

1959.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 40.

TUESDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER, 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. PETITION.—Mr. C. R. Cameron presented a Petition from certain electors in the States of the Commonwealth praying that the House will take immediate steps to increase social service benefits for mothers and their children.  
Petition received and read.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
  - Lands Acquisition Act—Land, &c., acquired for—
    - Civil Aviation purposes—Mascot, New South Wales.
    - Postal purposes—Meekatharra, Western Australia.
  - Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Act—Report of Commonwealth Actuary on the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Fund as at 28th February, 1959.
  - Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of National Development—A. McClure.
  - Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Variation of plan of lay-out of City of Canberra and its environs, dated 31st August, 1959.
  - Services Trust Funds Act—Services Canteens Trust Fund—Report for 1958.
4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Trade) moved, That leave of absence for two months be given to the Right Honorable Member for Cowper (Sir Earle Page) owing to his absence from Australia, and to the honorable Member for Lawson (Mr. Failes) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas.  
Question—put and passed.
5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.—Mr. Holt (Treasurer) 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, and to the honorable Member for Isaacs (Mr. Haworth) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas.  
Question—put and passed.
6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.—Mr. Calwell moved, That leave of absence for two months be given to the honorable Members for Kennedy (Mr. Riordan) and the Northern Territory (Mr. Nelson) on the ground of Parliamentary business overseas.  
Question—put and passed.
7. POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL 1959.—Mr. Davidson (Postmaster-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902–1956*.  
Question—put and passed.
8. WAYS AND MEANS—EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (NO. 3).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

Mr. Osborne (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved—

That the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff 1921–1959*, as proposed to be amended by Excise Tariff Proposals introduced into the House of Representatives on the thirteenth day of May, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine, be further amended as set out in the Schedule to these Proposals, and that on and after the first day of September, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine, at five o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, Duties of Excise be collected in pursuance of the *Excise Tariff 1921–1959* as so amended.

1st September, 1959.

## THE SCHEDULE.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
20. By omitting the item and inserting in its stead the following item:— " 20. Coal, not being coal the property of a State, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws . . . . . per ton	5d."

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

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

9. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES 1959-60.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Remainder of Vote—"Parliament, £1,204,000"—debated.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

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

10. POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL 1959.—Mr. Davidson (Postmaster-General), pursuant to leave given this day, brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902-1956'".

Bill read a first time.

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

Ordered—That Mr. Davidson be granted an extension of time.

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

11. PETROLEUM SEARCH SUBSIDY BILL 1959.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Sir Garfield Barwick (Minister representing the Minister for National Development) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

12. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES 1959-60.—The House, according to Order again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Remainder of Vote—"Parliament, £1,204,000"—further debated and agreed to.

Vote—"Prime Minister's Department, £3,228,000"—debated.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Davidson (Postmaster-General) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes to 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. Bird, Mr. Browne, Mr. Casey\*, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Davies, Mr. Davis, Mr. Failes\*, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Haworth\*, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Nelson\*, Sir Earle Page\*, Mr. Riordan\* and Mr. Snedden.

\* On leave.

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