

1907-8.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 107.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 31ST MARCH, 1908

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Mahon presented a Petition from members of the Federal Public Service in Western Australia, praying that the House will take steps to preserve their former State rights to them, and particularly their rights to long service leave.
Petition received and read.
3. PAPERS.—Mr. Deakin presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 - Federal Capital Site—Further correspondence between the Prime Minister and the Premier of New South Wales, 25th February to 31st March, 1908.
 - Pacific Island Labourers—
Statement showing the number of Islanders returned, and the number of exemptions, &c.
Repatriation of Kanakas.—Return showing the cost of repatriating Kanakas during the years 1906-7 and 1907-8.
 - Papua—Suspension of R. M. Drummond, late Acting Chief Government Surveyor.
 Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
 - Mr. Hume Cook presented, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament—
 - Public Service Act—Regulation Amended (Provisional)—
No. 104—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 36.
No. 104—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 38.
No. 104—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 40.
 - Census and Statistics Act—
Regulation (Provisional)—Declaration by Officer—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 37.
Statistics of the Commonwealth—Population and Vital Statistics—Bulletin No. 5.—
Quarter ended 20th September, 1907.
4. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

NORTHCOTE,
Governor-General.

Message No. 25.

A Bill intituled "*An Act relating to Quarantine*," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House,
Melbourne, 30th March, 1908.

31st March, 1908.

5. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SURPLUS REVENUE BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

NORTHCOTE,
Governor-General.

Message No. 26.

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 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 relating to the payment to the several States of the Surplus Revenue of the Commonwealth.*"

Melbourne, 31st March, 1908.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

6. SURPLUS REVENUE BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill, Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Sir John Forrest moved, as an amendment, That the word "now" be omitted, and that after the word "time" the words "this day six months" be added.

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Joseph Cook moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion in place thereof of the words "the consideration of this Bill be postponed until the financial relations of the Commonwealth and the States can be dealt with as a whole."

Mr. Fisher moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

7. SUPPLY.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had made progress, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir William Lyne moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at twelve 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. Archer, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Batchelor, Mr. Carr, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Foster, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Fuller, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Hall, Mr. Harper, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hans Irvine, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Knox, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Reid, Mr. Sampson, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Spence, Mr. Storrer, Mr. John Thomson, Mr. Watson, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Wilson.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.