

1907.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 2.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY, 1907.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH TO MEMBERS.—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following Commission:—

By His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY STAFFORD, BARON NORTHCOTE, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire; Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath; Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Honorable Sir FREDERICK WILLIAM HOLDER, Knight Commander of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Greeting:

WHEREAS by the forty-second section of the Constitution of The Commonwealth of Australia it is 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, the Governor-General aforesaid, do by these Presents command and authorize you from time to time in the Parliament House of the Commonwealth in the City of Melbourne to administer the said Oath to such Members of the House of Representatives as have not already taken and subscribed the same since their election to the said House of Representatives.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia, at Melbourne, this twenty-first day of February, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven.

(L.S.) NORTHCOTE,
Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DEAKIN.

3. MEMBER SWORN.—David Watkins, Esq., made and subscribed the oath required by law.
4. PAPERS.—Mr. Deakin presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 - Colonial Conference.—Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, containing preliminary proposals on the subject of the agenda and procedure.
 - Contract Labour.—Introduction of European Farm Labourers under Contract—Applications to the Prime Minister from—
 - Cane Farmers' Association of North Queensland (Cairns).
 - Pioneer River Farmers' and Graziers' Association (Mackay).
 - Mossman Central Mill Company Limited.
 - Mossman Central Mill Company Limited—Correspondence respecting application.

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Mr. Ewing presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Elections, 12th December, 1906.—

Statistics relating to Senate Election ; General Election, House of Representatives ; and submission to the electors of a proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution, entitled The Constitution Alteration (Senate Elections) 1906.

Statement showing—(1) Cost of the Senate Election ; the General Election, House of Representatives ; and the Referendum 1906. (2) Comparison of cost with previous Commonwealth Elections.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. Ewing presented, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament—

Defence Acts 1903–1904—

Cadet Corps—Amendment of Regulations, para. 22, sub-para. (a) and (h)—
Clothing Allowance, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 93.

Regulations governing Landing of Foreign Troops, &c.—Repeal of Statutory Rules 1906, No. 48—Statutory Rules 1907, No. 3.

Naval Forces—

Regulations Amended—

Para. 55—Retirement of Warrant Officers—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 87.

Para. 171 (A)—Courts Martial—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 91.

Financial and Allowance Regulations Amended—

Paras. 70, 73—Compensation for Injury, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 86.

Para. 49—Pay of Armourers—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 90.

Para. 49—Pay of Painters, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 92.

Paras. 37, 39, 41—“Treasury Regulations”—Statutory Rules 1907, No. 2.

Military Forces—

Regulations Amended—

Paras. 1, 2, 3—Council of Defence, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 101.

Paras. 20, 146—Warrant Officers, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 102.

Paras. 514(a), 516—Rifle Clubs—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 103.

Paras. 493A, 501, 504A, B, C—Canteens, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 110.

Para. 128—Retirement of Warrant Officers, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 124.

Financial and Allowance Regulations Amended—

Para. 122(c)—Payment for Duties—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 88.

Part VIII., Sec. I.—Travelling Allowances (Inspector-General)—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 89.

Paras. 151, 151(a)—School of Gunnery, Sydney—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 94.

Para. 235—Telegrams—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 95.

Para. 77—Pay of Sergeants-Major—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 104.

Reg. 144—Allowances for Courts Martial, &c.—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 111.

Para. 98—Clothing, &c., Allowance—Statutory Rules 1906, No. 123.

Paras. 45, 47, 49—“Treasury Regulations”—Statutory Rules 1907, No. 1.

5. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General, be agreed to by this House :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, beg 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.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

6. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Chairman of Committees, Mr. Joseph Cook, Mr. Groom, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Wilson be Members of the Standing Orders Committee ; three to form a quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

7. LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Harper, Mr. W. H. Irvine, Mr. Knox, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. Spence be Members of the Library Committee ; three to form a quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

8. HOUSE COMMITTEE.—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, that Mr. Speaker, Mr. Batchelor, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Mahon, Mr. Manger, Mr. Page, and Mr. Dugald Thomson be Members of the House Committee ; three to form a quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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9. PRINTING COMMITTEE.—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, That Mr. Edwards, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Hutchison, Sir John Quick, Mr. Storrer, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Willis be Members of the Printing Committee; three to form a quorum.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
10. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
11. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at three minutes to nine o'clock p.m., 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. J. Tilley Brown, Mr. Harper, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Livingston, Sir William Lyne, Mr. Manger, Mr. Sinclair, and Mr. Dugald Thomson.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.