

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 26.

WEDNESDAY, 6TH MAY, 1959.

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. COMMONWEALTH BANKING CORPORATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. McEwen (Acting Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of certain appointments to the Commonwealth Banking Corporation.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1959, No. 28.
Public Service Act—Appointments—Department of the Parliamentary Library—M. P. Rendell, K. J. Taperell.
4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, CANBERRA.—
Mr. Freeth (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1953*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely:—
Construction of a new Government Printing Office at Canberra.
Mr. Freeth laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, DARWIN.—Mr. Freeth (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1953*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely:—Construction of a new Technical High School at Darwin.
Mr. Freeth laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work.
Question—put and passed.
6. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—MAIL EXCHANGE, ROMA-STREET, BRISBANE.—
Mr. Freeth (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1953*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely:—Erection of a Mail Exchange at Roma-street, Brisbane.
Mr. Freeth laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work.
Question—put and passed.
7. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—EDISON TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, BRISBANE.—Mr. Freeth (Minister for Works) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1913–1953*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report, namely:—The Edison Telephone Exchange at Brisbane.
Mr. Freeth laid on the Table plans in connexion with the proposed work.
Question—put and passed.

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8. APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 1958-59.—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. Crean who moved, as an amendment, That all words after " That " be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—" this House declines to give a second reading to the Bill as it fails to make adequate provision for social service payments, including age and invalid pensions and child endowment, as it makes no provision for the restoration of cost of living adjustments to wages and salaries of Commonwealth Public Servants, and because the Government has failed to intervene in support of the claim by the Australian Council of Trade Unions before the Arbitration Court for an increased basic wage and for the restoration of quarterly cost of living adjustments ".

Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Speaker ruled that the last part of the amendment which proposed the insertion of words relating to a claim before the Arbitration Court was not relevant to the subject matter of the Bill and was out of order. All words after " Servants " would therefore be deleted from the amendment. Debate continued.

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

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW—JOINT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 39.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 41 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith:—

- (1) That the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 41 of the House of Representatives relating to the appointment of a Joint Committee on Constitutional Review.
- (2) That the Resolution, so far as it is inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 6th May, 1959.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—A Message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:—

6th May, 1959—*Message No. 40*—Australian Capital Territory Representation 1959.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CUSTOMS BILL 1959.—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 41.

The Senate has passed a Bill for " *An Act to amend the ' Customs Act 1901-1957 ' , and for other purposes* ", and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 6th May, 1959.

- On the motion of Mr. Robertson (Minister for Social Services), the Bill was read a first time. Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

12. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1959—
No. 7—Crown Lands.
No. 8—Housing.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Robertson (Minister for Social Services) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Debate ensued.

Member named.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Scullin (Mr. Peters) for refusing to withdraw an unparliamentary expression.

Mr. Peters having withdrawn the expression the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at ten minutes past 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. Drummond, Mr. Falkinder, Mr. Howse, Mr. McColm, Mr. Menzies, Mr. Murray, Mr. Osborne and Mr. Russell.

A. G. TURNER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.