That Mr. McMahon and Mr. Fairhall do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

13. WINE GRAPES CHARGES BILL 1957.—Mr. McMahon (Minister for Primary Industry) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘Wine Grapes Charges Act 1929–1954’*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. McMahon 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 a later hour this day.

14. AUSTRALIAN WOOL TESTING AUTHORITY BILL 1957.—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.

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.*)

Clause 1—

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

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

15. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—AUSTRALIAN WOOL TESTING AUTHORITY BILL 1957.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor General:—

W. J. SLIM,
Governor-General.

Message No. 25.

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 provide for the Establishment of an Australian Wool Testing Authority.

Canberra, 17th May, 1957.

Ordered—That the 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.*)

Mr. McMahon (Minister for Primary Industry) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment of an Australian Wool Testing Authority.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. McMahon, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

16. AUSTRALIAN WOOL TESTING AUTHORITY BILL 1957.—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 again 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. McMahon (Minister for Primary Industry), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

17. WINE GRAPES CHARGES BILL 1957.—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.

Debate adjourned (Mr. Nelson), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

28th August, 1957.

18. NATIONAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BILL 1957.—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.

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

19. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fairhall (Minister for the Interior) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Beale, Mr. Bowden*, Mr. Brand, Mr. Casey*, Mr. Costa*, Mr. Drury, M. Duthie*, Mr. A. D. Fraser, Mr. Harrison*, Mr. Jack*, Mr. James, Mr. Pollard*, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Turner, Mr. Watkins* and Mr. Wheeler*.

*On leave.

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