THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 25.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 17TH OCTOBER, 1911.

- 1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. The Late Honorable E. L. Batchelor.—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he had received the following letter from Mrs. Batchelor:—

Bloomsbury-street, Hyde Park, 15th October, 1911.

DEAR MR. MoDONALD,

Will you, on behalf of myself and family, convey to the Members of the House of Representatives our sincere thanks for the resolution of sympathy and appreciation passed by them.

Yours sincerely,

ROSINA BATCHELOR.

Mr. C. McDonald, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

- 3. MINISTRY—ALTERATIONS IN.—Mr. Fisher announced to the House that Mr. Thomas (late Postmaster-General) had been appointed Minister for External Affairs (in the place of Mr. Batchelor, deceased), and that Mr. Frazer (late Honorary Minister) had been appointed Postmaster-General.
- 4. Postponement of Orders of the Day.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 1 and 2 be postponed till after Order of the Day No. 3.
- 5. Conciliation and Arbitration Bill (1911).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Hughes moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

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

6. Seamen's Compensation Bill (1911).—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole. F.8496.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to. Clause 5 debated and agreed to. Clauses 6 to 18, inclusive, agreed to. Schedules agreed to. Title agreed to. Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Tudor, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

7. Post and Telegraph Rates Bill (1911).—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 debated.

On the motion of Mr. Higgs, the following amendment was, after debate, made in the clause:—
In paragraph (a) after "publications," in line 6, insert the words "wholly set up,".

On the motion of Mr. Fenton, the following amendment was, after debate, made in the clause:-

Add to the clause the following paragraph:-

"(c) Catalogues wholly set up and printed in Australia

½d. per 4 ounces or part of 4 ounces.'"

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

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

- 8. Postponement of Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 4, be postponed until to-morrow.
- 9. Petherick Collection Bill.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Fisher moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 debated and agreed to.
Clauses 2 and 3 agreed to.
Schedule agreed to.
Preamble agreed to.
Title agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Fisher, the House adopted the Report and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered—That Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 6, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 7.

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11. LIGHTHOUSES 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.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 amended, on the motion of Mr. Tudor, by the omission of the figures "1910" and the insertion of the figures "1911" in place thereof, and clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 2, 3 and 4 agreed to.

Clause 5 amended, on the motion of Mr. Tudor, after debate, by the addition of the following sub-clause :-

"(3) The Commonwealth may purchase from any State or person any lighthouse tender, store vessel, stores or equipment or other property used by it or him in connexion with any lighthouse or marine mark."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 6 agreed to.

Clause 7 amended, on the motion of Mr. Hall, after debate, by the addition of the following paragraph :-

"(d) construct submarine signal stations."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 8 agreed to.

Clause 9 put and negatived.

Clauses 10 to 14, inclusive, agreed to.

Clause 15 amended, on the motion of Mr. Tudor, after debate, as follows:-

At the end of paragraph (a) insert—

"or any ship, vessel, stores, equipment, or other property used by the Commonwealth in connexion with the lighthouse or marine marks service.'

After paragraph (c) insert the following new paragraph:—

"(d) trespass on or without lawful authority enter or go upon any lighthouse or marine mark, or any ship, vessel, or property used by the Commonwealth in the lighthouse or marine marks service."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 16 amended, on the motion of Mr. Tudor, by omitting all words after the word "Act" in line 14.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Tudor, after debate, the following new clause was added to the Bill :-

- "7A .-- (1.) The Minister or any authorized officer may at any reasonable time in the day or night inspect any marine mark or any lamp or light which in his opinion may affect the safety or convenience of navigation and whether such lamp or light is the property of a State, or of any authority of a State, or of any private person, and for that purpose may enter any property whether of a public or private nature.
 - "(2.) No person shall hintler or obstruct the Minister or any authorized officer in exercising his powers under this section. Penalty: Fifty pounds.
 - "(3.) In this section 'authorized officer' means any person having a general or particular authority in writing from the Minister to inspect marine marks or any lamps or lights.

On the motion of Mr. Wise the following new clause was added to the Bill:-

"7B. When any lighthouse has been acquired or erected by the Commonwealth, it shall as soon as practicable be connected by telegraph or telephone with a convenient telegraph or telephone office, and the expense incurred shall be charged to the Department administering this Act."

On the motion of Mr. Tudor, after debate, the following new clause was added to the Bill:

"8A .- (1.) Every harbor authority or other local authority having control of any harbor lights or the lighting or marking of any navigable waters shall, as prescribed, make returns to the Minister in relation to the following matters:-

Returns of harbor lights and marks.

(a) the description and situation of each light under its control, and (b) the description and situation of each marine mark under its control."

On the motion of Mr. Tudor, the following new clause was added to the Bill:—
"9.—(1.) Light dues, in accordance with the prescribed rates or scales, shall Light dues.

be levied and shall be payable with respect to the voyages made by ships or vessels or by way of periodical payment as the regulations prescribe.

"(2.) The regulations may prescribe the rates or scales of light dues to be payable by ships or vessels and all matters necessary or convenient to be prescribed to carry this section into effect.

"(3.) When rates or scales of light dues have been prescribed under this Act, light dues prescribed by or under any State Act shall cease to have any effect;

"Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall release any ship or vessel or any person from any liability in respect of any light dues prescribed by or under any State Act which became due before the rates or scales of light dues under this Act came into force."

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

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

12. Adjournment.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen minutes past 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. Frank J. Foster, Mr. Fuller, Mr. W. J. Johnson, Mr. Livingston, Sir William Lyne, Mr. McWilliams, Sir John Quick, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Wynne.

WALTER A. GALE, Clerk Assistant, for Clerk of the House of Representatives.