

1908.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

No. 43.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 1908.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE—FOURTH REPORT FROM.—Mr. Edwards, for the Chairman, brought up the Fourth Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate).
The Report was read by the Clerk, and is as follows:—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the undermentioned Petition and Papers presented to Parliament, make the following recommendations with respect to such Papers as were not ordered by either House to be printed:—

Subject of Paper.	Recommendation of Committee.	Remarks.
Petition— Defence Bill—From S. Mathews, Melbourne Christadelphian Ecclesia, praying that people known as Christadelphians may be exempt from compulsory military training and service	No recommenda- tion	
Papers— Lands Acquisition Act— Notifications of acquisition of Land at— (1) Flinders (2) Brunswick	” ”	Published in <i>Gazette</i> ”
Particulars of land disposed of at— Barnawartha and Cargo	”	”
Public Service Act—Regulations—Amendments, &c.—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 116	”	Already in print and circulated to Mem- bers
Customs Act—Regulation—Amendment—Statu- tory Rules 1908, No. 115	”	” ”
Defence Acts—Regulations—Amendments, &c.— Statutory Rules 1908, Nos. 113, 114, 118, 121, 122, and 123	”	” ”
Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations, Amend- ments, &c.—Statutory Rules 1908, Nos. 107 and 111	”	” ”
Audit Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 120	”	” ”
Papua— Ordinances of 1908—Nos. 8, 9, and 10 ... Indented Labourers—Return ...	To be printed No recommenda- tion	
Motor Cars—Return showing number imported and duty paid	”	

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REPORT—*continued.*

Subject of Paper.	Recommendation of Committee.	Remarks.
<i>Papers—continued.</i>		
Premises leased by Government—Return ...	To be printed	
Spirits—Statistics <i>re</i> , for 1907—Return ...	No recommenda- tion	
Postmaster-General's Department—Statements for the several States showing business transacted, receipts and expenditure, 1906	To be printed	
Accidents to machinery of steamers—Return ...	"	
Joint Library Committee—Report ...	No recommenda- tion	
Coinage (Commonwealth) and use of Perth Mint— Return	"	
Customs Department—Return of Officials employed and salaries paid	To be printed	
High Court—Interpretation of Constitution— Return of Cases Decided, Costs, &c.	"	
Immigration—Statements <i>re</i> Expenditure ...	"	
Defence Forces—Men under Arms, Cost of Ad- ministration, &c., 1900-1 and 1907-8—Return	"	
Military Offences—Return showing number and nature of, 1901-1907	"	
Transferred Properties—Statement of particulars	"	

Committee Room,
10th December, 1908.

R. EDWARDS,
For Chairman.

Mr. Edwards moved, by leave, That the Report be adopted.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

3. PAPERS.—Mr. Mahon presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Transferred Properties—Valuations by the Official Representatives of the Commonwealth and the States.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

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

Defence Department—Memorandum by the Minister of State for Defence on the Estimates of the Defence Department for the Financial Year 1908-9.

Defence of Australia—Articles by Colonel H. Foster, Director of Military Studies, Sydney University, and views thereon of Captain W. R. Creswell, Naval Director.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. Mahon presented, pursuant to Statute—

Public Service Act—Fourth Report on the Commonwealth Public Service by the Commissioner.

Ordered to be printed.

The following Paper was laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Federal Officers Transferred from State to State—Return to an Order of the House dated 24th September, 1908.

Mr. Tudor presented, pursuant to Statute—

Bounties Act—Regulation No. 16 Amended—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 119.

4. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION [STOWAWAYS] BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill—Mr. Batchelor 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 with amendments.

On the motion of Mr. Batchelor the House ordered that the Standing Orders be suspended so as to allow the Bill to be passed through its remaining stages without delay.

On the motion of Mr. Batchelor the House adopted the Report.

Mr. Batchelor moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

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

5. PAPER.—Mr. Speaker presented—

Finance, 1907-8—The Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure during the year ended 30th June, 1908, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

10th December, 1908.

6. MANUFACTURES ENCOURAGEMENT BILL—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration, in Committee of the whole House, of the Amendments made by the Senate in this Bill—

Mr. Speaker said—

I think it my duty to call the attention of the House to two of the Amendments proposed to be made in this Bill. They are Nos. 7 and 8.

The former, No. 7, beside immaterial things, proposes to add "steel" to the items on which bonus may be paid. This word, taken by itself, would involve, not an increase of the total amount of appropriation under the Bill, but a possible alteration of the destination of certain sums of money unspecified, though the probable effect of the insertion of the word "steel" together with the other proposed words "sheet or plate," Amendment No. 6, would be a limitation rather than an extension of the grant.

The latter, No. 8 Amendment, proposes to make the bonus payable not only on pipes of an internal diameter not exceeding four inches but up to a diameter of six inches. This is an alteration of the destination of a grant but probably of trifling extent, and I am informed is intended to bring the proposal into harmony with the Tariff Act.

Admittedly, under the ruling of the Honorable the President of the Senate (see pages 4165-7, vol. XXXIX., of *Hansard* 1907-8), these two Amendments are beyond the authority of the Senate. If the House decides to accept these two proposed Amendments on their merits, its privileges should be guarded by some reference to them in the Message to be returned to the Senate after the Amendments have been considered.

Mr. Speaker then 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 the Amendments, which are as follow:—

SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1.—Page 3, clause 11, sub-clause (2.), line 6, after "are" insert "(a)".

No. 2.—Page 3, clause 11, sub-clause (2.), line 7, after "or" insert "(b)".

No. 3.—Page 3, clause 11, sub-clause (2.), line 9, after "manufactured" insert "or (c) in the absence of any such standard rates respectively, are, on application by the Minister to the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, declared not to be fair and reasonable by him or by a Judge of the Supreme Court of a State or any person or persons who compose a State Industrial authority to whom he may refer the matter".

No. 4.—Page 3, clause 11, after sub-clause (2.) insert the following new sub-clause:—

"(3.) All the provisions of the *Excise Procedure Act* 1907 and of any regulations made thereunder shall apply in relation to any application under paragraph (c) of the last preceding sub-section as if the application were an application as defined in that Act, and the application shall, for the purposes of that Act, be deemed to be an application under that Act:

Provided that section 4 of that Act shall be read as if the words 'claimant for bounty' were substituted for the word 'applicant'."

No. 5.—Page 3, clause 14, after paragraph (d) insert the following new paragraph:—

"(e) the number of persons employed in each of the works, wages paid, and hours observed in the production of the goods,".

No. 6.—Page 4, The Schedule, Class 2, column 1, line 1, after "Galvanized" insert "sheet or plate".

No. 7.—Page 4, The Schedule, Class 2, column 1, line 1, after "iron" insert "or steel (whether corrugated or not)".

No. 8.—Page 4, The Schedule, Class 2, column 1, line 11, leave out "four" insert "six".

Mr. Fisher moved—That, whilst of opinion that Amendments Nos. 7 and 8 made by the Senate strictly are in excess of the powers of the Senate (as declared by the President of the Senate on the 3rd October, 1907), yet, in view of the insignificant nature of the excess, the House agree to those Amendments on condition that the matter is not to be drawn into a precedent.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

On the motion of Mr. Fisher the House adopted the Report and ordered that the resolution arrived at in regard to Amendments Nos. 7 and 8 be included in the Message informing the Senate that the Amendments have been agreed to.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at twenty-six minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Chapman, Sir Thomas Ewing, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Wynne.

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