THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 5.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1908.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. PAPER.-Mr. Deakin presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General-

Federal Capital Sites—Water Supplies—Report of the Acting Chief Engineer for Rivers, Water Supply, and Drainage, New South Wales, on the Gaugings of the Cotter and Mowambah Rivers for period February to September, 1908.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

3. Seat of Government Bill (1908).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill—Mr. Groom moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Kelly moved, as an amendment, that the word "now" be omitted from the motion, and that after the word "time" the following words be added—"to-morrow, with a view to enabling the Government to devise in the meantime some means by which Parliament can select by a system of ballot the site for the Federal Capital."

Debate continued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Debate on original motion resumed.

Mr. Carr 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.

4. Message from the Senate.—Parliamentary Witnesses Bill—Request for Resumption of Consideration of.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

Mr. SPEAKER.

Message No. 1.

Pursuant to the Standing Orders in that behalf, the Senate requests the House of Representatives to resume the consideration of a Bill for "An Act relating to Parliamentary Witnesses," which was transmitted to the House of Representatives for concurrence during the last session of the Parliament, and the proceedings on which were interrupted by the prorogation of the Parliament.

A. J. GOULD,

The Senate.

Melbourne, 23rd September, 1908.

President.

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

5. Message from the Senate.—Bills of Exchange Bill—Request for Resumption of Consideration of.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 2

Pursuant to the Standing Orders in that behalf, the Senate requests the House of Representatives to resume the consideration of a Bill for "An Act relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques and Promissory Notes," which was transmitted to the House of Representatives for concurrence during the last session of the Parliament, and the proceedings on which were interrupted by the prorogation of the Parliament.

A. J. Gould,

President.

The Senate, Melbourne, 23rd September, 1908.

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

F. 10294.

23rd September, 1908.

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 two 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. Tilley Brown, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Harper, Mr. Hans Irvine, Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Reid.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives