

1911.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

No. 54.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 1911.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—Mr. O'Malley presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Federal Capital—Statement of Works carried out and preliminaries for initial Works—1910-11, and to date.
Ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.
3. PAPUA—EXPEDITION OF THE HONORABLE STANIFORTH SMITH.—Mr. Palmer moved, pursuant to notice, That all papers in connexion with the expedition of the Honorable Staniforth Smith to the Kikori district, Papua, during the months of November and December, 1910, and January and February, 1911, together with the depositions taken at the subsequent judicial or magisterial inquiry into the death of some fourteen aboriginal natives, be laid upon the Library table.
Question—put and passed.
4. AUSTRALIAN NOTES BILL (1911).—Mr. Fisher moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend Section Nine of the *Australian Notes Act* 1910.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Fisher then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
5. LONDON SITE FOR, AND ERECTION OF, COMMONWEALTH OFFICES.—Mr. Thomas moved, pursuant to notice, That this House approves of the purchase of the following site, and the erection of a permanent building thereon for Commonwealth Offices, viz.:—That part of the London County Council's property included within the Strand, Aldwych, and Melbourne-place, London.
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 a later hour this day.
6. OLD-AGE PENSIONS APPROPRIATION BILL (1911).—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. 14—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Fisher—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for Invalid and Old-age Pensions.

Question—That the Resolution be reported—agreed to, after debate.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the Report be considered at once.

And the said resolution was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Fisher and Mr. Hughes do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Fisher then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

5th December, 1911.

7. **ARBITRATION (PUBLIC SERVICE) 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 again read, and agreed to.
 Clauses 2 and 3 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 4 to 7, inclusive, agreed to.
 Clauses 8, 9, and 10, debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 11 to 17, inclusive, agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Hughes, the House adopted the Report, and the third reading was made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

8. **LAND TAX ASSESSMENT BILL.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Hughes 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.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.
 Clause 3.
 Question—That the clause stand part of the Bill—put and negatived.
 Clause 4 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 5 to 11, inclusive, agreed to.
 Clause 12 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 13 and 14 agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

By leave, on the motion of Mr. Hughes, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

9. **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.**—Ordered—That Orders of the Day, Government Business, Nos. 4 and 5, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 6.
10. **PURCHASE TELEPHONE LINES ACQUISITION BILL.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Frazer 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 agreed to.
 Clause 2 debated.
 Mr. Sampson moved an amendment, That the following sub-clause be added to the clause—
 “In those lines where a contribution has been made to the cost of erection by private persons or public bodies and the lines have subsequently become paying lines, the Governor-in-Council shall refund to such persons or public bodies the full amount contributed by them.”
 Debate continued.
 Amendment ruled out of order.
 Mr. Webster moved an amendment, That the words and figures “or constructed by the owner prior to the year 1883” be inserted after the word “owner” in line 9.
 Debate continued.
 Amendment agreed to.
 After debate, Clause as amended, agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Poynton reported accordingly.

Mr. Frazer, pursuant to contingent notice given by Mr. Fisher, moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Debate ensued.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

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

5th December, 1911.

11. PAPERS.—Mr. O'Malley presented, pursuant to Statute—
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at Wivenhoe (Burnie), Tasmania—For Commonwealth purposes.
Mr. Roberts presented, pursuant to Statute—
Defence Act—Military College—Report for 1910-11.
12. ELECTORAL 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.
Sir John Quick 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.
13. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—INSCRIBED STOCK BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—
DENMAN,
Governor-General. *Message No. 17.*
In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for Commonwealth Government Inscribed Stock and for other purposes in connexion therewith.
5th December, 1911.
Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five minutes to twelve 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. Finlayson, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Groom, Mr. Harper, Mr. Hans Irvine, Mr. Livingston, Sir William Lyne, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Ryrie, and Mr. Spence.

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