

1907-8.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 141.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 4TH JUNE, 1908.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Maloney presented a Petition from 34 electors of the House, resident in Victoria, protesting against alleged unfairness of newspapers in regard to candidates at Parliamentary elections, and praying that candidates' views, &c., may be submitted to the electors by the Government through the medium of the post.
Petition received and read.
Mr. Crouch presented a similar Petition from 61 electors of the House, resident in Victoria.
Petition received.
3. THE LATE RIGHT HONORABLE CHARLES CAMERON KINGSTON, P.C.—Mr. Speaker read to the House the following letter :—

Marino, 2nd June, 1908.

The Hon. the Speaker, House of Representatives.

Dear Sir Frederick Holder,—

Convey my heartfelt thanks to the Members of the House of Representatives for their kind appreciation of my beloved husband.

Among those with whom he has worked for so many years it is a consolation to me to know that his labours were appreciated.

I am sure that his memory will for ever live in the hearts of those for whom he toiled.

With kindest remembrances,

Yours truly,

LUCY KINGSTON.

4. PRIVILEGE—PROCEDURE IN CASES OF.—Sir John Quick, Chairman, brought up a Progress Report (No. 2) from the Joint Select Committee on Procedure in Cases of Privilege; together with the Minutes of Proceedings (to date).
Report read and ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.
 5. PAPERS.—Mr. Groom presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Old-age Pensions—Comparative Table of provisions of the Commonwealth Bill and certain State Acts, together with the recommendations of the Royal Commission relating to Rate of Pension, Deductions, &c., prepared by direction of the Honorable L. E. Groom, Attorney-General of the Commonwealth.
Ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.
- Mr. Mauger presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
- Tasmanian Cable—
- Papers relative to recent interruptions to the submarine cables of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company Limited between Victoria and Tasmania.
- Correspondence between the Postmaster-General's Department and the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company Limited, relative to the proposed purchase by the Commonwealth of the Company's two submarine cables between Victoria and Tasmania.
- Papers relating to the tenders invited by the Postmaster-General for supplying and laying two submarine cables between Victoria and Tasmania.
- Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
- Mr. Ewing presented, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament—
- Defence Acts.—Military Cadet Corps—Provisional Regulation 25a (substituted for 3 and 13)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 59.

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6. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1908-9.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

NORTHCOTE,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 36.*

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 to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and nine.

Ordered to lie on the Table and to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

7. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—COAST DEFENCE APPROPRIATION 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. 37.*

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 to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Two hundred and fifty thousand pounds for Harbor and Coastal Defences.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for this day.

8. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—OLD-AGE PENSIONS APPROPRIATION 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. 38.*

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 to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds for Invalid and Old-age Pensions.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for this day.

9. FREEMAN AND WALLACE MEDICAL INSTITUTE—POSTAL PROHIBITION.—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to notice, That copies of all papers, letters, and other correspondence relating to the postal prohibition against the Medical Institute of Messrs. Freeman and Wallace be laid on the Table of the House.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

10. PRIVILEGE—PROCEDURE IN CASES OF.—Sir John Quick moved, pursuant to notice, *amended*, That the Progress Reports of the Joint Select Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Procedure be adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

11. CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT 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.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Wilks reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill and had agreed to the same without amendment.

On the motion of Sir William Lyne, the House adopted the Report.

Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended so as to allow the Bill to be passed through its remaining stage this day.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

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12. **EXCISE TARIFF (STARCH) 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.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill and had agreed to the same without amendment.
On the motion of Sir William Lyne, the House adopted the Report.
On the motion of Sir William Lyne, pursuant to contingent notice, the House ordered that the Standing Orders be suspended so as to allow the Bill to be passed through its remaining stage this day.
Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.
13. **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.**—Ordered, That the consideration of Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 3 to 6 inclusive be postponed until after the consideration of Order of the Day No. 7.
14. **PUBLIC SERVICE BILL (1908).**—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill—Mr. Hume Cook moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Mahon 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 this day, at a later hour.
15. **PARLIAMENTARY WITNESSES BILL.**—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 resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Resolved—That the House will, this day, at a later hour, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
16. **MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—AUDIT BILL (1908).**—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

NORTHCOTE,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 39.*

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 to amend the Audit Acts 1901-1906.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for this day.

17. **COAST DEFENCE APPROPRIATION BILL.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 37—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had agreed to a certain Resolution.
On the motion of Sir William Lyne, pursuant to contingent notice, the House ordered that the Standing Orders be suspended so as to allow the Report to be considered and a Bill to be passed through all its stages this day.
And thereupon the said Resolution was read, and is as follows :—
Resolved—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Two hundred and fifty thousand pounds for Harbor and Coastal Defences.
And the said Resolution was adopted by the House.
Ordered—That Sir William Lyne and Mr. Ewing do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.
Sir William Lyne then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Two hundred and fifty thousand pounds for Harbor and Coastal Defences,*" and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.
Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill and had agreed to the same without amendment.
On the motion of Sir William Lyne, the House adopted the Report.
Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

4th and 5th June, 1908.

18. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 36.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Payment of Invalid and Old-age Pensions and for other purposes*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

A. J. GOULD,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 4th June, 1908.

19. OLD-AGE PENSIONS APPROPRIATION BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 38—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had agreed to a certain Resolution.

On the motion of Sir William Lyne, pursuant to contingent notice, the House ordered, after debate, that the Standing Orders be suspended so as to allow the Report to be considered, and a Bill to be passed through all its stages this day.

And thereupon the said Resolution was read, and is as follows:—

Resolved—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds for Invalid and Old-age Pensions.

And the said Resolution was, after debate, adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir William Lyne and Mr. Groom do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir William Lyne then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds for Invalid and Old-age Pensions*," and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and had agreed to the same without amendment.

On the motion of Sir William Lyne, the House adopted the Report.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

And the House continuing to sit till after midnight—

FRIDAY, 5TH JUNE, 1908.

20. 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 agreed to a certain Resolution. Mr. McDonald also acquainted the House that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again. Resolved—That the House will, this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
21. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended in order to enable all steps to be taken to obtain Supply, and to bring in, and read a first time, a Supply Bill. Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
22. SUPPLY RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read, and is as follows:—
Resolved—That a sum not exceeding One million four hundred and twelve thousand six hundred and twenty-five pounds be granted to His Majesty for or towards defraying the services of the year ending 30th June, 1909. And the said Resolution was adopted by the House.
23. WAYS AND MEANS.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. McDonald reported that the Committee had agreed to a certain Resolution. Mr. McDonald also acquainted the House that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again. Resolved—That the House will, this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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24. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Ways and Means was read, and is as follows:—

Resolved—That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year ending 30th June, 1909, a sum not exceeding One million four hundred and twelve thousand six hundred and twenty-five pounds be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

And the said Resolution was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir William Lyne and Mr. Groom do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

25. SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 1908-9.—Sir William Lyne then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and nine,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for this day.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House at twenty-six minutes to one o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Archer, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Deakin, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Fowler, Colonel Foxton, Mr. Frazer, Sir Philip Fysh, and Mr. Page.

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